

Arts & ENTERTAINMENT

Hip Hop to a Higher Power

Rennie Harris' returning to Portland with 'Puremovement'

White Bird is excited to welcome the long-awaited return of the grand master of hip-hop dance, Rennie Harris, and his 11-member company, Rennie Harris Puremovement.

Four performances are scheduled at Portland State University's Lincoln Hall with 8 p.m. performances on Thursday, Dec. 6 through Saturday, Dec. 8 and a special Saturday matinee on Dec. 8 at 2 p.m. Tickets are available at the PSU Box Office and all Ticketmaster outlets.

Harris is the acclaimed choreographer who has taken the hip-hop aesthetic into concert halls and performances spaces, using the vernacular of the street which includes the various techniques of B-boy (break dancing), house dancing, stepping and other styles that have grown organically from the urban inner cities of America.

The Village Voice has said of Harris' unique company, "the message goes beyond the sensational dazzle of head spins and dives, of limbs that twisted so fast their owner seems to be disassembling himself. It encompasses the wish to be identified, and to identify oneself, as an individual, not just a member of a race or a gang."

Marking the 15th anniversary of Rennie Harris Puremovement, the company will perform a program of groundbreaking work created between 1992 and 2007. This includes Harris' "P-Funk" (1992), focusing on the individuality and group dynamics of Harris' athletic male dancers; "March of the Antmen" (1992), a reflective, politically charged work inspired by the Million Man March on Washington; and "Con-



Rennie Harris' dancers are the grand masters of hip-hop dance. The company is returning to Portland with a unique and riveting brand of hip-hop dance theater.

tinuum" (1997), a dazzling hip-hop dance jam that showcases the breathtaking virtuosity of Harris' company. Especially exciting will be previews of two new works-in-progress: "Breath" for the four women in the company, and a solo performed by Rennie Harris, "Princescarekrows Road to Da Emerald City," excerpted from a new one-man show that Harris is currently working on.

Lorenzo "Rennie" Harris grew up in North Philadelphia, immersed in hip-hop culture. His group's work encompasses the diverse and rich African-American traditions of the past, while simultaneously giving voice to a new generation, offering audiences a sincere view of the essence and spirit of hip hop, rather than the commercially exploited stereotypes portrayed by the media.

Kwanzaa Exhibit Opens Thursday

Whether you are new to Kwanzaa or honor it as a family tradition, the IFCC Kwanzaa Celebration series is a great touch point for the season.

A Last Thursday opening reception for the exhibit will take place Thursday, Nov. 29 from 5 to 7:30 p.m. at the Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center, 5340 N. Interstate Ave. The exhibit will close Dec. 29 at 4 p.m.

In IFCC's Main Gallery the Seven Prin-

ciples of Kwanzaa are celebrated through creation of new works of art using different mediums and artistic points of view. Themes of community, self determination and creativity are highlighted in "altars" created by seven African American artists including Adriene Cruz, Mo Jones, Raymond Alexander and Wanda Wright. Collage, sculpture, textiles and acrylic paintings are used to inspire the viewer and create a deeper understanding of the seven prin-

ciples created by Dr. Maulana Karenga. The IFCC Entrance Gallery will host photos taken by three participants who traveled to Ghana under the auspice of Portland State University's Department of Black Studies. Department Chair Dr. Dalton Miller-Jones, Sen. Avel Gordly, and Rev. Dr. W.G. Hardy Jr. have selected photos that reflect Kwanzaa Principles and remind African Americans of their culturally rich heritage.

A Fairy Tale

Christmas -- Currently through Monday, Dec. 31, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily, the Pittock Mansion, 3229 N.W. Pittock Drive, transforms 23 rooms into enchanted fairy tales that come to life before your child's eyes. Call 503-823-3622 for more information.

Godspell at Interstate Firehouse

Godspell, one of the biggest off-Broadway successes of all time, is reborn in a production by Stumptown Stages at the Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center, 5340 N. Interstate Ave. Shows run on weekends through Saturday, Dec. 1. For tickets, call 503-381-8686.

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visit the web at Oregonzoo.org for ticketing information.

Trans-Siberian Orchestra -- Sunday, Dec. 2 at 3 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., the Rose Garden will host the Trans-Siberian Orchestra Winter Tour, featuring symphonic rock to unveil the inspiring story of an angel who helps a child discover the meaning of Christmas. For tickets, visit RoseQuarter.com.



Godspell

Christmas Chorale 2007

The Concordia University Choir, directed by Kurt Berentsen, will present a series of free Christmas concerts at St. Michael's Lutheran Church, 6700 N.E. 29 Ave.; performances are scheduled for: Friday, Dec. 7, and Saturday, Dec. 8 at 7 p.m., with a final performance on Sunday, Dec. 9 at 3:30 p.m.

La Boutique Fantasque: The Enchanted Toyshop

Friday, Dec. 21, thru Sunday Dec. 23, the Pacific Artist Ballet Theatre-youth company presents the enchanting holiday ballet; a magical tale of two children left forgotten overnight in a toyshop. Performances will be held at the Lincoln Performance hall, 1620 S.W. Park Ave. Call 503-224-4400 for ticketing and performance schedule.

Carousels: The Art of the Animal -- Currently through Jan. 31, the World Forestry Center Discovery Museum will present a magnificent display of antique hand-carved wooden animals; for more information, call 503-288-1367 or visit worldforestry.org.

Sliders Grill -- Sliders Grill, 3011 N. Lombard, features an eclectic assortment of performers on the main stage, accompanied by delicious food. Call 503-459-4488 for more information.

Sunday Night Jazz -- Jazz enthusiasts can enjoy listening to the cool sounds of Mel Brown, every Sunday evening this month in the Rogue River Room at Chinook Winds Casino Resort in Lincoln City. No cover charge.

Hip-hop Dance Classes -- Vancouver Clark Parks and Recreation is hosting family friendly hip-hop dance classes for ages 5 to 18. Various lessons teach rhythm, technique, coordination, agility, combinations and teamwork through urban dance moves. For more information, call 360-696-8236.

Open Mic Night -- Every Wednesday night at 7 p.m., Proper Eats Market and Café, 8638 N. Lombard St., hosts open-mic night.

The Dinner Party -- Neil Simon's Dinner Party, a bittersweet comedy about marriage, fidelity and missed opportunities, plays through Dec. 9 at the Lakewood Center for the Performing Arts in Lake Oswego. For tickets, visit Lakewood-center.org.

Festival of Trees -- Thursday, Nov. 29, from 5:30 p.m. to 11 p.m., the 25th-annual Providence Festival of Trees kicks off with an auction and dinner at the Oregon Convention Center. Public shows available Friday, Nov. 30, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. and on Saturday, Dec. 1, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Visit providence.org/festivaloftrees for tickets.

Holiday Ale Festival -- Beginning Thursday, Nov. 29 through Sunday, Dec. 2, from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m., the 12th annual festival at Pioneer Courthouse Square, 701 S.W. Sixth Ave., provides beer lovers the opportunity to sample some or all of the 36 rare beers featured. Visit holidayale.com or contact 503-252-9899 for more information.

Portland Jazz Orchestra -- Friday, Nov. 30 at 7:30 p.m., the first-ever Resident Ensemble of the Portland Jazz Festival will perform a family-friendly big band concert at Winningstad Theater, 1111 S.W. Broadway. For ticketing, call 503-248-4335.

Sea Monsters -- Spectacular photo-realistic animation brings creatures of the deep to life in the new National Geographic Omnimax film Sea Monsters: a Prehistoric Adventure, now playing at OMSI.

Zoo Lights -- Begin Nov. 24 and continues through Dec. 30. Walk through the spectacular winter wonderland of the zoo. The winter festival highlights include: the lighted train, choral and ensemble music; contact 503-226-1561 or



Community Meeting On Youth Violence

When: December 6, 2007

Time: 6:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m.

Where: Concordia University
2811 NE Holman, Portland OR
Luther Hall, Room 121

Purpose: Youth Violence

Promoter: Harry Jackson ~ Portland Police Community Safety Coordinator

This meeting is scheduled to address the youth violence in the city of Portland. We will attempt to make the Community aware of the seriousness of youth violence, the frequency of occurrences, where violence is most likely to occur and by whom. We will also ask, what can the community do?

Few of our youth act out in the violent ways that concern us, but youth violence has put many youth at risk, instilling fear in many adults and affected the livability of many Portlanders.

We need greater accountability from the parents, the system and the youth themselves for their behavior. The community needs to reach a consensus to the above questions in order to answer: **WHAT CAN WE DO?**

All Concerned Parents, Citizens, Youth Workers, Church Leaders, Please Come To The Meeting: There will be an opportunity for the Community to be heard.



RENNIE HARRIS PUREMOVEMENT

"HIP-HOP TO A HIGHER POWER"

THE VILLAGE VOICE

WHITE BIRD psu dance series 07/08

THURS.-SAT. 8PM
SAT. MATINEE 2PM

DEC. 6-8

LINCOLN HALL PORTLAND STATE UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF FINE & PERFORMING ARTS

TICKETS: \$16 Students and Seniors, \$26 Adult. Service fee additional.
PSU Box Office (inside Smith Center, 1825 SW Broadway),
503-725-3307 and ticketmaster.
Group Discounts/Info: 503.245.1600 ext. 201

www.whitebird.org

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