

# Arts & ENTERTAINMENT

## Jazz Serves His Soul

Poet hangs out, takes pictures

BY RAYMOND RENDLEMAN  
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Redd Williams serves his soul with the live jazz that can be found in abundance around town.

Williams recalls spending his youth around big-name beat poets like Jack Kerouac and Allen Ginsberg and now puts his own creative juices to work on the Portland-metro music scene rather than retiring to his home in the round apartment tower in downtown Vancouver.



Redd Williams

Seeking out shows with particular promise each week, Williams sees a music scene that will continue to have the energy of underground clubs during the '50s. He publishes poetry inspired by the performances and intersperses Portland's jazz scene with original photographs on a local website.

With more than 200 photographs and dozens of poems already online, Williams, 72, doesn't plan to slow down anytime soon.

Of Toni Lincoln's recent performance at Clyde's on Northeast



Bassist Ed Bennett strikes up a tune.



Jazz trumpeter Thara Memory and saxophonist Patrick Lamb at Jimmy Mak's.

Sandy Boulevard, he concludes a poem by describing her vocals that "conjure/up/decadent nights/of love and intimacy/in/dimly-lit spaces."

"I started out trying to fashion myself after Ginsberg and some of those others, so I try to express myself in the fewest words possible," he says. "Periods, commas—that stuff blows my mind."

Even when Williams doesn't get compliments on a particular

poem, he gets personal satisfaction from the act of writing poetry. His work provides a creative way to make discoveries.

"That's the other thing I like about writing—your imagination just takes off," he says.

Sometimes the subject gives Williams a clear literary path and message to elaborate.

He writes that "funk/is/infec-tious/a strong rhythmic/groove/that requires freedom." The words

come from a piece on jazz trumpeter Thara Memory and saxophonist Patrick Lamb playing downtown at Jimmy Mak's.

If a poem isn't flowing the way Williams would like, he turns to his camera.

"My whole world is visual, so I often take a photograph to figure out what word to use," he says.

More of Williams' photography and poetry can be viewed at [Jsojazzscene.org](http://Jsojazzscene.org) in "Clubscene."



Bassist Skip Elliot Bowman at an Incredible Journey of Jazz event at Pioneer Courthouse Square.

## Photographer Shares Rwanda Rebirth

Portland photographer Adam Bacher took an emotion-filled journey to Rwanda in the fall of 2007. He is now sharing the devastation and rebirth of the African nation.

Bacher will present a free program that's open to the public on Thursday, May 29, from noon to 1 p.m., at Providence St. Vincent Medical Center's Souther Auditorium, 9205 S.W. Barnes Road.

Bacher hopes his photographs will inspire others to ask questions and learn more about crisis of humanity at home and abroad.

"Rwanda has a lot to teach the world, from genocide to the rebirth of peace," he says.

Providence St. Vincent Medical Center's Diversity Committee is hosting the presentation to help spread the word about Rwanda's



Portland photographer Adam Bacher presents "Rwanda - The Return to Peace after Genocide," a journey of photographs and stories documenting his time in the African nation on Thursday, May 29 at Providence St. Vincent Medical Center.

struggles.

"As we witness the tragic effects of racism on a global scale we become even more aware of the hate crimes happening in our

own backyard," says sister Lynda Thompson, Mission Integration director. "We need to be about the healing of our communities daily."



## Horror Road Show

Charles Band, founder of sci-fi/horror movie studio Full Moon Features and whose 270-plus films has established him as one of Hollywood's most successful and prolific cult-movie impresarios, brings his stage incarnation Full Moon Horror Road Show to the Aladdin Theater on Friday, May 30.

This one-night-only performance is a horror-palooza of sorts. Band packs his shows to the brim with puppets, creatures and rare film clips.

Sci-fi and horror-movie director Charles Band brings his Full Moon Horror Road Show to the Aladdin Theater on Friday, May 30.



Dr. Billy R. Flowers

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6:15PM  
#4 TEAM FREDDY JONES (OR.) VS. #5 TEAM CALIFORNIA (CA.)  
7:30PM  
#2 SEATTLE ROTARY SELECT (WA.) VS. #7 NORTHWEST PANTHERS (WA.)  
8:45PM  
#3 TEAM REEBOK USA (USA) VS. #6 I-5 IME UDOKA (OR.)  
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