

# Arts & ENTERTAINMENT

## 'Jungle Book' Returns to Local Stage



Tears of Joy Theatre presents "Jungle Book" at the Winningstad Theatre in the Portland Center for the Performing Arts, downtown.

Adapted from Kipling's classic, the story centers on an orphan child adopted by a wolf pack who discovers his true family among the animal friends who care for him.

Tears of Joy's popular puppet production premiered in 1997 and has entertained thousands of children and families throughout the West, including Alaska and Hawaii.

"Jungle Book" opens Friday, Nov. 14 at 7:30 p.m. and continues Saturdays at 11 a.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. The closing performance is

Sunday, Nov. 30 at 4 p.m.

Tears of Joy also will offer exhibits and activities to complement the current production in the Winningstad lobby.

Tickets are \$14 for children and \$16 adults. For more information, and group rates, call 360-695-3050 or 503-248-0557 or visit the Tears of Joy website at [www.tojt.org](http://www.tojt.org)

Tears of Joy Theatre presents 'Jungle Book,' the story of an orphaned child, opening Friday at the Winningstad Theatre, downtown.

## Street Saviors, Poets Make Mark

As socially-conscious hip hop group

A socially-conscious hip hop group will make its mark in Portland over the next few days with a film screening, concerts and an afternoon discussion sponsored by the Black Studies Department at Portland State University.

The group X-Vandals features DJ Johnny Juice from Public Enemy and Not4Profit from "Ricanstruction" and the independent film "Machetero." Local rap talents, Syndel of Siren's Echo and Mic Crenshaw and Good Sista/Bad Sista, will join them for performances in both Portland and Eugene.

Not4Profit was born in Puerto Rico and raised on the streets of East Harlem in New York City. He



Not4profit and DJ Johnny Juice are considered street soul saviors and poor man prophet poets from the slums.

escaped a life of homelessness and lawlessness to become "a poet from the projects." DJ Johnny Juice was raised in the Bronx of New York City where he witnesses the birth of hip hop right on his doorstep. By the time he was 17 he was working with Public Enemy on their debut release.

X-Vandals will perform Wednesday, Nov. 12 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Portland State University Ballroom in Smith Memorial Union; and Thursday, Nov. 13 at 8 p.m. at the University of Oregon Living Learning Center, 1575 E. 15th St. in Eugene.

The performers will also be featured during a free PSU Black Bag Series political discussion, Wednesday, Nov. 12 at noon in the PSU Multicultural Center. A screening of the film Machetero, starring Not4Profit will be held Friday, Nov. 14 with a location and time to be announced.

## Rapper Goes From Hip to Hippo

Will.i.am stars in Madagascar sequel

As frontman and producer of the multi-platinum, Grammy Award-winning group The Black Eyed Peas, rapper Will.i.am is already a big success.

But now he's bulked up his profile with a scene-stealing turn as the voice of Moto Moto, the amorous but romantically-challenged hippo in "Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa," the sequel to the \$500 million grossing 2005 hit.

Will.i.am talked to Reuters about the film and co-writing, with Oscar-winning composer Hans Zimmer, his first movie score which includes Moto Moto's love song "Big and Chunky."

Q: Is it true that you got this gig because of a sleepy phone message you left on Justin Timberlake's voicemail?

A: "Yeah, we were working on his album, and when he heard my message he called me back in a silly little voice, so we started doing

all these voices. Then I bumped into Jeffrey Katzenberg at a Grammy party who asked me if I'd like to do the music for this, and Justin who was also there said to Jeffrey, 'Man, you've got to hear this dude do voices.' So

loved "Madagascar"?

A: "Because today's kids want to be older and today's adults want to be younger. And it's smack right in the middle for both of them."



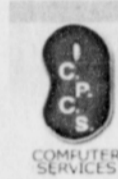
Black Eyed Peas frontman Will.i.am (right) stars as the voice of the romantically-challenged hippo in 'Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa,' a sequel to the 2005 hit now playing in local theaters.

they asked me to read for some characters, and I got the gig, and I was so happy as I loved the first film so much."

Q: Why do you think kids and adults

when all the executives like Jeffrey were there in the studio, and there's no music and you have to imagine it all. So I was real stiff the first few times."

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