

# EL OBSERVADOR

## Posters of Cuba at Onda

When Fidel Castro and his revolution rode into Havana on Jan. 1, 1959, the Cuban society changed. Not the least of these changes was a radically new understanding of the role of graphic art.

Designers, engravers, printers and typographers were called to work on posters for historical and cultural purposes. The Revolutionary Government wanted to make sure that literature, theatre, film, visual arts, dance and music arrived at the door of the masses. As a result, the poster became a vehicle for the spread of culture and a permanent expression of a new reality, continually renewing itself and accessible to all.

For 50 years, the poster has commemorated every event, every contingency of Cuban life, creating political awareness through images of contemporary history and the revolutionary process - celebrating heroic individuals, important dates, teaching duties of citizenship, inspiring individual and group achievements and announcing major events. An exhibit this month at Onda gallery, 2215 N.E. Alberta St., shows representative poster art from all five decades, including a variety of outstanding artists and a range of political and cultural themes.

Some are work of graphic artists such as Bachs and Rostgaard, whose primary center of activity was the Cuban Institute of Cinematic Art and Industry, while others contain images by artists such as René Portocarrero, one of Cuba's finest contemporary painters. Most of the



Some of the posters reflecting historical and cultural life in Cuba that are on display at Onda Gallery, 2215 N.E. Alberta St.



posters are from Havana but others, such as the colorful Carnival posters by Suitberto Goire, are from Santiago.



PHOTO BY STEPHANIE DAVIS

Marchi Hortensia (Dañel Malán, right) instructs eco-feminist Solen (Sylvia Malán-González) in Mapuche traditions in the new bilingual eco-drama *El Último* at the Milagro Theatre, 525 S.E. Stark St.

## Bilingual Eco-Drama at Milagro Theatre

At the edge of the world, Mapuche Shamans, an eco-feminist, and a soul-searching logger converge at a lone stand of trees on a windswept island in Patagonia. There, nature awaits its destiny as the power struggle of culture, ecology and greed determines their future.

What is gained, and what is lost as these individuals attempt to reconcile

their personal ideology with the future of the planet, is the story behind *El Último*, an original bilingual eco-drama, that plays Thursday, Jan. 8 through Jan. 17 at Milagro Theatre, 525 S.E. Stark St., before beginning a national tour to states such as California, Washington, Colorado and Rhode Island.

Tickets can be purchased from milagro.org or by calling 503-236-7253.

*El Último* is also part of an integrated-arts learning program entitled the Art of Science, aimed to share sustainable community building and living techniques. Examples of the program's projects will be on display during a free Spanish-language Environmental Fair from 3:30-4:30 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 17, following a matinee performance of *El Último*.

## Deadly Mudslide in Guatemala

(AP) Rescuers pulled 33 bodies Monday from a massive landslide that covered a northern Guatemala highway, and rescue workers continued digging for more victims.

Guatemala's Vice President Rafael Espada said he feared the death toll could rise by at least a dozen more. At least 15 others were injured.

Authorities still do not know how many people were in the area when the land-

slide hit Sunday near the village of Aquil Grande as people were heading to a weekly market.

Road work along the highway could have triggered the slide, said Angel Estrada, the head of the rescue effort.

Many of the victims were laborers who were returning home after working on the road.

Two people were killed in a landslide along the same road two weeks ago.



These windmills, part of a \$90 million project, have sprung up on the edge of Lake Nicaragua in Rivas, Nicaragua.

## Nicaragua Adds Wind Power

(AP) -- Energy-starved Nicaragua is turning to wind as it tries to reduce its dependence on oil-based power.

In January, the country will begin operating 19 windmills that have the potential to generate 40 megawatts of energy.

Energy Minister Emilio Rappaccioli said the \$90 million project will be operating at full capacity by the end of January and contribute 6 percent of the country's total energy needs.

Nicaragua successfully ended rolling blackouts that left the coun-

try without power for hours on many days, but the government struggled to pay higher energy costs as oil prices peaked at more than \$147 a barrel earlier this year.

Wind is part of Nicaragua's efforts to reduce its dependence on oil-based energy to just 3 percent by 2013. The country has also turned to geothermal power from volcanoes, hydroelectric power generated by rivers and sugarcane based ethanol. Those sources provide 34 percent of Nicaragua's energy.



Gale Castillo

## Chamber Leader Named

Gale Castillo, the president of the Portland's Hispanic Metropolitan Chamber has been selected as one of 22 Latinas nationwide to participate in an executive leadership program.

Castillo was cited by the National Leadership Institute for her commitment to the Hispanic community. The four-week program will include visits to San Juan Bautista, Calif., Harvard

University's John F. Kennedy School of Government in Cambridge, Mass.; and seminars in Washington, D.C.

"This executive program is a great way to highlight the accomplishments of Latinas in Oregon and also bring national resources to address local community goals," said Cecily Quintana, Hispanic Chamber board chair.

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