

Arts & ENTERTAINMENT

Femi Kuti



Stage Set for Afrobeat Star

Nigerian Afrobeat superstar Femi Kuti and his band, the Positive Force, appear Friday, July 2 in the second of the popular Zoo Summer Concerts series, presented by NW Natural.

"Femi Kuti's high-impact music and energetic back-up dancers create an experience of being in a whole new world of music and movement,"

said Krista Swan, the zoo's event coordinator. "I defy anyone to sit still while he is on stage!"

Kuti, the oldest son of legendary Afrobeat pioneer Fela Kuti, grew up in Lagos, Nigeria, home base for his father's powerful blend of funk, jazz and heavy percussion. While a natural heir to his father's musical legacy, Femi Kuti also draws on elements of

dance music and hip-hop to create a modern and soulful Afrobeat style entirely his own.

The zoo's concert series runs through Sept. 1, when Cyndi Lauper — the quintessential girl who just wants to have fun — takes the stage.

Tickets can be purchased at the Oregon Zoo for \$17 each or at all Ticketmaster outlets.



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