

Arts & ENTERTAINMENT



Bongo Love will bring Zimbabwean Afro Beat to this weekend's World Beat Festival at Salem's Waterfront Park.

Explore Culture at World Beat

The 17th annual World Beat Festival is set to take place on Saturday and Sunday, June 28-29 at Riverfront Park in Salem.

Oregon's largest multicultural celebration, World Beat is a place where kids and adults can explore cultures from all over the world in a single weekend, without a fee!

This year's event will give spe-

cial focus to the culture of Germany, but visitors will be able to enjoy culture from more than 70 countries.

World Beat is about music, fun, dance, children, culture and food. Where else could you get a Nigerian hair braid, help build a Swedish mahstang (maypole), try your hand at French classical fencing, listen to a fiddle

circle, explore Middle Eastern culture, watch Samoan fire-dancing, discuss the principles of Mahatma Gandhi, and beat some Congolese drums?

The World Beat Festival runs from 10 a.m. to 11 p.m. on Saturday; and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Sunday. For a schedule of events and more information, visit WorldBeatFestival.org.

Sassy, Sophisticated and Soulful

Sassy, sophisticated and soulful New Orleans-based singer-songwriter Carsie Blanton will celebrate the release of her new album *Not Old, Not New* during a Saturday, June 28 concert at 7 p.m. at Redeemer Lutheran Church, 5431 N.E. 20th Ave.

The album is a collection of classic American songs from the pre-Bebop era that Blanton calls "some of the best songs ever written."

PopMatters debuted the album's first single, Blanton's version of Cole Porter's "Laziest Gal In Town," and said "Carsie Blanton's sexy, enigmatic vocals are ideally suited to the American popular songbook... She treats each note like another flirtatious look towards the object of her affection as the lazy notes flutter down gently and easy."

Blanton was also recently featured in a Q&A with Classicalite who called her a "young lioness... that channels some of the greatest female singers, be they elder stateswomen such as Billie Holiday and Nina Simone or contemporaries like Norah Jones."

The concert will also feature Anna Fritz, a cellist and folksinger with the Portland Cello Project. Tickets are \$7 to \$20 on a sliding scale.



Soulful New Orleans-based singer-songwriter Carsie Blanton and her band will perform in concert Saturday, June 28 at Redeemer Lutheran Church, 5431 N.E. 20th Ave.

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