

Arts & ENTERTAINMENT



(PHOTO CAPTION — RAMA PAINTING.JPG)

Rama's work was exhibited at downtown art galleries, drawing comparisons to expressionist painters such as Jackson Pollock and Paul Klee.

Zoo Says Goodbye to Beloved Rama

Leg injury was no longer responding to treatment

Rama, a 31-year-old Asian elephant known for his sweet disposition and Jackson Pollock-like painting technique, was humanely euthanized at the Oregon Zoo Monday after animal-care staff determined they could no longer help pain and mobility issues re-

sulting from a 25-year-old leg injury.

Rama sustained the injury in 1990 and did well for many years, thanks to a dedicated zoo staff and a combination of exercise, therapy and medication. During the past several weeks, however, he experienced a sharp decline in his mobility. Physical therapy techniques and anti-inflammatory medications that had been successful for many years were no longer easing his discomfort, and new modifications were not able to improve his quality of life. Not

wanting Rama to suffer, management and staff made the difficult decision to humanely euthanize him.

"We knew Rama's injury would catch up with him someday, but it still doesn't make the loss any easier," said Bob Lee, zoo elephant curator. "This is a sad day for everyone at the zoo. My heart goes out especially to all the keepers and animal-care staff who have been close to Rama through the years."

Former Rama caregiver Jeb Barsh recalled Rama's "joyful



(PHOTO CAPTION — RAMA.JPG)

Rama, the popular Asian elephant known for his Jackson Pollock-like paintings, was euthanized at the Oregon Zoo Monday due to issues stemming from a 25-year-old leg injury.

soul" — perhaps expressed most memorably through his painting, an enrichment activity that grew into something bigger when Rama showed a remarkable enthusiasm for it.

"He would follow me around, just hoping for the opportunity to paint," Barsh said. "Once he grabbed a brush, there was no holding him back from the canvas."

Cedric's Barber Battle

A new reality series to capture the unique culture that exists in barbering communities across the country premieres Friday, April 17 on the CW network.

Hosted by famous black comedian Cedric the Entertainer, "Cedric's Barber Battle" sets out to blend craft with comedy by visiting different barbershops, from Los Angeles to New York to Austin, where the best barbers will go head-to-head in a hilariously unfiltered, no-holds-barred arena.

Creating hair sculptures that feature elaborate designs, ranging from images of a person's face to



PHOTO COURTESY OF CW NETWORK

Cedric The Entertainer with contestants on his new show, 'Cedric's Barber Battle,' a new reality competition to capture the culture that exists in barbering communities across the country. The series premieres Friday, April 17 on the CW network.

grand cityscapes, the barbers will use nothing more than their clippers and a few coloring tools to create intricate works of art that are both imaginative and location-centric.

Cedric is excited to welcome other celebrity barbers to judge who has the best cuts, including Curtis Smith, Rich The Barber, Bashan "B.G. Cutta" Gibbs, and famed instructor Lena Piccininni.

THE FOURTH ANNUAL Inner City Blues Festival
HEALING THE HEALTHCARE BLUES

NEW LOCATION!
Saturday, April 11
6 pm - 12 am
Doors open 5:30 pm

North Portland Eagle's Lodge FOE #3426
7611 N Exeter & Lombard

FEATURING:
Andy Stokes | Bill Rhoades
Bloco Alegria | Jay "Bird" Koder
Dave Kahl | LaRhonda Steele
King Louie Pain & Friends
Mad as Hell Doctors
Norman Sylvester Band
Newell Briggs | Richard Arnold
Sarah Billings | Tevis Hodge Jr.
Steve Chesborough
Strangetones with Volcano Vixens
MCs: Paul Knauls & Renee Mitchell

Honoring the Memories of:
Janice Scroggins, Mel Solomon,
Linda Hornbuckle, Jim Miller,
Lucinda Tate & Geneva Knauls

Tickets: \$20 www.tickettomato.com
Or purchase tickets at: Music Millennium, Geneva's Sheer Perfection or Musicians Union Local 99
21 & over | Food, desserts & drinks for sale | Silent auction | Raffle prizes | Community information tables | Simulcast live on KBOO

Photography: David Young
Design: May Wallace Design

A Benefit for Health Care for All-Oregon
Co-Sponsored by Cascade Blues Association & KBOO Community Radio 90.7 FM