

New Film Goes Behind the Scenes with Bill T. Jones

Public Broadcasting will unveil a portrait of America's foremost choreographer, Bill T. Jones, Friday, November 11 at 9 p.m. The documentary 'Bill T. Jones: A Good Man' is broadcast as part of the American Masters 25th anniversary season.

"Abraham Lincoln and Bill T. Jones make total sense to me," says Susan Lacy, series creator and executive producer of American Masters series, a seven-time Emmy Award winner.

"The courage and convictions of both men are a testament to the timeless endurance of art and action."

The 90-minute film chronicles the intense creative journey that Jones makes as he tackles the most ambitious work of his

career 'Fondly Do We Hope...Fervently Do We Pray', an original dance-theater piece in honor of Abraham Lincoln's bicentennial commissioned by Ravinia Festival.

Performers from the Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company work with Jones through two tumultuous years of rehearsal and creativity.

Watching the film we witness raw moments of frustration as Jones struggles to communicate his vision to

his dancers and collaborators, as well as moments of great exhilaration when movement transcends the limitation of words. Jones and his company come face-to-face with America's unresolved contradictions about race, equality and the legacy of our 16th President.

Initially an indictment of "The Great Emancipator," the work evolves into a triumph of hope for our struggling democracy, with Jones revealing that Lincoln was "the only white man I was allowed to love unconditionally."

Jones is a 2010 Kennedy Center Honors recipient and two-time Tony® Award winner for Best Choreography

Co-directors Bob Hercules of Media Process Group and Gordon Quinn of Kartemquin Films open a window into the creative process and the creative crisis of one of our nation's most enduring, provocative artists as he explores what it means to be a good man, to be a free man, to be a citizen.

"I had always wanted to make a film that follows the creation of art from the very beginning all the way to the end," says Hercules.



"Bill T. Jones: A Good Man gave us that chance... Luckily, we had the resources and determination to keep filming through the whole process up to the premiere of the piece two years later. The result is an unvarnished look at how art gets created."

Throughout the film Jones explains how his childhood, artistic journey, personal feelings about Lincoln, and current emotional and physical condition affect the piece's direction and development.

Adel

continued from page 6

HS: Who do you rate on the Portland scene?

AA: I think there is some major talent in this city. Luck-One is getting ready to blow up. He's amazing. I think Mic Crenshaw is the best kept secret in Portland. There are several handfuls of Portland artists who are great, but whether they are marketable or not is another thing. That's not really my

call. Personally, I like conscious hip-hop if you want to know what I'm dancing to. I do think some independent and underground artists don't take into account the importance of their image along with their sound. It puzzles me as to why some will spend thousands on their production but only a few hundred on the promo material/package. I think it should be 50/50. Not that I'm try-

ing to get people to give me all of their money. In my opinion, I think that the image is just as important as the music. If people are serious about taking it that direction, my team and I have exactly what they need to do that. From the professional photo shoots to wardrobe and image styling, together, we can help create that image that goes along with the sound. What I really would

like to do is expand beyond the hip-hop/blues/R&B genres and gain the interest of indie and alternative groups as well because I think I have a dark side that would suit them just right.

HS: What kind of parent are you?

AA: I'm a hip-hop'n single mama! I have an 8 year old son and he really means the world to

me. When he came into my life, it seemed like I did a 180. I'm probably considered to be a little over protective when it comes to my child. I shelter him a bit. I don't expose him to my adult life or dramatic adult TV shows or MTV and BET because I want him to have his childhood.

Read the rest of this story online at www.theskanner.com



The Skanner Store: Books, Movies and Music

YOUR BEAT
EYES ON THE STREET

New Feature Online
Now you can post your announcements directly, using *The Skanner.com* 'YOUR BEAT, Eyes on the Street'.

- Free Walking Tour of Convention Center**
2011 01-12
Tired of your same old-fashioned walking routes? Discover the vast array of artwork, unique architectural features and sustainability achievements. To make reservations call 503-731-7858. The tour will leave from the visitor information desk at 10:30 a.m. 777 NE MLK, Jr Blvd Convention Center Walking
- Talk About Debt Collection**
2011 01-12
A visiting program officer will speak at First Congregational United Church of Christ on the progress the country has made in cancelling national debt. 1126 SW Park Ave. First Congregational Church Finance
- Gangs and Violence: What Can Be Done?**
2011 01-12
Our goal for this series is to not only focus on this problem, but to emphasize solutions. 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Irvington Covenant Church 4044 NE MLK, Jr Blvd (bring your own brown bag lunch) Irvington Covenant Church Society

TAPESTRY OF TALES STORYTELLING FESTIVAL

Multnomah County Library presents acclaimed storyteller **Len Cabral**

Multnomah County Library presents some of the country's finest storytellers to captivate, inspire and entertain across cultures and generations.

November 18 Fix'n To Tell with Len Cabral
7 p.m. North Star Ballroom 635 N. Killingsworth Ct., Portland \$10/person, limited seating; recommended for teens & adults

November 19 Family Matinees
11 a.m. North Portland Library
2 p.m. Troutdale Library
Admission to all Family Matinees and Tellabration is free. Seating is available on a first-come, first-served basis. Ages 5 & up.

7 p.m. November 19 An evening of stories with Len Cabral, Barbara McBride-Smith & Kim Weitkamp
The Grand Finale Tellabration
First Unitarian Church 1011 S.W. 12th Ave., Portland

www.multcolib.org/events/tales | 503.988.5402
Thank you to The Library Foundation, Hotel Monaco Portland and Metro-East Community Media

We all have a story to tell.