





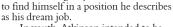
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ART TALK

The Art of Steve Atkinson

id-life crises are overrated. Perhaps the event is better termed as a mid-life beginning. Steve Atkinson, a member of the Plein Air Painters of the West (PAPW), has come a long way



In youth, Atkinson intended to become a musician like several family members (including Chris Kirkpatrick of pop sensation N'SYNC, and Jason Eustice, now following his father's footsteps as a Country singer) the young idealist was rudely awakened with the harsh reality of not having practiced enough to make the mark, or note, as it were. Having a natural hand in drawing, the shift to illustration came easily.

He enrolled in one of the most rigorous, aboveboard illustration programs in the country at Kent State. Atkinson excelled in school, and before graduating, an inspired teacher told him of an agency in Cleveland. He immediately quit school, taking the job as an illustrator, figuring, "That's why you go to school, to get a job."

In the fall of 2001 with no real plans of becoming an oil painter or attempting what Atkinson deems the "highest form of art," the weather brought a surprise wedding gift to a newly wedded artist. Oil painting as he understood it, was something that took a "long time to do well." So when the inspiration came upon the "blazing colors of the leaves" during that fateful Honeymoon in northern Minnesota, celebrating his new marriage to Ann, Atkinson thought to himself, "It's now or never."

With a new vigor and a new wife, Atkinson set out to make his best efforts at oil painting. The artist disciplined himself to painting for four hours every morning before work and one full day on the weekend.

"I'm blessed," he says, "It doesn't feel like work," and for six years, that nonwork slowly became his non-career.

Since 1983 Atkinson witnessed the demise of traditional illustration amidst the many transitions and dramatic changes yielded by steady development of new technology and business needs. So in February 2008 he switched to oil painting full time.

His goals were simple enough, yet beautiful and profound. He explains, "To capture a great light effect" and "make something believable, allowing one to feel



"No Regrets Revised", 24" x 12" Oil on Linen by Steve Atkinson

BY RILEY SCHILLING

it better than a photograph; to get as close as possible." Anyone that takes time to be quietly present in nature understands the intimacy experienced. To share in

that experience viewing Atkinson's work is an awesome and truly blissful feeling. Atkinson portrays natural settings so real that the viewer needs not stand in that place, yet has opportunities to get a real sense of the experience, to be emotionally moved with similar joy.

Atkinson continues to develop in painting and life and has studied among the best painters in US, including Joe Paquet, a member of Plein Air Painters of America, Scott Christenson and Marc Hanson.

Learning from contemporary greats and a life-long dedication to personal growth are the ingredients to the recipe that is the work of Steve Atkinson.

Recently, he broke ground winning the John Steven Jones Purchase Award in 2007, gaining respect from critical minds. George Hallmark judged the competition at the Bosque Conservatory of Art and introduced his work to the operator of Trailside Galleries who agreed that the work has staying power. They are obviously not alone in that opinion, as Atkinson has shown work at the Frame Shoppe Gallery for several years now, and continues to grow as an artist while reputation builds around him.

Curiously, Atkinson has painted "en plein air," Westerns, and Historical genre oil pieces for only six or seven years. It snuck up in his early 40s, when oil painting was merely a dream for a traditional illustrator.

From Count Chocula and Boo Berry cereal boxes to hanging fine art in some of the best galleries in the US, Atkinson has always sought to do the work he most loves and doing it very well.

Atkinson's work is currently on display at the Frame Shoppe Gallery in Asheville. He also displays work in Trailside Galleries of Dallas, TX, Jackson Hole, WY, and the LA Thompson Gallery of Fine Art in Clifton, TX.

Frame Shoppe & Gallery

1378 Hendersonville Rd. (Inside the Harris Teeter Shopping Center) Asheville • (828) 274-3635 www.frameshoppeandgallery.com

Asheville Choral Society

Lenora Thom, Music Director Powerful voices. Remarkable music.

"ACS Sings
Classical McCartney:
The Benefit Concert"
Ecce Cor Meum
Behold My Heart



'Dt's about truth, and love, and honesty and kindness, and just stuff that D thought was important in life.' Paul McCartney



Soprano

with Children's Chorus and Orchestra
Anne O'Byrne, soprano

October 12, 2008 at 4:00 pm
Diana Wortham Theatre
Downtown Asheville

\$100 "Sir Paul Section" Special Reserved Seating, Concert and Celebration Reception \$75 Concert and Celebration Reception

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Lenora Thom



Message from the Publisher



Dennis Ray, publisher, and son Harrison Graham Ray who is drawing with chalk.

Twelve Years in WNC

This month we celebrate our 12th year. In some ways it feels I have been doing this publication all of my life. In some ways, when I look back to that fist issue, it doesn't seem so long ago.

Of course 12 years isn't that long of a time, not in comparison to the *New Yorker* which has been printing since 1925 or the *Boston Globe* which has seen over 136 years of publishing. Then, there are thousands of free publications across this country that were started in the '70s and '80s and are still going strong. No, 12 years isn't much to write home about — however, it is the journey of 12 years that has been good and is worth mention.

Over that course of time I've seen WNC grow, change and lose a few things along the way. Since I first arrived here in '96 it amazes me just how much the skyline in Asheville has changed, most of it over the

past couple years. There seems to be a new building popping up each month and this growth doesn't seem to be slowing down.

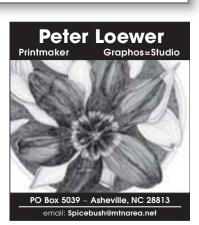
With this growth, of course, come new people and to all our first time readers this is a great chance for me to welcome you to WNC's performing arts, fine arts and culture.

Make sure to mark your calendars in October – the Asheville Choral Society will be singing Sir Paul McCartney's "Ecce Cor Meum." It has to be one of the most anticipated musical events of the fall or perhaps even the year. For more about this event see page 5.

Most importantly, here's a special toast to you our readers, all 35,000 of you, and to all the new readers who will grow with us as the area expands. It's good having you around. It's good knowing that you're out there. It's good being here.

Take care — we'll see you in October! Dennis Ray, Publisher Rapid River Magazine







Rapid River®

ARTS & CULTURE MAGAZINE

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CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

H. Byron Ballard, Sierra Bicking, Paula Bolado, Grea Brown, Jenny Bunn, James Cassara, Bessie Dietrich-Goggins, Amy Downs, Ada Dudenhoeffer, Ann Dunn, John Ellis, Beth Gossett, Max Hammonds, MD, Phil Hawkins, Pam J. Hecht, Michael Huffstetler, Jill Ingram, Phil Juliano, RoseLynn Katz, Britt Kaufmann, Chip Kaufmann, Michelle Keenan, Peter Loewer, Kathy Meyers, MariJo Moore, April Nance, Michael Parker, Jane Porterfield, Bonnie Rash, Dennis Ray, Riley Schilling, Ann Vasilik, Bill Walz, Kim Zdanowicz, Jo€ Zinich.

INFC

Rapid River Art Magazine is a tree monthly publication. Address correspondence to: into@rapidrivermagazine.com or write to:

> Rapid River Art Magazine, 85 N. Main St., Canton, NC 28716.

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COVER STORY

The ACS Sings Classical McCartney: The Benefit Concert

Paul McCartney's Oratorio Performed for the First Time in the Southeast by the Asheville Choral Society on October 12

usic Director Lenora Thom and the Asheville Choral Society will perform Sir Paul McCartney's oratorio Ecce cor Meum (Behold my Heart)— its first performance in the southeast—at the Diana Wortham Theatre on October 12 at 4 p.m.

The oratorio had its American debut at Carnegie Hall in November 2006 and the ACS performance will be the second performance in the U.S. Influenced in part by McCartney's first wife Linda, who died of cancer, the work will be presented by the ACS Chamber Chorus with children's chorus (Celebration Singers, Ginger Haselden, director), soprano soloist Anne O'Byrne and orchestra.

The entire ensemble will be conducted by ACS Music Director Lenora Thom. Beginning her ninth season as ACS music director, Ms. Thom is excited about doing the McCartney piece. "Composing a four-movement oratorio is no small task," said Thom. "Ecce cor Meum is very accessible and filled with those wonderful McCartney melodies. I know the audience will be swept away by our chamber chorus, the children's chorus, marvelous soprano Anne O'Byrne and the orchestra."

"The ACS Sings Classical McCartney: The Benefit Concert and Celebration Reception" will raise funds to support efforts to increase audiences for the season concerts. Holders of the \$100 tickets will be in the "Sir Paul Section" of reserved seating, have their names listed in the concert program and will attend the reception following the one-hour concert. Purchasers of the \$75 seats may also attend the reception. A portion of

each ticket cost is tax deductible.

This is one concert you should not miss! It could likely be the most important performance in Western North Carolina during the 2008-2009 performing arts season.

Ecce cor Meum (Behold my Heart) by Sir Paul McCartney

Chamber Chorus with the Celebration Singers, Ginger Haselden, director (children's chorus); soprano soloist Anne O'Byrne and orchestra. All conducted by Lenora Thom.

Sunday, October 12, at 4 p.m. Diana Wortham Theatre, Asheville. "Sir Paul Section" special reserved seating, concert and celebration reception: \$100. Concert and celebration reception: \$75.

If you go

Tickets to "The ACS Sings Classical McCartney" may be ordered online, visit www.ashevillechoralsociety.org or by calling the ACS office Monday-Friday at (828) 232-2060.

Facts about this Asheville Choral Society Benefit Concert

- Music Director_Lenora Thom will lead the Asheville Choral Society, the children's chorus, soprano soloist Anne O'Byrne and orchestra in the October 12 performance.
- The concert is a major benefit for the ACS. Its purpose is the raise funds to assist the ACS in attracting larger and more diversified audiences to its regular season performances.

Facts about Ecce cor Meum (Behold my Heart)

- The recording of *Ecce cor Meum* was a huge hit in the classical world, reaching the number two spot in the Top Classical Albums charts in the U.S.
- The U.S. premiere of the choral piece occurred before a sold-out crowd at Carnegie Hall in New York City on November 14, 2006.
- McCartney was awarded the 'Best Album Award" by Classical Brits in 2007 for the work.
- Ecce cor Meum is an Oratorio in four movements (with a short interlude for solo oboe) scored for adult chorus, children's chorus, soprano soloist and orchestra.
- The title was inspired by an inscription above a statue of Christ that McCartney saw in St. Ignatius Church,

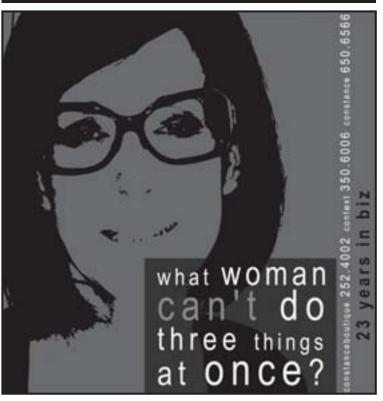


Seated at the piano, ACS Music Director Lenora Thom.

New York City. The work is also partly inspired by his first wife Linda and was composed during the period of her battle with, and subsequent death from, cancer.

'Asheville Choral Society' continued on pg. 7

ASHEVILLE GALLERY OF ART The city's longest-established, most diverse and exciting gallery offering two dimensional fine art by 29 regional professional artists. 16 College Street 828-251-5796 www.ashevillegallery-of-art.com



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FINE ART

'Choral Society' continued from pg. 5

"It's about truth and love and honesty and kindness," Sir Paul Mc-Cartney said, "[what] I thought was important in life." See interview with Paul: http://www.youtube.com/ watch?v=2UgBt4v1hWM

The 2008-2009 Season

The 2008-09 Concert Series includes "Magnificent Christmas" with music by Mozart, Pachelbel, Rutter, Walton and others on December 13-14; "GAIA: A Celebration of the Earth" with music by Vaughan Williams, Libby Larsen and Haydn on March 28-29, 2009; and the pops concert "The Colors of My Life" with great songs like "I'm always Chasing Rainbows," Mood Indigo," "Yellow Submarine" and many others with show band on May 30-31, 2009.

Magnificent Christmas

Magnificent settings of Magnificat by Mozart, Johann Pachelbel and Arvo Pärt and holiday music by John Rutter, Z. Randall Stroope, William Walton and others.

Saturday, December 13, at 8 p.m.; Sunday, December 14, at 4 p.m. Central United Methodist Church, Asheville.

Gaia: A Celebration Of The Earth

Vaughan Williams: A Sea Symphony, Libby Larsen: Missa Gaia (Mass for the Earth) and Haydn: The Creation (selections). Soloists Elizabeth Keusch, soprano and Stephen Bryant, bass-baritone

Saturday, March 28, 2009 at 8 p.m.; Sunday, March 29, at 4 p.m. Central United Methodist Church, Asheville.

Pops Concert: The Colors of My Life

"I'm always Chasing Rainbows,"
"Mood Indigo," "Shakin' the Blues Away"
and many more with show band.

Saturday, May 30, 2009, at 8 p.m.; Sunday, May 31, at 4 p.m. Diana Wortham Theatre, Asheville.

Individual concert tickets are \$25/adult, \$15/student, \$20/Groups of 10 or more.

"Early Bird" Season Subscription Special

Save 33% off the single ticket rate! Order your subscription by November 1 for only \$50. The *McCartney Benefit Concert* is not included in Season Subscriptions. Phone (828) 232-2060, or visit www.ashevillechoralsociety.org.

The mission of the Asheville Choral Society is to inspire and to enrich performers and audiences through the presentation of remarkable music at the highest artistic level.

2nd Annual "Art in Autumn" Arts and Crafts Festival

he second annual Art in Autumn Outdoor Arts and Crafts Festival takes place Saturday, September 20, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Main Street in downtown Weaverville.

Sponsored by the Weaverville Business Association, the festival features over a hundred juried artists and craftspeople, as well as an exciting array of food and live music. In recent years, Weaverville has established itself as a culturally rich destination point. It has earned a reputation for its quaint small town atmosphere, artistic spirit, and distinctive shops. The second annual Art in Autumn festival brings a jovial celebration of community and fine art to the Main Street of this 'Mayberry-esque' town. All are welcome. Admission and parking are free.

The Weaverville Business Association has been planning the 2nd annual Art in Autumn since its initial debut in 2007. The success of the inaugural event was nothing short of phenomenal with 70 artists and 5,000 visitors in attendance. Organizers, Beth Mangum and Sherrye Perry, feel confident that this years' festival will exceed expectations. "We have over a hundred artists and craftspeople slated to participate," says Mangum "Many are from this area, but there are a few exhibitors coming from other areas around the southeast. I believe we will have an excellent mix of new artists and known favorites."

Included on the list of exhibitors for the 2008 event are painter Marcus Thomas, the 2007 Best of Show award recipient and jeweler, Nancy Fleming, who received the

second place award. A sampling of other exhibitors who will show at the 2008 Art in Autumn festival includes: Kathleen Doyle and Thomas Reardon of Portfolio Metalworks, folk artist Susan Hayden, and pop artist René Crigler.

Painter Marcus Thomas was completely paralyzed from the shoulders down after a skiing accident in 1985. After a year of recovery and a determined pursuit of a fulfilling life, he discovered the art of painting. Marcus paints by holding the paintbrush in his mouth. His paintings are a reflection of his passion for the outdoors. He says, "I visu-



ally absorb all that nature provides, seek to document interests, and share my passion for life."

Nancy Fleming's her work represents the influence of emotion and spirit upon our lives. "Passion, whether heartache, pain, joy, elation, or love is

my source of inspiration. Metal is the language I use to tell my story. Using mixed metals, gemstones, and collected objects; I express life as I see it. Imagery from within provides the challenge for my hands to create the work." Nancy's jewelry and mixed-media sculptures are

a narrative, clearly affected by memories, beliefs, and dreams.

Partners Kathleen
Doyle and Thomas
Reardon are Portfolio
Metalwork. Resident
studio artists at the Grovewood Gallery, Doyle and
Reardon make uniquely
designed jewelry and fine
metalwork. Together they
produce a collaborative
line that blends their two
jewelry collections into
one entity reflecting the
strengths of each.

The resulting collection contains landscape brooches, nature inspired jewelry, wedding bands, engagement rings, Judaical objects, Kiddush Cups, communion cups, custom designed awards, and commemoratives. Portfolio Metalwork designs are made in pewter, sterling

silver, and karat golds often with highly technical processes such as repousse, gold leaf, and file finishing.

Folk Ārtist Susan Hayden is a second year exhibitor at the Art in Autumn festival who makes whimsical mixed-media sculptures and functional items. She takes the pieces that you throw away, or sell at a flea market and those become her supplies. According to Susan's' website, "I'll work with bottle caps, pennies, lock washers, license plates, railroad spikes, shovels, rakes, springs, street signs and tin cans... just to name a few!" Examples of this include the Wrench Bench, a license plate desk



set, and a bottle cap cabinet called *Red*, *White and Brew*.

Pop artist René Criglers' style is heavily influenced by her formal education in the discipline of silkscreen printmaking. Reminiscent of 60's pop and 70's psychedelic, René chooses easily recognizable subjects and employs a variety of symbols that are sometimes camouflaged. She paints with carbon fiber, a process she became familiar with while working in the motor sports industry. Each of her carbon fiber paintings are baked, which protects the painting and gives it a shiny, clear finish which can be cleaned or waxed just like a race car or standard automobile.

These featured artists are a sampling of the range and caliber of exhibitors who will be participating in the 2nd Annual Art in Autumn Festival. Rain or shine, Art in Autumn will transform downtown Weaverville into a market-place for fine art and craft. Plan to have a bite to eat and plenty of time to kick back with local bluegrass tunes.

The music stage and food vendors are located at Rodney's Auto Service on Main Street. Local Old Time Music and bluegrass bands are scheduled to play throughout the day.

"It is a wonderful opportunity to have such a high-caliber show here in Weaverville. What the organizers have packed into a one day event is astounding. It's a great day for the family to spend together. There really is something for everyone to enjoy." ~ Jewelry Artist, Nancy Fleming



Saturday, September 20, from 10:00 am to 5:00 p.m.

Music Schedule:

10:30 a.m. – Reems Creek Rattlers 12:00 p.m. – Butter Holler String Band

1:30 p.m. – Crescent Moon

2:00 p.m. – New Southern Ramblers Main Street in downtown Weaverville

Free Admission and Parking



Metalwork by Kathleen Doyle and Thomas Reardon



Carbon fiber work by Rene Crigler

Make a Statement with **Style**





FINE ART

Jerry LaPoint in Group Show at 16 Patton Gallery BY RILEY SCHILLING

ather of five, loving husband, avid roadside cyclist, well-read, semiretired Art Director, and talented painter, Jerry LaPoint is currently represented by several galleries across the state. Among those are the Collectors' Gallery in Raleigh and the gallery first to represent LaPoint, the gallery at 16 Patton in Asheville.

Doodling at age 11 led to one day graduating with a B.F.A. in Painting and Illustration from Pratt Institute in Brooklyn, NY. Having over 30 years of experience as an Art Director with several companies (beginning in NYC

and ending in Arden, NC) and after raising five children, all of whom are now happily married, LaPoint is content living with his wife Beverley and two bichons in Fletcher, NC, spending most of his time painting.

Ten years ago, LaPoint took a new direction with his personal art, and began

showing fine art in traditional form. Continuing the pursuit of creating beauty in truth, the veteran artists' eye is caught by the delicacy of textures, natural patterns of light and dark, even man-made shapes and colors all serve to inspire his work.

Uncertain if one would deem the process development or deterioration, LaPoint enjoys bearing witness to the growth and change in his body of work. He explains, "It's mostly semi-abstract mode," working in oils or acrylics, LaPoint often uses photographs as jumping off points in the studio. He utilizes memory recall to draw upon emotions associated with scenes such as landscapes, cityscapes, and port scenes.

LaPoint has been honored with a solo exhibition at the Trion Art Center



"Saturday Night" by Jerry LaPoint

in 2005, and included in several group shows, including a former event called *Inside Out* at Catherine Hayes Art and Sculpture in Greenville, NC. In the future, (the artist) hopes to begin showing outside of North Carolina. Meanwhile, LaPoint is proud to be represented in a show called *Escapes: Day to Night - Cityscapes and Nightscapes* at 16 Patton through September 28. Otherwise, curious eyes may view his work online at www.ilpstudio.com.

If you go

Jerry LaPoint in group exhibition "Escapes" at 16 Patton Gallery on the corner of Lexington and Patton.

The show runs through September 28. See www.16patton.com for more info. Gallery is open Tuesday through Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 pm. Sunday 1 p.m. to 6 p.m., or by appointment. (828) 236-2889.

Art Break Lunchtime Events

Friday, September 5

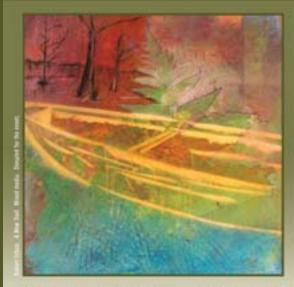
A discussion of the *smArt Speak: Distinguished Artist Series* with Nancy Sokolove. smArt Speak will be bringing Art Spiegelman, Pulitzer Prize-winning illustrator to Western North Carolina for the first time on September 11. Other artists featured in upcoming smArt Speak events are Faith Ringgold and Christo and Jeanne-Claude.

Friday, September 19

Ruined Landscapes with Mark Holland, Asheville painter.

Each Art Break is from noon to 1 p.m., at the Asheville Art Museum. Free with Museum membership or with admission. All smArt Speak programs are part of the Museum's 60th Anniversary Celebration continuing all year.

Help Protect Our Great Forests of Southern Appalachia



Join us once again for the 3rd Annual "Vanishing Landscape Benefit Art Auction"

The Southern Appalachian Forest Coalition together with M.G. Fine Art & Framing will hold a live art auction

> Friday, September 19, 2008 Preview: 6:00 pm Auction: 7:00 pm

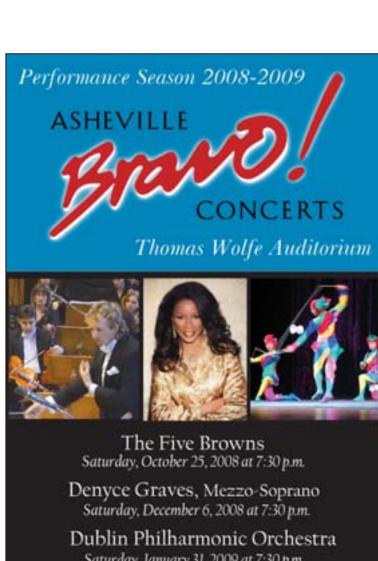
\$5 donation at the door for the cause.

The event will be held at Merrimon Galleries 36 Merrimon Avenue, Asheville

No minimum bids. Music and refreshments. Plenty of free parking. For more information contact Heidi Foss: 828 252 6036







Saturday, January 31, 2009 at 7:30 p.m.

Russian National Ballet - Cinderella Saturday, February 21, 2009 at 7:30 p.m.

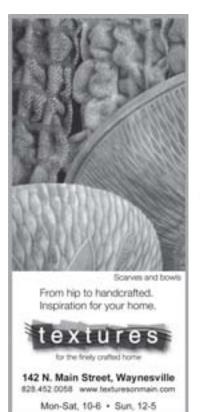
The National Acrobats of China Friday, April 3, 2009 at 7:30 p.m.





For priority seating and discount for season subscriptions call 225-5887. Individual event tickets available after 9/1/08. Call 251-5505 Civic Center Box Office & ticketmaster.com.

For more information visit www.ashevillebravoconcerts.org





rmclement2001@aol.com



FINE ART

MG Fine Art & Framing Has Come a Long Way

fixture on North Asheville's Merrimon Avenue since the late 70s, Merrimon Galleries once offered primarily locals, reliable framing services and a good selection of posters and prints.

Nowadays, it's got a whole new vibe. Curator Heidi Foss, brought on board by the owners two years ago, is well on her way to re-creating the flagging business, renamed MG Fine Art & Framing, into one of Asheville's premier fine arts galleries, while continuing to help artists make a living doing their art.

"We connect artists with clients," she said. After months of revitalizing the space, ("I came in on Sundays with my family to do the physical work,") Foss sold the store's existing posters and prints on EBay, brought in local original art, and focused on shows – something the business had rarely done before – while continuing to provide framing and restoration services.

"Print shops have gone the way of the past – people can go online now for prints and posters – and a lot more people get their frames ready-made," Foss said. "At the same time, Asheville is becoming an arts Mecca and many artists and fine art collectors are moving here."

Foss, who is passionate about nurturing Asheville's arts community, has managed other galleries, provided art consulting services and as an artist's agent, continues to represent several local artists in town. "I don't want to see artists have to wait tables," she said.

Every other month, she organizes an opening at MG to spotlight artists of a particular genre and twice a year, holds an auction to benefit local organizations.

On September 19, MG hosts the 3rd annual "Vanishing Landscape," event, with a live auction to benefit the Southern

Appalachian Forest Coalition (S.A.F.C.), a regional non-profit organization that protects and restores public lands in five southern states. All artwork, donated by local artists, focuses on the environment and is currently hanging in the gallery.

In December, the gallery will host its 2nd annual "Christmas is for Kids" benefit event, in which young artists of all ages will sell their work to benefit a child-related organization. Last year, a percentage of the money raised was given to children in Darfur.

"These kinds of events help the community – they bring money to the artists as well as a greater awareness of community issues," said Foss.

Housed in a restored 20s bungalow, MG has a sophisticated, energetic urban feel, with raised ceilings, gray-black walls and an eclectic mix of art styles and forms – paintings, photography, jewelry, sculptures. "When you come in, you'll see edgy artwork as well as classic oils by strong, professional artists – not typical, safe tourist art," she said. "It's definitely not the same-old, same-old.

"What's selling now is art with a little deeper meaning and emotion, not just a



Jonas Gerard, Kim Porter, Heidi Foss & Beverly Simpson.

BY PAM J. HECHT

pretty picture to hang over a couch," she said.

Most of the artwork at MG is created by local artists, many of whom are "big-name" artists who've recently moved here from other places and are looking for a new, creative place to show their work, she said. "Visit the gallery each month – we'll always have new things."

MG has always offered full-service custom framing with low-cost as well as high-end frames and art restoration. They stretch canvases for artists and give a great artist discount. Foss works with customers and designers to choose artwork to display in area homes and businesses and also offers art rentals for special functions or for business space art rotation.

And while it has remained a family business for years, co-owned by Beverly Simpson and son, Marshall (another son, Robert Simpson, is art conservator), MG has truly been transformed.

"We have a clear idea of who we are," she said. "And the buzz is out."

If you go

MG Fine Art & Framing, 365 Merrimon Ave, Asheville. (828) 252-6036, www.merrimongalleries.com, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Mon. - Fri.; 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sat/Sun. "Vanishing Landscapes" live art auction,

"Vanishing Landscapes" live art auction benefiting Southern Appalachian Forest Coalition (S.A.F.C.), September 19. Preview 6 p.m., auction 7 p.m.

Focus Gallery Features Marge Rohrer and Sharon Bailey BY APRIL NANCE

n display now through October
7 is the work of textile artist Marge Rohrer and jeweler
Sharon Bailey. The exhibition is
a celebration of self expression
through wearable art.

Marge Rohrer designs capes, scarves, hats and purses. With the help of her husband, David, who is the primary weaver, the couple creates accessories for the woman who loves to wrap herself in luxury.

For the Focus Gallery exhibition Marge designed pieces which would echo her love for Art Deco style. Squares and rectangles in various colors and textures are the building blocks of her designs. She makes clothes which are delightful to the eye and sensuous to the touch.

Sharon Bailey combines Bakelite with gold and silver to create one-of-a-kind and limited edition pieces of jewelry. Bakelite is a type of plastic invented in 1909. As an incurable collector, Sharon discovered Bakelite in her travels to flea markets and antique shops. Sharon then discovered Bakelite which had been cast in various shapes, but that never made it out of the factory or warehouse. After some experimentation Sharon knew it would be the perfect element to add color to her jewelry.

After carving and polishing the Bakelite, she combines it with silver and gold. She has been working on the pieces for the Focus Gallery show over the past couple of years. Sharon will also display complementary designs in sterling silver and gold.

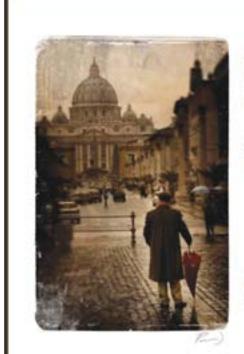


Sharon Bailey

If you go

For more information call (828) 298-7928 or visit www.craftguild.org.

The Folk Art Center is located at Milepost 382 of the Blue Ridge Parkway, just north of the Hwy 70 entrance in Asheville, NC.



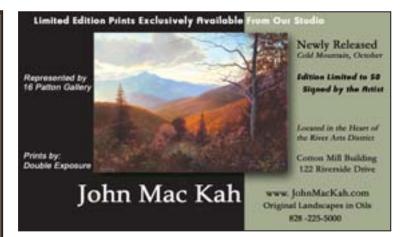
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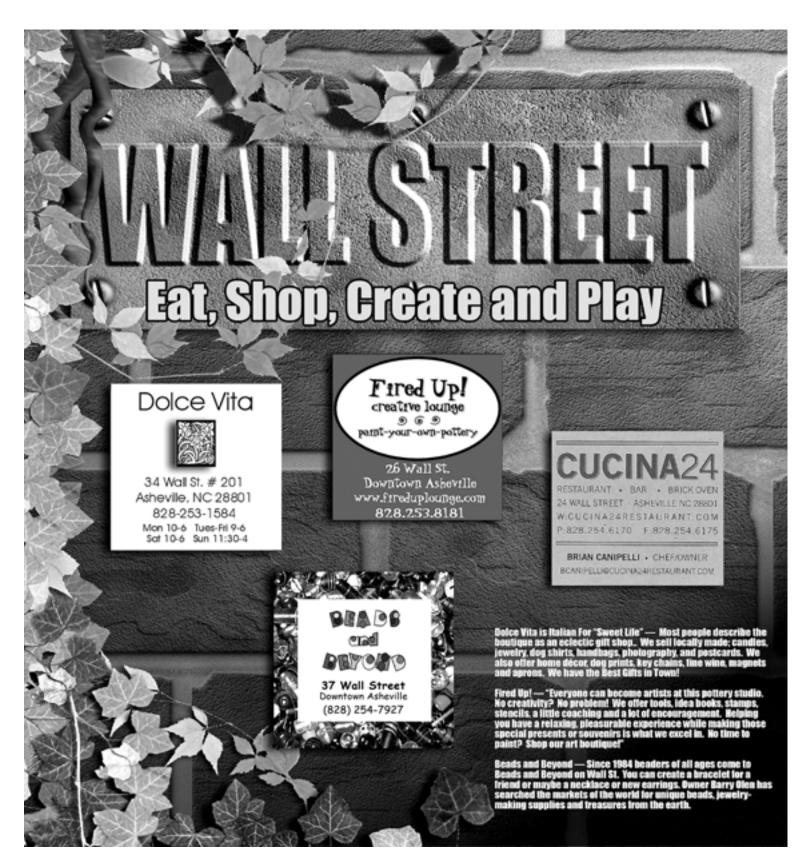
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NOTEWORTHY

Ashcans, Trains and Factories

Students and Followers of The Eight

obert Henri, John Sloan and other members of The Eight were as noted for their talents as teachers as they were for their creative skills. One of Henri's students wrote down his classroom comments and assembled them into a book titled *The Art Spirit.* Both collectively and individually, The Eight inspired a generation of artists to look at the urban life around them.

This exhibition features the work of artists influenced by The Eight's emphasis on scenes of contemporary urban life. The exhibition will include works by Robert Brackman, Alexander Kruse, Reginald Marsh, Elizabeth Olds, Walter Pack, Raphael Soyer, Eugene Thomason and others. These works will be drawn from the collection of the Asheville Art Museum.

Ashcans, Trains and Factories: Students and Followers of the Eight will be on exhibit from September 19, 2008 through January 11, 2009.



BY KIM ZDANOWICZ

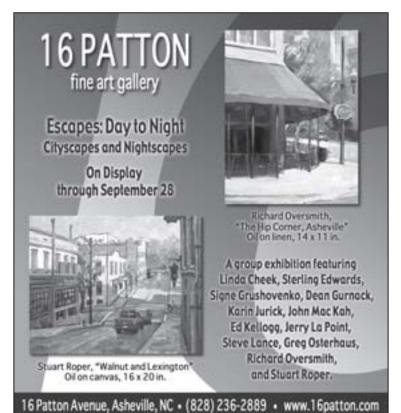
"Outdoor Soda Fountain" by Isabel Bishop, 1950, etching.

This exhibition complements Life's Rich Pageant: A Centennial Celebration of The Eight, on exhibit from September 12, 2008 through Ianuary 4, 2009

January 4, 2009 with a special reception on Saturday, September 13, from 5 to 7 p.m.

If you go

Ashcans, Trains and Factories: Students and Followers of The Eight opens Friday, September 19, 2008 in the Asheville Art Museum's Holden Community Gallery which is free to the public.



Movement for Peace Project

ovement for Peace, a multidimension event designed to inspire, inform and involve community while promoting 11 days of peace, leading up to the UN's International Day of Peace on Sunday, September 21.

The Movement for Peace project includes: a 6 week yoga for peace series offered at French Broad Movement and Learning Center; a moment (3 minutes) of stillness everyday at noon in Pritchard Park from 9:30-11:00; an opening performance at Pritchard Park on September 11 at 6:30; a collaboration with Playback Theater; performances by UNCA students; a peace building organizational informational booth on the UNCA campus; and many other happenings throughout the 11 days, including the associated Walk for Peace sponsored by The Peace Alliance on September 20 at 11:00 a.m. from City County Plaza.

The event culminates on the International Day of Peace, September 21 with two events. In the afternoon, a moving meditation at UNCA from 11:30-12:30, as thousands of other organizations around the world will also be honoring this day at noon, (www.internationaldayofpeace.org). Then that evening at 7:00 pm the "Movement for Peace" dance performance will be held at Walker Arts Center on The Asheville School's Campus.

BY KATHY MEYERS

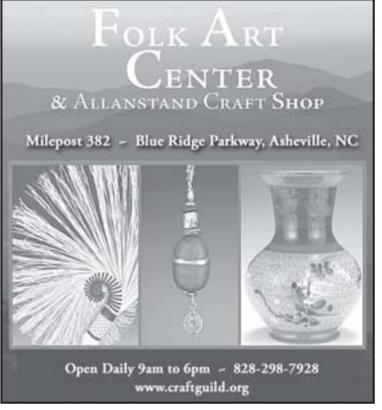
This concert will feature: original choreography from *Moving Women*, a collaborative dance performance ensemble and project of Arts 2 People (www.arts2people. org); work created in collaboration with local community members, as well as live, original music from UNCA Music Department faculty Dr. Wayne Kirby with other Asheville musicians includining Richard Shulman, Franklin Keele, Ian Cunningham, Mark Garner, and Coco Palmer. The performance will also feature an installation by Shelley Pereda Camp made from a thousand origami cranes.

lf you go

September 11-21. UNCA Campus, various community locations, Walker Arts Center (The Asheville School Campus)

Most events free; Moving Women's closing dance concert, Sunday, September 21, "Movement for Peace", \$13. A portion of the proceeds benefit local, peace building organizations such as The Mediation Center, Helpmate, Our Voice, Outward Bounds Unity Project, WNC Dept. of Peace Campaign, and others.

For more information please visit our web site at www.movingwomen.org.



FINE ART

Western's Fine Art Museum Launches Season with Lewis Buck Retrospective

he Fine Art Museum at Western Carolina University opens its fall season with the first retrospective exhibition of work by Lewis Buck, a lifelong artist and long-time Asheville-area resident.

"The exhibit offers insight into the breadth of Buck's work, taking a close look at his evolution as an artist and his early inspirations and influences," said Martin DeWitt, the museum's founding director.

A vibrant color palette, multiple textures and the presence of found objects mark Buck's often large-scale works of painting, collage and assemblage. He names as his primary inspiration two artists from the early- to mid-20th century, realist Edward Hopper and abstract expressionist Richard Diebenkorn. The retrospective's pieces, spanning 60 years and comprising 50 works, came from Buck's own collection and the collections of his family, friends and patrons.

Buck was born in 1924 in Norfolk, VA. He graduated from Duke University with a degree in English and received a master of fine arts degree in printmaking from Virginia Commonwealth University. He served in the Navy from 1943 to 1946, and met his wife, Porge, an artist and master printer, in 1950 in a life-drawing class. In 1984, the Bucks

In 1984, the Bucks moved from Maine to the historic Asheville neighborhood of Montford, where they ran a print-making studio and gallery from their home. In the mid-1980s, the Bucks helped spur the revitalization of Asheville's River Arts District with the purchase and renovation of a former seed store into artist studios. The Bucks have lived in Black Mountain since 1993.

In Maine, the Bucks spent 15 years running an inn, where large dining room walls inspired Buck to new dimen-



Left: "Little Known Bird of the Inner Aisle," assemblage by Lewis Buck, 1978. Right: Lewis and Porge Buck sort through artwork at their Black Mountain studio.

sions. "I didn't want to hang little things all over it, so I started stretching large canvases," Buck said. Also in Maine, Buck constructed an assemblage piece called "Scraaps," part of a series called "Glued and Screwed," from children's alphabet blocks, a kitchen stool and an Adirondack chair on the inn's porch. "The Adirondack chair had been painted all kinds of colors at various times, and the weather didn't treat it too nicely. The paint was peeling off, and that was what

BY JILL INGRAM

attracted me to it," Buck said.

Asheville artist and writer Connie Bostic describes Buck as an individual who pays as much attention to life as art, once writing that, "Following his lead, the viewer of his work is rewarded through deep contemplation."

Buck has exhibited in group and solo shows since the 1940s, most recently at Asheville's Semi Public: A Space for Contemporary Art in 1999 and the Captain's Bookshelf in 2002. His work is held in private, public and corporate collections.

If you go

"Lewis Buck: Beyond the Surface," Saturday, September 6, through Monday, December 15, at the museum, in Western's Fine and Performing Arts Center. Free reception September 6 from 2 to 4 p.m. Hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday and 1 to 4 p.m. Saturday.

For more information contact Hillary Brett, assistant curator, at (828) 227-3591.

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A Celebration of Southern Appalachian Culture

he 28th Annual Heritage Weekend will be held September 20-21 at the Blue Ridge Parkway's Folk Art Center. This free festival, sponsored by the Southern Highland Craft Guild, features traditional music and dancing, storytelling, and heritage craft demonstrations.

A highlight of the weekend is the 28th Annual World Gee Haw Whimmy Diddle Competition on Saturday, 2:00-3:00 p.m. Joe "Colonel Buncombe" Bly will emcee the Whimmy Diddle Competition while Gene Holdway of the bluegrass band Split Rail will emcee the other events of the weekend.

Learn from area experts about beekeeping, canning and preserving, rifle making, coopering, heritage toy making, blacksmithing, natural dyeing, spinning, quilting, whittling and folk pottery. Don't miss sheep shearing on Saturday and border collie demonstrations on Sunday.

The Southern Highland Craft Guild welcomes for the first time to Heritage Weekend Appalachian fiction writer Peggy Poe Stern. She will be at the Folk Art Center on Sunday to discuss her popular novels. Appalachian storyteller Orville Hicks will perform at 3 p.m. on Sunday. Hicks, who has been called the Master of the Jack Tale, was recently recognized as a



Apple Chill Cloggers

North Carolina Treasure.

The Blue Ridge Parkway's Folk Art Center is the ideal place for Heritage Weekend with plenty of free parking, access to hiking trails, and grassy areas for a picnic. Spend the weekend honoring and learning about crafts of yesteryear while enjoying the beauty of the region.

lf you go

28th Annual Heritage Weekend September 20-21: Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday, 10:30 to 5 p.m.

Folk Art Center, Milepost 382, Blue Ridge Parkway, Asheville, NC

For more information call (828) 298-7928 or visit www.craftguild.org.

THOREAU'S GARDEN

The Hollyhock

ollyhocks have been garden stars for centuries with almost every illustration of a typical English cottage garden features their tall blooming spires. And at one time, every child had memories of making little dolls out of the blossoms and, sometimes, floating them on a pool of water.

Many so-called refined gardeners thought hollyhocks were too ungainly for small gardens and recommended these plants only for larger wilderness borders or Avenues. But England's William Robinson called hollyhocks "One of the noblest of hardy plants, and there are many positions in almost all gardens where it would add to the general effect," adding that "Cottage beekeepers would to grow a few hollyhocks, for bees are fond of their flowers."

Hollyhock is the common name for a number of biennial or perennial herbs. The name is a combination of holy and hock, an old word Anglo-Saxon word for mallow. Because nursery and seed catalogs continually mix Alcea and Althea in plant descriptions, it's a confusing deal at best. And the problem can only be sorted out by a reference to scientific names.

The generic name of Alcea is not to be confused with Althea. Both are mallows and members of the Malvaceae, but the first genus includes the true hollyhock while the second genus, Althea, is often used as a common name for the rose-of-Sharon (Hibiscus syriacus) — now blooming around Asheville and the marsh-mallow or white mallow, (Alcea officinalis), a plant well-known in herbal remedy tomes.

The generic name of *Althea* is from the Greek althainein, or to heal, because at one time the plants were very popular in both folk and serious medicine. According to Mrs. M. Grieve "A Modern Herbal", New York: Dover Publications, 1971), the hollyhock was once eaten as a potherb, (although she says, "...it is not particularly palatable") and the flowers were used for their emollient, demulcent, and diuretic properties for treating chest complaints. She adds that, "The (petals) are also used for colouring purposes (and) should be gathered in July and early August, and dried in trays, in thin layers, in a current of warm air immediately after picking." Somehow I can see this activity carried out at many places around Asheville.

The most commonly known species is *Alcea rosea*, the hollyhock that most people grow up against the wall in gardens lucky enough to have walls, are natives of China. Hollyhocks grow are tall and erect, usually between five and nine feet in height. The single stems and the



Alcea rosea, the hollyhock

undersides of the heart-shaped, wrinkled leaves are hairy. Most bloom with single blossoms in late summer, but newer cultivars are double-flowered. Colors range from white

The individual flowers are bell-shaped, 3 ½ inches or and more in width, with separate petals of vivid colors from white to yellow, salmon, rose, red, violet, and purple, including the deepest maroon. The cultivar 'Nigra' is called the chocolate hollyhock due to its dark chocolate blossoms. There are double, ruffled begonia-like flowers as well as single forms with five petals. Petals may be smooth or lightly fringed.

As to other cultivars, it should be noted that most good seed houses carry 'Chater's Double', with double peony-like flowers in a wide range of colors including a spectacular yellow. They were developed by a great uncle of my choircompanion, Bill Chater or Asheville.

During the winter of 1997, the Likels of Jeffersonville, New York, gave me an envelope of seeds collected from a hollyhock they saw blooming among the Street of Curetes, a thoroughfare that runs through the ruined Turkish city of Ephesus. Ephesus was one of the world's richest and most fertile cities from the beginning of the Ionian Age through the end of the Roman era.

I set the plants out in spring of the first year and promptly forgot about them. By June of the next year, the plants were six feet high and on July 2, 1988, the flowers opened: a lovely shell-pink with a white center. I can imagine how beautiful such flowers were surrounded by aging marble and seaside sand.

A favorite of classical painters, the great Flemish pre-surrealist painter Hieronymus (Jerome) Bosch knew of their garden presence in 1551, while the Chinese and Japanese artist employed the flowers at every turn. Hollyhocks are usually featured in every rendition of the cottage garden, including paintings by Henry John Sylvester Stannard titled "In

a Warwickshire Byway, Little Milton" and "Lavington, Sussex," by James Matthews, an well as a great painting by Gustave Courbet entitled "The Trellis" where a charming peasant girl confronts a mass of unusual flowers including a great stand of double-white hollyhocks.

According to Google, "Goethe, the great German poet lived in a house set among the hills near Weimar, and from his garden he had a view over the fields to the placid course of the nearby river. Along the drive leading up to the house, Goethe planted a double row of hollyhocks, which were his pride and joy.

Alcea rosea probably began its career in Asia Minor. While classified as a perennial, it's usually used as a summer annual (or depending on when you plant the seed), a biennial. In cold climates it will not winter over without sufficient mulching while in most of the Southeast, it will live through the cold. But plants rarely survive if planted in heavy clay soils without any added humus because the roots resent standing water, especially when chilled.



Peter examines the blossoms of earlyblooming Lenten roses.

BY PETER LOEWER

The first year after germination perennial and biennial forms develop a rosette of ground-hugging leaves with one to several flower stalks developing the following

year(s). Hollyhocks readily self-sow and may become a nuisance if seedlings are not culled from the garden.

Hollyhocks prefer a rich soil with lots of organic matter and a warm sunny location. They require full sun as the plant dislikes any amount of shade. Over watering creates more problems with diseases and will result in a shortened plant life.

Peter Loewer is a well-known writer and botanical artist who has written and illustrated over twenty-five books on natural history over the past thirty years.



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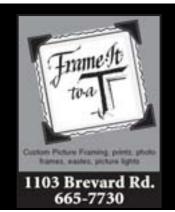
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MUSIC

SPINNING DISCS:

September CD Reviews by James Cassara

We're back again with a wide range of eclectic and often under the radar releases. Given one star or five, rest assured anything reviewed on these pages is well worth seeking out, particularly if you wisely support your local independent music store!

Carla Olson and the Textones Detroit '85: Live

In the summer of 1985 Olson and her band the Textones were touring in support of the well

and Unrehearsed

received but poorly selling Midnight Mission when they played a gig at Detroit's fabled Traxx club in Detroit. The show was recorded for broadcast by the Westwood One radio network, and became an instant and frequently bootlegged sensation, propelling Olson to the forefront of the blues/rock movement.

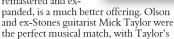
Two decades later Collectors' Choice Music has released that show on CD. It's an album that despite some obvious flaws is worthy of both the wait and the initial buzz. Detroit 85: Live and Unreleased showcases the band at its most polished (at times a bit too much so) and professional while giving us a glimpse of a now forgotten musical footnote.

It's an interesting mix: Olson herself has rarely sung better while her guitar — paired with the coil spring leads of George Callins — is rough and tumble in all the right ways. Where things tend to bog down is when saxophonist Tom Morgan Jr., who had replaced the recently departed Rindy Ross, steps to the limelight. Not only does his work pale in comparison to his predecessor, but Morgan single-handedly set the tone for the cheesy period just prior to the band's demise. When he plays keyboard, as he does on the show stopper "No Love in You" things get considerably tougher.

And while Olson's between song patter seems forced and dated (name-dropping Judd Nelson sure doesn't help!). Despite its flaws Detroit 85: Live and Unreleased gives an interesting glimpse of a solid band with plenty to say. **1/2

Carla Olson and Mick Taylor Too Hot for Snakes

The live Too Hot for Snakes, originally released in 1984 and lovingly remastered and ex-

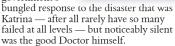




And after hiring Phil Seymour as drummer, Olson had the good sense to let him sing a few songs; their version of Dwight Twilley's "Looking for the Magic" is a winner. Too Hot for Snakes captures the Textones' failings as much as their virtues, but ultimately their strengths win out, and this document of Carla Olson and band in their prime is well worth a spin for us loyal fans. ****

Dr. John The City That Care Forgot

There's certainly been no shortage of musical outrage directed at our government's



Following 2006's brilliant release Mercenary (based on the music of Johnny Mercer) Mac Rebennack, known to us all as Dr. John, has taken a decidedly political turn, and you can bet it isn't to the right. Accompanied by his fantastic longtime cohorts the Lower 911 band John delivers a scathing and well deserved indictment of those who were supposedly in charge.

Of course he does so with music couched in some deeply funky, first rate New Orleans R&B, blues, and jazz grooves which, despite the overtly socially conscious nature of the lyrics, "make ya wanna git up and dance." Re-

corded in Maurice, LA, and produced by Mac and Herman Roscoe Ernest The City That Care Forgot is the man at his best; sure there are any number of big name guests (Clapton, Ani DeFranco, Terrence Blanchard) but this is John's show as much as New Orleans is his city.

The strutting R&B whoop of "Time for a Change" and the deep, driven churn of "Stripped Away" both showcase some sublime guitar from Slow Hand (why is it Clapton is always more inspired as a sideman rather than bandleader?) while Blanchard makes appearances on the voodoo stroll of "We Gettin' There," and the smoky jazz of "Land Grab." Far less successful is the Willie Nelson duet "Promises, Promises" which, despite a swaggering Mardi Gras stroll, dissolves into lifeless repitition.

It should also be noted that the great Bobby Charles co-wrote five tunes with Mac, and authored "Promises, Promises" all by his lonesome. Charles is certainly one of the most under appreciated writers of our time who records not nearly often enough.

Like all of Dr. John's best music the vibe on this record is alternatively joyful, dark, hopeful, and pained. Despite the serious nature of the issues it addresses, the sound is pure John doing what he does best. That the man is a musical treasure is a given: That he continues to make some of the most inspired and consistent records of his long and glorious career is nothing short of miraculous. If only those in whom we've trusted our safety and well being could do as well. ****

Glen Campbell Meet Glen Campbell

To many, the most recent image of the singer best known for such hits as "By the

hits as "By the Time I Get to Phoenix" and "Rhinestone Cowboy" was the horrific mug shot of a man clearly on his way out. Drunk, engorged, and stoned out of his mind, Campbell hit rock bottom with his 2004 arrest and subsequent jail time.

He'd become a parody of himself, another country rock casualty begging to be written off. Given that, few of us could have expected him to ever make another album, let alone one of grace, gravity, and beauty. Yet here he is, nearly 70 years of age, cold sober, slimmed down and delivering one of the finest records of his long career.

The appropriately titled Meet Glen Campbell is the confession of a man who knows he nearly blew his last chance. It is reminiscent of the soft, warm feel of his classic albums, a period in which when

'CD's' continued on next pg.



WHAT'S HAPPENING

EYMAREL Performs at the Emerald Lounge

BY ERIN SCHOLZ

he duo EYMAREL (pronounced emma-rehl), is a refreshing blend of head-bobbin grooves, smooth organ-ic improv, and sultry pop melodies. They take the stage at the Emerald Lounge on Saturday, September 20 at 10pm.

Eymarel combines the talents of Mary Frances, (vocals, keys, and bass), and Lee Allen, (drums and electronics). Once the two discovered each other's passion for both creating and playing music, they quickly decided to combine their journeys with hopes to spread their unique sound and positive energy.

Eymarel explodes with an electric connection resulting in a captivating musical experience and on-stage aura, enticing both the eyes and ears of their listeners up and down the East Coast. Eymarel has had the pleasure of recently becoming part of the Homegrown Music Network as well as sharing the stages with some great acts along the way such as, Jazz Mandolin Project, DJ Le Spam

and the Spam Allstars, The Jerry Garcia Band feat. Melvin Seals, The Adam Deitch Project, Sam Kininger Band, Boombox, Soldiers of Jah Army, Dubconcious, The Atlanta Rhythm Section, Yo Mama's Big Fat Booty Band, and many others.

Mary Frances's musical journey began on the piano under the classical training of Frances Scott Carter as well as the teachings of her fathers rock-n-roll-soul outfit. She continued her education during college at Appalachian State University with piano professor Dr. Bair Shagdaron.

Her years of classical training have set the stage for the transposition into the world of playing both bass and keys simultaneously. Mary Frances also adds an additional dynamic twist to the music with her smooth, enchanting voice.

Mary's passionate vocals create a



Mary Frances on vocals, keys, and bass.

perfect compliment to her soulful key and bass groove.

Drummer Lee Allen was first drawn to the skins at the age of five by the influences of his fathers marching band drum-line and old soul records. His passion for beats led him to the teachings of Berklee School of Music in Boston,

MA and then to the mountains of North Carolina at Appalachian State University. Also influenced by the progressive path of music technology, Allen continues to expand his sonic palette through the creative use of modern electronics.

Mary Frances and Lee Allen have combined their talents to create a soulful-groovin, hop-pop, organ trio sound from two

Their music will get your heads bobbin, toes tappin, and your souls singing along. We would like to welcome you to the unique, infectious sound of EYMAREL.

If you go

Saturday, September 20 Emerald Lounge, 112 N. Lexington Ave. 21+, \$7-10 p.m.

For more info visit: www.eymarel.com www.myspace.com/eymarel www.myspace.com/emeraldlounge

'CD's' continued

he turned Jimmy Webb's endearing pop oddities into cultural standards, and while he does make intentional concessions to a new era, covering such artists as Green Day's "Good Riddance" and U2's "All I Want Is You" while engaging musicians as diverse as countryman Marty Rifkin and members of Cheap Trick.

But this is no mere futile effort by and aging superstar to appear hip and with it; Campbell's great strength has always been that gorgeous, shimmering voice.

Thus, Paul Westerberg's melancholic "Sadly Beautiful" sounds as if it were written with Campbell in mind. Even better ihis tender rendition of Jackson Browne's oft covered "These Days." Given how well that song been interpreted over the years Campbell still manages to wring every last drop of emotional resonance from its sentiment and, in doing so, renders all others, including the original, obsolete.

Even if the arrangements occasionally overwhelm the material this is such an unexpected gem that anyone who has ever been down and out should be quick to forgive such minor transgressions. It's Glen Campbell at his most endearing, a stunning comeback for an artist that had been all but lost in the twin addictions of self pity and chemical substance. Welcome back Mr. Campbell: You've been sorely missed. *****1/2

Metal Heads Rejoice

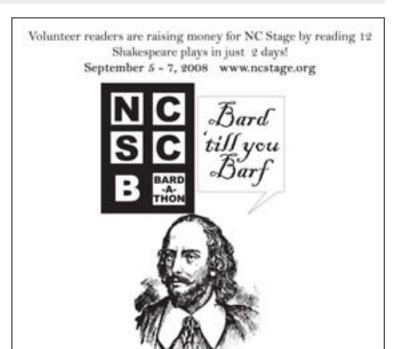


On Tuesday, September 23, The Orange Peel will offer an evening of ear splitting sound. Graveyard, formed in Gothenburg, Sweden in late 2006 and consisting of band members Rikard Edlund (bass), Axel Sjöberg (Drums), Joakim Nilsson (Guitar/Vocals), and Jonathan Ramm (Guitar/Vocals), are at the forefront of a small but surprisingly active Swedish rock scene.

Their 2008 self titled release is a metal monster love fest of crashing guitar, thumping bass and pounding drums. It's also surprisingly melodic in the ways heavy metal should be, but all too often isn't.

If you go

The Graveyard, sharing a bill with Clutch, The Sword, and Never Got Caught. The Orange Peel, Tuesday, September 23, 8 p.m. (7 p.m. doors). \$18 advance/\$20 door. Ages 18+.



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STAGE PREVIEW

Steve Lloyd: Life in the Theatre, Haywood County Style

f you've ever longed to know how in the world a person can actually build a rewarding, economically viable life in the arts, take note: Steve Lloyd, the Director of the Haywood Arts Regional Theatre in Waynesville has done exactly that. And, for the most part, he's done it without a day job.

The reasons for this are marvelous. But they're not surprising. They're due to a number of good, old-fashioned American values you've probably heard about all your life, some of which you most certainly possess yourself.

The first two are vision and enterprise. At its birth In 1984 HART was a shoestring operation with a budget of \$25,000 a year. Its performances occurred at an old movie theatre in Wayneville.

Lloyd seized his opportunity in 1990. As a visiting artist at Haywood Community College, he presented himself before HART's Board of Directors and proposed his idea for a community based theatre supported by an active program of local fund raising. As for the person to accomplish this mountain sized challenge, he suggested himself – a man who had both the time and the money to support himself while nurturing the project from needy infancy to full-fledged adulthood.

No, he wasn't heir to a fortune. Lloyd was earning the needed money himself from a play he'd written and was touring in such far-flung places as New York



Steve Lloyd, Director of the Haywood Arts Regional Theatre

BY ROSELYNN KATZ

City and Europe. The Actor and the Assasin is the story of John Wilkes Booth, the actor who assassinated Abraham Lincoln. In it Lloyd played Booth's brother, chief rival and fellow actor, Edwin.

He knew, however that he couldn't keep doing the part forever. Besides, it was time to settle

down. What better place than Waynesville? As a North Carolina native and graduate of UNC at Chapel Hill, he had lived for some years in Los Angeles and wanted never to return. To live in Haywood County felt like coming home.

For his first years with HART he worked around the clock, received no salary the first year and lived on his savings. By 1997 his vision had been realized. Thanks to his skills in leading and inspiring people, not to mention his concern for the community, the theatre was paying off. Lloyd was on a liveable salary and had been able to raise enough money for a spanking new building which seats 250 in its main auditorium and 75 in its smaller one.

HART is now in its 19th season under Lloyd. He's still the only full time employee but foresees a time when more people will come onboard. The program

has a \$200,000 budget. Half of that comes from ticket sales; the other half comes from donations.

Look for bricks on the grounds outside with the names of donors inscribed. Look for auditorium seats with plaques bearing the names of more contributors. All kinds of fundraising have livened up life at HART under Lloyd's direction. Only last month a variety show done by high school students helped raise money for the theatre.

To be sure, challenges present themselves all the time. Musicals, for example, can take a whopping \$27,000 to produce. A show like *Kiss Me Kate*, which is familiar to everyone, had no trouble recently in recouping that expense in ticket sales, but what of lesser known ones that deserve to be seen? *Floyd Collins*, set for production this October, and expected to cost \$15,000 is "one of the most beautiful musicals of recent years," says Lloyd. "It's the story from the 1920's about a Kentucky coal miner trapped underground whose life and death become a legend."

Producing Floyd Collins, which isn't well known, will be a risk. But it's one that Lloyd is willing to take because he wants people to experience its magic.

See if for yourself. As you do, you're sure to feel the can-do spirit of the man who made a life in the theatre that supports him financially but also bestows him with far greater rewards than money.

Steve Lloyd has done it his way.

An Evening With Mark Twain

A Special Event to Benefit HART and The Museum of N.C. Handicrafts

urt Sutton presents his witty, humorous and often hilarious "An Evening with Mark Twain." As Mark Twain, Sutton has

appeared in theatres nationally pleasing audiences with Twain's

wit, wisdom and love for music.

Kurt Sutton was born in Mannheim, Germany, immigrating to the United States in 1950. He grew up in Canton, Ga. graduating from the University of Georgia in 1968. He has performed as a speaker, trainer, musician and entertainer for 30 years. His instruments include harmonica, guitar, and banjo. He has appeared in the movie, "Go Tell It on the Mountain" featuring Paul Winfield and "Night Shadows" featuring Wings Hauser.

Mr. Sutton has created a Broadway-Branson type play using Sam Clemens many talents to portray Mark Twain. Mr. Sutton has chosen to play the character of Mark Twain the way Clemens would have played him.

Clemens played guitar, banjo, piano and harmonica on a regular basis in his parlor for his friends and family. When Mr. Sutton plays the audience is pleasantly surprised to find that the music of Clemens era; now called traditional music, makes the show a sing-a-long fun event while keeping the wonderfully witty and humorous stories of Mark Twain. The show's dramatic pieces are right out of Twains most famous books, Huckleberry Finn, Tom Sawyer, and Roughing It,

Mr. Sutton is a recent recipient of the National Endowment of the Arts Big Read Project for his work in theatres and libraries to perform and promote "The Adventures of Tom Sawyer". BY ROSELYNN KATZ

If you go

"An Evening with Mark Twain" at the Performing Arts Center at the Shelton House on Saturday, September 6 at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$13 for seniors and \$8 for students.

Reservations may be made by calling the HART Box Office at (828) 456-6322, or online at www.harttheatre.com, click "Tickets"

Haywood Arts Regional Theater 250 Pigeon St., Waynesville, NC, 28786 Proceeds from the performance will go to support HART and the Museum of N.C. Handicrafts.

STAGE PREVIEW

Gore Vidal's "The Best Man"

Asheville Community Theatre Opens 63rd Season

BY JENNY BUNN

ore Vidal's political nail-biter, *The Best Man*, written with the deep insight of a true political insider (Vidal ran for Congress in 1960, the same year he penned the play) and the wit of a grand man of letters, remains, as *The New Yorker* wrote in 2000, "A sophisticated, elegant and damnably entertaining play!"

The Best Man focuses on the behind-the-scenes dealings at a national political convention. Fighting for their party's presidential nomination are a William Russell, a high-minded patrician liberal who believes politics is a process of educating people about the issues and Joseph Cantwell, a headline grabbing senator who will go to any length to win.

Through a series of conversations and compromises, the candidates scheme and scramble for the small bunch of uncommitted delegates who can seal the presidential nomination. *The Best Man* is surprising in how many, and how few, things have changed in the past 48 years.

The Best Man is directed by Jamie Nicholson, who most recently staged the compelling drama Match in 35below. The Best Man stars Jim Weyhenmeyer, a newcomer to the ACT stage, as William Russell and Dan Clancy (The Philadelphia Story) as Joseph Cantwell.

Also in the cast of 16 are Lora Kole, Susan Fronsoe, Bob Baldridge, and Jack and LaNita Cloninger, who are appearing onstage together for the first time. The set is designed by Jack Lindsay, with lighting design by Rob Bowen, and costume design by Jessica Short.



Senator Joseph Cantwell (Dan Clancy) and William Russell (Jim Weyhenmeyer) are presidential candidates in *The Best Man*.

If you go

Performances will run for three weekends through September 28, 2008 and are held on Friday and Saturday nights at 8:00 p.m., and Sunday afternoons at 2:30 p.m.

Asheville Community Theatre, 35 E. Walnut St., downtown Asheville. Opening night, pre-show complementary champagne reception.

Tickets are \$22 for adults, \$19 for college students and seniors (over 60), and \$12 for children (17 and under).

Tickets may be purchased online at www.ashevilletheatre.org, by calling the ACT Box Office at (828) 254-1320 or in person at the Box Office.

Box Office hours are 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., Monday – Friday.

Shakespeare in Ballet

BY ANN DUNN

he Asheville Ballet begins its 46th anniversary season with-Shakespeare in Ballet (September 26-27). Featuring scenes from Othello, Macbeth, King Lear, Hamlet and The Tempest, the production has been choreographed by Ann Dunn and Lyle Laney.

In addition to original music and projections by Laney, the accompaniment will feature an actress and music by Samuel Barber, Franz Liszt and Verdi performed live by pianist John Cobb and members of The Asheville Lyric Opera.

Asheville Ballet has built a reputation on the belief that dance plays a vital role in the education and culture of the community.

If you go

Tickets range from \$28 to \$49. Preview dress rehearsal tickets are \$18 (adults), \$12 (seniors), and \$5 (students).

Tickets sold through Diana Wortham Theatre box office at (828) 257-4530. For more information please contact Asheville Ballet at (828) 258-1028.

Bard-a-Thon at NC Stage Company

Local Windbags Ham It Up

omething wild and crazy will be going on at NC Stage from September 5 through 7. It's 48 hours of non-stop Shakespeare or "Bard till you Barf", as the slogan goes.

Just like a walk-a-thon, Barda-Thon is a fund raiser, in this case for Asheville's one and only nonprofit professional theatre. Instead of walking, there will be full readings of

of walking, there will be full readings of 12 Shakespeare plays in 2 days, beginning on Friday night, September 5 through Sunday evening.

Prizes will be given for the person who reads the longest. Charlie Flynn-Mc-Iver, head honcho and Creative Director at NC Stage, is bragging that he can do the whole shebang, non-stop, and challenges anyone to match him. Nor is he afraid of his competition, many of them 19 year old students from UNC and Warren Wilson who have already signed up.

"They may think they can easily beat an old guy of 43," he boasts, "but I've got 2 kids under the age of 6. So I know all



BY ROSELYNN KATZ

about staying up all night. What do 19 year olds know besides how to write papers?"

So take note if you'd like to

BY ROSELYNN KATZ

wipe that self-satisfied smile from his face. Other prizes will also be awarded, to whoever raises the most money, and to whoever signs up the most sponsors.

That's a great deal for people who love to hear their own voices and ham it up for hours on end. Participants, working toward a big group effort of an overall \$5000, first ask friends and family to sponsor them before taking on the Big Bard.

Come into the theatre at no charge to see your favorite actors and pals do their thing. It's also being broadcast live on the internet by Charlotte Street Computers. You can watch it all as it unfolds at www.ncstage.org.

Asheville Playback Theatre

sheville Playback Theatre invites you to the opening of their 14th season of creatively honoring the community's real life stories through improvisation, music and movement. On Friday, September 19 the company will collaborate with MOVING WOMEN and their Movement for Peace Project.

The 15 member playback company is active in the international Playback Theatre network, and is the initiating sponsor of the yearly special themed event. The 4th Annual Global Playback event will partner with the United Nation's 60th Anniversary of the Declara-

Stories Of Freedom - Our Traditions, Our Future on December 10.

The Movement for Peace Dance company, a program of Arts 2 People, is coordinating numerous events throughout the community to inform, involve and inspire people as they help raise awareness of the United Nation's International Day of Peace, www.moving-women.org.



If you go

Friday, September 19, 8:00 p.m.

The BeBe Theatre, 20 Commerce Street. The performance begins at 8 p.m. (doors open at 7:30). \$10 for adults & \$5 for students & Seniors. No one turned away for lack of funds (seats available).

For more info, please call (828) 670-5881. www.globalplayback.org

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- Paul Bauman Art.
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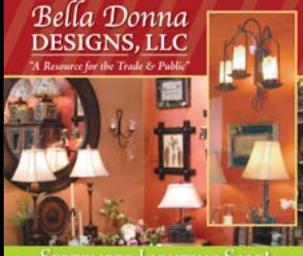
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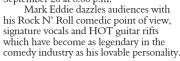
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PERFORMANCE

Interview with Mark Eddie

ontinuing the momentum of hosting the largest standup comedy festival in the southeast, the "Laugh Your Asheville Off" team brings festival favorite Mark Eddie back for one night only to The Diana Wortham Theatre in Downtown Asheville September 20 at 8:00 p.m.



Rapid River: There is talk about your own television series on Disney. How did that come about and how is it going?

Mark Eddie: Yes, I am currently working with writers and a producer in L.A. developing a family series in which I will play a Dad. The show will center primarily on the kids, but incorporate much of what I do as a comedian too! We hope to have a script soon and a pilot finished by the end of '09. We are still in the development stages and these things typically take two to three years to become a reality.

RR: You incorporate music in with your comedy. What came first, music or comedy?

ME: MUSIC came first. I began my career as a gritty bar singer/musician and then began touring the US as a coffeehouse act. After a few years of telling stories and singing songs to college crowds, it became clear that I had a clear-cut point of view on the world of music and how music relates to life. At that point rock comedian was born. (Laughs)

I have always been a bit of a clown though. I would hang out with the crew and play practical jokes on my fellow band mates. Many times the other musicians would get mad at me for noticing these funny little things in the music we played, or making fun of certain artists and doing parodies of popular tunes of the day. In fact, I actually got kicked out of a band in high school basically for being a scorch and making the audiences laugh at our shows. I tamed it down for a while to a pensive crawl, but eventually the comic in me had to emerge with a vengeance.

RR: For those not familiar with your act how would you describe your upcoming Diana Wortham show?

ME: It's going to be a pure rock n roll/ comedy spanking. That's how I would



Mark Eddie

describe it anyway. (Laughs)

BY BETH GOSSETT

Basically, my show is a total "feel good show." I'll play the snot out of my guitar, I'll sing a bunch of songs, do a bunch of musical impressions, people will laugh their Asheville's off and then

we'll all stand up, hold hands, hold up cigarette lighters and sing "Kum Ba Ya." That's pretty much it in a nutshell. Hope it sounds fun to your readers.

RR: Who is your favorite working comic?

ME: There are just so many amazing comedians that I have been influenced by and absolutely adore. Among my faves Steve Martin, Adam Sandler, Bill Cosby and Ellen DiGeneres — If I had to pick just four.

RR: What's so special about Asheville to do a second concert in just two months?

ME: Asheville is like the coolest city in the country! (Yells excitedly) People are so real, so laid back, so educated, so friendly, so supportive of the arts and did I mention — sooo smart?

RR: What do you think about Last Comic Standing?

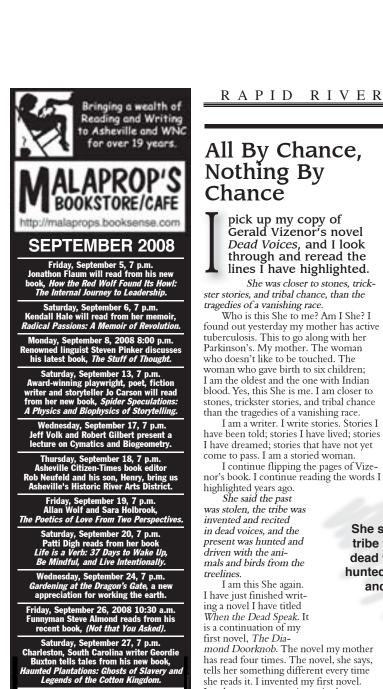
ME: The comedians that make the cut are all so amazing. Many of my friends have been on the show and have done very well and are benefiting from the nationwide exposure — Alonzo Boden, Tammy Pescatelli, Gary Gullman, Kathleen Madigan. Wow, did I just do an Olympian quadruple name-drop? I could do without some of the petty drama on the show though? Yeah, but, that's what makes good, spontaneous, unscripted, unedited reality TV!!!;)

RR: In the late '70s and '80s there were a lot of popular stand-up comics. Do you feel there is a resurgence of national standup comedy over the past couple of years?

ME: I think various economic factors have affected the comedy clubs over the past few decades and they have definitely experienced their ups and downs. As far as our appetite for stand-up comedy, I feel it has been on a pretty sure and steady increase ever since the 70's. First HBO 's Young Comedians and One Night Stand, then Russell Simm's Def Comedy Jam, A&E and Showtime's numerous comedy

'Mark Eddie' continued on pg. 34





She said the past was stolen, the tribe was invented and recited She said the past was stolen, the in dead voices, and the present was hunted and tribe was invented and recited in driven with the anidead voices, and the present was mals and birds from the hunted and driven with the animals I am this She again. and birds from the treelines.

pick up my copy of

Gerald Vizenor's novel Dead Voices, and I look through and reread the

lines I have highlighted.

Who is this She to me? Am I She? I

I am a writer. I write stories. Stories I

I continue flipping the pages of Vize-

of others and mine and I invented this tribe. Now the present is being hunted

the birds flying from the treelines.

My mother is dying.

birch and cedar.

and driven with the animals, driven with

We are squirrels and remembered

our stories of the winter demons in the

Each of my brothers, each of my

sisters, has memories of stories of win-

memories of stories of summer demons.

We lived them, with them, beside them,

lived. Those demons our mother brought

ter demons. And if pressed, probably

in spite of them; we lived. In spite of

those winter and summer demons, we

Now I am a part of the We.

She was closer to stones, trick-

When the Dead Speak. It is a continuation of my first novel, The Diamond Doorknob. The novel my mother be. We wonder does she remember what has read four times. The novel, she says, tells her something different every time We don't want her to suffer. We really don't want her to suffer. We want her to she reads it. I invented my first novel. I took our names, stories, pain, love, get well. To live. To laugh. To try and love us some more. We don't know if she will. death and abuse and invented the tribe of people contained therein. I stole the past

denied by chemical demons, but we will never live in fear or disgrace...'

All the old diseases are coming back. Our mother is dying from an old disease. One we thought was gone forever. A man gave it to her. He sneezed and she caught what he had brought upon himself. She tried to help him and he sneezed and now those infectious balls of snot have come to fruition. In the treelines. In her lines. In ours.

We are the trees. We are the treelines. We are the children of the trees, and of our mother. I am a tree with lines that extend so far back I have never

poetri

home. To be her men, to be our daddies, to be there... always in front of us. Some of us fought them; some were too afraid. One thing for sure, she, our mother, leave who was never there - totally - in

We wonder what her thoughts may

A sacred fury... an uncommon madness... a scattering of birds... BY MARIJO MOORE

never left us - the we. How can someone the first place? We turned inward for the night as

crows do in their stories.

we remember or has she chosen to forget?

"The bodies we trust have been

I would rather be lost at war in the cities than at peace in a tame wilderness.

been able to see or count them. The war in the cities is the war in our hearts. We are losing our last line to the wild wilderness. Please, no more tameness! We are all starving from tameness!

I should have known theare would be nothing at the end but animals in the mirrors and caged birds, the dead end of the eve, because there was nothing more than that at our creation, and wars of chance in the trickster stories.

We have looked at the backsides of the mirrors for too, too long. Now, we have to face the image we knew was there all along. We have to face the bears in the mirror of our mother's eyes. She cried, once, I remember. And she laughed, several times, I remember. Tricksters do that, you know. They cry once and laugh a lot. It's always a war of chance. All by chance, nothing by chance. War is so damn confusing. Life can be so disappointing. And lonely. We know our loneliness has always been there for her.

Now, it will deepen. Trickster strikes again...

Tricksters are stories not real people. "We know those stories...

We do. Know them. All too well. I know one so well I have remembered it so many times it is tattooed to my soul. The story where I leave and never go

But the trickster made me come back long before I ever left. And here I am.

Once we were tracked and translated at the treeline, we were dead voices in the night, but now traces of our stories are heard in the cities. The animals have carried our stories to the cities, we are their stories, and we are remembered with them in the mirrors. The mirrors reveal what is truly there

We are her animals. We are her stories. We are remembered in the mirrors of her soul, the empty cages, the dead end of the eye. We are truly here. Because she brought us here. I am here to write. I am a storied woman. I am my mother's daughter.

We must go on. Yes, somehow, we must.

MariJo Moore is the author of a dozen books including three books of poetry: Spirit Voices of Bones, Confessions of a Madwoman (now available on CD), and the forthcoming Poets Inhale The Darkness Artists Breathe. She resides in the mountains of western NC, www.marijomoore.com

Rapid River Arts & Culture is currently accepting poems only from those who have published a book of poetry. Please send two of the poems from the book to info@rapidrivermagazine.com. If chosen, MariJo Moore will contact you for possible review in her poetry column.

BOOKS

The Road Goes Ever On and On

A September Ode

n western North Carolina, September is the beginning of glory. The orange and red color is starting in the trees and the yellow is splendid indeed. The weather begins to cool and we move into lengthening and brisk nights.

The perfect time for reading long and complicated books, books rich in history and mythology, dense and mournful. I find myself taking an old friend from the shelf and I lose myself in other voyages, other lives. September becomes Tolkien time then and I find myself reading those first words with unseemly anticipation:

"When Mr. Bilbo Baggins of Bag End announced that he would shortly be celebrating his eleventh-first birthday with a party of special magnificence, there was much talk and excitement in Hobbiton."

There really are two sorts of people in the world — those who adore the works of JRR Tolkien and, well, everyone else. I know, I know. How can an ardent feminist adore all that women-on-pedestals stuff? How does a very public Pagan reconcile all the Christian overlay of a basically Northern European mythic structure?

I simply can't explain it. Perhaps it's because I'm short and stout and have big hairy feet. Maybe because I'm a student of ancient Anglo-Saxon literature and culture. I was introduced to them fairly young in life and still have the battered and stripped copies that my grandmother got for me when I was in middle school.

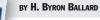
The trilogy of Academy-award win-

ning films brought a new generation to these books that were written in the last century and savvy publishers released new editions of all the works, in addition to the usual film tie-in stuff. All the Dungeons and Dragons aficionados who had no idea whence came the sword and the sorcery were enchanted to

find the genesis of the entire genre. Geeks of all stripes were lured in by the largeness of heart and vista afforded by Tolkien's masterworks.

Publisher Houghton-Mifflin holds the rights to the north American empire and they have produced many new or updated volumes of the Gaffer's work, as well as books of criticism and general scholarship. "The Silmarillion", which was published posthumously in the late 1970's (Tolkien died in 1973) was released in a beautifully illustrated edition, with drawings by Ted Naismith. It was edited by one of Tolkien's sons, Christopher.

They also released the next posthumously-published work, "The Children of Hurin", which was pieced together from several unfinished manuscripts, again by Christopher. It was begun as one of the "great tales" just after the First World War but was never finished. Reviews were mixed at the time of release (2007) but it is generally agreed to be an important addition to the complete works. Some of the side stories in "Children" were touched upon in "The Lord of the Rings", lending a sense of familiarity to the work.



The war brought a dark quality to all of Tolkien's work and John Garth's "Tolkien and the Great War: the Threshold of Middle-Earth" is a thoughtful and thorough examina-

tion of that subject. Tolkien served as a signal officer and survived the Battle of the Somme, one reason the battles

of his great works are redolent with the intimacy, terror and glory of battle.

"The Road to Middle-Earth" is a love-song from Tom Shippey, one of the preeminent Tolkien scholars. Shippey examines the roots from which sprang the stories — the ancient lore and mythology of the ancient people who would one day people Britain. This older work was joined in 2002 by another Shippey paean "JRR Tolkien: Author of the Century", another companion volume to the oeuvre, exploring the linguistic basis for the fascinating tales.

If you have not dug into "The Fellowship of the Ring", why not take this September opportunity to give it a try? You may be one of the people who put it away, unfinished and unlamented. But you may be one of those for whom the old tales hold a sweetness dear-bought and for whom the universal codes of myth hold a strange appeal. May I suggest you begin them on September 22 — Bilbo and Frodo's birthdays.

H. Byron Ballard is a bookseller, bookreader and occasional writer.



Bookstore Happenings

Monday, September 1 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Happy 4th Birthday to Osondu Booksellers! Join us for free birthday cake and champagne. 40% off one item of your choosing. Special sales: \$4 books and maps; 40% off toys and children's art supplies.

Saturday, September 6, 7:00 p.m.

Whether you are devoted to fine teas, or just a little curious, this is a great way to learn about and taste tea.

Friday, September 19, 7:00 p.m.

Dr. Paul Austin, author of Something for the Pain: One Doctor's Account of Life and Death in the ER. Austin's memoir is a revealing glimpse into the fragility of compassion and sanity in the industrial setting of today's hospitals.

Saturday, September 20, 2:00 p.m. Pirate Day

Ahoy Mates! Join us for a treasure hunt of a good time! Meet Captain Teach, hear real pirate tales and take home some pirate booty.

Saturday, September 20, 7:00 p.m.

Osondu's welcomes local musician Chris Minick to our café. Plan to come and bring a friend to enjoy great music and great refreshment.

Saturday, September 27, 3:00 p.m.

Lorraine Tate, author of the newly released book, *Going Home*. This novel begins as a family saga in present day Rome and takes us back to the time of the Civil War. This book will appeal to fiction lovers and history buffs alike.

Saturday, September 27, 7:00 p.m.

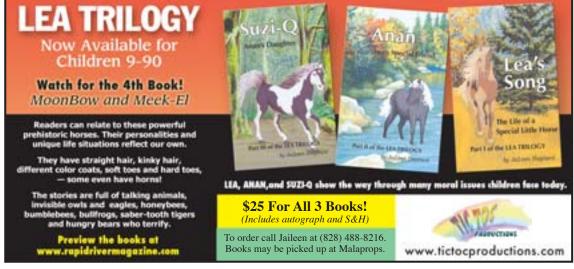
Lorraine Conard will entertain us once again in the Osondu Café. Don't miss the chance to enjoy your favorite wine while listening to a talented local artist.

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BOOKS

"Matrimony" written by Joshua Henkin

t is 1987, and Julian Wainwright, aspiring writer and Waspy son of New York City old money, meets beautiful, Jewish Mia Mendelsohn in the laundry room at Graymont College. So begins a love affair that will take

Julian and Mia across the country and back, through several college towns, spanning twenty years.

Rapid River: It's been ten years since your first novel, Swimming across the Hudson, was published. What have you been doing in that time?

Joshua Henkin: It's funny, at some point my agent called to ask me the same thing. I think she wanted to make sure I was still alive. A lot of things have happened in the last 10 years — I got married and had two children; I've been teaching creative writing; I've published a handful of short stories — but mostly I've been working on Matrimony.

Swimming across the Hudson took me three years; Matrimony took me ten. I threw out literally thousands of pages — many of them good pages, they just didn't belong in this book. Looking back

now, I can say it was great spending ten years on a novel. I had all the time in the world to get it right.

That's the good thing about being a fiction writer. No one cares how long you take. That's true in part because it's rare for a lot of money to be at stake and only a small portion of the population really cares about fiction.

A writer friend of mine likes to say that the reward for irrelevance is artistic freedom, and I think there's some truth to that. But beyond that, novelists are writing books that ideally are timeless, so what's good now should be good in twenty years. My hope is my next book will take less time, but you never know. There are a few good writers who can churn out a book every year or two — Updike and Oates come most readily to mind — but they're exceptions. In general, writing a novel is a very long process.

RR: Would you summarize Matrimony?

JH: Jonathan Franzen once said that the better a novel is, the more difficult it is to summarize. The protagonist in Martin Amis's novel *The Information* says some-

thing similar. He's a writer himself and he's being interviewed about his novel and the interviewer keeps asking him what his novel is about.

Amis's protagonist, who is a pretty difficult fel-

low, says something to the effect of, "It's 150,000 words, and if I could have said it in any less I would have." I sympathize. But if I had to describe *Matrimony*, I'd say it's about the twenty-year history of a marriage (it's about two marriages, actually — arguably three) and that it's about love and friendship, and the pleasures and perils that attend to those things.

More generally, the novel is about what it's like to be in your twenties and thirties — even your forties in some cases — when you're waiting for life to begin and you find to your surprise that it already has begun and that the decisions you make have consequences that you're not even aware of yet.

This is particularly pronounced in the case of my protagonists, Julian and Mia, since they get married at twenty-two, right out of college, and find themselves a year later living in Ann Arbor among friends for whom marriage is the last thing on their minds. College towns can perpetuate an eternal adolescence.

And there's a real divide between married people and single people — further down the line there's an even bigger divide between people who have children and people who don't. So Julian and Mia have done what seems like the supremely adult act — getting married — even though in other ways they are far from fully formed. This is certainly true professionally. Julian is struggling to finish his novel; Mia is slogging away on her psychology dissertation. In that sense, the book is about what happens when life calls even when you're not ready for it to come calling.

Matrimony is a New York Times Notable Book and Book Sense pick.

<u>If you go</u>

Joshua Henkin will read and sign copies of his book "Matrimony" at Malaprops Bookstore Sunday, September 14, 3 p.m.

Rapid River®

12th Annual Poetry Contest

Any unpublished poem 35 lines or less is wanted!

5 Winners

Prizes Include: Tickets to local concerts (TBA); Tickets to the Opera; Mellow Mushroom Gift Certificates; and books from Malaprops.

Deadline December 12th. Winning poems will be printed in the February 2009 issue. Reading fee: \$5 for five poems. For more info call (828) 258-3752.

Send poems to: Rapid River Poetry Contest 85 N. Main St. Canton, NC 28716

"Something For The Pain"

Written by Paul Austin

Memoirs of an emergencyroom doctor – his personal life as well as his professional challenges.

In 1970 Michael Crichton wrote a nonfiction book titled Five Patients. It recounts his experiences and hospital practices in the late 1960s at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston, bringing attention to the rising cost of healthcare. Austin's book *Something for the Pain* touches on something a little



bit scarier — how after awhile doctors become numb to the pain of their patients.

In this eye-opening account of life in the ER, Paul Austin recalls how the daily grind of long, erratic shifts and endless hordes of patients with sad stories sent him down a path of bitter-

ness and cynicism. His own life becomes Exhibit A, as he details the emotional detachment that estranges him from himself and his family. Gritty, powerful, and ultimately redemptive, Austin's

REVIEWED BY BETH GOSSETT

memoir is a revealing glimpse into the fragility of compassion and sanity in the industrial setting of today's hospitals.

I read this book over a weekend and found myself reading at a snail's pace over the last 10 or so pages because I didn't want this book to end.

If you go

Friday, September 12, 7 p.m., Malaprops Bookstore, 55 Haywood St., in Asheville. Friday, September 19, 7 p.m. Osondu Booksellers, 184 N. Main St., Waynesville, NC, 28786

"Radical Passions" written by Kendall Hale

endall Hale presents her memoir *Radical Passions* in stark and passionate prose. It reads a lot like Margaret Atwood's stunning *Cat's Eye* (1989).

Like Atwood's self reflection, Hale shows how outside events and people in her past have shaped the woman who she is today. Her life's journey takes her to Castro's Cuba, Mao's China, and Nicaragua during the Contra War and to her life as wife, mother and veteran of a

REVIEWED BY BETH GOSSETT

fractured marriage.

This powerful and moving story is made all the more fascinating because it is a true account of one woman's life, her struggles and triumphs that move the reader through the pages.

The book's only real flaw is the

The book's only real flaw is the cover. It fails in capturing the beauty of Hale's work. A peace sign inside a broken

heart would have done the job. Kendall Hale will be signing books at Malaprop's on Sepember 6, 7 p.m.



For more about this book please visit www.radicalpassions.com



======-Fantastic

====-Pretty darn good

= = -Has some good points

= = -The previews lied

-Only if you must

Forget entirely

Reel Take Reviewers:

Chip Kaufmann is a film historian who also shares his love of classical music as a program host on WCQS-FM radio.

Michelle Keenan is a long time student of film, a believer in the magic of movies and a fundraiser for public radio.

Brideshead Revisited

Smar Smar Smar Smar

Short Take: Evelyn Waugh's lengthy novel is made pleasantly shorter and is devastatingly beautiful in this film adaptation.

REEL TAKE: Evelyn Waugh's novels are rich, interesting stories, but are never easy and often not even particularly likeable. Brideshead Revisited is one such story, at once beautiful, complicated, and ultimately conflicted. This new film adaptation has come under fire by some critics, anglophiles and public television devotees for not being as complete as the 80's Masterpiece Theatre version.

Yes, at 2 hours and 10 minutes instead of 20-some odd hours, the story was definitely whittled down and thank God for that. This new version is beauti-

ful and streamlined and probably as good as any adaptation of this book could be. Screenwriters Andrew Davies and Jeremy Brock culled the story down to its essence without losing any of its impact.

Matthew Goode plays Charles Ryder. Charles book ends the story years later as Royal Army officer during WWII. As he reflects, we are taken back to his first days at Oxford in the 1920s. Charles is a painter and ironically he glows with a light befitting a John Singer Sargent painting. When he befriends the effete and aristocratic Sebastian Flyte (Ben Whishaw) on his first day at Oxford, his life is irrevocably changed forever.

When Sebastian first brings the atheist Charles home to his very Catholic family at the grand estate of Brideshead, it's no wonder poor Sebastian nor his sister can resist him. He's not of their world or their beliefs, and he brings a whole new light with him. Moreover all of them are young and full of hope.

Among those hopes, Sebastian hopes for happiness and Charles' love, while Charles seems to really just hope for a place among them.

Brideshead Revisited is breathtakingly photographed, directed with subtlety and is technically beautiful. All of the actors, in particular Ben Whishaw and Emma Thompson as Sebastian's mother, are superb. The story of life, love, faith and guilt is palpable, yet somehow, something left me cold and fidgeting in my seat by the end. As I walked up the street afterwards I felt

thoughtful, but empty. This may be not so much a flaw but more of a Waugh.

Rated PG-13 for some sexual content.

Review by Michelle Keenan

For the latest reviews, theater info and movie show times, visit www.rapidrivermagazine.com



Mirrors = = =

Short Take: This remake of a South Korean horror film doesn't reflect well on its makers.

REEL TAKE: I have always loved haunted mirror stories. I first encountered one in an old NBC show back in the early 1960s. The program was *Thriller* hosted by Boris Karloff and the story was called *The Hungry Glass* with a young William Shatner.

The haunted mirror in movies properly begins with *Dead of Night* a 1945 British omnibus film in which one of the stories deals with an antique mirror that reflects the room of its origin. An even better version was in the 1973 anthology film *From Beyond The Grave* which starred David Warner.

I begin my review with this background history not only to inform you of it, but to remind myself of the long tradition of haunted mirror stories to which this movie adds absolutely nothing. In fact several key sequences are taken not from the South Korean film *Geoul Sokeuro* (*Into The Mirror-2003*) from which this one is a remake but from the CW hit series Supernatural episode Bloody Mary.

Director Alexandre Aja has specialized in thrillers (*Haute Tension, The Hills Have Eyes*) with a decidedly bloody bent, so the gore factor in *Mirrors* is not surprising. One scene involving the death of one character (Amy Smart) is as preposterous as it is disturbing since its only purpose is to satisfy the gore hounds in the audience. However, the opening night audience responded not to the gratuitous gore scenes but to the old school approach of heightened suspense through the use of music and sudden jump cuts.

For the record the story involves a night watchman (Kiefer Sutherland) in a fire ravaged department store whose family becomes threatened by demonic forces living inside the store mirrors. Don't ask. Sutherland is in full Jack Bauer mode and the rest of the cast go along for the ride. Whether you should is up to you, but don't say I didn't warn you.

Rated R for strong violence, disturbing images, language, and brief nudity.

Review by Chip Kaufmann

Short Take: This comedy adventure about two potheads on the run could be viewed as "Cheech & Chong meet *The Big Lebowski.*"

REEL TAKE: Whatever your reaction to *Pineapple Express* is, the acclaim or blame should be laid at the feet of Seth Rogen. He not only stars in it but co-wrote it and is an executive producer as well. My reaction to it was decidedly mixed.

Pineapple Express starts off funny before becoming deadly serious in the final reel. It is the saga of two potheads who are on the run after one of them witnesses a drug related murder. After a series of escapades, they must face down the drug kingpin and his associates.

The aforementioned Seth Rogen is quite affable as a process server who hands out writs in between getting high. James Franco, as his drug dealer, gives the

film's most engaging performance.
Once you get past the opening Cheech & Chong dialogue, both characters start to grow on you.

The shadow of the Coen Brothers

brothers hangs heavily over the film. There is a prologue set in 1937 (the year marijuana became illegal) shot in black & white. It details secret military experiments of the effects of pot on enlisted men. As a one shot gag it just doesn't fit in.

The finale is an unabashed bloodbath straight out of *Miller's Crossing* where the principal characters are shot, stabbed, burned, and blown up, yet our heroes emerge relatively unscathed. In the long run I guess that qualifies it as a comedy.

Pineapple Express is well cast with excellent supporting performances that carry it along and some pretty good dialogue on occasion. However, like the potheads at the center of the story, it has a hard time making a decision on what it wants to do or what it wants to be.

Rated R for language, drug use, sexual references, and violence.

Review by Chip Kaufmann

'Movies' continued on pg 26

FILM REVIEWS

'Movies' continued from pg 25

Swing Vote ≤ ≤ ≤ 1/2

Short Take: Frank Capraesque Americana meets "You-know-you're-aredneck-if" in a far fetched but well meaning tale of one man's vote making a difference.

REEL TAKE: In recent years Kevin Costner hasn't soared with the same glory as he did from the mid-80's to the early 90's. While Swing Vote won't restore his likeability and bankability back to that

level, it is a good vehicle to reacquaint him with his old fans and maybe endear him to some new ones.

Costner plays Bud Johnson. He's a middle aged down and out, apathetic, beer guzzling, single father living in tiny town of town of Texico, New Mexico. Life has worn away his hopes and dreams and, like altogether too many Americans these days, he's apathetic and unaware about the world around him. Fortunately for Bud his young daughter Molly (played wonderfully by new comer Madeline Carroll) hasn't given up on the world or on him.

When, in a strange and ridiculously improbable turn of events, the presidential election comes down to one man's vote - Bud's - the candidates and the whole country comes a callin.' As the conservative incumbent president and

Theatre Directory

Asheville Pizza & Brewing Company Movieline (828) 254-1281 www.ashevillepizza.com

Beaucatcher Cinemas (Asheville) Movieline (828) 298-1234

Carmike 10 (Asheville)

Movieline (828) 298-4452 www.carmike.com

Cinebarre (Asheville) www.cinebarre.com

The Falls Theatre (Brevard)

Movieline (828) 883-2200

Fine Arts Theatre (Asheville)

Movieline (828) 232-1536 www.fineartstheatre.comm

Flat Rock Theatre (Flat Rock) Movieline (828) 697-2463

www.flatrockcinema.com

Four Seasons (Hendersonville) Movieline (828) 693-8989

Smoky Mountain Cinema (Waynesville) Movieline (828) 452-9091

the liberal Democratic candidate (played perfectly by Kelsey Grammer and Den-

nis Hopper respectively) compromise their values and contradict their political platforms, Bud enjoys his fifteen minutes of fame.

Unfortunately for us, Bud's fifteen minutes go on just a little too long. However, when the story does finally hit its turning point, it hits it spot on. Bud gets his wake up call, both candidates regain a little integrity and Molly and a team of helpers bring Bud up to speed on the nation's needs,

issues and concerns. In the climatic scene Costner delivers a 21st century monologue for the American every man.

Swing Vote is an enjoyable little movie and civics lesson. Folks that like Costner will be pleased. Folks that don't like Costner won't mind him. The supporting cast, including Nathan Lane, Stanley Tucci and George Lopez, is pitch perfect. And somewhere in the heavens Jimmy Stewart, Jean Arthur and Claude Rains are looking down and smiling.

Rated PG-13 for language.

Review by Michelle Keenan



and enjoyable French thriller full of suspenseful twists and turns.

REEL TAKE: This French film is based on a novel of the same name and was a critical and commercial success in Europe two years ago but couldn't find

company in Chicago took a chance on may have left the Fine Arts Theatre in Asheville by the time you read this. Like could), word of mouth is the only way a

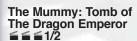
could do very well. Soapbox aside, Tell No One is a turns than Space Mountain. The story starts eight years ago with a happy couple, Alexandre and Margo Beck (François Cluzet and Marie-Josee Croze respectively), and their friends at a casual, summer dinner party. The next night Margot is murdered after she and Alex spend the evening skinny dipping at a lake that they've gone to since they were children.

On the 8th anniversary of her death Alex, a pediatrician, starts receiving emails that indicate his wife is still alive. Adding to the confusion is the discovery of two bodies at the lake where Margot was killed. This is cause to reopen the case and cause to reopen an investigation of Alex as the prime suspect. From there the good doctor and the audience are taken on a wild ride.

Tell No One is at once captivating, intriguing, and entertaining. It's a smart film without pretense or airs. In an era of Hollywood movies that are altogether too impressed with themselves, this film's modesty makes its smartness elegant.

Francois Cluzet is compelling as Alex. The supporting cast is equally good, especially Andre Dussolier as Alex's father in-law. People who frequent art house films may recognize some of the actors but most American moviegoers will not. This film is an enjoyable thriller for everyone regardless of language and familiarity.

> Unrated in the USA **Review by Michelle Keenan**



Short Take: Surprisingly enjoyable adventure with Brendan Fraser & Co. that recalls the old Saturday matinees.

REEL TAKE: Most critics trashed this movie when it first opened. They say it's derivative, the special effects are cheesy by today's

standards and the performances aren't going to win any awards. All of that is quite true. Nevertheless the movie is an awful lot of fun in the spirit of the old Saturday matinees.

I'll admit that I enjoyed this film far more than the recent *Indiana Jones* epic. Brendan Fraser, Jet Li and company are clearly enjoying this material. This is old-fashioned, escapist moviemaking at its best.

The story takes place in 1946. The O'Connell's now have a son (Luke Ford) who has discovered the tomb of the Chinese emperor (Jet Li) who built the Great Wall but was cursed by a beautiful witch (Michelle Yeoh) for killing her lover. Her



Jet Li as the Dragon Emperor in The Mummy: Tomb of the Dragon Emperor

daughter (Isabella Leong) stands guard and tries to stop the excavation. As in all Mummy movies he gets revived, has supernatural powers, seeks immortality, and must be stopped before he reaches full strength.

Brendan Fraser is his old reliable self, flashing his big smile and remaining ever self-effacing. Maria Bello (filling in for Rachel Weisz who opted out of a second sequel) plays a sexy and strong Evie. John Hannah returns as Evie's brother and continues to be the center of comic relief. While Jet Li has little to do as the Dragon Emperor, he effortlessly conveys the regal bearing and the restrained cruelty of the title character. Michelle Yeoh as his Chinese adversary is just right as the avenging witch who has lived for centuries.

The night I attended, the audience consisted of all ages with a large number of families. They laughed, they gasped and they applauded. Bottom line, they enjoyed themselves.

Rated PG-13 for adventure action and violence.

Review by Chip Kaufmann

Tropic Thunder ≡ ≡ 1/2

Short Take: Ben Stiller's latest comedy spares no one, offends some and delivers a lot of un-PC laughs.

REEL TAKE: I have to confess I'm really not quite sure what all the fuss is over Tropic Thunder. To me it's exactly what I thought it would be, considering it's a Ben Stiller spoof on Hollywood. Is it funny? Yes. Is it offensive? Not really. I would sooner call it politically incorrect. Stiller spares no one. He mocks the entire

Hollywood film industry.
Ben Stiller stars as Tugg Speedman, a Hollywood mega star whose star has faded; His popular films have been franchised into absurdity and, in a bid to be taken seriously as an actor he made a movie about a severely retarded man and his bid back fired (again - a definite poke at Hollywood, not at retardation). He's now hoping to rekindle his career with a Platoon-like Vietnam War epic called Tropic Thunder. When the early days of production go badly, he and fellow stars Kirk Lazarus (Robert Downey, Jr.),

'Movies' continued on next pg

distribution in United States. Why? It's the same reason Tom Cruise's repulsive character in Tropic Thunder is so spot on - money, money, money.

Fortunately a little distribution it, and it is now playing on 100 screens across the U.S. Unfortunately this movie Once (last year's little Irish indie film that little movie like this will succeed in this country. And like Once, Tell No One

French thriller with more twists and

FILM REVIEWS

'Movies' continued from pg 26

Jeff Portnoy (Jack Black), Alpa Chino (Brandon T. Jackson) and Kevin Sandusky (Jay Baruchel) are whisked to the jungle for a more authentic Vietnam War experience. It's then that the movie they think they are making isn't a movie any more.

Rounding out the picture is Nick Nolte as the handless Vietnam veteran and screenwriter, Matthew McConaughy as Stiller's agent, and an almost unrecognizable Tom Cruise as a hairy, repugnant, foul mouthed movie executive. However, it is Robert Downey, Jr. who steals the show. Only he, a brown eyed, brown haired American actor could play a blonde haired, blue-eyed, Australian actor playing an American black man with such finesse and comedy. He is playing the "consummate actor" - another poke at Hollywood.



Because of the whole ensemble and the pretty good reviews, Tropic Thunder may attract more than just Ben Stiller fans and most of them will likely get a kick out of it. But while Tropic Thunder is good for a more than a few politically incorrect laughs at Hollywood's expense, at the end of the day, it's just a silly movie. I respect anyone's right to protest and empathize with them, but unfortunately for the American Disabilities Union, their protests only served to help make this silly movie an even bigger hit.

Rated R for pervasive language including sexual references, violent content and drug material.

Review by Michelle Keenan

And When Did You Last See Your Father? **⊆ ⊆ ⊆ 1/2**

Short Take: Top notch performances power this unsentimental film about a writer coming to terms with his dying father.

REEL TAKE: There have been a number of films over the years dealing with aging and/or dying parents, from Make Way For Tomorrow (1934) to last year's The Savages. And When Was The Last Time You Saw Your Father? is one of the better ones.

'Movies' continued on pg. 28

Remember The Days of the Drive-In?

little there were still lots of drivein movie theatres all over



As a kid, I loved going to the drivein with my family. My parents would let us watch one feature, but then we were supposed to be asleep for the second. In truth, I'd be very quiet and pretend I was sleeping but actually watch the next movie reflected backwards on the rear window of the car.

In my teenage years drive-ins started to fade, but the Edgemere Drive-In in my home town was still a popular summer destination for me and my friends. We'd all pile into someone's dad's station wagon and off we'd go. In more recent years, whenever I'd travel home, I'd drive by and quietly note that The Edgemere was still there. Its glory days were long, long gone, but apparently it hobbled through until just a few years ago. On my last trip home I saw that it was marked for demolition. A housing development is going in where one of the biggest drive-in screens of all once stood.

Being the movie junkie that I am, I harbored a fantasy for years about creating something at home that would be almost as fun as a drive-in. A couple of years ago, I realized I could create my own backyard movie theatre. Here's how to do it.

If you have a white sheet, a laptop computer or portable DVD player, and an LCD projector, you're in business! In my case I borrowed a portable screen from

Now YOU Can Re-Create the Experience in Your Own Backyard!

work instead of hanging a sheet on the wall of the house, but either works fine. In this day and age, home and office equipment has



gotten so fancy that putting the technical components together for a backyard movie are easy.

You can go as state-of-the-art or as simple as you like. For reference you can learn more about projectors and equipment at www.backyardtheatre.com. Happily, projectors are coming down in price all the time and can be found online or at any of the chain stores that sell cameras, computers, etc. To make it a more budget friendly investment, you can look on sites such as E-bay and Craigslist for used projectors and other equipment.

My boyfriend and I found that using one portable speaker instead of two provided plenty of volume, and in a tinny, drive-in kind of way. Be sure to tape down or secure extension cords and cables, especially if children will be present.

For our parties I like to offer classic drive-in fare in both movies and food. We christened our backyard theatre with a Creature Double Feature: Creature from the Black Lagoon and a late night show of Attack of the Killer Tomatoes. We also provided each guest with their very



own brown bag of hot buttered popcorn (popped on the stove of course!). We couldn't believe how nostalgic people got with good old-fashioned popcorn.

BY MICHELLE KEENAN

These days when we throw a drive-in

party, we tend to keep it to one feature (old creature features are still the favorite). Add in some hot dogs, PBR and lemonade or cola and our backyard drive-in is ready to go. Use a little imagination and see what you can create.

Backyard Movie Picks

- Creature from the Black Lagoon*
- The Blob
- It Came from Outer Space*
- Dracula (1931 version)
- · Frankenstein, and/or Bride of Frankenstein
- Any of the old silent comedies featuring Charlie Chaplin, Buster Keaton, Harold Lloyd, etc.
- · Blazing Saddles
- · Caddy Shack
- * Get these films in 3-D if you can and get the old cardboard 3-D glasses for your guests. It's a hoot!

TEEN REVIEW

The Sisterhood of the **Traveling Pants 2**

 $\leq \leq 1/2$

Being a teenage girl myself, I can understand what the teenagers in The Sister-hood of the Traveling Pants 2 are going through. The fact that there is a movie that explores these things is surprising and pretty cool.

The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants 2 is about four teenage girls who have grown up together as the best of friends. In the first movie, the friends find a pair of magical pants in a thrift shop that miraculously fit all four of



Sierra Bicking is an arte aficionado extraordinaire.

them and seems to help them with their problems. They decide to share the pants, which have come to represent the love and friendship

by Sierra Bicking

they also share.

As time goes by, the friends go to different colleges and when summer comes they all go off on their separate adventures. They continue to mail the pants

back and forth to each other, and this is where this second movie begins.

This movie features some well known actors, including America Ferrera (*Ugly Betty*), Amber Tamblyn (*The Grudge 2*), Alexis Bledel (*Gilm*- ore Girls), Blake Lively (Accepted) and Blythe Danner (The Last Kiss). They all do an interesting job. So if you haven't read the books, but



teenage girls face today, here is your chance to "walk a mile in their pants."

Rated PG-13 for mature material and sensuality.

FILM REVIEWS

'Movies' continued from pg 24



Jim Broadbent and Colin Firth in "And When Did You Last See Your Father?'

Based on the book by Blake Morrison, it tells the true story of the author trying to come to terms with the impending death of his father and their troubled relationship over the years. In that regard it is very close in spirit to Robert Anderson's I Never Sang for My Father (1970) with Gene Hackman and Melvyn Douglas. This time around the father and son are Jim Broadbent and Colin Firth.

The movie jumps back and forth between the past and the present allowing us to see various stages of their relationship. It is complicated without being overly complex, and that enables us to experience the emotions not only of father and son but of the long suffering mother as well.

The only real criticism I have is with director Anand Tucker's overuse of mirrors and windows as refracting devices to show us that the characters are multi-faceted and feeling strong emotions. It gives the film an overly "arthouse" feel that it really doesn't need.

The performances are world class. Iim Broadbent is clearly one of the finest and most versatile British actors working today while Colin Firth gives yet another solid performance. Juliet Stevenson does an extraordinary turn as well with her portrayal of the wife who must condone the father's excesses while dealing with her own inner

And When Did You Last See Your Father? is a powerful movie and one that is really more for men than for women although it's not the type of film that most men would go to see. It should be seen in order for both sexes to better understand the rivalry between fathers and sons. Watch for it on DVD.

Rated PG-13 for sexual content, thematic material, and brief strong language.

Review by Chip Kaufmann

Ouestions/Comments?

You can email Chip or Michelle at reeltakes@hotmail.com

Chip Kaufmann's Pick: "Doctor Faustus"

This film version of the classic 16th

Burton's best stage performances.

century play captures one of Richard

Throughout the month of Sep-

tember, the Montford Park Players will

be presenting Christopher Marlowe's

Elizabethan tragedy Doctor Faustus at

the Hazel Robinson Amphitheatre in

Montford. Get out and see it if you can,

for not only is this a great play, but it is

some background on the play before-

hand and see one of Richard Burton's

critics dismissed it as just another

best stage performances, then check out

Richard Burton/Elizabeth Taylor vanity

project (which it was) but that's all they

saw. Now that Liz and Dick have been supplanted by the likes of Brad and

Angelina, the film is ripe for rediscovery.

The beauty of Christopher Marlowe's

play lies in the poetry of the lines and

University production, which Burton

co-directed, captures its stage origins

but is cleverly opened up in a number

of ways that turn it into a fascinating

cinematic experience. The film employs

an imaginative use of lighting, beautiful

cinematography, and a haunting musical

of the title character is a joy to behold

and serves as a vivid reminder of what

a charismatic performer he was. His

glorious voice speaks the Elizabethan

Richard Burton's intense portrayal

score from Mario Nascimbene.

the playwright raises. This Oxford

the philosophical and theological points

When this film was first released,

very rarely performed. If you want to get

Doctor Faustus:

the 1967 film version.

DVD Picks of the Month





text as if it were everyday conversation but with a power and conviction that must be heard to be believed. The rest of the cast is made up of members of the Oxford Dramatic Society with Andreas Teuber a standout as a melancholy Mephistopheles. Last but not least there is Elizabeth Taylor. She is required to do nothing more than look beautiful in a variety of guises, (she has no dialogue) but she certainly makes her presence felt throughout, especially considering how beautiful she was back then.

Chances are that no one will redo this play on film anytime soon, so there's even more reason to celebrate this version which clearly shows what the play has to offer as a great precursor to Shakespeare, as well as how to make a major film on a minor budget.

The Lookout

Keep a look out for it on your next trip to the video store.

I missed The Lookout when it came out last year, and I'm sure many of you did too. It's a good little movie with the now all grown up Joseph Gordon Levitt

Michelle Keenan's Pick: "The Lookout"

(TV's Third Rock from The Sun), and it's worth a view.

Levitt stars as Chris Pratt, a gifted young hockey player in rural America whose bright future is destroyed after a tragic car accident that leaves him with a brain injury and two friends dead. His short term memory and recall is hindered so he keeps a notebook to remind him what to do and help him to remember other things. He simultaneously misses the old days, longs to escape his current life, and is constantly wracked with guilt for the accident. Adding to his difficulties is a conflicted relationship with his well-to-do parents.

He works at a bank as a night time janitor, but he's working whole heart-edly to improve himself in hopes of becoming a teller. Because of his connection to the bank he is befriended by a gang of sorts and is used as their inside man and their lookout while they plot to rob the bank. Once he realizes he's being used, he's out to foil their plans, as well as choose a new path and recover from old wounds.

Levitt is completely believable and engaging as Pratt. He has great chemistry with Jeff Daniels who plays his post-accident best friend and roommate. Daniels' character is blind but perceptive. Matthew Goode, Isla Fisher, Sergio Di Zio and Bruce McGill round out the cast.

The Lookout struck me as something you would see or read in a screenwriting class – good plots not yet reworked by Hollywood, perfectly timed story beats and a satisfying ending.

WCU's 2nd Annual Spanish/Latin American Film Festival

estern Carolina University's department of modern foreign languages will present its second annual Spanish/Latin American Film Festival, which will run from Tuesday, September 9, to Tuesday, October 21.

All films, accompanied by English subtitles, will be shown at 7:30 p.m. in the A.K. Hinds University Center theater, and a brief discussion will follow each movie. The festival is open to the public and free of charge.

Tuesday, September 9

"Nueba Yol," a comedic adventure film originating in the Dominican Republic that dramatically chronicles one immigrant's struggle in New York City.

Tuesday, September 16

"Hombre mirando al sudeste," a drama filmed in Argentina that depicts the story of a patient in a mental hospital who claims to be an extraterrestrial.

Tuesday, September 23

"La ley de Herodes," a film mixing comedy, mystery and crime that tells the story of a janitor turned mayor who realizes the extent of his power and corruption in a little town in the Mexican desert in 1949.

Tuesday, September 30

"Mar adentro," a dramatic biography filmed in Spain about the life of Ramon Sampedro, who struggled in a 30-year movement in favor of euthanasia.

BY BESSIE DIETRICH-GOGGINS

Tuesday, October 7

"Como agua para chocolate," a film from Mexico about two people who fall in love but cannot marry due to family traditions and obligations.

Tuesday, October 21

"Hable con ella," a drama filmed in Spain about two men who form an unlikely friendship through their girlfriends, who are both in deep comas.

If you go

For more information contact Jamie Davis, WCU assistant professor of Spanish and French, at (828) 227-3872.

RESTAURANTS & WINE

Not-So-Random Thoughts About The Drinking Scene

Drought Relief in Boone?

Not exactly, but Boone is getting wetter. On August 19, 1106 people voted in favor of liquor by-the-drink, overwhelming the 408 who voted against it. Less than thirteen percent of Boone's registered voters bothered to show up and vote.

That does not mean that you can go there today and have a martini, however. The licensing process takes months. By the time Boone's bars are pouring vodka and bourbon, it will be a good time for a hot toddy.

That only 408 people (3.3% of all registered) voted against the change is interesting — so much for the stereotype of the Christian teetotaler imposing beliefs on others. Of course, religious convictions motivated many of the actual voters, but less people voted against the change than the number of adults who attend the town's First Baptist Church. Clearly, their feelings about alcoholic beverages are a mere minority among the church-goers.

Other people who opposed were, understandably, those who have witnessed or experienced the dark side of alcohol. The rest were, ironically, the bartenders in the neighboring towns of Blowing Rock and Banner Elk who have been pouring liquor all along and do not want the competition coming soon in Boone.

A Tale of Two Sakes

I adore sake of all types. Brewed from rice, it is certainly not a wine, but we still tend to call it that. I think that's OK. We know it does not come from grapes, but are comfortable calling it wine because it is a complimentary word for the drink.

I recently considered two brands side-by-side on the store shelf, Gekkeikan for seven dollars and Hakutsuru for fifteen. I bought them both so some friends and I could have a taste test. It was the same day as the Environmental Conservation Organization's tour of green homes.

The two brands were almost identical in taste and quality. Hakutsuru, which is brewed in Japan, offered only a little more fragrance for twice the money. Gekkeikan is brewed in California.

Sake breweries have long been up and running in America and are doing just fine. If you are loyal to Japan, then good for you, but for the green-minded (both environmental and monetary), the green-bottled Gekkeikan better serves those goals.

Ernest Said Something About That

Michael Veseth, writing for his own excellent Wine Economist blog, tells the story in an April 28, 2008 post:

"The story is told of a sales call that Ernest Gallo made to a New York customer in the dark days of the depression. He offered sample glasses of two red wines — one costing five cents per bottle and the other ten cents. The buyer tasted both and pronounced, 'I'll take the tencent one.' The wine in the two glasses was exactly the same. Clearly, the customer wanted to buy an identity — the image of someone who wouldn't drink that fivecent rotgut — even if he couldn't actually taste the difference. 'They always buy the ten cent wine,' Ernest Gallo said."

I wouldn't worry about Hakutsuru's sales figures.

Wine Spectator Falls for a Hoax

The latest addition to my smart-alek hall of fame is wine critic and author Robin Goldstein, who totally fabricated a fictitious restaurant and applied for Wine Spectator Magazine's Award of Excellence. He named the restaurant "Osteria L'Intrepido" (which translates to The Fearless Restaurant), arranged a Google Map locator in Milan, and paid the \$250 application fee. He got the award.

Goldstein posted the imaginary menu and wine list on the internet and listed wines the Wine Spectator had actually

BY MICHAEL PARKER

denounced in previous wine reviews, including an Amarone that had been compared to paint thinner. There were even customer reviews about the nonexistent restaurant on the Chowhound website.

There are two sides to this story. The

There are two sides to this story. The magazine has long been accused of giving higher ratings and better publicity to advertisers and paying applicants. Yes, they have lost some serious vineyard credibility by falling for Goldstein's hoax.

The awards have also drawn attention to deserving restaurants that have worked hard on their wine programs. There are thirty restaurants within 50 miles of downtown Asheville who have earned the award.

Wine For Art's Sake

On Thursday, September 4, Asheville Art Museum will host its sixth annual Taste of Art and Wine, from 6:30 to 9:00, on both floors of the Pack Place Atrium.

It will be in the same format as the past tastings, with an enormous variety of wines and craft beers, along with food from a number of local restaurants, plus a silent auction, all to benefit the museum and art education for western North Carolina. Pricing is \$30 a person, \$55 per couple in advance, and \$40 per person at the door. Museum members receive a discount from the above prices.

It's the same price as it was 6 years ago, consistently the best deal for a night out in Asheville. This is the best kind of setup for a wine tasting: stand-up, approach the table, no lecture. For the price of three good bottles, you can taste dozens of wines — even pricier selections. If you keep some simple notes, this reduces your risk when you make your choices in the local wine shops.



September Events at the Weinhaus

Reservations are required for these events unless otherwise noted. Call the Weinhaus at (828) 254-6453.

Wednesday, September 10

Sugo's Restaurant will offer a special wine dinner using wines from the Weinhaus and offering the impecably fresh ingredients and creative combinations that are making it one of the hottest new restaurants in Asheville. Time is 7:00 p.m. Cost is \$65 all inclusive.

Saturday, September 20 "Our Favorite Reislings"

A free wine tasting at the Weinhaus from 2 to 4 p.m., located at 86 Patton Ave., in Asheville.

Tuesday, September 23

The Old Europe Bistro will offer a five course wine dinner of fine food cooked by chef David and paired with wines from the Weinhaus.

Good memories of past events there make this a "don't miss" event! Time is 7:00 p.m. Cost is \$55 all inclusive.

The Weinhaus

86 Patton Ave., in Asheville (828) 254-6453

TASTING EVENTS!

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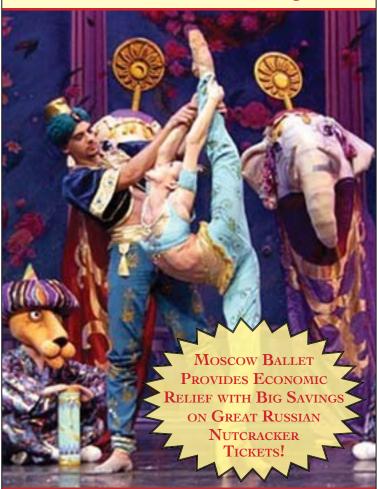
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STAGE PREVIEW

SART's Heritage Series Tour

outhern Appalachian Repertory Theatre (SÁRT), the award-winning professional stage company based in Mars Hill, is bringing their new program, the Heritage Series Tour into the schools and public venues of western North Carolina and the southeast beginning this fall.

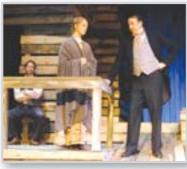
SART's mission

includes producing plays that portray the rich cultural heritage of Southern Appalachia. The Heritage Series Tour brings theatrical works of historical significance into the schools and communities of the largely rural counties of western North Carolina, at a ticket price that is affordable to those who may not otherwise get the opportunity to experience live professional theatre. The tour is funded in large part by a grant awarded to SART by the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA.)

Each fall and each spring, SART will take a different Heritage Series produc-tion on tour. For the fall of 2008, SART will present Frankie, by William Gregg and Perry Deane Young.

Frankie is the compelling true story of Francis (Frankie) Silver; the play is a fresh examination of WNC's most lurid ax murder. Francis Silver was convicted of murdering her husband Charlie by a Burke County jury in 1832 (the murder occurred in Mitchell County.) WNC residents were divided by their opinions as to Frankie's innocence or guilt, and the controversy surrounding the event remains alive even today.

The playwrights are Mars Hill College theatre professor and SART Artistic Director William Gregg, and local historian Perry Deane Young. Both



"Frankie," by William Gregg and Perry Deane Young.

BY JANE PORTERFIELD

playwrights have family connections to the real story the play was based on. Gregg's ancestor and namesake, William Gregg, was on the jury that indicted Frankie Silver: Young's great uncle, George Young, sold the whiskey to Charlie Silver that caused

the fatal fight with Frankie.

Students from Enka High School in Buncombe County, Madison High School and Madison Early College in Madison County, and all middle school students in Mitchell County, will be enjoying school productions of Frankie as part of their curriculum.

The Memory Collection: The Legend of Bascom Lamar Lunsford, Minstrel of the Appalachians, a musical by Randy Noojin, will be presented in the spring of 2009 as part of the tour.

If you go

Public performances of Frankie will be September 20 at 7:30 p.m. at A-B Tech's Ferguson Auditorium in Asheville, and September 21 at 2:00 p.m. at Enka High School in Candler.

Tickets are \$15, and are available by contacting the SART box office at (828) 689-1239, online at www.sartplays.org, or at the door (cash and check only at the door.) Students will be admitted free of charge; complimentary student tickets are only available by calling the box office in advance, or at the door.

For more information, contact tour manager Jane Porterfield at (828) 689-1644 or sarttourmgr@mhc.edu.

Christine Lavin in One Meat Ball

he 2008/2009 Mainstage Series season opens on September 13 with singer, songwriter and humorist Christine Lavin in One Meat Ball, in which the talented Lavin combines a food-themed repertoire with her particular genius for making ordinary, everyday life so extraor-

This season opener is part of the 2008/2009 Music/Singer-Songwriter

Series, which also includes Kathy Mattea with her band on a "Moving Mountains" tour of her new Appalachian-themed album, COAL, on October 17.

If you go

The Diana Wortham Theatre at Pack Place. Tickets for all events can be purchased by visiting www.dwtheatre.com or from the box office. Call (828) 257-4530.

ARTFUL LIVING

Come To Your Senses

ave you ever heard it said to a very distraught person, "you need to come to your senses"? Taken literally, this may seem a strange bit of advice, but like many common phrases, there is deep wisdom hidden in this riddle-like expression.

Indeed, this particular suggestion is just about the best advice any person can give to another under any circumstance, but especially in times of distress.

The creator of Gestalt Therapy, Fritz Perls, used to incorporate this exhortation as a centerpiece of his psychotherapeutic technique. He would instruct his patients to, "Get out of your head and come to your senses!" and he meant this literally.

To say it another way, to be free of the endless commenting, reviewing, anticipating, and sometimes chaos in the mind, try shifting the focus of awareness from thoughts and emotions into immediate sensory experience. Pay attention to what you hear and see and sense in your body. Pay special attention to the sensations of breathing. Do this for fifteen to thirty seconds. If you succeed in focusing completely into your senses, you will experience a calm and a clarity that can only be described as total sanity. This is also the beginning place for meditation.

Meditation means concentration, or attending to. Our problem typically is that what we are attending to is the thought and emotion dimension of mind, nearly unaware of a vast field of consciousness that is not thought and emotion. Formal meditation is learning to quiet the mind through shifting concentrated awareness from the mind's chattering activity onto the non-discursive/non-reactive experience of mind.

In the form of meditation that I practice and teach, called Vipassana (Insight) meditation, the focus of concentration is awareness itself looking into the phenomenon of mind, including awareness of the

senses. Particular attention is paid to the sensory experience of breathing as a path to a peaceful field of non-discursive mind that brings a profound presence, clarity and subtlety of awareness to our internal and environmental experience.

What is the source of our anxiety, anger,

despair and obsessions? What is the source of our unhappiness? We tend to blame it on the events and people around us that are upsetting to us. But, in fact, it is what the mind says to us about the events and people around us that is the real source of our mental pain. For some, their minds absolutely torture them, talking non-stop about very distressing content.

For most of us, we don't necessarily feel like we are going crazy, but we are vulnerable to stress from the unceasing activity of the mind, and distress from our minds talking about unpleasant events and possibilities that then sets off ensuing emotional reactivity. We have little insight that the events in the world are just the stimuli that trigger our minds interpreting and commenting in reactive patterns that are deeply conditioned into us.

The contemporary prophet of human evolution, and author of the books *The Power of Now* and *A New Earth*, Eckhart Tolle, has identified the culprit for humanity's individual and collective distress, the same as has Eastern philosophy, with the human ego and it's thinking and resonant emotions. It nags and nags, trying to find ways to make sense of our experience in a way that gives us some illusion of control. It tells us that we must be right and that we must be significant (even if it is as significantly afflicted). It plots to get what it wants and to avoid what it doesn't want.

BY BILL WALZ

The ego talks to us constantly trying to interpret our experience consistent with our conditioned interpretation of the world and our place in it. All the misunderstanding we have about the world, others and ourselves is brought about by what our insecure egoic mind is saying to us.

Tolle points out what Perls noticed and what Buddhism has taught for several thousand years. They all teach that we are only truly sane when we are grounded in the reality of the present moment and not lost in the chaotic time traveling and

projected judgments of the egoic mind. They also teach that our senses provide a portal to a wise, intuitive dimension of mind that exists in every person, while the ego and its distorted perceptions exist in a fictional timeline story of "me".

That's what caused Fritz Perls to say that "neurotic thinking is anachronistic thinking, it is out of place in time." When depressed, we usually are thinking about past events that thwarted ego's desires and projecting more of the same into the future. When anxious, we are reliving past fears and caught in dread and uncertainty about what has not yet taken place. Often when we are upset, our minds are shuttling between past and future, and we are lost in a mounting blur of regret, anger and anxiety, playing and replaying in our minds scenarios fraught with drama, fears of diminishment, harm and defeat.

I have found that there is a phenomenon of awareness that is similar to the law in physics that says no two objects can occupy the same space. By focusing awareness totally into the here-and-now of the senses, the talking mind shuts up, and to whatever degree (percentage, if you will) the energy of mind can shift from thinking to sensing, there is a proportional quieting of the mind's emotional talking.

So, when you are feeling overwhelmed, distressed, even a little crazy, remember Perls' exhortation to "get out of your head, and come to your senses!" Look, listen, feel the world around you. Experience the calming effect of your own breath and the subtle sensory orientation of your body.

As you practice this sensory-focused awareness, becoming more skillful in it, you will discover that your life is becoming calmer, clearer and saner. You will be opening the door to a deep well of wisdom and security that exists within the quiet recesses of every person. You will find yourself living pleasantly and effectively in the now, not crazily in the then and when.



Bill Walz is a UNCA adjunct faculty, College for Seniors and private-practice teacher of mindfulness, personal growth and consciousness.

He holds a weekly meditation class, Mondays, 7 p.m. at the Friends Meeting House, 227 Edgewood. Info on classes and personal growth and healing

rriends meeting House, 227 Edgewood. Inro on classes and personal growth and healing instruction or phone consultations at (828) 258-3241, or e-mail at healing@billwalz.com. Visit www.billwalz.com



What Everyone Knows About Skin Cancer

BY MAX HAMMONDS, MD

rom North Dakota to California, everyone's dream vacation usually includes fun in the sun in some tropical paradise. Unfortunately, sun exposure comes with a heavy price – skin cancer.

Everyone knows that there are three kinds of skin cancer. Squamous cell and basal cell cancers which hardly ever spread beyond the immediate area. But did you know that they can be disfiguring, invading and destroying bone and cartilage – and 3 in 10,000 can kill? Everyone

knows that the third skin cancer, malignant melanoma, is serious. But did you know that it is deadly in 20% of the cases?

Everyone knows they should wear sun screen with SPF 30 or better. But did you know that sun screen blocks only UVB rays which cause sun burn? Most sun screens don't block UVA rays which cause malignant melanoma. Therefore people in North Dakota think that if they don't get a sun burn or if they wear sun screen, they are safe. Because they don't burn, they stay out in the sun for a long

time, more than enough to cause UVA exposure and increase the risk of malignant melanoma.

Everyone knows that prolonged sun exposure causes skin cancer; the more exposure, the greater the risk. But did you know that the same papilloma virus that causes genital herpes can cause squamous cell skin cancer – in the genital area? Did you know that skin cancers can show up in strange places where the sun doesn't

'Skin Cancer' continued on pg. 33

JOE'S BREW NOTES

Asheville Pizza and Brewing Company: A Family-Friendly Brewery

amily-friendly and brewery used together might sound like an oxymoron, but it definitely isn't in the case at Asheville Pizza and Brewing Company on Merrimon

Avenue. APBC combines a brew pub, a movie theater, and a kid-friendly game room into one visually colorful and remarkable building full of good times and a variety of taste treats.

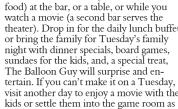
The building's brewing history started as Two Moons Brew and View, a twin movie theater/ brew pub with Doug Riley as the brewmaster. Doug learned the art of brewing in the Pacific North-

Mike Rangel, who, with his wife Leigh, owned a locally popular take out and delivery pizza business, was hired as a manager. When the original owners lost interest in the business, Mike and Doug joined forces to buy it and create Asheville

From the start their vision was a brew pub that adults and adults-withchildren could enjoy -- a place with high quality and flavorful beer and food in

an atmosphere which reflects and supports the diversity of the Asheville community. With that in mind, the kitchen was expanded, one theater was turned into a game room and local artists were hired to paint movie-related murals (inside and out). The menu was reviewed, updated,

Asheville Pizza and Brewing



Also check out one of APBC's many adult-oriented events like The Oscar Party. There's no movie that

Asheville Pizza and Brewing Company on Merrimon



Asheville Brewing on Coxe Avenue



Brewmaster Doug Riley

nating beer drinker from those who like the lighter styles like Rocket Girl and Red Light to the richer styles like Ninja Porter and Scout Stout with a variety of brews in between. A must-try is the Shiva IPA and my personal favorite Roland's ESB. As an added bonus, their beer pairs remarkably well with their food. My pizza doesn't taste quite as good without a Roland's or Shiva to wash it down. Even if you have a favorite beer, you may want to experiment with another style when the food arrives.

BY JOE ZINICH

Go out with your kids or go out with your friends, go for a beer, food, pizza (consistently voted best in Asheville), a \$3 movie, or a special event and know that whenever you go, Asheville Pizza and Brewing Companv will welcome vou

with delicious food, fun times, flavorful beer, and friendly, helpful service.

\$3 movies. Consistently voted in the top 3 in the yearly Mountain Express reader's poll. The entire facility was made nonsmoking with smoking accommodated on the protected outdoor patio.

Asheville Pizza and **Brewing Company**

675 Merrimon Avenue. Asheville NC 28804 (828) 254-1281

Asheville Brewing Company

77 Coxe Avenue, Asheville NC 28801

(828) 255-4077

www.ashevillepizza.com

For five years, Joe Zinich has been taking a self-guided, high-intensity tour of Asheville's beer world. Contact him at: izinich@bellsouth.net

Joe Zinich

west an area noted for brewing aggressively hopped but very drinkable beer with complex flavors and aromas.

Pizza and Brewing Company.

you linger over dinner.

and (surprise!) pizza was added.

is a sociable place to enjoy a craftbrewed beer (with or without

theater). Drop in for the daily lunch buffet visit another day to enjoy a movie with the

night, just the Oscars with audience participation -- pick a winner(s) and win a prize of your own. Be prepared with an acceptance speech, just in case. APBC also celebrates the birthdays of famous actors and directors with an all-out

birthday bash. On those nights watch a movie, enjoy a piece of birthday cake, and sign the birthday card. A recent birthday "guest-of-honor" was Quentin Tarantino; Tim Burton's party is in

the works.

Asheville's 48hour film festival, The Asheville Film Festival, showcases films at Asheville Pizza and Brewing as does LVM (Launch Video Magazine – white water kayaking from around the world). You can also catch one of the many ongoing or soonto-be-popular special events currently being planned.

APBC has another location - Asheville Brewing Company. As their popularity grew, more brewing capacity became necessary and a new location opened at 77 Coxe Avenue in downtown Asheville. The building is a former garage with a large covered bay and was initially opened as a brewery/tasting room. It has evolved into a full-service restaurant (the same menu as the Merrimon location) with a full bar and an expansive protected outdoor patio that contains a large movie screen.

While both locations have much in common (the same flavorful beer and food, movies, and movie-themed or otherwise-inspired events), they also differ. Asheville Brewing, located in downtown, is focused on the 21-and-over crowd. Visit here to enjoy a beer and some food and stay for the shows like lucha libre (Mexican wrestling - don't forget your mask) or Kung Fu and B movie nights (films so bad they're good) shown free on the patio's outdoor screen or bring your dancing shoes for silent disco night (music via provided headphones; not speakers).

There is a variety of quality beer on tap every day to satisfy the most discrimi-

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The Cast is the copy of Parallel of they will be thinged to the Cast of the Ca

ASHEVILLE SHOPS



REMEMBER WHEN THE MUSIC ...

Karmasonics Moves to Biltmore Avenue

BY DENNIS RAY

ith music playing throughout the premises, kiosks stocked with electronics and clothes and walls of DVD's

and CDs, owner John Ludovico isn't shy about just how much better Karmasonics looks at its new location at 19 Biltmore Ave.

"It took awhile to get this place open but it was worth every minute," Ludovico says. Karmasonics carries an extensive stock of pop, rock, hip hop, country, classical, jazz, and even world music. In addition to music, there's rack upon rack of DVDs, plus dance CDs, and a growing selection of vinyl.

The bookshelves carry what you'd expect from a hip music store and there is a worthy selection of art and photography books for your coffee table.

Music lovers, for just \$10 a year they offer a wonderful membership that



John Ludovico, owner Karmasonics.

gets you 10% off everything in the store and allows you to listen to any and all CDs before

"Music has always been my true love," Ludovico says. "I've been surrounded by music my entire life. I play, not great mind you, bass and guitar. I cannot think of a better thing for me to do

than own a music store in downtown Asheville."

Karmasonics first opened on Haywood St in '95 and remained there until April 2008. Four months later Ludovico and staff reopened Karmasonics on Biltmore Ave. across the street from the Fine Arts Theatre and a block north of the famous Orange Peel.

'Karmasonics' continued on pg. 38

'Skin Cancer' continued from pg. 31

shine - like between the toes, under the fingernails or toenails, on the soles of the feet or palms of the hands? Everyone should do a skin check for unusual bumps that look different, are getting bigger, have scaly tops or ulcerated centers, are changing color, have irregular edges, or are getting darker. Tell your doctor and don't let him or her brush it off as "nothing." There are easy ways to biopsy the lesion and find out for sure.

Everyone knows that the areas most exposed to the sun are the head, face, arms, shoulders and back. But did you know that you can't see the top of your head or your back? Everyone should have a partner who helps them to check those areas of the body that they can't easily see.

Everyone knows that skin cancer is more common in fair-skinned people read here: blue-eyed, blond-haired. But did you know that dark-skinned people get skin cancer less often but it is more deadly? Because they don't suspect it, they don't look for it and the cancer is diagnosed much later when the cancer is further advanced.

Everyone knows that sun exposure is worse from 10 am to 2 pm and is much worse in the areas nearest the equator. But

did you know that people who use tanning beds increase their risks of skin cancer by up to 2.5 times? UV rays are the same, from the sun or from the tanning bed.

Over 632,000 new cases of skin cancer are diagnosed every year. Many can be disfiguring; some can be deadly. Practice sun exposure safety - no matter at what latitude you live. Ávoid middle of the day exposure and tanning beds. Wear sun-protective clothing. Use sun screen SPF 50 or higher. Do a skin self-exam every month and a dermatologist screen once a year. especially if you live in a high risk area nearer the equator. Get a good friend or loved one to help you examine those areas you can't see yourself. Use the ABCDE rules in looking for malignant melanoma, the worst of the skin cancers.

For an outline of the ABCDE rules for malignant melanoma and for other excellent discussions of skin cancer, go to the following web sites.

www.skincancer.org Web site of the Skin Cancer Foundation for excellent general knowledge. www.medicinenet.com/skin cancer/ article.htm - excellent and detailed information.

www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/skin cancer Superficial; must go to links to find good information.

Art After Dark

September 5 6 to 9 p.m.

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ON STAGE

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esteemed percussionist River Guerguerian.

deep into their souls. Born and raised in NYC, her early days in notorious jazz clubs led Serpentine to being discovered and taken under wing by

legendary jazz musician Ornette Coleman. Coleman was an essential mentor in

Arborvitae's astonishing vocal range, power and complexity invite listeners to spiral

her harmonic evolution and career. Ser-



pentine artistically interprets, with deep appreciation, the sacred and feminine in her performances. Her music speaks to the mysteries that keep us yearning for more... more truth, more harmony, and more beauty.

lf you go

"Human Angel," Saturday September 6, 7:00 p.m.

Tickets \$25; Reservations (828) 669-6845 United Research Light Center, 2196 NC Highway 9 South, Black Mountain, NC. Email: Dome@urlight.org, www.urlight.org, www.humanangel.net

Laughing at Ourselves

nn Vasilik has formed the 'Fine Arts Ridicule and Thespian Society' to present a stage show of humor about art and artists. Ann is co-director for the Western Region of the Watercolor Society of NC, sponsor of the show. This 'Lighter Side of Art' will be preformed by artists and actors from the Western NC Region.

The show is a fast moving series of skits, jokes, spoofs and stories reported as 'news' by a 'TV Broadcasting Station' Channel 1, WART. The humorous skits were written by Ann and additional materials were submitted by members of the American Watercolor Society. During the show 'silent movie' type piano music will be played by Aaron Price.

If you go

The show will be staged in the intimate Crocker Auditorium, seating 135, of the First Baptist Church, Asheville on September 27 at 7:00 p.m.

Tickets are \$10 ,available by reservation. For information call Pam Haddock at (828) 586-0139, pkhaddock@mac.com or contact Myra Ramsey (828) 253-3038, mramsey79@charter.net.

'Mark Eddie' continued from pg. 21

series all of which all led to the inception of the ultimate network, Comedy Central. Today though, comedy is in a transition stage. There are so many uniquely funny people out there whose stars are rising.

RR: Okay, then who do you think is on the move to become the next Eddie Murphy or Robin Williams?

ME: Hmmm, how about - me! (laughs) Seriously, there are so many brilliant comics out there today. It's a matter of which ones can stay fresh. raise their platform, get people behind them and appeal to the masses. Kinda sounds like an election, huh. (laughs)

Well, I guess it kind of is in a way. Some of my favorites that I feel can carry the torch would be Orny Adams, Jeff Dunham, Jon Reep and er, — ummm

MEEEE! In the spirit of consistency and continuity, I'll leave it at four.

RR: Thanks for doing this interview and we all wish you well on you upcoming show.

ME: Thank you.



If you go

Laugh Your Asheville Off presents Mark Eddie, September 20, 8:00 p.m. Diana Wortham Theatre, Pack Place

Tickets: \$15, visit www.dwtheatre.com or call the Box Office (828) 257-4530 www.laughyourashevilleoff.com www.markeddie.com

FINE ART

Where Past & Present Converge: Grovewood Gallery Inspires

BY PAM J. HECHT

ucked away behind Asheville's Grove Park Inn., a calming and colorful paradise awaits.

Visit Grovewood Gallery, the centerpiece in a setting reminiscent of a simpler time, and enjoy a fall breeze, a piece of Asheville history and a place where good craftsmanship is

honored and creative art revered. Treasures abound

Treasures abound both inside and out of the 9,000-square-foot space on 11 acres of rolling hills and meandering paths.

Owners/sisters Barbara Blomberg and Marilyn Patton opened the Grovewood Gallery in 1992, to revitalize the Homespun Shops, which once served as the site of Biltmore Industries' renowned weaving and woodworking business. The gallery is one of several historical 1917 English-style cottages, currently housing the Estes-Winn Antique Car Museum, the Homespun

Museum, Grovewood Café, and Grovewood Studios - home to nine working artists' studios.

"We're more than just a gallery – there's a historic aspect, too," said Sherry Masters, who has been with Grovewood since it opened and currently is a buyer for the gallery. "And we're blessed to have such a big space, outdoors as well as inside, with room to expand."

Another thing that makes Grovewood so special is its eelectic and evolving mix of "creative, quality crafts, particularly for people who appreciate natural wood and clay materials," Masters added. Roughly 60 percent of the merchandise is made by regional artists from the Southeast, with prices ranging from a few dollars to more than \$1,000.

Here, you'll find the work of more than 500 artisans, with a unique and wide variety of fine, American, handmade crafts, from whimsical to practical, including ceramics, glass, jewelry, toys, sculptures,

kitchen tools, quilts, clothing and wind chimes, and more.

Upstairs, on the second floor, Carla Filippelli, the gallery's furniture director and an artist herself, reigns over an impressive showroom of distinctive handcrafted furniture and home furnishings, where design consultation and styling services are also offered, along with custom orders.

Outside, metal sculptures move in the wind, and a winding path leads to more sculptures, picnic tables, flowers,

The challenge, said Masters, is "to

get people to find us

— we're always looking
for new opportunities to
reach out to locals and
make more people aware
we're here."

Meanwhile, the gallery is steadily growing with sales up nearly every year, Masters said. "We're doing well."

In fact, Grovewood was recently named Retailer of the Year by Niche magazine for a second time in 2008 - one of only five galleries in the nation to have won this prestigious award twice, along with Asheville's New Morning Gallery – for its fair

business practices and commitment to supporting North American craft artists. Award recipients are nominated by artists and said Masters, "We've always had a good relationship with them."

Grovewood Gallery hosts an annual charity sale benefiting a different charity each year, and most years, hosts a benefit event for the Craft Emergency Relief Fund, an organization that provides assistance to crafts artists throughout the country. The gallery also regularly donates craft items for auction to local organizations.

A variety of demonstrations, exhibits, studio tours and other events take place throughout the year, highlighting different crafters and mediums.

"Asheville is a destination for fine crafts and wood arts that are bench-made – made one at a time in the studio – and we're a part of that," said Filippelli. "We work hard to be distinctive and different."

Tours, Events & Exhibitions



"Set Free" by Dale Rogers

Open Studio Tours – Nine working artist studios, in glass, clay, wood, jewelry, mixed media and book arts. During gallery hours, free. September 6 - October 4.

Sculptor Dale

Rogers – Speak with and learn about the techniques and inspiration of award-winning metal sculptures featured in Grovewood's Sculpture for the Garden. September 27, from 2-6 p.m.

Sculpture for the Garden – New, annual outdoor exhibition featuring 15 nationally recognized artists and a revolving assortment of metal, stone and clay sculptures. Through December 31.

11th Annual Ornament for the Season – Craftspeople from around the country are invited to create and exhibit work representing their own holiday traditions, hot cider and ginger cookies. November 14 - December 31.

22nd Annual Arts & Crafts Conference at Grove Park Inn – Demos, small group discussion, artist meet and greets, and free guided tours of the historic 1917 Homespun shops, in conjunction with the conference. February 19-22, 2009.

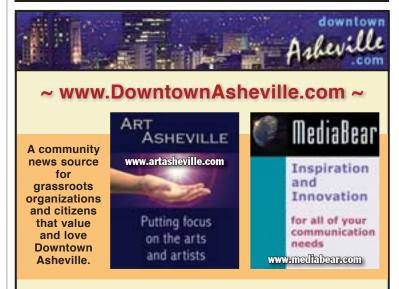
Turning to the Future: A Fresh look at Wood Art – American Association of Woodturners, turned and carved wood, mounted pieces and free-standing sculptural forms, coincides with the Collectors of Wood Art visit to Asheville. March 20 to May 11, 2009.

10th Annual Charity Sale – 10% off crafts and selected furniture, 75% off clearance items. Proceeds benefit a local organization. April 17-19, 2009.

The Furniture Society Special Exhibit – Late May through July 2009.

If you go

Grovewood Gallery, 111 Grovewood Road, Asheville, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. Mon. – Sat., 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. Sun., (828) 253-7651, Grovewood.com.



To advertise here and on www.DowntownAsheville.com contact Byron Belzak by phoning (828) 768-5600.

WHAT TO DO GUIDE™

How to place an event/classified listing with Rapid River Art Magazine

Any "free" event open to the public can be listed at no charge up to 30 words. For all other events there is a \$9.95 charge up to 30 words and 10 cents for each additional word.

160 word limit per event. Sponsored listings (shown in boxes) can be purchased for \$12 per column inch.

Deadline is the 19th of each month. Payment must be made prior to printing.

Email Beth Gossett at: ads@rapidrivermagazine.com or mail to: 85 N. Main St, Canton, NC 28716. Or Call: (828) 646-0071 to place ad over the phone.

- DISCLAIMER -

Due to the overwhelming number of local event submissions we get for our "What to Do Guide" each month, we can no longer accept entries that do not specifically follow our publication's format. Non-paid event listings must be 30 words or less and both paid and nonpaid listings must provide information in the following format: date, time, brief description of what your event is and any contact information. Any entries not following this format will not be considered for publication.

WANTED:

Advertising Sales Representatives

The Rapid River needs experienced sales personnel.

INTERESTED?

Call (828) 646-0071, or e-mail info@rapidrivermagazine.com

Sunday, September 7 Chamber Music Concert

There will be a concert by a string quartet at 3:00 p.m. at St. Matthias Church in Asheville. The concert will include works by Schubert and Haydn. The players are: Brent Yingling, first violin; Judy Vlietstra, second violin; Brenda Phetteplace, viola; and Ron Lambe, cello. There is no charge, but donations will go to the restoration of the historic church. The church is located in Asheville just off South Charlotte Street at Max Street on the hill across from the Asheville Public Works Building (1 Dundee St.).

September 19-20 Waterfall Crafters

20th annual craft show and sale from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Show will be held at St. Timothy Methodist Church, corner of Asheville Hwy. and Hospital Dr. in Brevard. Many new juried crafters will offer a wide variety of diverse, quality crafts for all ages. Lunch, snacks and beverages will be available. Daisy the clown will be there to entertain the young and old. For more info please call Lucie at (828) 877-3065.

Saturday, September 20 Fall Apple Celebration

To benefit ASAP (Appalachian Sustainable Agriculture Project). Live music and an abundance of apples. Fresh cut apple sampling, culinary demonstrations featuring apple beverages, side dishes, appetizers and more. Recipes to take home, fun games and raffle. Noon to 3 p.m. Earth Fare, 1856 Hendersonville Road. Visit www.earthfare.com or call Janice Husk, (828) 210-0100 for more information.

Sunday, September 21 The Asheville Area Piano Forum's 8th Annual Fall Benefit Concert

Over 20 pianists take the stage in order to raise money for kids who can't afford piano lessons, by playing solos and ensembles in a variety of styles, from J.S.Bach to Hoagy Carmichael. Watch as two-piano teams play 8 and 12 hands simultaneously, including a four person jazz improvisation. Concert emcee is Dick Kowal of WCQS.

The Diana Wortham Theatre, 3 p.m. Admission is \$18 through

the DWT box office at (828) 257-4530 or dwtheatre.com. Tickets for students (25 years and under with ID) are free. Piano Patron tickets, adding extra support to the Piano Forum student assistance funds, are \$50.

September 21-22 Beth Israel's Annual Rummage Sale

Sunday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Many wonderful items: books, knick knacks, designer clothes, household goodies. "The best rummage sale in town." 229 Murdock Avenue near Merrimon. (828) 252-8431

Thursday, September 25 Songwriters in the Round

Four of Asheville's most talented, diverse, and articulate song-writers will spin tales of love, treachery, and that old lonesome highway when Laura Blackley, Dave Desmelik, Pierce Edens, and Brian Mcgee combine forces. The Garage In Biltmore, 9:30 p.m. For more information visit www.thegarageatbiltmore.com

Cloth Fiber Workshops

Friday, Saturday & Sunday, September 19, 20 & 21 Silk Screening

You'll experiment with mark making, and pattern and image possibilities using silk screens in an intuitive, painterly way. Stencils, masks, and resists will continue our exploration of personal marks and iconography. Friday, 6 to 9 p.m., Saturday & Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Instructor: Heather Allen-Swarttouw. Fee: \$215 + materials

Saturday, September 27 Fiber Fun

Spend the day discovering how to make silk paper with roving, work with Tyvek, make and use stamps, use foils, make a fabric with soluble material and miscellaneous fibers, make cords to couch, and more. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Instructor: Martine House. Fee: \$80 + materials

For more information call Barbara Zaretsky at (828) 505-2958 or visit www.clothfiberworkshop.com

Carolina Mountains Literary Festival



Anthony Grooms



Sarah Addison Allen

September 12 & 13 The 3rd annual Carolina

Mountains Literary Festival is gearing up with more than fifty authors. Everyone from children to adults of varying tastes will find something to enjoy at this year's festival.

Historians, mystery writers, historic novelists, graphic novelists, naturalists, book makers, poets and playwrights offer a wide variety of free sessions all revolving around the theme of "Beloved Community."

New to the festival this year is a Friday afternoon keynote address by Anthony Grooms who will expound upon the theme, examining how literature plays a vital role in advancing understanding and reconciliation between people and should invoke a contemplation of truth.

To further explore literature as a way to reconcile people, the festival presents a panel on Friday

morning entitled Healing Historical Trauma: The Cherokee Removal. A panel consisting of spokespersons for the Cherokee, a distinguished historian of the Nation and a noted Jackson biographer will explore the issues surrounding the event that displaced the original inhabitants of our region.

Fred Chappell, former North Carolina Poet Laureate, will conclude the weekend with a reading following the Saturday banquet. Among his selections will be a poem he generously agreed to write on the festival's theme "The Beloved Community." This is one of the few ticketed events and preregistration is encouraged.

Preregistration is also encouraged for the four writing workshops led by such noted writers as Dorainne Laux, Joseph Millar, Vicki Lane, Abigail DeWitt and Tamara Baxter. These sessions are limited to 12-20 participants.

Events will be offered at a number of locations in and around Burnsville, including the new Burnsville Town Center; the Design Gallery; the Museum of Yancey County History; the Parkway Playhouse; Mayland Community College, local schools, and other venues. For more information visit www.cmlitfest.org

Saturday, September 27 Band Aid for DANN

For the first time ever musicians who are differently abled share the stage with some of Asheville's most popular local performers. This event is family friendly, featuring children's activities, raffles, great music and plain old-fashioned fun! Performers include: Velvet Truckstop, Laura Blackley, Yannick Brewster, John Engle, Dawn Humphrey, Eddie Mahaffey, Peggy Rutsz and more. At the Grey Eagle Tavern, from 12 to 4 p.m. Tickets are \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door. Call (828) 681-5110. All proceeds benefit Differently Abled News

Sunday, September 28 Asheville's Oldest Gallery Celebrates 20 Years

In 1988 a group of local artists organized the Asheville Gallery

SEPTEMBER EVENTS ~ ANNOUNCEMENTS ~ CLASSIFIEDS

WHAT TO DO GUIDE™

of Art. The current 28 members of the gallery at 16 College St. will gather to celebrate their 20th year in business from, 1 to 5 p.m.

Past members are invited along with gallery patrons. The winner of a raffle for an original watercolor by Ann Vasilik will be drawn at 4 p.m. The public is invited. For more information, call (828) 251-2997.

Through September Works by Kirsten Moran

Figurative painter Kirsten Moran is featured at Gallery Minerva for the month of September. Moran's paintings exude both classic and contemporary elements. Gallery Minerva, 12 Church Street, Downtown Asheville off of Patton Avenue. (828) 255-8850. www.galleryminerva.com.

Calling All Singers!

Have you ever dreamed of gracing the operatic stage? Have you ever burst into song at dinner parties? Put that talent to work by singing with the Asheville Lyric Opera Company Chorus!

The ALO will be holding auditions for our 10th Anniversary season on Saturday, September 13 at Lipinisky Hall on the UNCA campus.

This season's fantastic productions include Gounod's timeless rendition of Romeo et Juliette, and Verdi's haunting opera, Rigoletto.

To audition, send a letter of request, resume or biography, photo (optional), and the \$10 accompanist fee (payable by check or cash) to the opera office. A member of the staff will contact you with an audition time upon receiving your materials.

Send all materials to: Asheville Lyric Opera; Company Manager; 2 South Pack Square, Asheville, NC 28801. Additional information about auditions can be found on www.ashevillelyric. org. Please call the opera office if you have any questions, (828) 236-0670.

Save The Magnolia Tee-Shirts Now Available!

Absolutely 2die4! This season's must have leisure wear! High quality, preshrunk, 100% cotton. Crew neck, green on natural. S, M, L, XL, XXL. Beautiful design by Sue Wilson-King. Put it on and hope you run into your Commissioner or City Council Member!

Only \$5 – Get yours from our friends at Rosebud Video, 197 Charlotte Street, in Asheville. (828) 250-9500. Open from noon to 10 p.m. daily.

Flat Rock Art and Wine Festival

Saturday, October 4

The Flat Rock Wine Shoppe and Singleton Centre present the second annual Flat Rock Art and Wine Festival, benefiting the Flat Rock Playhouse You-Theater, from 10 a.m to 6 p.m., rain or shine. This juried art and craft show celebrates great wine, music, and regional artists.

Close to 30 artists and crafters from western North Carolina, upstate South Carolina, and beyond will offer paintings, metal work, jewelry, fiber, stained glass, pottery, photography and more for sale. The event features a wide selection of high quality arts and crafts, as well as artist demonstrations, entertainment by local musicians, food from area restaurants, a children's art activity tent, and wine tastings throughout the day.

The Flat Rock Wine Shoppe is located just down the street from The Flat Rock Playhouse in The Singleton Center. Call (828) 697-6828 for more information or visit www.flatrockwineshoppe.com.

UNCA September Events

September 10 - University Faculty Concert, 12:45 p.m., UNC Asheville's Lipinsky Auditorium, free.

September 11 – Family Business Forum Workshop: "The Buzz Project," Dr. Cindy Iannareli of the Bernelli Foundation, 8:30 a.m.-noon, UNC Asheville's Reuter Center, registration required.

September 13 – Judi Lampert and Friends in Concert, 4 p.m., UNC Asheville's Lipinsky Auditorium, \$5 (students free with ID).

September 19 - Center for Creative Retirement's TGIF Lecture Series: "Jewish Yiddish Humor," Rubin Feldstein, 11:45 a.m., UNC Asheville's Reuter Center, free.

September 19 - Symphony Talk: "Russian Spectacular," Conductor Daniel Meyer of the Asheville Symphony, 3 p.m., UNC Asheville's Reuter Center, free.

September 19 – UNC Asheville Distinguished Speaker Series presents "The Land of the Lightning Brothers," Aboriginal Tribal Elder Bill Harney and Honorary Tribal Member Paul Taylor, 8 p.m., ÚNC Asheville's Lipinsky Auditorium, \$10. Call (828) 232-5000 for tickets and information.

September 26 - Center for Creative Retirement's TGIF Lecture Series: "Truth in Fiction," author Bahia Abrams, 11:45 a.m., UNC Asheville's Reuter Center, free.

Call (828) 251-6140 for more information on any of these events.

Best in Show







by Phil Juliano

by Phil Hawkins

, A MATINEE ...?)

EVERYBODY'S A CRITIC, CALVIN.

CRITIC, C

Corgi Tales



Callie & Cats

by Amy Downs



Haywood Community Chorus Fall Season

Fall Concert season rehearsals are held every Monday at 7:00 p.m. in the third floor choir room at First United Methodist Church in Waynesville. The Fall Concert will be held on Sunday, November 23, 2008.

David Traynham is the choral director and Katy Stephenson is the accompanist on piano and pipe organ. The program will include music by the Signature Winds. The primary work for the Fall Concert program is John Rutter's Magnificat.

All singers are welcome; no auditions are required. For more information, call (828) 452-4075.

The Haywood Community Chorus is funded in part by the Junaluskans and the Haywood County Arts council, an agency funded by the State of North Carolina and the National Endowment

CLASSES ~ LECTURES ~ ARTS & CRAFTS ~ READINGS

FINE ART

Pottery: Fun for People of All Ages

he pottery program at the Old Armory Recreation Center in Waynesville provides an extraordinary amount of entertainment, creativity, and fun for people of all ages. "It's really cool. It's fun and you get to be

It's fun and you get to be yourself in art," Stephen Stone, a student at Waynesville Middle School, said. The interesting fact about pottery is

The interesting fact about pottery is that you can make just about anything. Some of the most common items made are bird houses, coffee cups, plates, bowls, and pictures. And just in case if you need any help there is always a few more experienced potters in the program. "The masks and the birdhouses were the favorite things I made," student Tiffany Mathews said. "It's really fun and easy."

The entire process includes rolling the clay out or rolling it into coils. The next step is to bake it in the kiln. Then the item will need to be glazed, refired and fi-



BY MICHAEL HUFFSTETLER

nally painted. Although each item may vary it typically takes about a week for the entire process to be completed.

"There is so much satisfaction in the creation," Sarah Massie

explained. "It's something to be really proud of."

New equipment was recently added to further enhance the pottery program. "We want to thank the Town of Waynesville for purchasing a new kiln and without the Old Armory Recreation Center this program could not be possible," Massie said.

The program meets at the Old Armory Recreation Center on Mondays and Thursday from one to four pm. The cost is \$60 for six weeks and this includes all of your supplies.

For more information please contact the Old Armory Recreation Center at 456-9207 or email oldarmory@townofwaynesville.org.



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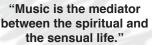
www.3corpsimages.com

'Karmasonics' continued from pg. 33

Karmasonics is now open until 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and as late as 10 on Friday and Saturday, and until 7 p.m. on Sunday. "Biltmore is a very busy street in the evenings," Ludovico says. "There is Barley's and the theatre and of course the Orange Peel. It makes sense for us to stay open late."

They also trade and buy CDs. For more information on this please contact Karmasonics. Karmasonics also has the largest DVD selection on or about music in the Asheville area.

"I've been coming to Karmasonics



~ LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN

since '98," Charles Moore of Weaverville says, "because they have a great selection and are right downtown."

Actually, most people I talked with were regulars at Karmasonics, and most felt



their music needs were exceptionally met.

"I order some music online," Karen Stone of Asheville says, "but I love coming to a music store. It's sorta like coffee at home or going to a coffee house. Sure you get the same product but you can't beat just getting out and seeing people and doing something. Internet shopping is easy but not as much fun."

Karmasonics

19 Biltmore Avenue, Asheville (828) 259-9949

Hours: Monday-Thursday 10-9 p.m. Friday-Saturday 10-10 p.m. Sunday 11-7 p.m

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NOTEWORTHY

New Novel Expands Story of Cherokee Removal

n 1838, the Cherokee Nation was forced to leave its homeland in Appalachia and relocate in Oklahoma. Wind in the Web continues the story of the Cherokee removal begun in the novel Scent of the River. But Wind in the Web is a story of redemption, of the displaced tribe discovering the means to reclaim their identity that is inextricably linked to their homeland.

This is the second of Frederick E. Bryson's trilogy on the Cherokee removal. Bryson comes to his interest in Cherokee history naturally, growing up in the Smokies near the Qualla Reservation of the Eastern Band of the Cherokees in North Carolina, and learning the stories that came from the upheaval of the removal.

The book follows the journey of an unlikely hero. Euchella, the man who was duped into executing the Cherokee renegade, Tsali. During the removal,

Euchella remains behind in Appalachia, but later experiences an epiphany that promises hope for recovery of those qualities that made the Cherokee Nation unique.

Wind in the Web is available in regional bookstores, through on-line services such as Amazon, or via the publisher – visit www. trafford.com/08-0512. Catalogue #08-0512; ISBN 1-4251-7655-0; 247 pages.



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www.fineartsleague.org

828.252.5050

Award Winning, Homegrown Pop-Rock Singer-Songwriter

yler England, critically acclaimed LA based singer-songwriter, returns to Asheville for "Songwriters in the Round" at The Grey Eagle.

A Bele Chere favorite in recent years, Kyler will be sharing the bill with local singer-songwriter

Ashley Chambliss and Tasha Ellery. Kyler will be promoting her new record Simple Machine, a stunning collection of alt-pop-country-rock gems.

Ashley Chambliss new album was recorded with Chris Rosser and River Guerguerian, and mastered by Seva at Soundcurrent. 'A Little More of You'



Kyler England

from the 'Naked Songs' album was featured on MTV's 'The Hills' in April 2008. Chambliss also worked on vocals for the indie film, 'Anywhere, USA' which won at Sundance Film Festival 2008.

If you go

Kyler England "Simple Machine" CD Release, with Ashley Chambliss, and Tasha Ellery, Sunday, September 7, 8 p.m. Tickets: \$7 all ages.

The Grey Eagle, 185 Clingman Ave (828) 232-5800, www.thegreyeagle.com

Gold ExceedsRecord Highs

Some experts believe gold may surpass \$1,500 per ounce.



Today's news tells us that we are confronting a serious mic crisis: looming recession, record oil prices, turnell in the banking and financial sectors, a falling dollar and record home foreclosures. Now, more than ever, you need to consider protecting and diversifying your assets with gold. Historically, gold has represented real wealth that has provided investors with a recognized safe haven asset in a diversified portfolio. Gold prices have tripled from their lows in 2001 and some experts forecast gold may rise as high as \$1,500 an ounce.

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Sacred Geometry

atricia Cole-Ferullo's first paintings from her new studio in Tryon, North Carolina are a series of six 20-inch round canvases titled 'Ying/Yang, The Eternal Dance.' Ying/Yang is, in the artist's words, "the visible icon created by the ancient sages to represent the positive/ negative, or dark/light relationships in nature and the universe. The six works in the series are set in the greater context of the exhibit, titled 'Sacred Geometry.'

In this new body of work, Cole-Ferullo continues to create paintings that are spontaneous abstractions based on her emotional response to and interconBY BONNIE RASH

"Ying/Yang, The Eternal Dance II" by Patricia Cole-Ferullo

nection with nature. She continues to probe the mystery of the universe and man's relationship

If you go

"Saitred Geometry," opens Friday, September 5 at the Silver Fox Gallery. The exhibition continues through October 15. The Silver Fox Gallery is located at 508 N. Main Street in Downtown Hendersonville. More details are available at www. silverfoxonline.com









