

RAPID RIVER MAGAZINE

July 2010 • Vol. 13 No. 11

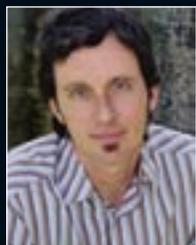
# Arts & Culture



**HART PRESENTS CHICAGO**  
*the Musical* PAGE 5



A talented local cast with amazing energy star in the Highland Acting Company's productions of **Godspell** and **Resurrectio**. PAGE 8



Comic Legend Jake Johannsen & guests perform at the Diana Wortham Theatre as part of the **Laugh Your Asheville Off Festival**. PAGE 11

## PLUS:

Explore Biltmore Village PAGES 19-21  
Fun at the Colburn Museum PAGE 22  
Jewelry Artist Chris Van Dyke PAGE 32

a **World** of  
**Entertainment**  
this Summer

## FOLKMOOT FESTIVAL

350 performers from more than ten countries celebrating culture heritage through dance and music. PAGE 5

## noteworthy

## A Tapestry of Words

## The Art of Storytelling

She who tells the stories" were the words my mentor once used to describe me. I can't tell you how proud I felt. You would have thought I had received the world's best compliment! Stories have fascinated me since I first heard them. Even as a child, I marveled at how some people had the ability to enchant with their speech, plaiting words into a tapestry of fine art. Now in my line of work, I still tell stories.



Brenda Seright Williams

The art of weaving words is ancient and multi-purpose. From early indigenous peoples came a story heritage prior to the written word. Later the hidden secrets of esoteric wisdom were obscured within stories to avoid persecution. In our present-day world, storytelling is usually thought of as purely entertainment, but I believe this is an injustice. Stories continue to direct, inspire, and mesmerize scholars, both young and old. In a way that written words and moving pictures cannot duplicate, the active art of listening to a story filled with emotion and timelessness fosters a give and take between speaker and listener that ignites a kind of magic. It is an intimate exchange, not for those who shy away from personal contact, who fear vulnerability. In the way a painter pours his heart onto canvas, or a sculptor conveys passion into clay, from the storyteller's mouth there flows a stream of awareness as ancient as the riverbed from which it comes.

An inspired storyteller is a conduit for the tale itself to reach across time and sometimes continents, take the listener by the hand, and lead him into the moment. She is a shapeshifter, moving effortlessly back and forth between past, present, and future, without change of intensity or loss of sensory perception. There is no need to overdramatize. When the storyteller and

her audience are caught in the moment of the tale, the passion of that moment – no matter its place on the timeline, is a given.

As a guide on both international tours and local ones, I know when I have forged a connection between my story and my audience. These are times when I am sure the words coming from my lips are not mine as much as those of whom I speak. In these moments, there begins

a dance of sorts, a give and take measured through the eyes. I am sometimes surprised at the twists an often-told story takes, only to find out that a listener was moved by words she needed to hear. On the other hand, I have had tour participants who avoid eye contact. They look around at buildings or even the ground, and words fall flat, with no canvas on which to land. Storytelling is a two-way street.

Like any artist, whether there are those around to admire my work or not, the stories still must flow. I don't think I could stop them even if I tried. There is a river, ancient and powerful, that flows through inspired words. The tale from which the river flows may seem simple, but there is always depth beneath the surface. In the end, I am only the storyteller and don't pretend to understand the direction and force of the river. Like a listener myself, I have learned to sit back, relax, and enjoy the magic.

**Brenda Seright Williams has led International tours for more than ten years. Her local tours include Herstory Asheville: Women's History Tour, About Biltmore Village: Historical Walking Tour, and Grove House Ghost Tours. Visit [www.herstoryasheville.com](http://www.herstoryasheville.com) or call (828) 423-3819 for more information on all of Brenda's tours.**



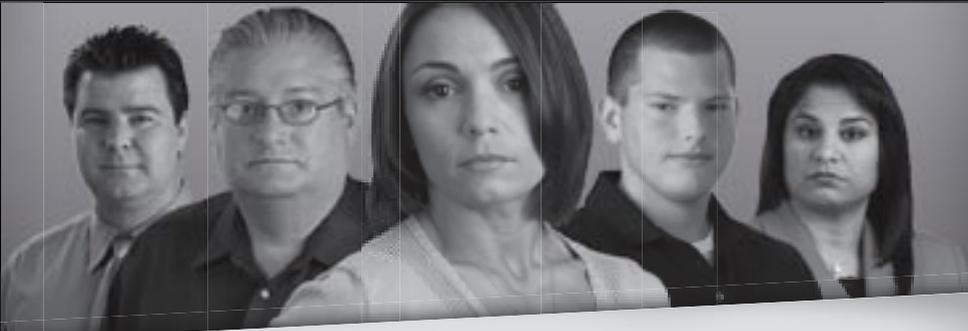
Michael Reno Harrell

## STORIES ON ASHEVILLE'S FRONT PORCH

Stories for all ages will be celebrated, shared and preserved on July 3. Come and be enchanted by an art form as old as our mountains and as indigenous to our culture as the air we breathe.

Michael Reno Harrell of Yancy County silences a room when he enters.

Will he lift his guitar and begin with a song or will the words of the mountains spill out as he begins to weave a story of enchantment? Michael, an award winning song writer and recording artist, will be contributing to the summer series, held on the Reuter Terrace stage of Pack Square Park, July 3 from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Free and open to the public. For more information visit [www.packsquarepark.org](http://www.packsquarepark.org).



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Source: Javelin Strategy & Research. "2010 Identity Fraud Survey Report." February 2010.

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The Washington Post - September 25, 2007  
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evolved media

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**Terpsicorps Theatre of Dance Returns to the Gutter with Bowlathon 2010!**

When was the last time you bowled in a pirate costume to live music while raising money for a local non-profit? If it's been at least a year, then it's time to gather your team for **Terpsicorps' Bowlathon 2010!** Terpsicorps Theatre of Dance, Asheville's professional contemporary ballet company, has been holding an annual bowlathon every year since 2004, and it gets bigger and better with each strike!

Interested? Get together a group of your friends and sign up on the bowlathon website, <http://bowl.terpsicorps.org>. Each team member then uses the website to send emails to their friends asking them to make a pledge per game, point or strike (3 games are played). You don't have to ask anyone in person and you can send requests to everyone you know. Last

year, the company added a costume element to the mix, so your next task is to come up with a team theme and get ready for the costume challenge. There are prizes for most money raised, best costumes, most points per team, and best individual bowler. Money raised will benefit Terpsicorps' Dream Project, an evening of dance inspired by the subconscious thoughts of the Asheville community. A series of short works interpreting what goes on in the minds of your neighbors as they sleep, these dances will grant us a peek at the unbridled imaginations of those we see on the street everyday.

Terpsicorps' Bowlathon 2010 will be held **July 18**, from 2 to 6 p.m. at Star Lanes, 491 Kenilworth Road in Asheville. To sign up visit [bowl.terpsicorps.org](http://bowl.terpsicorps.org). For more information call (828) 252-6342. **The Dream Project - August 12-14**, 8:00 p.m., Diana Wortham Theatre, Pack Place, Asheville. \$30/25 students and seniors. To purchase tickets, call (828) 257-4530 or visit [www.dwtheatre.com](http://www.dwtheatre.com).

On **Friday, July 30** an art opening will be held from 5 to 8 p.m. at Studio 103 Fine Art Gallery. **Rebecca D'Angelo** will display mixed media and images from the series "Celebration" photographed during her tenure as the Washington Post society photographer. **Studio 103** is located at 103 West St. in Black Mountain. Call (828) 357-8327 or visit [www.studio-103fineartgallery.com](http://www.studio-103fineartgallery.com) for details.



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**Arts & Culture**

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July 2010 Vol. 13 No. 11

**About the Cover:**

Dancers from Mexico. Folkmoot USA is a two week festival held in eleven counties across Western North Carolina from July 22 through August 1, 2010. It features performances, parades, and workshops by more than 350 performers. Tickets are on sale now and may be purchased online at [www.folkmootusa.org](http://www.folkmootusa.org) or by calling the Folkmoot ticket office at (828) 452-2997.

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## "Chicago" the Musical

at Haywood Arts Regional Theatre

On May 9 and 10 a group of 60 individuals came to Haywood Arts Regional Theatre to audition for the Broadway smash, CHICAGO. After singing and dancing their hearts out, Steve Lloyd, director, Chuck Taft, musical director, and myself, Cord Scott, choreographer, sat down to make one of the toughest casting decisions that I know has ever had to be made.

When all was said and done 27 elite performers made the cut. Julie Kinter as the infamous Velma Kelly, Candice Dickinson as cute and bubbly Roxie Hart. Carrying them is Jeff Bachar as the ever so charming Billy Flynn and a very special surprise as Matron Mama Morton. With the cast in place the show was sure to be a success, right? Most audiences members do not see the next 8 weeks of rehearsal. Eight weeks that become a roller-coaster of emotion and a true test of physical endurance.

On May 17, all of the cast met to have a typical read-through to capture the essence and flow of the musical. Little did 16 of them realize that the next 4 weeks would be painstakingly brutal on their bodies and minds.

The following day, 16 cast members met and began working on what CHICAGO is all about, DANCE! However, we did not just walk in learn the choreography. Each

rehearsal began at 6:30 p.m. and lasted until 11 p.m., sometimes later. With each day came an hour and a half work out, focusing on core strength and stamina. Then the next hours were spent learning and repeating choreography, over and over and over and over and...well, you get the point. This was the routine for four weeks, and with pain, sickness, pulled muscles, twisted ankles, and many other bumps and bruises we made it through.

The real job came in with me as the choreographer. With every number I tried to capture the essence of Bob Fosse, the original choreographer of CHICAGO. Every step has to be perfect and precise. However, keeping track of 16 out of 20 show-stopping numbers can be extremely difficult, thus the assignment of Dance Captains. When selecting a dance captain, I took into consideration personality, accuracy, and overall leadership skills and ultimately chose Ricky Sanford and Lora Kole. And

honestly, their role became just as huge as mine, Steve's, and Chuck's.

At the conclusion of choreography rehearsals, we finally had the opportunity to move onto the stage, which is when everything fell completely apart. Dancers didn't know where they were supposed to be when they were supposed to be, mainly because of



Julie Kinter and Candice Dickinson.

the lack of mirrors, which they had gotten used to being able to look at themselves. The principles however had a much easier time transitioning. But, I expected nothing less than what happened. Everything usually does fall apart, and people start getting testy with one another. I suppose that's what happens when you spend 5 hours a day 4 days a week with people. But its all in good fun.

Rehearsals are almost finished and soon there will be an audience. However, I know, as with all shows, Tech week will be nothing less than interesting. The show will fall to the ground and everyone will be extraordinarily nervous as to know whether or not the show will work out. But rest assured, it will and always does. That is why we work so hard, to put together a great show where its almost like we have been doing it for a lifetime. No one knows the intricacies involved, the disaster that occurs literally the day before the first audience takes their seats.

BY CORD SCOTT



"Chicago" will have performances July 9, 10, 15, 16, 17, 22, 23, 24, 30, 31 at 7:30 and July 11, 18, 25 and August 1 at 3pm. Tickets are \$22 for

Adults, \$20 for Seniors, Student/child \$10 with special \$5 Student discount tickets for Thursday and Sunday performances.

For tickets and more information call the Box Office at (828) 456-6322, Monday through Saturday, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Or visit [www.harttheatre.com](http://www.harttheatre.com). All performances are at the Performing Arts Center at the Shelton House, 250 Pigeon St. Waynesville, NC



Candice Dickinson and Jeff Bachar as Roxie Hart and Billy Flinn.

### Types of Folk Dance

English country-dance, international folk dance, Irish dance, Maypole dance, Morris dance, Nordic polska dance, Ball de bastons, square dance, and sword dance. Sword dances include Longsword dances and rapper dancing.

Some choreographed dances such as contra dance, Israeli folk dance, Scottish country-dance, and modern Western square dance, are called folk dances, though this is not true in the strictest sense.

Country-dance overlaps with contemporary folk dance and ballroom dance. Most country-dances and ballroom dances originated from folk dances, with gradual refinement over the years.

## Folk moot USA

Festival Brings World of Folk Dancing to the Mountains

BY DENNIS RAY

For executive director of Folkmoot USA, Karen Babcock, there's no better place to live than Western North Carolina. She moved here a year and a half ago from Maryland to experience life in the beautiful Blue Ridge Mountains and discovered much more.

"There is so much arts and culture in the area it is truly amazing," she says. "The people here not only want to share their culture but want to learn about other's as well."

Before moving here she was the associate director of the Ladew Topiary Gardens in Monkton Maryland. The Ladew Topiary Gardens is known around the world for its topiary and flower gardens. Topiary is the

art of creating sculptures in the medium of clipped trees and shrubs.

"I'd fallen in love with western North Carolina years before," she says, "and I was looking to eventually move here. A friend of mine said that Folkmoot was looking for a new director and that it might be something I should check out."

Not particularly sold on the idea of working for a non-profit in a town of 10,000 she looked into it anyway.

Continued on page 9

The Swannanoa Chamber Music Festival

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## COMEDY SCHEDULE

### TUES JULY 13TH: LOCAL COMICS OF ASHEVILLE Talent Showcase

Hosted by Joe Zimmerman  
Fred's Speakeasy - 8:30 P.M.  
\*Proceeds to Benefit

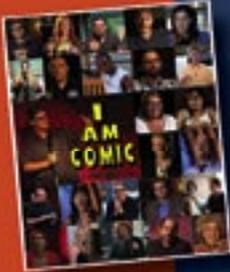
*Brother Wolf*  
ANIMAL RESCUE

### WED JULY 14TH:

Feature Presentation

#### OP: "I AM COMIC"

directed by  
Jordan Brady  
Fine Arts Theater  
(828) 232-0257  
8 p.m.  
Tickets: \$8.75



### THUR JULY 15TH

#### JOSH GONDELMAN & FRIENDS

The Diana Wortham Theatre  
8 p.m. Tickets: \$10

2nd Show:

#### The Beards of Comedy

The Diana Wortham Theatre  
10:30 p.m. Tickets: \$10

### FRI JULY 16TH

#### The Famous Laugh Your Asheville Off Showcase Show

The Diana Wortham Theatre  
8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m.  
(Featuring  
Completely different performers)  
Tickets: \$12

### MIDNIGHT TROUBLE (FRIDAY)

#### ROAD COMIC STORIES With Mike Storck

The New French Bar  
(home of Tomato Tuesdays)  
Midnight Tickets: FREE

### SAT JULY 17TH

Laugh Your Asheville Off  
presents Comic Legend:

#### Jake Johannsen & guests

Time: 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m.  
Tickets: \$22

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[www.laughyourashevilleoff.com](http://www.laughyourashevilleoff.com)

# stage preview

Southern Appalachian Repertory Theatre presents

## Tuesdays With Morrie and As You Like It

Two plays at the Southern Appalachian Repertory Theatre (SART) will contrast the present with the past with a contemporary play, *Tuesdays With Morrie*, and a William Shakespeare play, *As You Like It*. Both plays will showcase some SART favorite actors and *Tuesdays With Morrie* will feature the return of Jim Thomas, the Founder of SART and former Mars Hill College faculty member, as director. Thomas' last production at SART was *Driving Miss Daisy* in 2006.

*Tuesdays With Morrie* by Jeffrey Hatcher and Mitch Albom, was inspired by Albom's best-selling book of the same title. Albom wrote autobiographically about a career-absorbed journalist who visits his retired college professor and the two discuss basic truths about living, dying and what it means to love.



Chris Allison as Mitch, and Earl Leininger star in *Tuesdays With Morrie*.

Earl Leininger, a perennial SART favorite, is returning for the role of the college professor. Retired after nearly 40 years in higher education as a professor of philosophy and religion and as a chief academic officer at Mars Hill College and Gardner-Webb University, his avocation and passion has been the theater. Among his crowd-pleasing SART roles are that of Teyve in *Fiddler on the Roof*, Atticus Finch in *To Kill A Mockingbird* and King Arthur in *Camelot*.

Chris Allison, who plays the role of Mitch, the author, has returned for his 12th season at SART. This role follows a lead role in *The Foreigner*, the comedy that opened the SART season. Last year he appeared as Biff in *Death of a Salesman* and he has appeared in many other roles at SART.

The Shakespeare production, *As You Like It*, is the first undertaking of Shakespeare for SART. This pastoral comedy involves some of Shakespeare's most memorable characters in discord-turned harmony in this playful story of mixed identities and disguises, romance and love

notes, wit and satire, slapstick and passion.

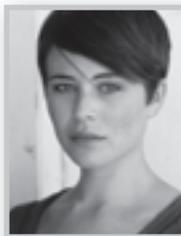
Directed by SART Artistic Director Bill Gregg, the play is set in Western North Carolina and the Asheville environs in the time period of 1895-1905. Justin Phaneuf and Rebecca Phippard, alumni of Mars Hill College and SART, are returning for roles in the production and will be joined by SART regulars and favorites Bradshaw Call and Michael Mattison. A handful of current Mars Hill College theater arts students round out the cast, including Jade Day-Burdett, who plays the lead role of Rosalind.

Produced by Beverly & Dan Lunsford and Gasperson Moving & Storage and The Furniture Market, *Tuesdays With Morrie* is rated PG-13 and will run July 7-18 with an Opening Night Reception on July 8. *As You Like It* is rated PG and will run July 21 - August 1 with an Opening Night Reception on July 22.

In August SART will present the new comedy *Tradin' Paint* (August 4-22). Individual tickets run \$10-\$30 depending on the performance. All performances are held in the historic Owen Theatre on the campus of Mars Hill College, Mars Hill NC.

### SART'S HISTORY

It was 1975, and the Madison County Bicentennial Committee was developing plans to celebrate the nation's birth. The Mars Hill College Theatre Department was seeking ways to put the knowledge and experience of its faculty and students to use beyond the school year. Western North Carolina had long been fertile ground for the theatre arts, and audiences were showing increasing interest in their own history and heritage. All the elements were in place; all that was needed was a spark to fire them up.



Jade Day-Burdett



Bradshaw Call



Ben Starr Coates



Michael Mattison

Enter Jim "T" Thomas, chairman of the Fine Arts Division of MHC, superb teacher, actor and director extraordinaire, Thomas ignited the powerhouse known as the Southern Appalachian Repertory Theatre. In his capable hands, C. Robert Jones, Earl Leininger, Bill Gregg, Dewitt Tipton, some students, recent alumni, and a well-trained crew, SART took shape and took off. Its mission: To present the highest quality professional productions, with a special emphasis on "plays concerning Appalachia that portray the rich culture and heritage of its people."

Over the following three decades, SART has not only met its goals and fulfilled its mission, it has far surpassed the original hopes of its founders. SART celebrates its 30 years of professional theatre as a company that attracts actors, directors, playwrights, and technical professionals from all over the country. Each summer theatre professionals fly in from New York, Florida, Iowa, Mississippi; they drive up from Charlotte, Atlanta, Washington, D.C., Minneapolis and Chicago; and locally based professionals flock



Bill Gregg, SART Artistic Director since 2001.

BY ROB MILLER

to Mars Hill from Asheville and surrounding areas.

In the summer of 2001 Bill Gregg became artistic director. A SART veteran both on stage and off, a Mars Hill College alum, and the company's first stage manager in 1975, Gregg was hand-picked to succeed Jim Thomas as SART's second artistic director.

2010 begins the 36th season of SART, and also marks another anniversary, the 10th year that Bill Gregg has been Artistic Director with SART. Congratulations Bill!



SART presents *Tuesdays with Morrie*, July 7-18, and *As You Like It*, July 21 - August 1. Tickets are available by calling the SART box office at (828) 689-1239 or visiting [www.SARTplays.org](http://www.SARTplays.org). Additional group discounts are offered.

JULY 2 - JULY 18, 2010

# NOISES OFF

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directed by  
JOSH BATENHORST

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## performance

### The Highland Acting Company presents *Godspell* and *Resurrectio*

These musicals will be performed the weekend prior to Bele Chere on July 17-18 and then again on Bele Chere weekend July 24-25. *Godspell* has entertained audiences the world over for decades. May 17, 2011 will mark its 40th anniversary.

*Godspell* was conceived and originally directed by John Michael Tebelak. One of the biggest off-Broadway and Broadway successes of all time, *Godspell* is based primarily on the Gospel according to St. Matthew. Featuring a sparkling musical score by Stephen Schwartz, *Godspell* boasts a string of recognizable songs, led by the international hit, "Day By Day." The show opened in 1971 off-Broadway moving to Broadway in 1976. It ran for 2,124 performances off-Broadway and 527 on Broadway.

Sherri McCready, director of the Asheville-based Highland Acting Company introduced *Resurrectio* as a short separate musical to follow *Godspell* in April 2009. Both musicals have now been presented 16 times to over 5,000 people. Twelve of those performances were at the Orange Peel. The company traveled last year to Charlotte, NC and this past March to the historic Orpheum Theatre in Wichita, KS where more than 1,600 people took in the two weekend shows.

In just two short years Highland Acting Company has clearly left a mark on Asheville! Several dozen local performing and visual artists assembled to launch the companies four-show run in April, 2009. Following the initial weekend with sold-out shows, another four shows were added in June, 2009.

These local artists were stirred to do more than just a Broadway musical. In October, 2009 they launched the Elevate



School of Life and Art to pass along their talents to young and old alike in the Asheville area. McCready recalls as a young girl that she always wanted to dance, sing, and act but classes were simply too expensive. She decided classes should be affordable and available to all ages, and decided to offer group classes for just \$5 per person. Classes are offered in dance, drama, sewing, guitar, drawing, video editing, website design, cake decorating, and much more. For more information visit [www.ElevateLifeAndArt.com](http://www.ElevateLifeAndArt.com).

*Godspell* and *Resurrectio* feature a talented local cast singing, dancing, and acting with amazing energy for 3 hours including the intermission.

IF YOU GO

*Godspell* and *Resurrectio* at Asheville's Orange Peel. Shows: Friday, July 17 at 2:30 and 7:30 p.m., Sunday, July 18 at 7:00 p.m., Friday, July 24 at

2:30 and 7:30 p.m., and Sunday, July 25 at 3:00 p.m. All tickets are \$15 and can be purchased online at [www.theorangepeel.net](http://www.theorangepeel.net) or in person at the Orange Peel box office, or by phone at 1-866-468-7630. For more information, please visit [www.highlandactingcompany.com](http://www.highlandactingcompany.com)

## ASHEVILLE CONTEMPORARY DANCE THEATRE

**Summer Hip Hop and Jazz Dance Camp for Girls** age 7-12. July 12 - July 16. Prices vary. Contact Brandi Hand at [brandihand@gmail.com](mailto:brandihand@gmail.com) or call (828) 707-4178 to register or for more information.

**Creative Movement Summer Camp for Children** age 10 and under. July 26 - 30. Tuition from \$90 to \$120. For more information and/or to register contact Norianna at [noridancer@yahoo.com](mailto:noridancer@yahoo.com).

**Summer Camp for Boys.** Young Roman Legionaires, Carthaginians, and Gladiators under the direction of Giles Collard. July 14-25 for boys age 7-11. Prices vary. Register

early, 10 boys maximum. Call (828) 254-2621 for more details or to register.

**Girls Happening 2010** with Susan and Giles Collard and Fleta Monaghan. August 2-9, and August 9-13. Drawing, dancing, exploring new and exotic foods, sewing, performances, theatre, storytelling, and painting, all with the teacher of your choice. This program is free for the committed. Contact Susan or Giles Collard at (828) 254-2137 to register or for more information.

**Asheville Contemporary Dance Theatre**  
20 Commerce Street, Asheville

# performance

'Folkmoor' continued from page 5

"I couldn't believe it," she adds. "Here was this huge cultural event, something you would expect to see in DC or Atlanta, maybe Charlotte but never in a small town so far away from any major metropolitan."

Folkmoor USA attracts well over 100,000 visitors to Western North Carolina and brings in \$4 million dollars. It is also one of two international folk festivals in the US and is listed as "One of the Top 20 Events in the Southeast" by the Southeast Tourism Society.

"Folkmoor is huge in many ways but very small in others," she adds. "We've got a year 'round staff of just three

people, 56 part time employees — most of whom work only the two-week festival — and over 400 volunteers that make this event happen each year. It's a lot of dedicated people working very hard."

The results are incredible. Since the first festival in 1984 Folkmoor has brought over 200 folk groups from more than 100 countries to perform. This year the invited groups include Russia, Latvia, Poland, Jordan, Switzerland, Portugal, France, United Kingdom (Irish Dancers) and Peru.

## Folkmoor USA July 22 - August 1

A two-week festival in eleven counties across Western North Carolina, featuring performances, parades and workshops. More than 350 performers from about ten countries will gather to celebrate culture heritage through dance and music.

The Parade of Nations is scheduled for Friday, July 23 at 1 p.m. Ceremonies start at the old courthouse at 12:30 p.m. with the parade route now going south on Waynesville's Main Street. The Folkmoor 5K Run/Walk & Kid's Fun Run will be held Saturday, July 31 in front of the Folkmoor Friendship Center.

Haywood County Arts Council's International Festival Day (see article on page 38) takes place on Saturday, July 31, also in downtown Waynesville. In addition to 21-ticketed performances, Folkmoor dancers and musicians are featured at 39 private and charitable performances during the two-week Festival.



Dancers from Mexico perform during Folkmoor.

The name Folkmoor or folkmoor originated in Anglo-Saxon England from the Old English word folkmoor meaning: A general assembly of the people of a town, district, or shire in medieval England. And it is a name that perfectly fits this unique mountain event.

The term "Folk Dancing" is a type of dance usually applied to those of historical importance in European culture and history.

Most were originated before the 20th century. A number of modern ballroom dances originated from folk ones.

It all began for Folkmoor USA in 1973 when a Waynesville surgeon, Dr. Clinton Border, accompanied a local square dance team to a

folk festival in Sidmouth, England. Border, convinced Western North Carolina which was already steeped in tradition and dedicated to the preservation of its own heritage, would be a perfect place to hold an international folk festival in the US.

Eleven years later he orchestrated the first Folkmoor USA to coincide with North Carolina's 400th birthday celebration. The public loved the event and droves of people turned out to watch some of the best international folk dancers.

"The problem we face as a non-profit organization," Babcock says, "is that we've been around for over a quarter century and have become such a part of the community that folks sometimes forget that we do need their financial support. We really do rely heavily on local funding."

Despite language barriers and the inherent scheduling difficulties involved in getting foreign performers from their homes to Haywood County, Babcock believes something invaluable occurs when cultures so rich in tradition come together to share their lives.

"It's amazing watching all these people from all over the world get together for two weeks. They work very hard but it's also a lot like interaction between guests at a very large international hostel."

All of the 350 plus musicians, dancers, choreographers and translators all stay at the Folkmoor Friendship Center, a former elementary school with old hard wood floors, high ceilings and thick white enamel paint.



Tickets are on sale now and may be purchased online at [www.folkmoorusa.org](http://www.folkmoorusa.org) or by calling the Folkmoor ticket office at (828) 452-2997.

## ACT presents *Noises Off*

**N**oises Off, called the "Funniest farce ever written," depicts the onstage and backstage antics of a fifth-rate acting troupe touring in an awful sex farce called

*Nothing On*.

The curtain opens on the dress rehearsal of the first act of *Nothing On* the night before it's set to open with things not going well. The second act shows us what's happening backstage during the first act of *Nothing On* after the show has been running for a month. The third act takes us back to the first act of *Nothing On* yet again, after two months of touring. It is, deliciously so, a disaster!

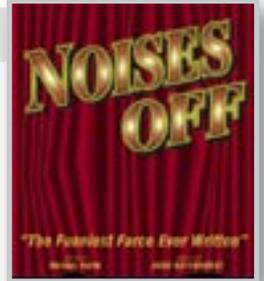
"Michael Frayn really crafted a piece of work with *Noises Off*," says director Josh Batenhorst, who also directed ACT's *The Santaland Diaries*. "The play is very tight. It requires a fast-paced, frenetic energy. I'm excited about the cast that we've brought together for this play.

They are one of the most talented groups of eighteen legs I've ever put together. Our entire crew is working very hard

BY JANNA HOEKEMA

and I'm confident that audiences will leave this show impressed and laughing!"

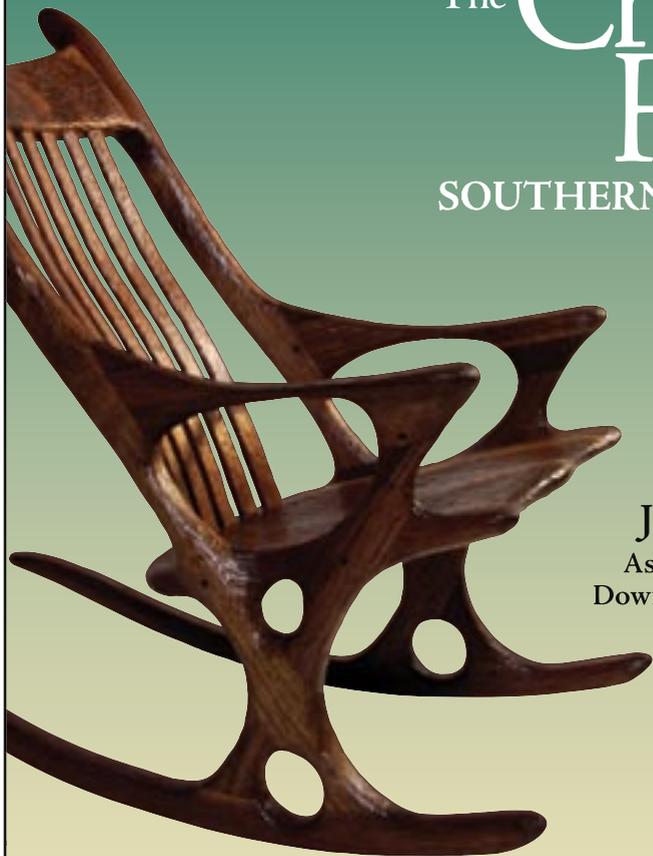
ACT is running a buy two, get two free special for the opening weekend, Friday, July 2, and Saturday, July 3. Patrons need to call or stop by the box office to take advantage of this promotion and use the code "FARCE."



Noises Off, written by Michael Frayn, directed by Josh Batenhorst. ACT Mainstage July 2-18. Fridays & Saturdays, 7:30 p.m., Sundays

at 2:30 p.m. No show July 4. Tickets: \$22 adults; \$19 seniors and students, available online at [www.ashevilletheatre.org](http://www.ashevilletheatre.org) or by calling (828) 254-1320.

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# performance

## The 4th Annual Laugh Your Asheville Off Comedy Festival

This year's festival has been extended to a five-day event, kicking off Tuesday, July 13 with a "Local Comics of Asheville" showcase at Fred's Speakeasy. Wednesday there will be a feature film documentary presentation "I Am Comic" at the Fine Arts Theater, and then Thursday the festival moves to the beautiful Diana Wortham for two shows – the first with Headliner Josh Gondelman, winner of the Laughing Skull Comedy Festival, and a very special late show with the Beards of Comedy tour, featuring Asheville's own Joe Zimmerman.

Friday features back-to-back shows with more than twenty rising stars in comedy, handpicked from around the country, leading up to Saturday's shows with Jake Johannsen. Jake has become one of the

most respected comedians in history for his unique ability to give the most common element new meaning. Not many comedians will devote six minutes to a single subject – especially one as seemingly mundane as a toaster, or as strange as his conviction that extraterrestrials are working among us.

Charlie Gerencer and Greg Brown, the producers of Laugh Your Asheville Off, believe stand-up should be enjoyed, not judged. For this reason, Laugh Your Asheville Off is the most comic friendly festival in the country, attracting the freshest and funniest untapped talent in the U.S. The combination of Greg's vision as a comic, and Charlie's experience producing major live events and TV comedy shows, has been a perfect marriage, making the festival what it is today.

## A SPECIAL INTERVIEW WITH Legendary Comic Jake Johannsen

BY DENNIS RAY

Laugh Your Asheville Off Comedy Festival returns to downtown Asheville July 13-17. In only four years the festival has become the largest stand-up comedy event in the southeast. For the first time since the festivals conception the producers teamed up with Rooftop Comedy to attract some of the freshest comics in US. This year's festival will be anchored by comedy legend Jake Johannsen, as seen on two HBO specials, Comedy Central, and a record 32 appearances on David Letterman.

Rapid River Magazine was able to do a phone interview with Johannsen who was performing in Las Vegas, NV at the time.

**Rapid River Magazine:** Back in the early 80's you went to college and majored in veterinary medicine then became a comic. How did that come about?

**Jake Johannsen:** Well, I was going to college to be a vet because I liked animals. I quickly learned that animals weren't so crazy about vets. Then I thought I wanted to be an engineer and quickly found I wouldn't like being an engineer. One of my professors said I should take an aptitude test to see what I might enjoy doing for a career. So I took one. It said I should be an advertising sells person or actor. I tried out for a school play, got a part and fell in love with the theatre. I also loved doing stand-up. I then decided to move to California to see if I was any good. There weren't comedy clubs in Middle America. I started by doing open mike. You do terrible and you come back and do it again. There is a real trial and error with being a comic.

**RRM:** Hemingway said that the hardest part about writing in his latter years was to keep from self-plagiarizing. As a long time comic do you have a hard time keeping your material new and original from your earlier stuff?

**JJ:** It's a little different with stand-up. Your material is always fluid. It's not like a novel that has a print date and now you have to come up with a whole new novel and then more novels with different themes and stories to stay fresh. With stand-up I have a bunch of material that I work with, changing bits and pieces through the years. Stuff that I told 20 years ago have slowly been worked out of my act or dropped along the way. I might revisit a theme I used, say in 1990, and update it for today, but honestly there is so much crazy stuff going on in this crazy world we live in that I really don't have a problem with coming up with new stuff.

**RRM:** Many young comics today mention your name as their favorite or most influential comic. Who was your inspiration when you first began?

**JJ:** The comics who influenced me the most when I first started out, maybe not so much in style or comedy, but in their honesty and hard work ethics were comics like Robin Williams and Steve Martin, and so many other people that I opened for way back when I first started out. These guys would work around the clock perfecting their craft. It was amazing how hard they worked.

continued on next page

# performance

continued from page 8

When they get on stage it sounded so effortless like they were just winging it, that this great comic timing and all just came naturally to them. With all great art it's the ability to give the illusion of simplicity.

**RRM:** What was it like performing for Johnny Carson?

**JJ:** (pauses) That was a long time ago. I remember being in awe at the time. What can I say about Johnny Carson that hasn't been said a million times? He was a class act.

**RRM:** What is your favorite book this year?

**JJ:** *Lost city of Z* by David Grann.

**RRM:** So what's the secret to being funny?

**JJ:** You've got to be honest and you've got to have a perception of things that is slightly off center. When I'm working on my material I ask myself questions like "How can we stop illegal immigration?" Okay...and I came up with a burning river of gas. Not only would that keep people from crossing over it could be a huge tourist attraction. Then I went with that theme. I listed pros and cons. It didn't matter how absurd they were because after all I was talking about a river of burning gas. That's something you would want to see, right? And a part of you would like to see people try and cross it. So anyway, I just build on that. Why people laugh? I don't know. I don't know why people do anything really.

**RRM:** Any other loves besides performing?



Comic legend  
Jake Johannsen

Art collecting, painting etc.?

**JJ:** I love my wife. As far as hobbies go I love to read and travel. My big love is surfing. That's something that both my wife and I do. We're not great at it. Since we're not great we're capable of having fun. Being good at something takes the fun right out of it. That's why little kids have so much fun. They're not good at things, or if they are, they don't know it. They just have fun.

**RRM:** I want to thank you for your time.

**JJ:** Thank you. I'm really looking forward to coming to Asheville. I've heard so many wonderful things about that area. I've never been. I'm meeting my family there and we're going to spend a couple days just touring the area.

Last Comic Standing producer Charlie Gerencer, and *New York Times* best selling cookbook author, and stand-up comedian, Greg Brown produce the annual Laugh Your Asheville Off Comedy Festival. The festival, anchored by HBO and Comedy Central veteran Jake Johannsen, is a three-day event showcasing more than 40 stand-up comedians.



For more info visit [www.laughyourashevilleoff.com](http://www.laughyourashevilleoff.com), call the box office at (828) 257-4530, or visit the Pack Place Box Office in person.

## LAUGH YOUR ASHEVILLE OFF SCHEDULE

### Tuesday, July 13 at 8:30 p.m.

Local Comics of Asheville Talent Showcase, hosted by Joe Zimmerman. Proceeds to benefit Brother Wolf Animal Rescue. At Fred's Speakeasy, 122 College Street in Asheville. Pay what you can. \$5 dollar suggested donation.

### Wednesday, July 14 at 8 p.m.

"I Am Comic" directed by Jordan Brady. At the Fine Arts Theater, 36 Biltmore Avenue. Tickets: \$8.75. (828) 232-0257. Visit [www.iamcomicmovie.com](http://www.iamcomicmovie.com)

### Thursday, July 15 at 8 p.m.

Josh Gondelman & Friends, at the Diana Wortham Theatre. Tickets: \$10.

### Thursday, July 15 at 10:30 p.m.

The Beards of Comedy at the Diana Wortham Theatre. Visit [www.beardsofcomedy.com](http://www.beardsofcomedy.com) Tickets: \$10.

### Friday, July 16 at 8 p.m. & 10:30 p.m.

The Laugh Your Asheville Off Showcase Show. Two shows, different performers, at the Diana Wortham Theatre. Tickets: \$12.

### Friday, July 16 at midnight

Midnight Trouble, Road Comic Stories with Mike Storck at he New French Bar (home of Tomato Tuesdays), 12 Biltmore Avenue in Asheville. FREE.

### Saturday, July 17 at 7 p.m. & 9:30 p.m.

Comic Legend Jake Johannsen & Guests. Diana Wortham Theatre. Tickets: \$22. Website: [www.jakethis.com](http://www.jakethis.com).

### Festival Package Deal

Package includes: One ticket to both shows Thursday, July 15; One ticket to both shows Friday, July 16; One ticket to either Jake Johannsen show, 7 p.m. or 9:30 p.m. Price: \$45. Savings=\$21.



Diana Wortham Theatre, 2 South Pack Square in Asheville. Box Office: (828) 257-4530 or visit [www.dwththeatre.com](http://www.dwththeatre.com). For more information visit [www.laughyourashevilleoff.com](http://www.laughyourashevilleoff.com).



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*poetry & books*

*The Poetry of Antonio Machado*

BY TED OLSON

This column is devoted to a poetry book that, given its sheer length (over 500 pages) and the excellence of its contents, will generate many hours of reading and contemplation, whether in a hammock during July or by the fireside during January.

*Border of a Dream: Selected Poems of Antonio Machado* (Copper Canyon Press, 2004) collects much of the beloved poetry from one of Spain's greatest poets, with the original Spanish texts printed alongside subtle yet often sublime English-language versions translated by American poet Willis Barnstone.

Born July 26, 1875, in Seville, Spain, Antonio Machado grew up in Madrid within a family dominated by intellectuals and artists (Machado's grandfather was an esteemed professor at the University of Madrid, while Machado's older brother, Manuel, was a noted poet). The most profound formative experience upon Antonio Machado was Spain's military defeat during the Spanish-American War of 1898 — his nation, humiliated on the world stage, was no longer a colonial power. Machado would become associated with "the Generation of '98," a fin-de-siecle artistic/intellectual movement that was dedicated to revitalizing Spanish culture (other major figures were poet Juan Ramon Jimenez and philosophers Miguel de Unamuno and Jose Ortega y Gasset).

In seeking themes for early poems, Machado avoided temporal social issues and instead gravitated toward eternal verities. His first published book, *Solitudes* (1903), explored the same universal themes that would continue to infuse his poetry: family, tradition, landscape, childhood, love, and death.

Yet, Machado's poetry was not particularly "personal"; in his poems he distanced his observations and memories from their source emotions by utilizing strict verse forms and by employing an understated, often colloquial yet carefully wrought Spanish language (American novelist John Dos Passos described Machado's Castilian Spanish as "dry, spare, and luminous"). Given the poet's reflective

bent, a number of the poems in *Border of a Dream* are overtly philosophical or symbolic, including the following lyric (on page 37):

The clock was striking twelve, and it was twelve  
shovel blows into the earth.  
"My hour's come!" I screamed. The silence  
answered me, "Don't be afraid.  
You won't see the last drop fall  
that is trembling in the water clock.  
You still have many hours  
here on the old bank,  
and on one stainless morning  
you find your boat moored on another shore."

*Border of a Dream* features a generous selection from Machado's most acclaimed poetry collection, *Fields of Castilla* (1912), including a rare English-language translation of that volume's long poem, "The Land of Alvargonzalez." A sample of the resonant poetry from *Fields of Castilla* can be found on page 167 of *Border of a Dream* — "Summer Night," a poem that is at the same time vividly detailed and richly metaphorical:

It is a beautiful summer night.  
The tall houses leave  
their balcony shutters open  
to the wide plaza of the old village.  
In the large deserted square,  
stone benches, burning bush and acacias  
trace their black shadows  
symmetrically on the white sand.  
In its zenith, the moon, and on the tower  
the clock's illuminated globe.  
I stroll through this ancient village,  
alone like a ghost.

Machado was a literary hero to the next generation of Spanish-language writers and a mentor to Spain's most famous twentieth-century poet, Federico Garcia Lorca. Machado and



Lorca would both become victims of the Spanish Civil War — Lorca in 1936, and Machado in 1939.

During his final years, Machado composed a series of highly political poems, a number of which are incorporated in *Border of a Dream*, most notably an elegy composed in response to the execution of Lorca ("The Crime Was in Granada"). Machado's political poems not only grieve at the inhumanity of war, but also affirm the role of poetry as a source of strength and wisdom in a worsening modern world.

Whatever their themes, the poems in *Border of a Dream* are remarkably accessible today despite having been translated from another language, culture, and era. Indeed, few poets worldwide have produced such an impressive corpus of poetry, and thankfully the finest of Machado's poems are now available in excellent English-language translations within a single, indisputably indispensable book.



Ted Olson is the author of such books as *Breathing in Darkness: Poems* (Wind Publications, 2006) and *Blue Ridge Folklife* (University Press of Mississippi, 1998) and he is the editor of numerous books, including *CrossRoads: A Southern Culture Annual* (Mercer University Press, 2009). His experiences as a poet and musician are discussed on [www.windpub.com/books/breathingindarkness.htm](http://www.windpub.com/books/breathingindarkness.htm).

Poets who would like for their poetry to be considered for a future column may send their books and manuscripts to Ted Olson, ETSU, Box 70400, Johnson City, TN 37614. Please include contact information and a SASE with submissions.

**Heritage Alive! Mountain Youth Talent Contest**

Deadline: July 8, 2010. Showcasing the youth of Western North Carolina (up to the age of 18), during the Folk Festival held July 17 in downtown Franklin, NC. Participants must exhibit a talent that reflects Appalachian heritage. Categories include Poetry/Storytelling, Vocal Performance, Instrumentalists, and Dance. Prizes are offered for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners. To register contact Amy Ammons Garza (828) 631-4587. Entry forms available at [www.spiritofappalachia.org](http://www.spiritofappalachia.org).

# authors ~ books ~ readings

## The Devil Amongst the Lawyers

A Ballad Novel written by Sharyn McCrumb

Although author Sharyn McCrumb has been busy writing her zany novels about NASCAR racing (*Faster Pastor*, Ingalls Publishing, 2010 is the latest), her faithful fans have been eagerly awaiting her return to her Appalachian ballad novels. The long wait (the last ballad novel was *Ghost Riders* in 2003) is finally over with the arrival this month of *The Devil Amongst the Lawyers*. I join many in cheering, "Welcome back, Sharyn!"



Sharyn McCrumb

It's 1935. FDR is President and the Depression affects everyone. The Carter Family singers are debuting on radio. *It Happened One Night* sweeps the Oscars but attention now is focused on the production of the fourth film version of the 1908 Appalachian novel, *The Trail of the Lonesome Pine*. It's being shot in the hills above Los Angeles, the first outdoor film made in Technicolor.

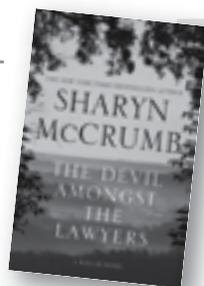
*Lonesome Pine's* misrepresentation of Appalachian culture, especially its infamous so-called "Code of Honor," is guaranteed to appeal to film audiences looking for distraction from economic hard times. Caring no more for truth than Hollywood filmmakers are the big-city newspaper reporters in *The Devil Amongst the Lawyers* who've been assigned to cover a murder trial in small-town

Virginia. They ignore the obvious facts about the normal people and the pretty towns in favor of what they want to see — ignorant hillbillies, living in shacks with children running around ragged and everyone waiting to shoot their old rival from the next holler. The one reporter who tries

to tell the truth, young Carl Jennings, (a character based on McCrumb's own father) enrages his bosses for not being as "accurate" as the national reporters. The fact that the journalistic irresponsibility of 75 years ago resonates today is a disconcerting echo in the novel.

...brims with compelling characters who are passionate, flawed, and unforgettable.

Like all of McCrumb's novels, *Devil* is based on a real story and she's meticulously researched the historical context. After graduating from teacher college, Erma Morton rejects the exciting future her beauty would have guaranteed her and returns home to live with her parents. When her tyrannical drunken father is found dead, Erma is charged with his murder. It's a spectacular story — a beautiful young woman fighting for her freedom. Newspaper readers will eat it up. Counting on a windfall, Erma's brother Harley sells the exclusive rights to her story to a newspaper



REVIEW BY CAULEY BENNETT

syndicate, thus adversely affecting Erma's image among the influential out-of-town reporters as well as the jury.

Sensing a terrible truth hiding behind Erma's silence, Carl arranges for his 13-year-old cousin Nora Bonesteel to visit. Nora, as fans of McCrumb's ballad novels know, has the "Sight," but alas, she can't prevent the future by knowing what it is.

Being a McCrumb novel, *The Devil Amongst the Lawyers* brims with compelling characters who are passionate, flawed, and unforgettable. In addition to a riveting history of the real Appalachia, *Devil* offers unexpected side trips to Japan. The exotic combines with the familiar to create a unique new ballad novel that was worth waiting for.



Sharyn McCrumb will read from and sign copies of her new novel, *The Devil Amongst the Lawyers*. Arrive early to get a good seat.

Friday, July 10, 7:00 p.m. Malaprop's Bookstore/Café, 55 Haywood Street, downtown Asheville. For more information call (828) 254-6734.

Saturday, July 11, 1:00 p.m. Blue Ridge Osondu Books & Café, 152. S. Main St., Waynesville. Call (828) 456-6000.

Tuesday, July 13, 7:00 p.m. City Lights Bookstore, 3 East Jackson Street, Sylva, NC. (828) 586-9499.

Author's Website: [www.sharynmccrumb.com](http://www.sharynmccrumb.com)

### TWO EVENTS FOR READERS AND WRITERS



**The Book Club  
Wednesday, July 14,  
3:00 p.m.**

*The Physick Book of Deliverance Dane* ([www.physickbook.com](http://www.physickbook.com)) has thrilled readers with its

beguiling tale that shifts in time from today to the Salem witch trials. Byron Ballard, local witch/bookseller and former *Rapid River* contributor, will stop by to share some traditional Appalachian healing techniques. Don't miss this free event!

**Monthly Writers Support Group  
Third Thursday, July 15, 6:00 p.m.**

No critiquing, just motivating!

**IF YOU GO:** *Accent on Books*, 854 Merrimon Ave. Asheville. For more information call (828) 252-6255.

### Read My Pins

Stories from a Diplomat's Jewel Box, written by Madeleine Albright with others

When Madeleine Albright was the U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations (1993-1997), she discovered that her jewelry, specifically the pins she wore on her staid business suits, became part of her "diplomatic arsenal."

At first unconsciously, such as when she chose to wear a pin in the shape of a serpent to meet with Iraqi officials after a poem calling her an "unparalleled serpent" was published in the Iraqi press, and then with more deliberation, she chose accessories to send a subtle — and sometimes not so subtle — message. *Read My Pins* (Harper Collins, 2009) is a unique, entertaining trip through Albright's history via the rhinestones, enamel, faux pearls and other sparklies in her jewel box.

REVIEW BY CAULEY BENNETT



Her pins became her personal symbols. Part of her diplomatic strategy was to send the right symbol at the right time — something new both in the history of diplomacy and in women's power wardrobes. When Albright wore a glowing sun on her shoulder, it sent a clear message of optimism about the upcoming peace talks — compared to a wasp ready to sting or a crab showing annoyance at the dull pace of negotiations. Albright continued her "pin policy" when she was named Pres. Bill Clinton's Secretary of State in 1997, becoming the highest ranking woman in the U.S. government.

Lavishly illustrated with over 300 pieces of jewelry and lots of diplomatic photos, *Read My Pins* is possibly the first diplomatic bio written in bling.



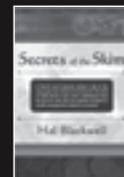
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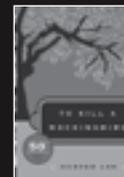
**Tuesday, July 6 at 7 p.m.**  
Hal Blackwell reading - *Secrets of the Skim*. A Merrill Lynch financial advisor's tale of the raw greed and cultural rot harbored in the belly of Wall Street's most iconic institution.



**Friday, July 9 at 7 p.m.**  
Susan Hasler reading - *Intelligence: A Novel of the CIA*. A team of Intelligence agents try to prevent an impending terrorist attack, but are thwarted by bureaucratic hurdles in this darkly humorous debut.



**Monday, July 12**  
from 4 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.  
To Kill a Mockingbird - 50th anniversary celebratory reading of Harper Lee's Pulitzer Prize-winning masterwork.



**Thursday, July 15 at 7 p.m.**  
Sujatha Hampton reading - *As It Was Written*. The epic journey of an Indian-American family.



**Friday, July 30 at 7 p.m.**  
Minrose Gwin reading - *The Queen of Palmyra*. An unforgettable evocation of a time and a place in America — a nuanced, gripping story of race and identity.



**Tuesday, 08/03 at 7 p.m.**  
Carol Bradley reading - *Saving Gracie: How One Dog Escaped the Shadowy World of American Puppy Mills*. Bradley draws back the curtain on the world of illegal puppy production. A touching story of survival and redemption.



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# authors ~ books ~ readings

## JULY HIGHLIGHTS AT MALAPROP'S



**Susan Hasler Thrills Readers with Her CIA Novel – Friday, July 9, 7:00 p.m.**

A 21-year veteran of the CIA, Susan Hasler learned lots of inside information which she has turned into *Intelligence*, a debut thriller that's getting rave reviews.



**T. Rafael Cimino Churns Up Powerful Drug Smuggling Tale – Wednesday, July 14, 7:00 p.m.**

Based on real events from the 1980s, filmmaker T. Rafael Cimino's novel *Mid Ocean* dives into the murky drug world of the Florida Keys.



**Sujatha Hampton Debuts with Epic Tale of Indian-American Family – Thursday, July 15, 7:00 p.m.**

Virginia tale-spinner Sujatha Hampton's first novel, *As It Is Written*, is a sumptuous collision of different traditions, including curses, in a family of Hindus and Catholics.



**Christine Lavin Stops in Malaprop's on Her Whirlwind Tour of Asheville – Sunday, July 25, 2:00 p.m.**

Singer, songwriter, folk legend, Christine Lavin marks her 25 years of performing with a funny, wild, warm memoir: *Pizza for Breakfast — a Mem-Wha?* If you love American folk music and the women who make it world-famous, this event is a must.

**IF YOU GO:** Malaprop's Bookstore/Café, 55 Haywood Street, downtown Asheville. For more information call (828) 254-6734.



**Rapid River Book Editor Cauley Bennett is an Asheville writer. You can reach her by e-mailing [books@cauleybennett.com](mailto:books@cauleybennett.com)**

### COMING NEXT MONTH

Review of *The Ape House*, the mesmerizing new book by Sara Gruen, author of the best-selling historical novel *Water for Elephants*.

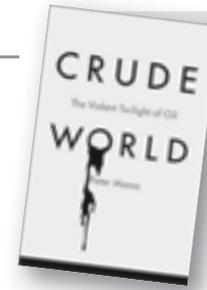
## Crude World

*The Violent Twilight of Oil*, written by Peter Maass

Last month I faced the pathetic fact that I knew nothing about oil other than it used to cost me \$5 to fill up my car tank and now it costs \$42. I needed a good, solid book for oil dummies — and I was thrilled to find one written by one of my favorite investigative reporters, Peter Maass. If Maass wrote a book, I knew it would have lots of good stories and it would make seeming imponderables easy to understand.

Peter Maass's work didn't disappoint. In fact, *Crude World: The Violent Twilight of Oil* (Alfred A. Knopf, 2009) turned out to be one of the most informative books I've read in ages. In light of the oil disaster in the Gulf of Mexico that began a few days after I finished the book, I can say that I am a lot more aware of not only what is happening in the Gulf but what the pundits on the TV news are really yabbering about.

*Crude World* covers the fascinating geology, geographic placement and history of oil, and explains why it's crucial to remember that oil "peaks" — meaning it's not limitless — and why countries whose oil might be peaking now, such as certain Middle East countries — don't want anyone to know that. Except for the Gulf and the Exxon Valdez spill, I had no idea of the



REVIEW BY CAULEY BENNETT

extent of oil's damage until *Crude World* opened my eyes to the horrendous legacy of pollution left behind in many — I emphasize many — places in the world. And usually in countries whose native people can't fight back, such as in Ecuador or Nigeria.

Why does it seem that in many countries (notable exceptions being Norway and Kuwait), the more oil in the ground, the

*"The meek shall inherit the Earth, but not the mineral rights." ~ J. Paul Getty*

less oil dollars are in the pockets of the people? Long story made short — the oil companies make agreements, not with the people but with the "government" — and in many cases (Equatorial Guinea, for one) that government is really a tyrannical dictator who spends all the money on himself and his cronies. It seems true what J. Paul Getty once said, "The meek shall inherit the Earth, but not the mineral rights."

Also, why is it that the words "oil" and "war" often boil up in the same sentence? It's a much longer concept than I can synopsise here, but Peter Maass does explain — and never again will I watch the news of young American men and women dying without wondering where the black ooze is lurking. Maass' most provocative concern is revealed in the title of the book — why does he consider oil to be in its twilight, rather than its dawn — and what does this mean to you and me? Factual, controversial, shocking — *Crude World: The Violent Twilight of Oil* is one of those books that should be read by every American.

Author's website: [www.petermaass.com](http://www.petermaass.com)

## Baseball in Asheville

Written by Bill Ballew

When I moved to Asheville in 1983, one of the first things I did was to go down to McCormick Field to watch the local minor league baseball team, the Asheville Tourists. I can't remember if they won or lost but that wasn't the point. The point was to sit in the stands, enjoy a beer and a hot dog, smell the freshly mown grass,

*...baseball has been a part of the city since shortly after the Civil War.*

and enjoy the game of baseball the way it used to be played.

*Baseball in Asheville* is part of the Arcadia Publishing series, *Images of Baseball*. Asheville is an ideal candidate for inclusion in such a series since baseball has been a part of the city since shortly after the Civil War. McCormick Field, the home of the Tourists, opened in 1924 and has seen a number of baseball legends over the years, from Babe Ruth and Lou Gehrig to Willie



REVIEW BY CHIP KAUFMANN

Stargell and Cal Ripken Sr. (Cal Jr. was a batboy here). The book is loaded with photographs not only of the Tourists and their predecessors but also of the Negro League baseball teams that played here, the Asheville Royal Giants and the Asheville Blues. It mentions the careers of the players who made it to the major leagues and provides a glimpse into the city's past. If you love baseball and want to know more about the history of Asheville, then this book is a must.

Chip Kaufmann is a film critic for *Rapid River* and a passionate baseball fan.

## Lives of the Trees

*An Uncommon History*, written by Diana Wells

What a delight for armchair tree lovers! Not a volume to weigh down your backpack — but to curl up with and savor a chapter at a time. Though most of us are aware of trees in general, few of us have had the time to pay attention to specific trees, a failing of contemporary life that author Diana Wells is determined to change. She wants us to revel in the details of different trees — their leaves, flowers, and bark, and especially the lore that time has created around them. There are 100 wonderful

tree stories in *Lives of the Trees* (Algonquin Books, 2010), skillfully illustrated in soft black and white drawings by Heather Lovett.

Wells (who also wrote *100 Flowers and How They Got Their Names*, among others) introduces readers to trees all over the planet, from A (for acacia, whose wood was said to build the Ark of the Covenant), to Y (for yew, the wood of choice for making



REVIEW BY CAULEY BENNETT

arrows). In between are such lovelies as H (for the handkerchief tree from China whose flowers are "fluttering like doves") and S (for the sandalwood tree whose wood is used for incense). You'll find your common trees, such as elder and oak, along with rarities, such as the monkey puzzle (whose sharp prickles were developed to confuse dinosaurs) and the welwitschia, which resembles a vegetable octopus. The book includes a helpful index and an excellent list for further reading.

## At the End of Myself

*"I cannot live with myself any longer." This was the thought that kept repeating itself in my mind. Then, suddenly I became aware of what a peculiar thought it was. "Am I one or two? If I cannot live with myself, there must be two of me: The 'I' and the 'self' that 'I' cannot live with." "Maybe," I thought, "only one of them is real."... My mind stopped... I felt drawn into a vortex of energy... I heard the words "resist nothing."... Suddenly there was no more fear.*

*~ ECKHART TOLLE - INTRODUCTION TO "POWER OF NOW"*

The discovery that Eckhart Tolle made in a time of deep despair, a time when, in effect, he had reached the end of himself, is an important secret common to all mystical teaching. It is also at the heart of Buddhist psychology. He had entered into and found resolution to the personal and spiritual conflict that is sometimes referred to as "the dark night of the soul," a term coined by the 16<sup>th</sup> Century Christian mystic St. John of the Cross to describe his struggle with faith. It is a coming to an end of self as understood and lived from a very limited egocentric perspective, and in that ending, to open into a new light of understanding that bridges the ego-self to the Universe, to all of life, awakening a deeper Self that lives in that connection.

Understand that a life-threatening emotional crisis is not necessary. Any person can decide at any time that there must be more than their anxiety filled life, and choose to open into new possibilities by looking at the life they have been living and deeply examining the "I" and the "self" as Tolle did. What Tolle discovered was that there is a "me" that can reach its end, and there is a "me" that has no end. There is the "me" that is all wrapped up in the beginnings and endings of my material life circumstances, and there is a "me" that is a direct expression of Life, a continuum without beginning and end. It is Life expressing itself through an individual human. It is also the entryway into mystical experience, an often misunderstood and ethereal concept, for it is in actuality, the true expression of the fullest human potential for spiritual and mental health.

Both this limited ego-self me and the mystical me-as-the-Universe-expressing-itself exist, and every human experiences both of these dimensions, although few recognize the mystical experience as their very essence, and fewer still consciously explore this ego-transcendent dimension. For the vast majority, they stay wrapped up in the certainty of their circumstantial material experience as the full extent of who they are. These seeming contradictory expressions of self are the essential paradox of human existence, which if unraveled, leads to a true liberation, to where there is no fear.

Anything that can end must also have a beginning, and so it is with this "me" that can reach its end, because this "me," in addition to being a biological form that has its beginning and end, is also a story begun in each person's infancy and rewritten and refined throughout a life span. Understand, it is not the biological "me" with its beginning and end that is a problem, not any more than a squirrel's life is problematic, but rather, it is the "story of me" that we carry in our mind that bedevils and worries us.

*There is the "me" that is all wrapped up in the beginnings and endings of my material life circumstances...*

It is the story of the socially conditioned "me," the "me" in the timeline of my life, getting from past to future that causes so much tension, conflict and angst. It is my stories of success and failure, both past and anticipated. It is my stories of humiliation and redemption, of love and hate, of struggle and accomplishment, of gain and loss, of relationship and loneliness. It is the story of my psychological profile, my personal philosophy, and my political and religious identifications. It is my habits, my preferences, my prejudices, my likes and dislikes. It is my fantasies. It is my hopes and fears. It is the story of my addictive behaviors. It is even the story of my spiritual beliefs and journey. It is anything and everything that is in the matrix of thought patterns that fill my mind with who I think I am. And, it is not who I nor anyone is. Not at our essence.

The "story" always contains drama, struggle and strife. For some, there is relatively little struggle, for others it is a living torture chamber. What is true for everyone is that there is an ever-present whip of fear about whether they are enough, whether their story matters, whether who they are is actually the truest and best expression of who they might be. It always feels like there must be more. Again, for some, this may be nothing more than a passing fantasy of little consequence, while for some it is agonizing, and for still others, it is a motivating cause

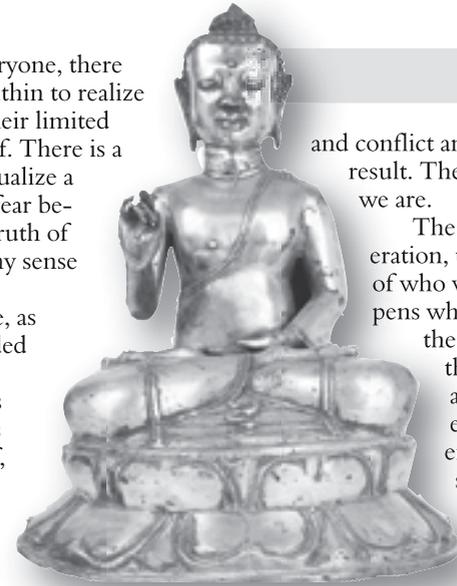
in their life, but for everyone, there is an urge from deep within to realize who they are beyond their limited and anxious story of self. There is a silent whispering to actualize a dimension that has no fear because it is the realized truth of who they are beyond any sense of lack or fear.

It is from this place, as Tolle's inner voice guided him, that we are able to "resist nothing." This is sometimes spoken of as the Self beyond the self, the Being that is before and larger than ego, the true "I" that isn't at odds with anything in the Universe because there is a knowing emanating from this Self of being an integral expression of the Universe unfolding. It is. Nothing more is needed.

The man who was not yet the Buddha came to the end of himself 2500 years ago as he sat under the Bodhi tree in meditation vowing never to rise until he achieved enlightenment. In the moment of his enlightenment, looking at a morning star, he transcended himself and became the morning star, and so the seeking nobleman turned ascetic named Siddhartha Gotama figuratively died, to emerge as the Buddha, The Awakened One. He then rose from his meditation and went on to teach his "Middle Way" and the Noble Truths that said suffering was caused by attachment to this story of self with all its drama, cravings and aversions, causing life to be frustrating and often dissatisfying. He also taught that salvation was available to those who were ready to come to the end of their ego-selves, and in doing so, awaken into the deeper truth of who they were beyond frustration and dissatisfaction.

*...and there is the "me" that is a direct expression of Life, a continuum without beginning and end.*

What is important for us to hold in awareness is that every thought in our minds is really only a story, a representation, and often a distortion of our direct experience-in-the-world, and we live attaching to these story-thoughts as if they were true, as if they represent who we are and what the world is about. This is what the Buddha taught as the delusion that leads to suffering. Each thought arises calling to us to believe in it as the truth, but it is only a story that arises and passes away. These thoughts are often at odds with each other, and certainly at odds with the thoughts of others,



BY BILL WALZ

and conflict and confusion inevitably result. These thoughts are not who we are.

The lesson that leads to liberation, that leads to the discovery of who we truly are, is what happens when we are willing to let the thoughts, the stories and their drama end, when we are willing to come to the end of ourselves to discover our true Self in the quiet space that lingers after the thought-stories end. In that quiet space, where the ego-self ends, there is a purity of awareness

like a mirror that reflects what is in front of it without reacting to the contents of the reflection, that can see clearly, that is completely within the unfolding of the moment, just as it is. It needs nothing. It fears nothing for it is our essential Self, and essence cannot be reduced or threatened.

We don't have to achieve complete enlightenment as the Buddha did. That's just another story. A moment where you stop all your stories, release your addiction to drama, where you come to the end of yourself, either by circumstance or by conscious choice, and fully experience the still quiet space where you and the Universe meet is enough.

This end is the beginning, when the moment just as it is, is enough, and we find ourselves embedded within the moment, not some separate spectator or victim of it. It will start you on the path to the Self that knows how to resist nothing and live without fear.

As you learn to linger there, tasting and learning the truth of who you are — at the end of yourself — you will find life, your life, sparkling like a diamond.



**Bill Walz teaches meditation and mindfulness at UNCA and public forums, and is a private-practice meditation teacher and life-coach for individuals in mindfulness, personal growth and consciousness.**

**He holds a weekly meditation class, Mondays, 7 p.m., at the Friends Meeting House, 227 Edgewood. He will hold a Summer Satsang, Saturday, July 31, 2-5 p.m., a time for True-Self exploration, discussion and meditation at the Friends Meeting House. Both by donation.**

**Info on classes, talks, personal growth and healing instruction, or phone consultations at (828)258-3241, e-mail at [healing@billwalz.com](mailto:healing@billwalz.com). Visit [www.billwalz.com](http://www.billwalz.com)**

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## CD Reviews

by James Cassara



### Willie Nelson Country Music Rounder Records

Considering the ubiquitous nature of Willie these days it might be hard to remember that at the core of things Nelson remains one of the most respected artists of the past half century, a performer whose full influence might not be known until years from now.

The simplicity of his latest release, from its rustic barn cover to the modest intent of the songs, seems in part an attempt to set the record (excuse the pun) straight; that for all his forays into differing styles and associations with varied genre musicians he is first and foremost a country singer, dammit, and a pretty darn good one at that.

In many ways this is a bit of a throw-back; the softened edges and muted tones evoke the now treasured but-at-the-time-largely-ignored albums he cut during the mid to late sixties, while the trademark T-Bone Burnett flourishes of heavy bass punctuated by touches of reverb give it a more contemporary yet oddly nostalgic feel. This seeming contradiction makes for a rather puzzling result. While the terrain is easily recognizable to Nelson there's not much adventure here.

Country Music plays it close to the vest; which makes for a reassuring but inarguably lazy listening experience. Neither Nelson nor producer Burnett elicits anything fresh in what are overly familiar song choices. More puzzling is that one gets the sense they didn't care to, as if the formula of that voice and those songs should be enough.

Given his recent collaboration with Asleep at the Wheel, or his excellent 2006 tribute to fellow Texas songwriter Cindy Walker, one might have expected more. As it is, *Country Music* is the sound of a veteran pro having a good time hanging and playing with whoever happens to drop by the studio. Not bad, but a record that was probably more fun to make than listening to might indicate. \*\*1/2

### Carole King and James Taylor Live at the Troubadour Concord Records

Having virtually invented the notion of sensitive singer-songwriter, it seems only appropriate that these two celebrate its current revival (nee Josh Ritter and Jack Johnson among others) by reuniting. Almost forty years after first emerging as solo performers the two paired in 2007 for a series of highly successful evenings. Yet in



## spinning discs

The advent of summer brings to us a diverse selection of albums guaranteed to challenge your notions of music and (hopefully) expand your horizons. Just be sure to expand them at any one of our local independently owned record stores. They're the ones who help keep the music real!

truth this is hardly your standard reunion — they were never officially a duet nor did they ever have the sort of creative differences, or drug fueled break ups, of which rock legend is born. They simply went their separate ways into hugely successful careers.

Which brings us to 2010. Riding the crest of the nostalgia wave, King and Sweet Baby James, both well into their 60s, have again paired up, this time playing the original Los Angeles venue so critical to the early years. Backed by guitarist Danny Kortchmar, bassist Leland Sklar, and drummer Russell Kunkel, the two stroll merrily through the songs for which they are best known, songs which have permeated our sonic consciousness and become a part of our lives.

Pitch perfect renditions of songs you know and love is a formula that is hard to mess up, and while there are certainly no surprises here, *Live at the Troubadour* isn't about shaking things up, it's about musical kinship flavored with a heavy dash of nostalgia, and in that regard it succeeds admirably. \*\*\*



### Joan Armatrading This Charming Life Savoy Jazz Records

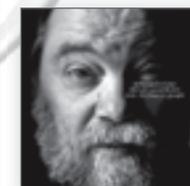
Throughout her long and distinguished career Joan Armatrading has been a model of consistency, weathering the changes in the musical universe around her while maintaining an artistic integrity firmly set by her muse. That's not to say her music hasn't evolved: It most certainly has, but it's been in response to her own natural growth rather than in reaction to the styles and mores of the day.

Following a brief detour into roots and blues music, *This Charming Life* finds Armatrading returning to what she does best; spirited rock and roll spiced up with smart lyrics and hooks aplenty. Yet while the intent is familiar the approach is anything but. Armatrading plays all the instruments (sans drums) and produced the release herself. It's her hardest-hitting and most muscular album in years, built around a solid wall of distorted aggression that showcases both the clout of her voice and her oft neglected skills as a guitarist.

For those who have mislabeled Armatrading a neo-folkie, *This Charming Life* is a heck of a wake up call. One listen to such tough bits as "Love, Love, Love" and "Heading Back to New York City" should suggest there's a hard-as-nails influence that's been waiting for years to surface. And does it ever! The dual punch of bass and drums elevates this into something much

more sinister than pop. This is butt kicking rock and roll from a woman who, at the age of 60, has a musical chip on her shoulder that she is just daring you to knock off.

This *Charming Life* is full of the literate swagger of great rock and roll without the posturing that too often drags it down. Four decades after she first arrived on the scene, Armatrading remains a consummate songwriter. And, while this album might lack the thematic focus of her best works, what it lacks in cohesion it more than makes up for in clarity, smarts, and drive. It also makes for great listening, further evidence that Joan Armatrading remains an artist of singular talent. \*\*\*\*1/2



### Roky Erickson True Love Cast Out all Evil Anti Records

Much like Syd Barrett, Daniel Johnston, and Skip Spence, Roky Erickson has attained a certain cult status based as much on myth as music. His struggles with mental and physical illness are well documented, and even after a series of triumphant recent live shows, no one was quite sure if he had enough in him to make a full album.

Fortunately Darren Hill, who has guided Erickson's career for the past decade, came up with the brilliant idea of pairing Erickson with the Austin Texas based indie band Okkervil River. It's a bold move that pays off in spades, resulting in one of the most exciting and imaginative albums of the year.

Rather than mimic the psychedelic sound of Erickson's early solo albums or his work with the Thirteen Floor Elevators, producer Will Sheff has logically built on Erickson's knack for lyrical trickery, creating a song cycle of a dozen components that interweave into a quilt, evoking the dominating themes of the artist's life and music.

*True Love Cast Out All Evil* is book ended by a pair of amateur recordings Erickson made during his lengthy stay in a mental health facility. In between it swings back and forth between themes of love, pain and loss, and the unforeseen redemption that comes via equal parts perseverance and sheer luck. And while the joy ultimately outweighs the bad, this is in no way an easy journey.

The title cut and its natural partner "Be and Bring Me Home" straddles a thin line between conquering ones demons and succumbing to them, while the gospel tinged "Ain't Blues Too Sad" finds the bitter in the sweet. On "Bring Back the Past" and "Goodbye Sweet Dreams" Erickson puts

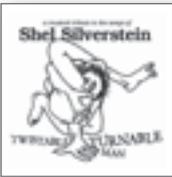
'CD's' continued on next page

# what's happening

'CD's' continued from page 14

his self examination on hold long enough to remember the sheer delight of rocking out. They're among the most exuberant songs he's ever committed to disc, the sound of a man regaining confidence in what he was born to do.

Sheff and company match this muscle with buoyancy. For his part Erickson's voice is in surprisingly great shape. After decades spent in a hellish hinterland the wonder of this album cannot be over stated. It is much more than a brilliant comeback, it is among the finest and most penetrating albums Erickson has ever laid down. \*\*\*\*1/2



**Various Artists**  
**Twistable Turnable Man: A Musical Tribute to the songs of Shel Silverstein**  
 Sugar Hill Records

The late Shel Silverstein may have been the closest to a true Renaissance man as the past century has ever seen. Silverstein was so good at so many things; cartoonist, poet, screenwriter, author, and of course song writer. Silverstein penned at least a dozen top ten hits, writing for such talents as Johnny Cash, Dr. Hook & the Medicine Show, Judy Collins, Emmylou Harris, and The Irish Rovers.

This all-star tribute to the man and his music, lovingly packaged in a classic cartoon and accented with informative liner notes, shows why his songs were so sought after by others. It ideally captures the spirit of the man as well as the child like nature of his adult often decidedly world view.

Given the household nature of these songs they're pretty hard to mess up, but most everything here works to some degree or another. No way could anyone match Johnny Cash's iconic rendering of "A Boy Named Sue," so Todd Snider doesn't even try. His full throttle hold on tight version is all his own, and a pretty fair fit at that.

My Morning Jacket turns "Lullabys, Legends, and Lies" into a 6/8 country waltz, cajoling it along nicely with pedal steel guitar and Jim James' lovely voice. Bobby Bare Sr. was the singer most closely associated with Silverstein — some of his best albums were entirely written by Shel — but it's surprising to hear how easily John Prine and Kris Kristofferson make the Bare-associated "This Guitar is for Sale" and "The Winner" sound as if they were theirs from day one.

Only the overly sweet "The Giving Tree" falls flat — Silverstein's children's songs could occasionally induce diabetic comas — but that's a fairly minor quibble among more than a few gems.

It's been more than ten years since Shel Silverstein left this world; the surfeit of books (more than 20 million sold in 20 languages) collecting his poems, stories,

## Chris Schutz & The Tourists

BY JAMES CASSARA

Singer/songwriter Chris Schutz likes to describe himself as "a Missouri boy that left the country for the big city when I was just a lad. I went searching for the man behind the curtain but instead I found the angels with dirty faces."

That rather cinematic sentence is itself a strong example of the type of no nonsense tough as nails stories Schutz tells: Characters on the outside looking in, desperate people doing what they can to stay a step ahead of heartache. Schutz spent some years playing bass in a blues band and the blues — with its reliance on storied hard times — remains a big influence. He writes about "everyday kind of folks and the trials and tribulations of my own collection of strange days."

With his band The Tourists, an ensemble that varies "from solo to six pieces," Schutz takes his stories on the road, playing each show as if it might be his last, tearing through songs of quiet desperation. Lately he's been touring as a duo or trio — with 2 guitars and a bass — a stripped down mean and lean configuration that seems to suite him best.

"When I'm not on the road I enjoy the finer things in life" he adds; Camel Lights, Maxwell House and PBS. I have a love affair with vinyl records and tape recorders; I never learned how to write in cursive and still use rabbit ears to get my three channels of TV in my little house next to the tracks. I am working on my next record here in Philly with my friend and fellow Tourist, Jay Davidson. I don't have a title yet, not since I found out "Heavy Metal Be-Bop" was already spoken for."

Now how much of this is the truth and how much is music business buildup

is hard to say. What isn't difficult to distinguish is the praise Schutz, a Kansas City native, has garnered far and wide. Savannah Now Magazine called his work "top flight indie rock" whilst others have compared his voice to Roy Orbison. Schutz recorded his debut album Gemini (Palindrome Sounds label) with few edits or enhancements beyond use of the odd synthesizer. True to his love of Radio Shack, old tube amps abound and inform the style that runs throughout the album.

Schutz and the album's collaborators preferred the sound of live recording for a more open, intimate listening experience. The result has the organic fluidity of pop music, filled with all the musical nuances of a live recording. As an independent folk/rock artist he counts the Mamas and the Papas, George Harrison and Orbison among those that have informed him stylistically. As a storyteller he likens himself to William S. Burroughs in his ability to distort, to build, and (hopefully) tell a story.

Much of the record draws on his experiences as a recovering addict, and the realizations — both light and dark — that can come through that understanding. Working with co-producer Davidson, who'd previously worked with such giants as Steve Winwood and The Rolling Stones, the arrangements were fleshed out by Davidson's own piano and saxophone on several tracks. Clearly the collaboration has been creative, and with the addition of strings and horns delivers a much larger sound than the stage allows.

While the songs on Gemini travel through many different styles and moods



they hold together nicely, anchored by Schutz's voice and skewed wordplay. Before making the album Schutz earned his stripes as a session player, seeing first hand what it takes to make a record. It's an experience that has paid off in spades. He and the band marked their first full-band tour for the group, which included Eric Hoyer on electric guitar, Stephen Hayes on bass and vocals, and Ron DiSilverstro on drums.

Welcoming them to Asheville will be local favorite Pierce Edens, known for his own ability to spell bound a crowd with hard luck stories and songs that worm their way into your head with precision and gut wrenching emotion.



Chris Schutz & the Tourists performing with Pierce Edens at The Emerald Lounge: 112 North Lexington Avenue in downtown Asheville,

Saturday, July 17 at 9 p.m. Tickets are \$5 for the 21+ show.

and drawings give solid testament to his brilliance. And while Twistable Turnable Man gives us only a glimpse of his gentle, whimsical, occasionally sardonic and almost always flat out hysterical songwriting what a delightful glimpse it is. \*\*\*\*



**Plants and Animals**  
**La La Land**  
 Secret City Records

Something has clearly infiltrated the water of Montreal or at the very least some sort of musical collective consciousness has permeated the brainwaves of that town's under thirty denizens. Considering how many world-beating indie rock bands seem to emerge from its environs one begins to speculate if there is

room for one more. Based on La La Land the answer is a resounding "you bet."

Plants and Animals latest album derives its name from what the band has described as a "vortex of confusion" but the giddy nature of this release shows how skilled they are at making something familiar seem startlingly fresh.

The influence of hanging with friends like Arcade Fire is certainly there but it is less a matter of imitation and more simply drawing from the same pool. Cuts such as the string laden "Game Shows" might conjure up a half dozen different bands but only if one doesn't bother listening below the surface. The art rock tendencies are balanced with assurance and heavy tremolo guitars, an arrangement that keeps La La Land planted firmly on solid if somewhat extra terrestrial ground. It might be other

worldly but it is refreshingly accessible and lacking in pretension.

"Fake It", with its early Pink Floyd overtones comes closest to true Prog Rock, but there also a feeling of warmth typically not associated with that genre. If there's one constant that holds the album together it is the crunching guitar work of Warren Spicer and Nicholas Basque. You get the sense that the two, along with drummer Matt Woodley, spent as much time listening to fellow Canadians Randy Bachman and Neil Young as they did Yes and ELP.

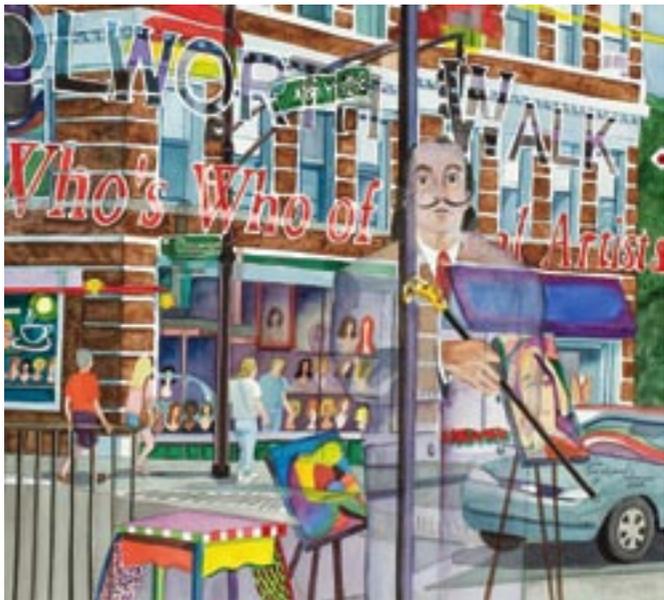
It's a decidedly odd mix, and at times not an easy one to assimilate. But there is no denying that for all its stylistic incongruence's — or perhaps because of them, La La Land is one heck of an interesting trip. \*\*\*\*

'CD's' continued on page 28

In Lisa Ringelspaugh's sparkling watercolors, Matisse, Gauguin, Dali, Chagall and others romp among Asheville's landmarks to answer this burning question.

**Opening Reception Friday, July 9th, 6:30-8:30pm**

Show open through July 24th



What Would Dali Think? (detail), watercolor, 29" x 22"



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noteworthy

## Swannanoa Shindigs

The Swannanoa Business Association hosts Swannanoa Shindigs at 6 p.m. on every first Friday through October with the next one on July 2, in Beacon Village.

The Babe Ruth Softball and Baseball League will lead bingo games, and skaters from Tarwheel Skateway will demonstrate their talents, as will many crafters. Old time music jamming areas will be available as will horse shoe, jump rope, and face painting areas.

July's First Friday Swannanoa Shindig will feature prizes for people dressed in red, white and blue! Those dressed as Ms. Liberty and Uncle Sam will be given special prizes. Patriotic songs will be featured.

Organizers are looking for donors of cakes for the cakewalk and military and



local patriotic groups to perform during the band breaks. Alcohol and pets will not be allowed. There is no vendor fee to participate, except for a small food vendor fee. Vendors should reserve space ahead of time. Sponsorships of prizes or cash or in-kind services are most welcome.

**Cole Mountain Cloggers**

Photo: Tony Martin



Swannanoa Shindigs, July 2 and August 6 at 6 p.m. in Beacon Village, off Highway 70 at Beacon Veterinary Hospital and Marty's Auto.

For more information call (828) 337-4718, or visit [www.SwannanoaShindig.com](http://www.SwannanoaShindig.com).

36th Season Sponsor  
The Layden Family Foundation

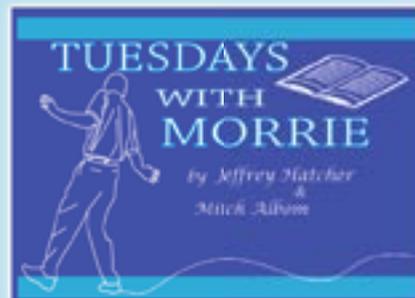


44 College St.  
Mars Hill, NC

May 27 - June 6



June 9 - 27



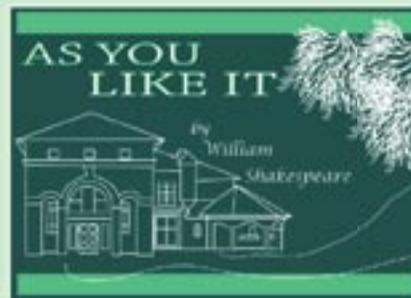
**TUESDAYS WITH MORRIE**

Produced by Beverly & Dan Lunsford  
and Gasperson Moving & Storage,  
and The Furniture Market

July 7 - 18

An old man, a young man, and life's greatest lesson. An autobiography about a career-absorbed journalist who visits his retired college professor, where they find the basic truths of living, dying and what it means to love. Based on the bestseller book/memoir by Mitch Albom. Rated PG-13.

828.689.1239



**AS YOU LIKE IT**

A Pastoral Comedy by  
William Shakespeare

July 21 - August 1

Court life, love, and other absurdities in poetry. Shakespeare's most memorable characters fuse in discord-turned-harmony in this playful story of mixed-up identities & disguises, romance & love-notes, wit & satire, slapstick and passion. "All the world's a stage, And all the men and women merely players." Rated PG.

[www.SARTplays.org](http://www.SARTplays.org)



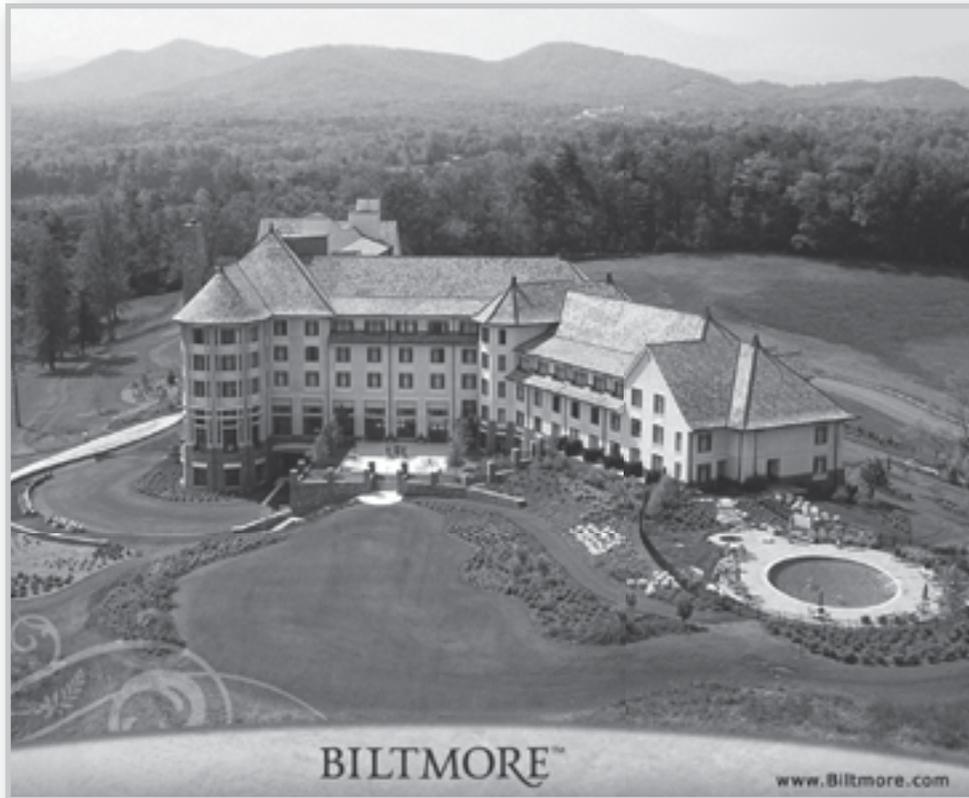
**TRADIN' PAINT**

Produced by Dr. Connie Buckner  
& Jack Davis, and Johnson,  
Price & Sprinkle Pa

August 4 - 22

A comedy about NASCAR! Caught in first gear, car parts stockwoman Darla Frye's hapless life takes a new turn mid-race when she finds new friends in pit row and has a visit from the spirit of Dale Earnhardt! This comedy about racing and romance, lug nuts and life, will thrill even those who don't know how to change a tire. Rated PG-13.

# explore biltmore village



Spark your imagination with new stories and new tours that bring America's largest home to life. Discover fun at our new Antler Hill Village—more places to play, explore, and enjoy than ever, all included in your estate admission.

Imagine what it was like to call Biltmore home with our new house visit offering fascinating stories, vintage clothing, and more for a fresh look at the people who lived and worked in this wondrous place.

Biltmore offers something for every interest: free wine tastings, farmyard fun, a new theater and exhibition hall, live music, a new Outdoor Adventure Center, delicious dining, great shopping and much more.

## Antler Hill Village

Discover our new village that connects the estate's present and past, providing a relaxing place for dining, shopping, historical exhibits, and new ways to experience Biltmore's hospitality.

The village is a casual place extending the Biltmore experience, from our fun and relaxing Winery to exhibits at The Biltmore Legacy to delectable pub fare and ale at Cedric's Tavern. You can also enjoy live entertainment on the Village Green, explore farm life in the early 1900s at our Farm, and get ready to explore our 8,000-acre backyard at the Outdoor Adventure Center.

See Edith Vanderbilt's Car on display for the first time ever. Mrs. Vanderbilt's 1913 Stevens-Duryea Model C-Six will be on exhibit in the Winery. This rare piece is the only car George Vanderbilt purchased that remains in the estate's collection.

The village's name comes from Antler Hill, the "fine high ridge" where the Inn on Biltmore Estate is located. From the Civil War into the 1930s, the ridge was the site of Antler Hall, a residence and social center for many estate families. A visit to Antler Hill Village is included in estate admission.

## Play in Our 8,000 Acre Backyard

Stop by our Outdoor Adventure Center in Antler Hill Village to explore the many different outdoor activities we offer. You can book a lesson on a Segway or in a Land Rover, rent a bike, schedule a horseback or carriage ride, or simply take a relaxed look at all your outdoor options.

In this one-stop shop, you also pick up nearly all the equipment you need right outside. Everyone in the family can have fun doing off-road driving, fishing, or biking, and our equipment accommodates young children to grandparents.

Bring your own horse and explore more than 80 miles of estate trails—the same paths used by the Vanderbilts and their guests at the turn of the century.

## THOUSANDS OF PRICELESS WORKS OF ART UNDER ONE ROOF

- Renoir paintings
- A chess set once owned by Napoleon Bonaparte
- 16th century Flemish tapestries
- The "Chariot of Aurora" ceiling painting
- John Singer Sargent portraits
- Ming Dynasty (circa 1500s) goldfish bowls

## Make More Lasting Memories - Summer at Biltmore

### Save Up to \$10 Online

Buy tickets online and save \$10 off regular adult daytime admission on Sunday–Friday visits. Save \$5 on all other days this summer.

### Kids Admitted Free through Labor Day

From now through September 6, 2010 you can bring the whole family for less. Youth 16 and under are admitted free with a paying adult.

### Restaurants

**Bistro:** Fresh local ingredients expertly prepared and served with style. Featuring wood-fired pizzas, sandwiches, and bistro classics at lunch with impeccable seafood, steaks, and lamb for dinner.

**Cedric's Tavern:** Satisfying pub fare alongside robustly flavored American and global cuisine presented with Biltmore flair. Open daily for lunch, dinner, and late night entertainment.

**Arbor Grill:** Al fresco dining at this casual spot combining delicious food, wine, and the estate's natural beauty. Open daily for lunch and dinner, weather permitting.

### Light Bites

**Creamery:** ice cream, gourmet coffee, cupcakes, desserts, and drinks in the Village

**Smokehouse:** Carolina barbeque, quick sandwiches, and light snacks at the Farm

**Wine Bar:** Biltmore wines accompanied with light fare at the Winery

### Specialty Winery Experiences

- \* Behind-the-Scenes Guided Walking Tour
- \* Red Wine & Chocolate
- \* Signature Tasting

### Biltmore's Outdoor Adventure Center

- \* Biking
- \* Carriage Rides
- \* Fly-fishing School
- \* Guided Segway Tours
- \* Guided Horseback Trail Rides
- \* Land Rover Experience Driving School
- \* Land Rover Ride-Along Expedition
- \* Kids' Land Rover Adventure Course
- \* River Float Trips
- \* Sporting Clays School



Estate outdoor activities are available by reservation to estate daytime guests, Biltmore 12-Month Passholders, and Inn on Biltmore Estate guests.

Call 1-800-411-3812 for more information, or visit [www.biltmore.com](http://www.biltmore.com).

### LIVE SUMMER CONCERTS

Join us for unforgettable performances sponsored by SunTrust, including our new Diana at Biltmore stage overlooking Biltmore House and the blue ridge mountains.

**July 16-18 - Faith Renewed Celebration:** Christian concert weekend at Biltmore.

**July 16 - Brandon Heath** – at Diana at Biltmore.

**July 17 - Gaither Vocal Band** – on the South Terrace.

**July 18 - Sunday Worship** with Gloria Gaither at Diana at Biltmore.

**July 22 - An Evening with Mary Chapin Carpenter** – on the South Terrace. Over the course of a 12-album recording career, Carpenter has won five Grammy® Awards and sold over 13 million records. Carpenter will celebrate her return to a favorite venue with music from her latest album, *The Age of Miracles*, which was released this spring.

**July 23 - Clay Aiken and Ruben Studdard** – on the South Terrace. After much anticipation, Clay Aiken and Ruben Studdard kick off their North America tour at Biltmore. Concert goers can expect an entertaining evening as two friends and colleagues blend their talents for an unforgettable show. Clay and Ruben will be performing their renditions of classic hits from the past five decades. In 2003, on the second season of American Idol, with over 24 million votes cast by the TV viewing audience, Ruben Studdard won the title, while Clay Aiken was the very close runner up.

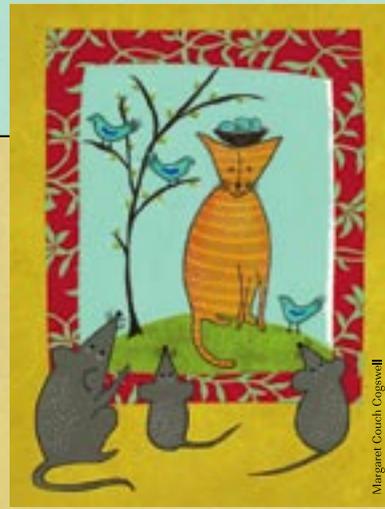
**July 29 - An Evening with the Steve Miller Band** – on the South Terrace. Get ready to rock with classic tunes including "The Joker" and "Fly Like An Eagle" as this celebrated band from the golden age of rock fires up on the South Terrace.

**July 30 - The Legendary Temptations** – on the South Terrace. Still smooth stepping and styling, one of Motown's original supergroups continues to satisfy after 40 years with soulful hits such as "My Girl," "Papa Was a Rolling Stone," and "Stay."

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## THE 38TH ANNUAL Village Art & Craft Fair



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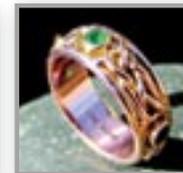
ASHEVILLE, NC 2010 BILTMORE VILLAGE

## biltmore village

### Tie The Knot!

Celtic knots have been around since the 3rd or 4th century and have been seen in the artwork of the later Roman Empire. Each one represents a different aspect of life: fertility, love, faith and even farming.

Some knots are quite simple but others are very complicated. The Celts perfected spirals, step patterns and key patterns in their motifs before the Christian influence in about 450 AD changed this. From then on this Celtic form of art was used by early Christians to decorate their manuscripts, adding depictions from life such as animals and plants. These early patterns were called plaits and it is these intricately interwoven cords that are most commonly associated with the Celts.



continuous braids as seen on the chalice, and the second was more decorative with domed circles, initials or symbols in between the knots. These knots have been incorporated into all kinds of artwork for centuries; everything from the embroidery at the hem of a garment to the major feature in a piece of jewelry and the many other manifestations we see commonly today.

To this day many jewelers of handmade pieces sell a type of Celtic love knot ring because it is so symbolic of the everlasting love of the couple. Almost all are carved to look like they are an actual weaving of two strands.



But every once in a while you can find a craftsman who actually braids the knots by hand, such as one goldsmith, creating art rings in Biltmore Village.

Lynn Daniel, at blue,

has been making Celtic love knot rings for many years. She became fascinated with their intricate nature and their history and set out to learn how to actually braid them into the rings she was making. The very first braid going around a ring took her 47 hours to perfect (she started watching the time when she realized it wasn't going to happen very quickly!), but now jokes that she is a little faster doing it!

Lynn says the symbolism for people is powerful. She always tells them where the expression "tie the knot" came from, and that this particular knot that she braids stands for everlasting love.

These rings are not only beautiful to look at, but they serve to commemorate a significant day in a couple's life. They are also a wonderful idea for a mother's ring as Lynn often puts stones in between the braids. The stones could go around the ring; and those stones could be the birthstones of the children, thus making a beautiful mother's ring.

It is also quite stunning to incorporate more than one color of 14k gold in the piece, maybe by making the base of the piece white gold while making the individual braids in another color. Lynn says her favorite combination right now is a 14k white gold ring with 14k rose gold braids.

These Celtic love knot rings can be seen at blue, 1 Swan Street, in Historic Biltmore Village. Lynn will be happy to help you design the Celtic ring that has great meaning for you. Hours: Monday through Saturday, 10:30 to 6 p.m. and Sundays 12 to 4 p.m. Visit [www.bluegoldsmiths.com](http://www.bluegoldsmiths.com)

Historic Dining at the Train Depot in Asheville's Biltmore Village



**30 Lodge Street • Biltmore Village**  
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## THE VILLAGE ART & CRAFT FAIR

Photos courtesy Mediabear / Byron Belzak



# explore biltmore village

## 38th Annual Village Art and Craft Fair

On August 7 and 8 New Morning Gallery and Bellagio sponsor the Village Art and Craft Fair on the grounds of the Cathedral of all Souls in Biltmore Village. In its 38th year, the VACF continues a long tradition of bringing high-quality crafts to Biltmore Village.

The fair hosts 118 artists from 17 states, representing the full spectrum of craft media - jewelry, ceramic, wood, fiber, metals, two-dimensional art and more. The craft fair is a great opportunity to encounter new artists (34 are first-time exhibitors) and to talk with crafters one-on-one. Most exhibitors are not represented at New Morning Gallery, so visitors are sure to find new treasures along with a few old favorites.

Over the years, our reputation as one of the finest craft fairs in the area has spread (along with the ubiquitous cat posters and T-shirts). Thousands of shoppers from

all over the southeast arrive to stroll through the fair, discovering unique gifts for friends, family and themselves!

This year's poster was designed by NC artist Margaret Couch Cogswell. Margaret started making calendars for friends as Christmas presents ten years ago. Now, together with her graphic designer sister, Margaret has a thriving business, Two Sisters Designs, producing stationary, t-shirts, calendars, etc. all featuring her whimsical and colorful drawings. Margaret also assembles clever mixed media sculptures. She comments "I love to work with found objects - from tin cans, fabric and book materials - to create work that celebrates the simple moments in life."



Photo courtesy Mediabear / Byron Belzak

BY SHARI RIENDEAU

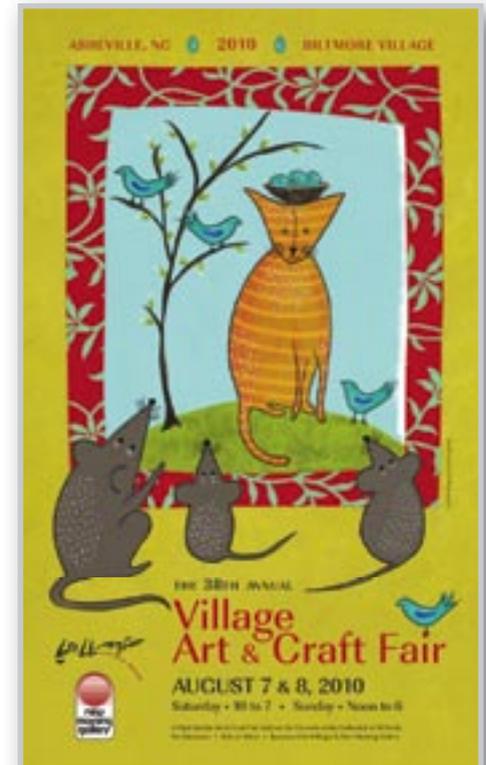
Fair hours are Saturday 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Sunday noon to 6 p.m., rain or shine. There is no admission fee. Homemade refreshments are available at church sponsored concession booths with

proceeds benefiting the Cathedral's Outreach program.



*38th Annual Village Art and Craft Fair. This high quality craft fair, sponsored by New Morning Gallery and Bellagio, takes place August 7 and 8 on the grounds of the Cathedral of All Souls in Historic Biltmore Village.*

*Fair hours are Saturday 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Sunday noon to 6 p.m., rain or shine. Free admission. Concessions available. For more information call (828) 274-2831.*



This year's poster was designed by NC artist Margaret Couch Cogswell.

## The Historic Village Wayside Bar and Grille

Located in historic Biltmore Village in the original 1896 train depot is the newly renovated Village Wayside Bar & Grille. We offer new twists on the classics we all know and love. Owners, Mark and Polly dreamed of their menu while waiting on the perfect location, incorporating the Midwestern and southern influences they grew up eating.

### A bit of History about the Biltmore Village Train Depot

Designed by Richard Morris Hunt, the building has a central porte cochere, low-hipped roof, wide overhanging eaves and heavy, chamfered brackets which distinguish the exterior. The depot, along with Hunt's other designs in Biltmore Village, stands in striking contrast to Hunt's more monumental efforts, such as the Biltmore Estate.

The arrangement of the interior is typical of small railway stations of the period. Double waiting rooms are separated by a center ticket office and vestibule. The depot's placement is directly in the line of sight of All Souls Church, so passengers arriving by train had an impressive view of the church. This central axis was the focus for Biltmore Village. Passenger service on the impressive Southern Railway line continued to arrive in Biltmore Village until August 1975.

Today, the building serves visitors as a historic restaurant and lounge.



Try the turkey Reuben, slow roasted and brined in house with a sweet peach hibiscus tea brine, or Mark's favorite, the beef brisket, smoked in house and smothered in homemade Cheerwine BBQ sauce served with hand dipped local Kolsch beer battered onion rings. Craving something more substantial? Check out Potsy's Pigs, Hungarian style cabbage rolls, or fillet tips over a bed of house made hummus.

The Village Wayside serves lunch and dinner all day long with something for everyone!

### The Village Wayside Bar & Grille

30 Lodge Street, Biltmore Village  
Asheville, NC 28803

(828) 277-4121

www.villagewayside.com

Hours: Monday-Thursday 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Friday-Saturday 11 a.m. until late

Sunday from noon to 9 p.m.



# explore asheville

## The Colburn Earth Science Museum

The Colburn Earth Science Museum is the legacy of engineer and bank president Burnham Standish Colburn, who retired in the 1920s to Biltmore Forest near Asheville.

Colburn moved to the area to be close to Western North Carolina's rich mineral fields and the diverse specimens they held.

In 1931, Burnham S. Colburn and his brother, William B. Colburn, helped found the Southern Appalachian Mineral Society. The club continues today to hold monthly meetings, regular field trips and other educational and social activities.

During his lifetime, Burnham S. Colburn amassed a significant collection of North Carolina minerals, including the world's largest collection of hiddenite, a rare variety of the mineral spodumene discovered in Alexander County, North Carolina in 1879.

After Burnham S. Colburn died in 1959, the Colburn family shared many of Colburn's specimens with S.A.M.S. so they could be displayed to the public. Specimens from Colburn's collection are also at The British Museum, the Cranbrook Institute of Science, the McKissick Museum and the Smithsonian Institution.

S.A.M.S. members added items from their own collections and, in July 1960, they opened the Burnham S. Colburn Memorial Museum on Coxe Avenue in Asheville.

In 1972, the museum relocated to the lower level of the Asheville Civic Center. The museum's collections continued to grow, and in 1982, the museum became an independent nonprofit and changed its name to the Colburn Gem and Mineral Museum.

Since July 1992, the museum has served the community from its home in the multi-museum Pack Place Education, Arts and Science Center in downtown Asheville. The museum changed its name to the Colburn Earth Science Museum in 2002 to reflect the museum's broadening mission and Earth science-related exhibits, events and hands-on classes taught to thousands of children each year.

The Colburn Earth Science Museum's mission is to foster an appreciation for the Earth and its resources and environments through exhibits, educational programs and the care of its collection. The Colburn achieves its mission by creating experiences that educate and inspire our diverse community about the wonders of Earth science. The Colburn Earth Science Museum is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that depends

BY KATHLEEN O. DAVIS

on donations, memberships and grants to achieve its mission.

The Colburn is on the lower level of the Pack Place Education, Arts & Science Center on historic Pack Square at Biltmore and Patton avenues in downtown Asheville. The museum's Hall of Minerals, which features many items from the museum's collection of more than 4,500 specimens from around the world, including examples of the more than 350 minerals found in North Carolina such as kyanite, quartz, corundum, beryl, mica, feldspar

and itacolumite, the bending rock.

The Grove Stone Room's displays highlight the geology of North Carolina and the entire Earth. The exhibits cover volcanoes, earthquakes, plate tectonics and general geologic processes, including those that formed the mountains of Western North Carolina.

The museum's History of Mining in North Carolina exhibit chronicles mining activity in North Carolina, including the activities of prehistoric Native Americans, Spanish explorers and 20th-century Western North Carolinians. Displays showcase North Carolina's role as the first major producer of gold in the United States, commercial mining in the state and the variety of gemstones found in North Carolina.

The exhibit also has a replica of a gem mine, complete with a pretend dynamite charge and gem pockets.

The Colburn's Gem Collection includes more than 1,000 cut gemstones from around the world, including specimens from North Carolina. Garnet, Morganite, diamond, emerald, ruby, sapphire, hiddenite, stibiotantalite, tourmaline and topaz are just some of the breathtaking gemstones on display.

Visitors explore meteorology and climatology through the museum's Weather,

Climate and You exhibit. Major weather events and weather patterns in Western North Carolina and the Southeastern United States are showcased and patrons can practice giving a weather report "on TV".

The Colburn is seeking funding from donors to create a permanent paleontology exhibit. Currently, the museum has on display a handful of fossils from the museum's collection of more than 500 fossil specimens. These include teeth from a mastodon and a woolly mammoth, a large trilobite and a glossopteris fern fossil.

The Colburn also has a temporary display on loan from the Gray Fossil Site in Tennessee where fossils from 5 million years ago were discovered in 2000 by Tennessee Dept. of Transportation crews. The Gray Fossil Site display includes fossil casts of parts of a "pot-bellied" rhinoceros, tapir, alligator, turtle and sloth and information panels about the site.

The Colburn is the storehouse of more than 500 volumes, publications and manuscripts, including numerous publications



Campers leaving Colburn with space helmets.

from the North Carolina Geologic Survey and rare books from the early part of the 20th century.

The Colburn's signature annual event is Gem Fest, a free, three-day gem and mineral show each Father's Day weekend. Gem Fest is a fundraiser and a community celebration of the museum and Earth science, particularly mineralogy, gemology and paleontology.

The Colburn also partners with the Asheville chapter of the American Meteoro-

logical Society on a series of free scientific educational talks about climate change. The Colburn is open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday, and 1 to 5 p.m. on Sunday.

The Colburn will also have an informational booth at Bele Chere where the museum will also be selling geodes to crack and other goodies from the Crystal Pocket gift shop.

Affordable, fun educational items, including mineral specimens, books and jewelry, are for sale at the Colburn's Crystal Pocket gift shop. The Colburn also sells crystal-filled, 44-million-year-old geodes from Chihuahua, Mexico, which the Colburn team can crack in half for you during your visit.

The Colburn is a member of the Association of Science-Technology Centers and participates in the ASTC Passport Program. The Colburn offers annual memberships, which include free admission to the museum and discounts on programs.

The Colburn facilitates more than 10,000 educational experiences a year. Last year alone, Colburn educators taught hands-on, interactive Earth and physical science classes to more than 7,700 school children from public, private and home schools from 14 counties in North Carolina, as well as students from Tennessee and South Carolina. In addition to classes, the Colburn has after-school clubs — Junior Rockhounds and Science Sisters — summer day camps. Spaces are available in all of our upcoming summer day camps except the "Junior Rockhounds" camp.



Admission: \$6 for adults 18-59, \$5 for students, children 4-17, and adults 60 and older. Free for children under 4.

Visit [www.colburnmuseum.org](http://www.colburnmuseum.org), or call (828) 254-7162 for more information. Follow the Colburn on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/Colburn](http://www.facebook.com/Colburn). Museum and on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/colburnmuseum](http://www.twitter.com/colburnmuseum).

## 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.



Illustration of Michelle & Chip by Brent Brown.

**BRENT BROWN** is a graphic designer and illustrator. View more of his work at [www.brentbrown.com](http://www.brentbrown.com).



- Fantastic
- Pretty darn good
- Has some good points
- The previews lied
- Only if you must
- Forget entirely

For the latest **REVIEWS, THEATER INFO** and **MOVIE SHOW TIMES**, visit [www.rapidrivermagazine.com](http://www.rapidrivermagazine.com)

### Questions/Comments?

You can email Chip or Michelle at [reeltakes@hotmail.com](mailto:reeltakes@hotmail.com)

## The A-Team

**Short Take: A 21st Century big-screen, big-budget adaptation of the 1980's television show.**

**REEL TAKE:** If you have little to no familiarity or affection for the 1980's television show *The A-Team*, you should pretty much pass on the new film based on the series. If, on the other hand, you are familiar with said vintage prime time fare you'll probably enjoy the heck out of this 21st century, big screen, big budget adaptation. The A-Team movie is exactly what it's supposed to be, nothing more, nothing less.

*The A-Team* television series featured George Peppard as the ring leader of an outlaw, do-gooding band of soldiers who pulled off risky jobs that 'couldn't be done.' The series made Mr. T a household name and kept the whole gang in high cotton throughout the early and mid 80's. This go-round, the brains of the unit, Col. Hannibal Smith, is played by Liam Neeson. The 'Face' and con man of the unit is played by Bradley Cooper, and relative new comers Sharlto Copley and Quinton 'Rampage' Jackson round out the team as 'Mad dog' Murdock, the pilot and B.A. Baracus, the brawn.

The chemistry in the original was part of the fun and it is in this go 'round too. They play to great strength as an ensemble. Individually, three out of the four do a spot-on job inhabiting these familiar characters, but giving them new life. Surprisingly Liam Neeson is the only one that just didn't quite own the smoothness of Peppard's Col. Smith. He's completely likeable, but there's a certain something missing. However, considering he was working just after a great personal tragedy, he does an amazingly good job, and he is solid as the ringleader for the gang.

Director Joe Carnahan (*Smokin' Aces*) is the ideal person for the job. Having grown up with the television show he sets the film up as nice homage and as good entrée into the new generation. From there he's it's all out over-the-top action and silliness. It has been criticized for this by some film reviewers. News-



**Bradley Cooper, Sharlto Copley, Liam Neeson, and Quinton 'Rampage' Jackson in the big screen adaptation of the 1980's hit show *The A-Team*.**

flash folks – it's *supposed* to be an action flick and a comedy. Is it over the top? Yes. Does it get a little too convoluted for its own good? Yes. More importantly, it's a ridiculously fun thrill ride. In sum, it's a popcorn movie that's pure entertainment. For my money, "I love it when a plan comes together." p.s. stay 'till the very end of the closing credits.

**Rated PG-13 for intense sequences of action and violence throughout, language and smoking.**

**REVIEW BY MICHELLE KEENAN**

## Get Him to the Greek

**Short Take: A hapless record label employee is given the responsibility of retrieving an out-of-control rock-n-roll star and getting him back to the Greek Theatre in Los Angeles in time for his big come-back concert.**

**REEL TAKE:** While they're not exactly Hope & Crosby, Jonah Hill and Russell Brand may be the new poster boys for the buddy picture. Jonah Hill is Aaron Green, a hapless record label account rep. Brand



**Jonah Hill and Russell Brand give new definition to the 'buddy picture' *Get Him to the Greek* (and who knew P. Diddy was funny?)**

reprises the role that brought him notoriety in the states, that of Aldous Snow, the over-sexed, larger-than-life British rock star from *Forgetting Sarah Marshall*. *Get Him to the Greek* is not a sequel, but rather a new story about the funniest character in the previous film. In fact there is only the briefest of references to FSM and it's in classic Aldus Snow style.

But I digress; said mild-as-milk toast schlep must get said over-the-top rock star to his big come-back concert on time. Strangely enough P. Diddy plays the record-label executive who has charged our young hero with said task. This is obviously easier said than done, and the results are a madcap 21st century, twenty-something, laugh out loud comedy. The problem though is that, in keeping with many movies of the 21st century so far, it has little staying power.

It's not that it's not funny – it is. It's actually quite a funny movie and a notch up from the film's [sort of] prequel. Writer/Director Jason Stoller, who actually did direct *Forgetting Sarah Marshall* worked with some of the characters invented by Jason Segel (also from *FSMI*), but took this story to slightly darker level than Segel and other con-

temporaries (think Judd Apatow) do. Unfortunately there are a few too many puke scenes and the like, but when they break free of the juvenile bits, it's really quite good. Hill and Brand have great chemistry, and who knew Diddy was funny?

The best part is, regardless of rock star or schlep, Stoller isn't afraid to show the vulnerable sides of both of his main characters. He also imbues an otherwise tasteless comedy with heart. All

of this works together to create likeable characters and an amiable story.

You know if you're a candidate for this kind of comedy or not. If you are, you'll enjoy it. If not, spare the rest of us the snobby diatribe and go see something else.

**Rated R for strong sexual content and drug use throughout, and pervasive language.**

**REVIEW BY MICHELLE KEENAN**



**Josh Brolin as the disfigured bounty hunter seeking revenge in *Jonah Hex*.**

## Jonah Hex

**Short Take: There's no way this train wreck of a movie should be so entertaining, but it is.**

**REEL TAKE:** Everything you've heard about *Jonah Hex* is true. The story lacks any sense of coherency, the editing is drastic, the continuity is shaky at best, and Megan Fox's role could just as easily have

been played by a dog (or a cat). However that doesn't keep it from being one of the more purely enjoyable movies that the summer has had to offer so far.

The primary reason for this falls to Josh Brolin and John Malkovich. They know their dialogue is just plain ridiculous yet they mouth it with just the right amount of mock seriousness to make it fun to listen to. While watching this I couldn't help but think of *The Wild, Wild West*, the TV show not the Will Smith - Selma Hayek fiasco of a few years ago. We have a super villain (Malkovich) who plans to blow up Washington D.C. with a new secret weapon. President Ulysses S. Grant (the movie is set in 1876) turns to the only person who can stop him, a facially scarred bounty hunter who can talk to the dead.

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# film reviews

'Movies' continued from page 23

*Jonah Hex* is based on a lesser known DC comic book figure from the 1970s. I had never heard of the character before this movie came out but he apparently has his admirers. They were not happy with this film at all, giving it a less than 20% rating on Rotten Tomatoes. Lighten up I say. Just because it isn't good doesn't mean that it isn't fun. Unfortunately by the time you read this, *Jonah Hex* will be long gone having been one of the biggest box office bombs of the year.

From what I've read about the film's convoluted history, it seems that they shot the film in April 2009. The preview audience and the fanboys didn't like it. (too humorous and not dark enough). The executives panicked as Hollywood executives are wont to do and ordered extensive reshoots in January 2010 to add the missing elements. As often happens in cases like this the new, improved version fared even worse with preview audiences but by this time it was too late. So after showing trailers geared to Megan Fox's fanbase they released the film and it died a very quick death. I'm reminded of how Warner Brothers did much the same thing with their big budget adaptation of *The Avengers* back in 1998 when they cut almost an hour out the film and then threw it into theaters.

## Theatre Directory

### Asheville Pizza & Brewing Company

Movieline (828) 254-1281  
www.ashevillepizza.com

### Beaucatcher Cinemas (Asheville)

Movieline (828) 298-1234

### Biltmore Grande

1-800-FANDANGO #4010  
www.REGmovies.com

### Carmike 10 (Asheville)

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

### Carolina Cinemas

(828) 274-9500  
www.carolinacinemas.com

### Cinebarre (Asheville)

www.cinebarre.com

### The Falls Theatre (Brevard)

Movieline (828) 883-2200

### Fine Arts Theatre (Asheville)

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

### 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

## Prince of Persia: The Sands of Time

Akin to *Hitman* and *Lara Croft: Tomb Raider*, *Prince of Persia* is yet another movie that is based on a video game. It tells the story of Prince Dastan (Jake Gyllenhaal), a boy off the streets of Persia, who is chosen by the king to join the royal family and his discovery of a magic dagger which enables the user to turn back time. When Dastan is accused of a crime he did not commit, he becomes a fugitive and must find out who is causing trouble in the



Prince Dastan (Jake Gyllenhaal) must recover a magic dagger in order to save the world in *Prince of Persia: The Sands of Time*.

kingdom. With the help of the dagger and Princess Tamina (Gemma Arterton), he sets out to clear his name and inadvertently save the world.

For a film that is based on a video game, I thought that

*Prince of Persia* was surprisingly good. It keeps the viewer's attention and is able to form a fairly complex plot. The dialogue is not as good as it could be, and the chemistry between Tamina and Dastan leaves something to be desired, but the action and the whodunit aspect of the movie is enough to keep one

## TEEN REVIEW

by Clara Sofia



entertained. The instances when they use the dagger to go back in time are fun to watch, and

I found myself genuinely curious to find out who was the traitor in the kingdom.

I recommend this film to anyone who is looking for a good summer action-adventure movie. The use of parkour, a French type of martial arts, is interesting to see and makes some of the action sequences unique. However, *Prince of Persia* is not an especially memorable movie, and while one probably cannot gather anything meaningful from it, it is a fun journey to go on and worth seeing once.

*Rated PG-13 for intense sequences of violence and action.*

I'm sure there was a much better film here than the one that Warners released but it really doesn't matter. At 77 minutes the film doesn't outstay its welcome and if you look at it as a throwback to the old Saturday matinees where the purpose was simply to entertain you than the film works quite well on that level. Too bad it cost so much to make.

*Rated PG-13 for sequences of violence, action and some sexuality.*

REVIEW BY CHIP KAUFMANN

## The Karate Kid

**Short Take: A little overlong but better than the original with great performances from Jackie Chan and Jaden Smith.**

**REEL TAKE:** In this climate of the perpetual remake, it's nice to see one that justifies remaking the original by being better without totally dismissing the first film. That's the case with this redux of the beloved 1984 original. Norwegian director Harald Zwart (*Agent Cody Banks*) is finally given a film that gives him the opportunity to do something more than paint by the numbers and he makes the most of it. I now wholeheartedly forgive him for *Pink Panther 2*, one of the worst sequels ever.

Zwart and screenwriter Christopher Murphey expand the scope of the first film by moving the action to China which allows for the action to be a reflection of the differences between Western and Eastern culture. This helps to

increase the alienation that the kid, Dre Parker (Jaden Smith), feels. He is truly a stranger in a strange land who has to learn to make the effort to adapt to his new surroundings. This time there's a lot more than bullies that he must learn to overcome.

The role of the mother (Taraji P. Henson) is expanded and the relationship between her and her son is more developed than the first time around.



Jackie Chan teaches Jaden Smith martial arts in the remake of *The Karate Kid*.

Mr Miagi has become Mr Han (Jackie Chan) who also has a family secret which is discovered in a marvelous scene that is powerfully emotional without being overdone. Here Chan gets a chance to play a rare dramatic scene and he takes to it like a duck to water. Jaden Smith continues to develop the promise he showed in *The Pursuit of Happyness*. Someday Will Smith will be his father instead of

him being Will Smith's son.

In case you're unfamiliar with the original story, it's a very simple one. Kid gets bullied, kid learns to fight back by learning self defense from an unlikely source. Kid takes part in martial arts tournament and... learns a few life lessons along the way. Throw in the Chinese and American outlooks and what each one has to offer and you have the blueprint for a winner that goes beyond the scope of the original.

Photographed on location in China, the film works just as well as a travelogue, taking us to the Great Wall and into the Forbidden City in Beijing as well as the less exotic parts of the city. It is a beautiful film to look at along with a typically effective, emotional score from James Horner that knows what buttons to push and when.

The one drawback for me is that at 140 minutes the film is simply too long although the audience I was with didn't seem to mind it at all. Two hours max would have been fine but it's a small quibble. Is *The Karate Kid* manipulative? Of course it is, that's the whole point of the story and this type of entertainment. There's nothing wrong with manipulation when it's done this well. As for the fact that he's learning kung-fu and not karate, give me a break!

*Rated PG-13 for bullying, martial arts action, and mild language.*

REVIEW BY CHIP KAUFMANN

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## film reviews

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Cameron Diaz and Tom Cruise relax for a moment in *Knight and Day*.**Knight and Day** ■■■■

**Short Take:** Ideal Summer movie is perfect for everyone with Tom Cruise and Cameron Diaz having entirely too much fun.

**REEL TAKE:** If there is any justice left then *Knight and Day* will be a big success and Tom Cruise can get back to the business of being a movie star for at this point in his career, he needs a hit if he is to remain viable as a bankable commodity at the box office. I have never been a big fan of his although I have enjoyed some of his movies. On the other hand his Oprah antics have never troubled me in the least and they certainly haven't stopped me from seeing any of his movies as it apparently has with a lot of people.

Cameron Diaz could use a big hit as well for not only have her recent movies underperformed but as an American actress and box office attraction she is nearing the dread age of 40 (she's 37). Will she be the next Susan Sarandon or the next Michelle Pfeiffer? Only time will tell. While we ponder the insignificance of such a question, it's time to move on to more pertinent matters like "How is the movie?"

Very well, thank you very much. In fact I was pleasantly surprised at how good it actually was considering most of the negative reviews it has been receiving. This is *Mission Impossible* (all three of them) with a sense of humor. It harks back to such 1960s offerings as *Charade* with Cary Grant and Audrey Hepburn or *Caprice* with Richard Harris and Doris Day only made louder for 21<sup>st</sup> century audiences with a few too many explosions. Of more recent vintage you can add *Bird on a Wire* with Mel Gibson and Goldie Hawn.

The story of two people on the run from the authorities who eventually fall in love is a tried and true formula that dates back to Alfred Hitchcock and *The 39 Steps* in 1935. As with all the movies I have mentioned, there is a successful chemistry between the stars which is absolutely

essential if you're going to pull off a film of this genre. Let it suffice to say that Tom and Cameron do have the chemistry and they are having absolutely too much fun which means that the audience is involved and having fun too.

The other key ingredient necessary to making a film like this work is that it needs a strong supporting cast. Viola Davis, Paul Dano, Jordi Molla, and especially Peter Sarsgaard as the principal villain do very well with their respective parts although Davis' is somewhat underwritten. No matter. Throw in exciting camerawork, seamless CGI, and an effective soundtrack and you have a real winner on your hands. A great movie, no but a very good one and one that will continue to entertain for many years to come.

*Rated PG-13 for sequences of action violence and brief strong language.*

REVIEW BY CHIP KAUFMANN

**The Secret in Their Eyes**

■■■■ 1/2

**Short Take:** The well deserving winner of Best Foreign Film at the Oscars this year, *The Secret in Their Eyes* is a captivating suspense drama which is not only deftly crafted but good entertainment too.

Soledad Villamil and Ricard Darin star in the very worthy Oscar winner *The Secret in Their Eyes*.

**REEL TAKE:** I really, *really* hope that the Argentinean film *The Secret in Their Eyes* is still playing at the Fine Arts Theatre in downtown Asheville (or elsewhere in the vicinity) by the time this issue goes to print. If it is, be sure to see it. In spite of subtitles, this film is not just for the art-house crowd. Its broad audience appeal is part of what makes *The Secret in Their Eyes* such a captivating film.

When this little gem took home the Oscar for Best Foreign Film earlier this year, there was some dismay and discussion that it should have gone to *The White Ribbon*. For my money the better film won. *The Secret in Their Eyes* is a deftly crafted, tight suspense drama that never misses a beat, is also a great piece of entertainment.

Benjamin Esposito (Ricardo Darin) is a recently retired lawyer who decides

## Asheville Film Society

Well it's official. As of May 25, 2010 the Asheville Film Society is up and running, which is a good thing with the recent announcement that the Asheville Film Festival will no longer be funded by the city and is going on hiatus for this year.

Every Tuesday evening at 8 the AFS will screen a wide variety of films in the upstairs cinema lounge at the Carolina Cinemas on Hendersonville Road. Movies shown in June included *Blood Simple*, *Rushmore*, *The Life and Times of Harvey Milk*, *Twentieth Century* and Francis Ford Coppola's most recent offering *Tetro*. All movies are free and open to the public, but AFS members get certain bonuses.

If you're interested in learning more about the society and its aims, or would like to see the schedule for upcoming films, go to their website, [www.ashevillefilm.org](http://www.ashevillefilm.org), and check it out. A yearly membership, which can be obtained at

AFS screenings, costs only \$10 and entitles you to certain benefits such as ticket discounts, special screenings, and free refills on popcorn.



## FILM SCHEDULE FOR JULY

July 6: David Lynch's *Blue Velvet*.July 13: Tarsem Singh's *The Fall*.July 20: Richard Lester's second Beatles film *Help!*July 27: the 1934 version of *Imitation of Life* with Claudette Colbert.

**IF YOU GO** Asheville Film Society Screenings, Tuesday evenings at 8 p.m. All movies are free and open to the public and take place in the Upstairs Cinema Lounge at Carolina Cinemas, 1640 Hendersonville Road, in Asheville.

to write a novel based on a case that's haunted him for 25 years. His involvement in the case of a brutally raped and murdered woman, her bereaved husband, the disturbingly odd culprit, the politics of the judicial system and a beautiful young attorney have ever altered his life. It's as if by penning the book he will be granted relief and maybe even resolution. The story unfolds elegantly between present day and 1974.

The cast, direction and photography all work together as an ensemble. It is the strength of this ensemble that draws the viewer in and envelopes you in the story. I was particularly drawn in by the merits of Darin. He possesses a quality of empathy, likeability and a certain 'je ne sais quoi' that make him a very engaging presence. I don't believe I've ever seen this actor before, but he seemed so familiar, like an old friend.

I saw a screener of this film under less than ideal conditions. If this movie could make such an impression on me, given the circumstances, then it really is something worthwhile. Imagine what how much you will enjoy it (I hope) on the big screen. This is the first film I've seen in a long time that is not disposable the minute you finish watching it. Find out what *The Secret in Their Eyes* is. You won't be sorry.

*Rated R for a rape scene, violent images, some graphic nudity and language.*

REVIEW BY MICHELLE KEENAN

**The Secret of Kells** ■■■■

**Short Take:** Intriguing animated film concerning the creation of the Medieval *Book of Kells* is a refreshing change of pace from today's standard in-your-face animated features.

**REEL TAKE:** Remember 2003's *The Triplets of Belleville*? Well the same production company (Les Amateurs) that brought us that animated feature is back with *The Secret of Kells*. As the title suggests, this film tells the story of the creation of the 9th century *Book of Kells*, an illuminated manuscript of the four Gospels of the New Testament. Illuminated means painstakingly hand colored in rich tapestry like designs as well as large flowing letters. If you've ever seen pictures of it (try Google), you'd never forget it.

Since the exact origins of *The Book of Kells* are lost in the mists of time, this film creates its own story of how it came to be. Ireland is being invaded by Vikings and the Abbott of the monastery of Kells is busy trying to construct a wall to keep them out. His young nephew Brendan is captivated by tales of a fabulous book being created by monks at another monastery. When one of the illustrators, Brother Aidan, comes to Kells to seek shelter, Brendan gets the opportunity to work with him much to his uncle's displeasure who sees no value in such artistic endeavors.

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# film reviews

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In order to do this, Brendan must secretly leave the monastery to search for berries and herbs to make ink. While outside he meets a shape shifting spirit, Aisling, who shows him the wonders of the forest. The knowledge Brendan picks up will serve him in good stead later. The Vikings do attack, destroy the monastery, and Brendan is believed dead. This enables him to set out on a journey to bring the book to fruition, a journey that takes several years. In the end the book is completed and Brendan returns to Kells where it all began.



The monk's apprentice Brendan is introduced to the wonders of the forest by the Forest Spirit, Aisling in the animated feature *The Secret of Kells*.

What makes *The Secret of Kells* so enjoyable is the various styles of animation that are used to bring the story to life. Unlike the full blown in your face sameness of most animation today, there is a deliberate primitive quality in *Kells* which recalls the linear, limited drawing style of the 1950s and 60s. The style also changes throughout the film so that by the end we have moved from the simple to a beautiful recreation of the illuminated style of the book.

Outside of Brendan Gleeson as the voice of the head Abbott, the rest of the vocal cast is made up of unknowns but they fit their characters perfectly especially Christen Mooney as the forest spirit Aisling. Complementing the visual style and the ideal voices is a wonderful soundtrack of Celtic music composed by Bruno Coulais. Co-directors Tomm Moore and Nora Twomey are to be congratulated for giving us something different, an animated work of great originality and beauty that can stand on its own merit and is worth seeing more than once. Keep your eyes peeled for the DVD.

*This feature is not rated.*

REVIEW BY CHIP KAUFMANN

## Splice 1/2

**SHORT TAKE:** This well made version of several recycled sci-fi and horror ideas should be better than it is.

**REEL TAKE:** You know that you're getting older when almost every movie you see reminds you of one you've seen before. In the case of *Splice* I can think of a least a dozen

movies it reminds me of (borrows from) almost all of them better or at least more enjoyable. *Bride of Frankenstein*, *Alien*, *Rosemary's Baby*, Ang Lee's *Hulk*, the 1977 and 1996 versions of *The Island of Dr Moreau* to name some of the better known ones and especially a little known one, Ralph Nelson's 1976 *Embryo* with Rock Hudson and Barbara Carrera.

The story involves a pair of research scientists (Adrien Brody and Sarah Polley) who have created an artificial life form (two of them actually who are dubbed Fred and Ginger) that can be used for genetic experiments by the pharmaceutical company funding their research. They also happen to be involved with each other. He wants children but she doesn't (for good reasons it turns out) so they take the op-



Delphine Chaneac as the creation and Sarah Polley as the creator in the derivative sci-fi flick *Splice*.

portunity to secretly create another life form this time using human DNA. The results are a very humanoid looking creature with the ability to transform herself (yes, it's a girl) into various aspects of other animals.

On one level *Splice* is a movie about parenting with the creature who they name Dren (nerd spelled backwards) becoming their surrogate child. She develops very rapidly becoming more human each day and developing human emotions like fear, jealousy, and of course desire. This naturally leads to complications involving both "parents" that result in a couple of very moving scenes and one very uncomfortable one involving Adrien Brody.

However *Splice* is being marketed as a horror film and while it contains several

horrific scenes, it is far too cerebral for its own good which was borne out by audience exit polls which were strongly negative. Once again studio miscalculating rears its ugly head. People expecting a slice and dice creature feature got more than they bargained for or wanted and the resulting negative word of mouth doomed the picture in a hurry.

While there is much to admire in *Splice* including three terrific performances (Brody, Polley and French actress Delphine Chaneac as Dren), I am inclined to agree with the preview audiences though not for quite the same reasons. I have no problem with it wanting to be more than just another creature feature but the film takes itself way too seriously. Director Vincenzo Natali has crafted a good looking film but it moves slowly, is 15 minutes too long, and fails to get us involved with the main characters. Plus you can see the ending coming a mile away.

*Rated R for nudity, strong sexuality, violence, and language.*

REVIEW BY CHIP KAUFMANN

## Chip Kaufmann's Pick: "The Island of Doctor Moreau"

### The Island of Doctor Moreau (1996)

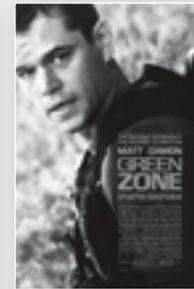
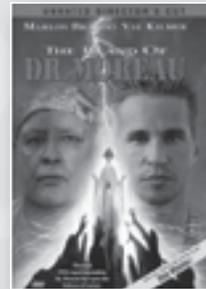
I had originally intended to make Ralph Nelson's 1976 sci-fi/horror flick *Embryo* my DVD pick for July. This was because of all the movies that the new release *Splice* (reviewed in this issue) borrowed (stole?) from, it was the most purloined. Unfortunately, although it has been released on DVD, *Embryo* is not available to be rented from Netflix or anyone else for the time being so at the last minute John Frankenheimer's bizarre 1996 version of *The Island of Doctor Moreau* came to the rescue.

To call the production troubled would be an understatement. Marlon Brando, in the title role, had the original director fired and most of the original script rewritten to suit him. John Frankenheimer (*The Manchurian Candidate* - 1962 version) was called in to salvage the film and did his best and almost pulled it off. While not a good film, it is an absolutely fascinating one full of memorable imagery. I have already forgotten most of *Splice* but I still can see *Moreau* in my mind's eye.

This film is the third version of the H. G. Wells story after *Island of Lost Souls* (1932) which is not available on DVD and *The Island of Dr. Moreau* (1977 w/Burt Lancaster and Michael York) which is. The Frankenheimer

## July DVD Picks

## Michelle Keenan's Pick: "The Green Zone"



version has better production values and the added bonus of Marlon Brando in the strangest role of his career. It also has Val Kilmer in one of the strangest roles of his career. That combination along with Stan Winston's superb "humanimal" make-up (the movie is about DNA alteration gone awry) make for a perfect summer movie which looks even better on a flat screen TV.

### The Green Zone (2010)

*Green Zone* is based on the 2006 non-fiction book "Imperial Life in the Emerald City" which documented life in the Green Zone in Baghdad in the months leading up to the US invasion. It was written by then Baghdad Bureau Chief for the Washington Post, Rajiv Chandrasekaran. Regardless of your personal opinion of the war or of 'G.W.', this book should be mandatory reading for all Americans. Unfortunately the book

and film are dashed and reviled by many as un-American and this is simply gross, narrow-minded, hollow propaganda.

Under Paul Greengrass' direction the film is tightly executed, well shot and entertaining - all of which are hallmarks of his work. Damon, one of the hardest working actors in Hollywood and someone who seems to come to his roles so authentically, plays Chief Warrant Officer Roy Miller. Miller is a good soldier and a good officer. He's the kind of soldier you want in your army. The fact that he sees it as a moral imperative to question intelligence that is unquestionably flawed, especially when he is told to 'leave it alone,' is completely just. If another country dismantled the army of another nation and went to war on lies, the US would likely lead the charge to have the leader of that country brought down and tried for war crimes.

Exactly how much of *Green Zone* is true and how much is fiction I don't know but at the end of the day, it's a movie. WMD's are an issue that was greatly ignored by the media, politicians and most of all, by everyday Americans. Greengrass, Co-writer Brian Hege-land, Damon and a fine supporting cast, including Brendan Gleeson, Amy Ryan, Greg Kinnear, Khalid Abdalla, have made a movie worth watching and one which is in no way un-American.



# arts & music

'CD's' continued from page 17

## Otis Redding Live on the Sunset Strip Stax Records

Although Otis Redding's historic 1966 stand at Hollywood's Whisky a Go Go has been previously chronicled — first with the ten songs 1968 release and with 1993's volume two — this is the first time the entire four night run has been given the royal treatment it deserves.

And unlike the previous expanded version this is no simple collection of out takes and alternate tracks; it is three entire sets as Redding & His Orchestra Live tear through the songs with wild abandon and a ferocity that borders on frightening. And while Redding most frequently recorded with either the Bar-Kays or Booker T. & the MG's for this occasion he assembled a ten piece "orchestra" who, along with the back up singers, were as much the stars of the show as is the man himself.

It takes but one listen to "These Arms of Mine" — at the conclusion of which the band cuts into a torrid make it up as you go along version of "Satisfaction" — to



see how in synch with Redding they were, swinging from gritty in your voice Southern soul to rapturous gospel in a moment's time.

The band, in particular the bass/drum combo of Ralph Stewart and Elbert Woodson, is inspired and near perfect.

Even when Redding mangles a lyric or the band misses a beat — both of which are preserved here for posterity — it just adds to the potent immediacy of these recordings. Redding was only 24 when he played these gigs and, as we all too tragically know, in a scant 26 months he'd be gone.

It is impossible to overstate his influence and even more futile to attempt any speculation as to what might have been. The music left behind is all we have and unless other recordings are found and deemed worthy of release that will have to suffice.

These tracks go a long way towards soothing the pain of Redding's early demise as well as a stark reminder — if any need be given — as to what a loss it was. At 28 songs *Live on the Sunset Strip* may be a bit of excess but what glorious excess it is. ★★★1/2

## "I Just Find This Stuff in the Dirt!"

### THE MULTI-FACETED WORLD OF LUCILE STEPHENS

BY GREG VINEYARD

That was my new studio-mate Lucile Stephens' response when I noticed her cool metal pendant while we were greeting visitors during our June Studio Stroll. She turned it over to show how she had attached the clasp to the back. BAM! Instant industrial jewelry.

Since arriving in the River Arts District in 2008, I have continuously marveled at Lucile's creativity, ingenuity and humility. Not to mention her output. No medium is off-limits due to her wide-ranging skills and limitless curiosity. And the time-honored tradition of picking up cool junk serves her well. A life-long artist, Lucile graduated from the University of Georgia with a BFA in Drawing and Painting, and an MFA in Art Education. After teaching in the public school system for a quarter century, her retirement has become, as she says, "consumed with art-making." Sensing endless possibilities in all materials, Lucile unflinchingly embraces it all in her treks into N.A.R.'s ("New Artistic Realms"). Several years back, she took up welding, resulting in a vast array of new works. Metal, clay, wood, paint, mixed-media... the breadth and depth of her creations is astounding.

Lucile's material combinations are inventive. An old, upside down cooking pot becomes a stand for an elegant clay sculpture. Flowing driftwood sticks out of the top of a hand-carved vase. Lively horse torsos leap from slabs of metal and wood. The contrasts are often lovely, not just because they are unexpected (and fun), but also due to her color sense and object choices. Her metal raven sculpture simply rests atop a couple 1940's books, evoking Poe. And her titles often perfectly reflect the feeling of the work, like "A Bowl Full of Howlers" and "Off the Top of My Head."

In my private collection, I now have a burnished prehistoric fish, a square tray that looks like Picasso made it, a steel sculpture where Lucile appears to have channeled a 1920's Russian Constructivist and an acrylic landscape with bright orange trees holding guard over a rocky field.



"Trees in the Distance"  
Acrylic by Lucile Stephens

I must mention here "the smoking man installation". That's MY name for it. "Buddy, Do You Have a Light?" is characteristically tongue-in-cheek, yet also makes a visual and conceptual statement. The tonality of the white acrylic on the clay bust complements the old, green flea-market chair. No. 4 pencil scribbles and paint crackles provide a subtle pattern relationship. The diminutive

scale of the bust helps bring a fragile persona into focus: decades have been spent on the porch, and we're now seeing a twilight moment in an old man's day. But the scene is not necessarily a sad one. He's just simply having a cigarette.

My interpretation of this piece is far more specific than Lucile's intentions, but that's part of the excitement of seeing new art: reaction! She just has this innate sense with a variety of materials and techniques, and a passion for creating. Period. You'll never hear her brag about herself or get involved in drama. Her boldest statement is: "Art is my life. I couldn't function without it." That rings true for a great many artists, and I'm lucky she lives that creed, for I get to stay inspired by the simple elegance, wit, perseverance and style of her creations.

**IF YOU GO** Lucile Stephen's work can be seen at Constance Williams Gallery, 9 Riverside Dr. in Asheville. Open Every Day 11 to 4 p.m., and during the River Arts District's monthly "Second Fridays" event from 4 to 7 p.m.



Greg Vineyard is an artist and creative consultant in Asheville's River Arts District, where he and his **Ceramics For Contemplation & Creativity** can be found in **Constance Williams Gallery (Open Every Day 11-4)**. [CURVstudiosNC.com](http://CURVstudiosNC.com).

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## CRAFT BEER, A LOOK INTO THE FUTURE

# joe's brew notes

## PART 4 She Said Beer, He Said Wine:

*Create a Dinner with Beer and Wine Selections for Each Course*

This is the final installment of a 4-part series that looks into craft beer's future. Previous articles spoke to the industry's meteoric growth, the drivers of that growth, the ever-growing availability of flavorful beers, and the many ways to explore and enjoy them. This column combines the information in earlier articles with the new in this one to help you create a dinner event that will excite and please your friends.

For guidance on how to present a dinner with both beer and wine for each course, I asked Julie Atallah (Brusin' Ales) and Rob Campbell (Wine Guy) for their suggestions. As an example, they chose the beer and wine to complement the dinner menu shown in the sidebar. Their advice on how to plan and conduct a dinner follow.

Julie and Rob both suggested two ways to prepare for this type of dinner. Start with the choice of the beer and wine to be served and decide on the menu, or start with the menu and decide on the beer and wine to serve. The easier way is to begin with the menu. Also, be clear on the purpose of the get-together -- a focus on the food and flavors or on events planned around the dinner (for example a birthday party). Under all circumstances plan with a sense of fun and adventure.

The menu itself can be very informal (five types of pizza from your favorite pizzeria) or, if you love to cook, a multi-course dinner from appetizer to dessert. Whatever your menu there is a wine and a beer selection to complement the food and spice up the conversation. To select each wine and

beer visit your favorite wine and/or beer store for consultations with experts.

Or, you could ask an invited guest – a beer, wine “geek” – to make the choices. A more adventuresome approach is to ask friends to bring a sample of favorite wines and beers. Be flexible; be creative. There are many ways to create great flavor combinations. Just remember the basic rule – the flavor of the beverage should not overpower the flavor of the food and vice versa.

Once the food, beer, and wine selections are made, consider time frame, portion size, beverage amount, tasting order, and (more formally) discussion topics and detailed information. Plan for the dinner to be a 2-3 hour event. Allow time to enjoy each course, each wine and beer, and for discussion. Portions should be relatively small; tapas size. Serve 3 to 4 ounces of wine and 4 to 6 ounces of beer with each course; just enough for guests to taste, savor and return home safely.

At the start, suggest everyone take a sip of the wine and appreciate its flavor. Next, sample a portion of food with the wine and consider the flavor combination. Follow this with a sip of water to cleanse the palate. Use



A toast to flavors at the 12 Bones, Brusin' Ales dinner.

BY JOE ZINICH

the same approach with the beer selection. Continue in this manner for the courses that remain. Discussions can be prompted with information (obtained on line or from an expert)

on each beverage and food selection or entirely impromptu, whichever works best.

Attend a beer/wine dinner and learn from the professionals; throw a dinner with the help of professionals; or create a dinner from your own imagination. Each choice is a fun way to entertain and to share in the discovery of new flavor combinations.

This four part series was designed to encourage active participation in the craft beer revolution. The articles provided ideas and tools to begin or enhance the experience. The Craft Beer scene in general and Asheville's in particular is a very social world of fun and flavor; enjoy.



For eight years, Joe Zinich has been taking a self-guided, high-intensity tour of the Asheville beer scene. Contact him at: [jinich@bellsouth.net](mailto:jinich@bellsouth.net).

## Brew News

**Green Man Brewing** is open every day at 7 a.m. to show World Cup matches. Beer fans; their “Easy Rider” Wheat, an American style wheat ale, is now on tap.

**The Pint House** hosts Sean Wilson former president of Pop the Cap – the group that got the law changed to allow a new variety of full-flavored beer to be produced and sold in North Carolina – will present his Fullsteam Brewery “southern beer” to Asheville beer lovers. A special ticketed-event is planned for **July 19** that includes 4 different beers, a matching food tasting menu, and an opportunity to listen to and speak with Sean. For more information, ticket prices, and availability visit [monkpub.com](http://monkpub.com).

Their second anniversary will be celebrated on **July 3** with the introduction of their version of the Randall called the “Holy Hopper”. The Randall is a device that allows infusion of interesting, delicious, and sometimes challenging flavors into beer.

Asheville won the **Beer City USA** title for the second year in a row. A testimony to our brewers, their beer, and the Asheville beer community. Of course some “sore loser” comments came from the wanna-be cities, but to them I say, “we may not have the most breweries or the most festivals but we do have the most enthusiastic supporters. Deal with it!”

**Brewgrass** sold out in 21 hours; good news for the organizers and the people who got tickets, bad news for the local, long-time supporters who didn't. Perhaps we, as a group, could suggest to the Brewgrass folks to support local by selling tickets at select local stores and breweries for a week and then offer them online; the Beer City model.

The first annual **Brew Off**, Asheville's home brew competition & tasting, was held in the Wedge Brewery parking lot with well over 40 brews available to taste. It was presented by the non-profit organization Just Economics ([justeconomicswnc.org](http://justeconomicswnc.org)), an advocacy group for a strong, sustainable WNC economy, and was a rousing success. Attendance was strong and our local home brewers excited the crowd with flavors that were a challenge and a delight.

Visit [www.rapidrivermagazine.com](http://www.rapidrivermagazine.com) to read all four parts of “Craft Beer, a Look into the Future.”

## Beer/Wine Dinner Menu

The following menu was developed by 12 Bones smokehouse ([12bones.com](http://12bones.com)) for a beer dinner sponsored jointly with Brusin' Ales. The menu came first and Julie and Jason Atallah chose the beers. I asked Rob Campbell to recommend wine choices. What follows is an opportunity to learn from the experts.

### Lamb Sausage with Sage and Apricots and a Parmesan, Baby Artichoke Risotto

**Beer Selection:** DE, Dogfish Head Aprihop, an IPA made with apricots. IPA's work well with spicy, rich foods. The apricot flavor in this version pairs well with the risotto.

**Wine Selection:** France, Houchart 2006 Cuvee Rouge, is a Shiraz/Cabernet blend: Shiraz pairs well with lamb but is to light for the spices in sausage. The addition of Cabernet adds weight. The French blends are earthy with an aromatic spiciness.

### Borracho Beef Short Ribs with Fennel Au Gratin and Plantain Puree

**Beer Selection:** CA, Bear Republic Big Bear black stout: Full Bodied with a roasted scent and flavor that complements the beef. This version is loaded with hops that contrast with the fennel.

**Wine Selection:** Australia: Rawley “Raw Power” 2008 Shiraz: Australian Shiraz are big, rich wines with fruity, licorice flavors. Will stand up well to strong flavors of the short ribs while the licorice enhances the fennel.

### Honey Lager Gelato with Cornbread Biscuits and Roasted Brazil Nuts

**Beer Selection:** Belgium, Bier du Miel, Saison with honey: a hint of honey sweetness with a champagne effervescence.

**Wine Selection:** Italy, Sant' Evasio 2009 Moscato d'Ast: made with muscato grapes which have a honey character. The Sant' Evasio is a light, slightly sweet sparkler.

### Smoked Skate Wings with Citrus Salad of Clementines and Meyers Lemons.

**Beer Selection:** Germany, Plank Bavarian Hefeweizen: the style goes well with seafood, Plank has a hint of banana and clove to complement the salad.

**Wine Selection:** CA, Pomelo 2008 Sauvignon Blanc: the style with its crisp acidity complements fish. The California versions have a whisper of smokiness.

### Duck Confit Taquito with Fig, Goat cheese and Lavender Dipping Sauce

**Beer Selection:** England, Traquair Jacobite, Scotch Ale spiced with coriander: this ale presents a beefy but complementary contrast to the duck. The coriander flavor supports the sauce.

**Wine Selection:** OR, Bethel Heights 2008 Pinot Noir: this grape has an earthy but light flavor great with duck. Its level of acidity (the French versions are too acidic) does not overpower the sauce.

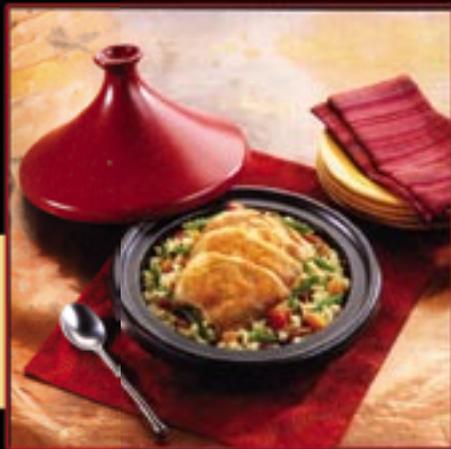
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## *fine art*

### Paris of the South?

If you have lived in Asheville for any length of time you have most likely heard Asheville compared to Paris.

Who knows? Maybe there is something to it... after all, Asheville is a very romantic place, and there is no lack of culture, diversity and nightlife. Our city has played muse to many notable artists, crafters, poets, and writers. Recently, we even had our own art heist just like the famous museums of Paris.

Lisa Ringelspaugh is a longtime resident and professional painter known for her lively watercolor interpretations of local landmarks. Inspired by turn-of-the-century Paris, Lisa asked herself, "If those artists visited Asheville, then what would happen?" Her new "Dream Series" answers with a touch of whimsy, a healthy dose of imagination and plenty of artistic license. Through Lisa's brush, Matisse, Gauguin, Chagall and Dali have finally come to visit our fair city and have reinterpreted their favorite works in a new southern Appalachian light.

"Paris of the South?" is a fun, artistic romp through the city of Asheville, from Kim's Wig Shop to the S&W Cafeteria, and certain to bring a smile to your face. Join Lisa on Friday evening for a special night of wine, refreshments, and stimulating conversation.

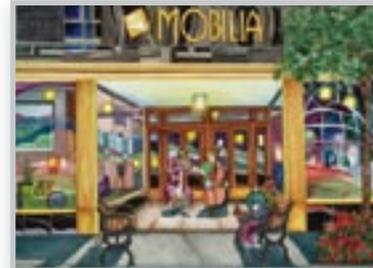
BlackBird's gallery located at 365 Merrimon Avenue features the work of 25 local



Watercolors by Lisa Ringelspaugh-Irvine

Left: *Scandal in the Grove*. "My favorite building in Asheville. I can easily see the controversial Madam waiting to dance on the rooftop under the stars... and maybe she'll go home with..."

Below: *Busking for Rubles*. "Often there's a classical musician playing in this storefront. Who better to join in, than Chagall's blue and purple violinists? Oh yes, I know Chagall was Russian, not French."



painters and artisans in diverse media and styles. Gallery manager Phil DeAngelo says, "Lisa is a serious painter, and in this case, she's also

shown us how seriously funny she can be."

BlackBird Frame & Art is an independent art gallery and custom frame studio owned by Pat and John Horrocks.



*Asheville Dream Series by Lisa Ringelspaugh-Irvine. Opening Reception Friday, July 9 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at BlackBird Frame & Art, 365*

*Merrimon Avenue in Asheville.*

Show dates: July 8 - July 24, 2010. Visit [www.blackbirdframe.com](http://www.blackbirdframe.com) for more information, or phone (828) 252-6036.

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# restaurants & wine

## Sangria, on the Sand and on the Grass

PLUS, FLAG-WAVING DRINKS, AND A SHORT HISTORY ABOUT PUNCH

I cringed when I heard someone refer to my Sangria as punch. It took me back to an old TV commercial for Polaner All Fruit where, at a formal dining table sat a mostly formal family. The black sheep of the family said, in something of a Texan accent, "Please pass the jelly." The matriarch fainted.

However, it actually is a punch, so this is one of those situations where all Champagne is sparkling wine, but not all sparkling wine is Champagne. After that, it really isn't something to be argued about.

Punch is a funny word for punch, don't you think? I always assumed it to be of English or pre-English/Germanic origin, thinking of Glühwein, Glögg, Wassail, and any of their descendants that took on added spirits and therefore packed a punch. Brits, I have had the impression, love a good punch because they love a good fight.

However, the word punch is the gift of the Persian and Hindi languages. The number five is behind the meaning of related words from both languages: paantsch, panj, and punj. It is an easier concept to remember when you realize that the Punjab is the land of five rivers, and the number applies to the five elements/ingredients of what they thought constituted a legitimate punch. Of course, the English brought the word and the concept to throne base back when the sun never set on the British Empire.

I like to stick with the concept of Sangria. There are hundreds, probably thousands of punch recipes, so go to the nearest church ladies' cookbook and add booze. Sangria, on the other hand, has its general guidelines.

But, it can get expensive, especially in the current economy. This is the perfect time to go for the jug and the box. (Box wine, white and red, is God's gift to those who volunteer, or get volunteered, to make Sangria.)

Good Sangria requires good fruit. A big mistake in making Sangria is spending too much on pre-cut fruit. You really need to know how to slice and chop it on your own. If the knife scares you, go to the kitchen store and buy a cheap mandolin for twenty dollars. It will pay for itself before two batches, and slice the fruit thin so more flavors get combined in the mix.

It is important to leave the ice out while the flavors blend, otherwise you will get diluted sangria. Also, if you like soda water, add it to your glass rather than the batch.

Make an effort to discover your secret ingredient for a recipe you can call your own. I love watermelon. For another example, you can substitute brandy with rum. With the following recipes, make simple common sense adjustments if you go with a different size jug or box.

### Sangria Blanca White wine sangria

A 4 liter jug of "Rhine" wine for \$11  
2 cups Sugar (optional, how sweet do you want it?)  
Juice of two fat Oranges  
Juice of two fat Lemons  
4-6 oz. of cheap Gallo brandy  
4-6 oz. of cheap Triple Sec  
Two thin-sliced Oranges  
Two thin-sliced Lemons  
Two handfuls of thin-sliced watermelon

Let it sit for a while for the flavors to blend.  
Hold the ice and club soda until serving time.

### Sangria Roja Red wine sangria

5 liters of Cheap Red  
3 cups Sugar (optional)  
10 oz. Brandy (dark spiced rum is good, too)  
6 Apples, thin-sliced  
6 Pears, thin-sliced  
6 handfuls of thin-sliced Watermelon

Let it stand for several hours and hold the ice and club soda until serving time.

### Sangria Rosada Pink sangria, one gallon

5 liter box of Pink Wine  
1 large Grapefruit  
1 large Orange  
Juice of 1 Lemon  
Juice of 1 Lime  
Vodka

Combine the fruit juices and then add wine until you have a gallon of liquid. You will have leftover wine. Add the vodka until you reach a taste you like. Remember that you can buy red and white and combine equal

BY MICHAEL PARKER

parts for the pink, and then your leftovers will be red and white instead of pink, if that matters to you.

### Fun with Layers: Flag-Wavin' Drinks

#### Bomb Pop Shot

½ oz. Grenadine  
½ oz. Blue Curaçao  
½ oz. Cream

Make sure all your ingredients are cold, and then layer them in a shot glass. For a stronger version, you can substitute vodka for the cream. For a cocktail, rather than just a shot, simply double the measurements and use a lowball glass. If you want ice, be sure to add it last, and gently.

#### Bomb Pop Martini

½ oz. Grenadine  
Splash of Lemon-Lime Soda  
1 oz. DeKuyper Island Blue Pucker  
2 oz. Bacardi Razz

Layer the ingredients in order. This drink has a red stripe at the bottom and the top, because the grenadine sinks, but the Rum's higher alcohol content keeps it on top. It is neither shaken nor stirred! If you prefer not to pucker, you can pour blue Curaçao instead.

#### Bomb Pop Cocktail without grenadine

1 oz. Chambord raspberry liqueur  
1 oz. Blue Curaçao  
1 oz. Lemon vodka  
1 oz. Sour mix



This is the perfect time to go for the jug and the box.

Layer first the Chambord, then the blue Curaçao in a glass. Pour sour mix and vodka into cocktail shaker over ice, then shake and gently pour.

Cream can replace the vodka and sour mix if a milder drink is desired.

### July at the Weinhaus

Reservations are required for these events, please call the Weinhaus at (828) 254-6453 or 1-800-283-1544.

#### Thursday, July 15

Chef/owner Larry Waldrop of the Grovewood Café will prepare a five course wine dinner with appetizers on the patio, weather permitting. The time is 7:30 p.m. The cost is \$65 all inclusive.

#### Tuesday, July 27

Kathmandu Café will present a dinner with their unique Nepalese cuisine paired with wines from around the world. The time is 7:00 p.m. The cost is \$45 all inclusive.

#### Friday, July 30

Friday night flights at the Weinhaus will feature The Days of Wine and Rosés, an exploration of dry summer Rosé wines. The price is \$10 for a tasting and light hors d'ouvres. Time is 5:00-7:00 p.m. Held at the Weinhaus.

#### The Weinhaus

86 Patton Avenue in Asheville  
(828) 254-6453

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- July 3 **Paul's Creek Band**
- July 10 **Lonesome River Band**
- July 17 **Alice Gerrard and  
The Kari Sickenberger Band**
- July 24 **Dismembered Tennesseans**
- July 31 **Dehlia Low**
- Aug. 7 **The Kruger Brothers**
- Aug. 14 **New North Carolina Ramblers**
- Aug. 21 **Jeff Little Trio**
- Aug. 28 **The Farewell Drifters**

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*fine art*

*Chris Van Dyke*

*Rediscovering the Passion of Art through Fine Jewelry*

From the start Chris Van Dyke wanted a downtown location for his art jewelry store. He had moved here in the spring of 1999 but couldn't find an available storefront downtown that suited him, but did find a "quaint and charming" building in North Asheville on Merrimon Avenue. That summer Van Dyke Goldsmithing opened, quickly establishing Van Dyke as a leading jeweler in an area already well known for its fine jewelry.

For Van Dyke success didn't happen overnight nor was it handed to him. He worked extremely hard for more than 20 years to get to where he is. At 19 he began his apprenticeship with his father, an established goldsmith, in Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania. It was there he learned not only to make fine jewelry but about taking care of the customer and giving to them the best possible service as well as product. He learned about working hard and having

BY DENNIS RAY

integrity and letting his creativity explode into his artwork like a dancer catching flight.

"My father said 'Make every piece true.' I quickly came to realize that by 'true' he meant 'It's got to get past me, pal.' The highest standard — something I continue to strive for with each of my pieces. Peer review is the Everest I climb with each and every one of my designs."

In his mid 20's, like a character out of a Horatio Alger novel, Van Dyke left the safety of his father's business and headed west to find his own way. He settled in Phoenix where he worked for a small family owned jewelry shop doing repairs. It was there in the desert where he decided to attend the Gemological Institute of America.

"I learned all about diamonds and colored stones, where they come from, how they are formed, the business behind them, and, most importantly, how to talk knowledgeably about my craft. It gave me the chance to really know what I was putting in these pieces I was working so hard on."

Shortly after moving to Asheville and opening Van Dyke Goldsmithing he got married and had three sons. He watched his business grow in many "wonderful and surprising" ways while he honed his artistic style. Yet something was amiss. Though the business on Merrimon was successful, Van Dyke never forgot his dream of being part of downtown Asheville.

This spring he found the storefront he had envisioned when he first arrived. He understood moving an established business could be dangerous, but sometimes the needs of fulfilling a dream outweigh the fears of any failure. Van Dyke listened to his heart and on May 1, with a slight name change to Van Dyke Jewelry and Fine Craft, moved his businesses to Biltmore Avenue.

"I learned a lot on Merrimon," he says. "I got a chance to meet great people, built up a solid clientele, and I learned a million different things. This gallery couldn't have happened 11 years ago. I needed the time to make it happen." He laughs then adds, "Over the years I've discovered many talented local artists whose work I now display."

Van Dyke Jewelry and Fine Craft has



Chris Van Dyke owner of Van Dyke Jewelry and Fine Craft gallery.



a modern European feel with its hardwood floors and beige stone colored walls and dark wooden display cabinets. There are over nine artists represented here, ranging from ironwork, sculpture, pottery to textiles, and of course Van Dyke's marvelous line of jewelry.

Perhaps the success of his gallery is how all of the artist's works compliment each other. "You can purchase a piece from each artist and they will all work well in your house," he says. Like the gallery, the artwork or fine craft is all elegant and stunning.

"I cannot imagine a better place to live and work than Asheville," he says. "I miss my traveling days but that was a long time ago."

As novelist Don Williams Jr. wrote, "The road of life twists and turns and no two directions are ever the same. Yet our lessons come from the journey, not the destination." In the end Van Dyke has indeed found his way home.

**Van Dyke Jewelry and Fine Craft**  
 29 Biltmore Ave. Located between Mast General Store and Doc Chey's with exclusive parking in the rear.  
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# *fine art*

The 63rd Annual

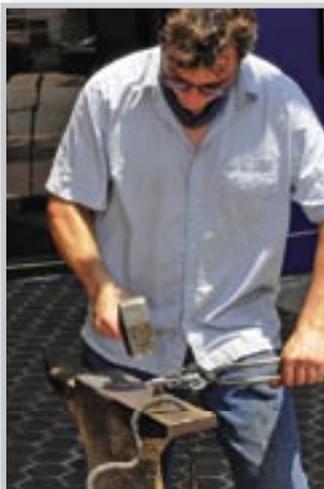
## Craft Fair of the Southern Highlands

For four days each July and October, Asheville's Civic Center comes alive with fine traditional and contemporary crafts. More than 200 craftspeople fill the two levels of the center selling their works of clay, fiber, glass, leather, metal, mixed media, natural materials, paper, wood and jewelry.

The Fairs, a local tradition since 1948, showcase the work of members of the Southern Highland Craft Guild. Having been accepted into the Guild through a rigorous jury process, these craftspeople are the best of the best in the Appalachian region. Membership is open to artists living in the mountain coun-

ties of nine states from Maryland to Alabama. The Fairs also feature craft demonstrations and, beginning on Friday, local musicians share their love of traditional and bluegrass mountain music live on the arena stage.

Unlike any other fair, the Craft Fair of the Southern Highlands is an experience, a place to show off the talent and innovation of Guild members. It is diverse: crafts rooted in Appalachian traditions are featured along with the work of contemporary artists, reinventing their medium to accommodate the modern world and to reflect their view of it. A wonderful example of this is the work of Columbus, NC artist Derek Hennigar, whose rocker is featured in this year's Craft Fair advertising. Using tradi-



Alwin Wagener

BY APRIL NANCE

tional materials, forms, and tools, Hennigar creates his own contemporary wood furniture. Throughout the Fair, creativity, talent and innovation converge in this way.

The Fair focuses on the process of craft, often lost in a highly mechanized and digital world, the work of the hand – iron is hammered to become a fireplace tool, splints of white oak are harvested to become a basket. This theme is reflected in the

scheduled demonstrations as well as the individual craft booths. Visitors interact with highly-trained craftspeople selling their work and sharing a bit about their process and inspiration.



Asheville Civic Center

Asheville provides the perfect backdrop for the Craft Fair. Long known as an arts and crafts destination, Asheville offers architectural charm, eclectic restaurants and a wide variety of lodging. As an organization, the Guild has been serving artists in this area since 1930.

For a complete listing of exhibitors, craft demonstrations, and entertainment schedule for the Craft Fair of the Southern Highlands, visit [www.craftguild.org](http://www.craftguild.org).



The 63rd Annual Craft Fair of the Southern Highlands at the Asheville Civic Center, 87 Haywood St. downtown Asheville. July 15-18 and October 21-24, 2010

Thursday – Saturday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Sunday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission: Adults \$7, children under 12 free. Group discounts available. For more information visit [www.craftguild.org](http://www.craftguild.org) or call (828) 298-7928.



Chiwa



Doug Dacey



Chery Cratty

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# Asheville Style

**Beads and Beyond** Since 1984 beaders of all ages have come to Beads and Beyond on Wall Street. You can create a bracelet for a friend or maybe a necklace or new earrings. Owner Barry Olen has searched the markets of the world for unique beads, jewelry-making supplies, and treasures from the earth.

**Fired Up!** Everyone can become artists at this pottery studio. No creativity? No problem! They offer tools, idea books, stamps, stencils, a little coaching and a lot of encouragement. You will have a relaxing, pleasurable experience while making those special presents or souvenirs. And, they now have a second store in Hendersonville, where you can create mosaics, clay and work on a pottery wheel.

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# come share in the FUN

# culture for kids

## Engage the Kids with a Few Good Books This Summer



### Loving Ruby

by author Lois Chazen

*Loving Ruby* is an engaging and poetic tribute from writer Lois Chazen to the darling baby cardinal, Ruby, whom Chazen found abandoned in a local park and cared for until the bird was an appropriate age where she could fly away and take care of herself. Chazen recalls walking along and discovering the bird, how it hopped away from her, and how she stopped traffic to save it and took it home with her to care for it.

Chazen takes her enchanted reader along the path of what to do if you find a baby bird incapable of taking care of itself how to (hopefully) insure its health and happiness...and ultimately how to let go of something you've come to love. Beautifully illustrated by Sundara Fawn and written in pleasantly rhyming lines, kids will love *Loving Ruby* for its creativity and its very special message.

### A House for Wally and Me

by author Gene Stelten

*A House for Wally and Me* follows Allie's family of four as they go from living

in a tiny, cramped apartment to moving into a specially built and definitely more spacious home (and getting a new puppy) provided for them by all of the special volunteers at Habitat for Humanity.

This charming story is told from Allie's point of view and also includes special informational sections that kids and parents alike can gain additional information, not only about Habitat for Humanity, but about homebuilding in general. *A House for Wally and Me* provides a great first look at the benefits of volunteering in the community and how volunteering can make a huge impact in someone's life.

### Playing with Gaia... Discovering the Spirit of Mother Earth

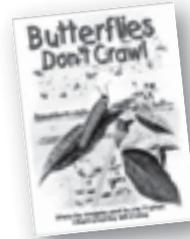
by author Cindy Bowen



*Playing with Gaia... Discovering the Spirit of Mother Earth* is an earthy book that encourages children to take a look around at the world they live in and appreciate the beauty that is there. Author Cindy



Bowen also provides some easy yoga poses designed to help children find inner peace and tranquility. Kids will like *Playing with Gaia... Discovering the Spirit of Mother Earth* for the easy wording and brightly colored illustrations by Twila Jefferson.



### Butterflies Don't Crawl

by Angela and Suzie Tipton

*Butterflies Don't Crawl* is a story that on the offset is about the

life of a clumsy little caterpillar who longs to fly beautiful in the sky with butterflies. While the clumsy caterpillar strives to be all it can be...it is criticized by the butterflies for not being just like them and do what they can do. Still the caterpillar keeps its chin up and goes on about its life...until one day it goes into a cocoon and then emerges as what it has always wanted to be...a butterfly, which can now join its friends and sail on beautiful breezes.

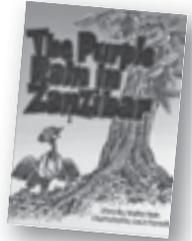
The story behind *Butterflies Don't Crawl* is the inspirational tale of co-author Suzie Tipton's life. Suzie has lived most of her life with spastic quadriplegic cerebral palsy...and although doctors were grim about her prognosis... Suzie has shown that

she can be more than people expect.

In fact, Suzie has championed the causes of the handicapped all over Western North Carolina with the advent of her non-profit organization, Suzie's Closet ([www.suziescloset.com](http://www.suziescloset.com)). Suzie's Closet helps provide medical equipment, financial assistance with medical travel and building ramps for thousands of families in the area. She is truly an amazing butterfly!

### The Purple Rain in Zanzibar

by author Walter Rein



Kids (like my 3-year-old son) will really appreciate *The Purple Rain in Zanzibar* because it is not unlike reading a good Dr. Seuss book. It has wacky characters with wacky character names and lines that rhyme in a sing-songy manner that make them incredibly easy and fun to read and remember. The illustrations by Jack Ferrell tie the whole book together and make it easy for kids (who can't quite read yet) to look at the pictures and tell YOU the story. *The Purple Rain in Zanzibar* is a fun summer read for parents and kids alike.

BOOK REVIEWS BY BETH GOSSETT... AND SON

## Discovering the Clown in All of Us

Have you ever wanted to become a clown, run away and join the circus? You might be one step closer with the re-release of T-Bone's World of Clowning.

Created by Asheville resident Tim "T-Bone" Arem, radio host, creative director for the Asheville International Children's Film Festival, health & fitness educator, spokesperson, author and former Ronald McDonald for the LA region.

After I retired from the MC Donalds spokesperson duties, I wanted to create my own character, said Arem. As a child growing up my mom nick named me T-Bone and the name kind of stayed with me into my clowning adulthood.

So in 1985 I created a fun and educational clown character named T-Bone that kids could relate to. It helped that I had an educational background with a masters degree in teaching K-6 grades

Because of spending the majority of my adulthood in Los Angeles and performing at thousands of birthday parties to cut my

teeth as this new character, I was able to be in the circle of folks like Kenny Rogers, Henry Winkler, Danny Devito, rock musicians Don Dokken and Sammy Hagar, sports personalities, Bruce Jenner, and Lance Armstrong, to name a few.

The common thread with these personalities was that my character T-Bone perform for their kids. So their kids grew up watching my clowning video. It was pretty cool to hear comments from Henry Winkler "My kids loved your video".

As the video found it's way into the universe, I got a call one day from a friend in Hawaii. T-bone did you see yourself on David Letterman? What do you mean I said, I haven't left the house. No he said Letter-



man held up the cover of your video and showed a short clip, then he made a funny remark about it. Oh I said hum... I wonder if they should of contacted me first?

The next day I had lunch with my attorney and three months later I was driving a sports car from the settlement. It turns out the parent company World Wide Pants should of asked my permission. My fifteen minutes of fame had crossed my path.

This DVD has many stories that go with it. In summary it took me 25 years to change the format from video to DVD. This week T-Bone's World of Clowning hits the stores and the universe again. I wonder what new adventures it will bring into my life.

To purchase a copy visit, Ultimate Ice Cream, The Toy Box, O.P Taylors, Once Upon a Time, Malaprops book Store Dancing Bear Toys and if you see me at the hundred events I do in Asheville and around the country I probably will have a few copies on me.

Oh and by the way, T-Bone has morphed into a health & fitness character. I've dropped my Yak wig, clown shoes and make up but my mission is the same as it's always has been, to provide information, education and fun to the families I come in contact with.

Tim "T-Bone" Arem, M.Ed. is the producer and host of T-Bone's Radio Active Kids, <http://j.mp/trakradio>

Tim is also artistic director of Asheville's International Children's Film Festival, [www.aicff.org](http://www.aicff.org). For more information about Tim please visit [www.tbonerun.com](http://www.tbonerun.com), or call (828) 298-4789.

### Family Art pARTy!

Sunday, July 11 from 1 to 4 p.m.

Pack Square – FREE. Get crafty with hands-on activities for all ages. All supplies provided. For more information, call Sharon McRorie at (828) 253-3227, ext. 122.

### The Big Crafty

Sunday, July 11 from 12 to 6 p.m.

Pack Place and Pack Square – FREE Admission. A lively celebration of handmade commerce. This juried indie craft fair features 100 artists and crafters. For details visit [www.thebigcrafty.com](http://www.thebigcrafty.com).

# culture for kids

## JOSEPH RATHBONE RECOMMENDS

This month I will review *The Karate Kid* and *Prince of Persia: The Sands of Time*.

*The Karate Kid*, a remake to the 1984 film of the same name, is, over-all, a very good movie and I give it four stars. It is rated PG for some language and violence. The movie starts out showing Dre Parker (Jaden Smith) saying good-



Jaden Smith as Dre Parker in *The Karate Kid*.

bye to his friends while preparing to move to China with his mother (Taraji P. Henson).

When he arrives in China, he quickly makes a new friend, Mei Ying; she is from a strict traditional upper-class family. Dre "meets" Cheng and his gang, the local bullies, shortly after Mei befriends him. But Cheng is not happy with this and beats Dre up. These beatings continue until finally Mr. Han (Jackie Chan) agrees to train Dre in the art of real Kung Fu. Mr. Han and Cheng's kung fu teacher agree to have Ching and his gang leave Dre alone until the big tournament.

The rest of the movie is about Dre training with Mr. Han for the tournament and at the end Dre fights in the tournament. I'm not going to give away the ending so you'll have to see the movie to find out. Sadly, I have not seen the original Karate Kid movie from 1984 but I have heard it was good too. I highly recommend for anybody to see this movie.

*Prince of Persia, the Sands of Time* is a good movie with a twisty plot, good action and stunts and I give it three and a half-stars. It is rated PG-13 for intense sequences of violence and action. Dastan (Jake Gyllenhall) is the main character that in the beginning was adopted by the King of Persia and was raised along side the king's two sons.

The ancient city of Alamut was allied to Persia and was framed for selling weapons to the enemy. So Dastan and his two brothers invade the city of Alamut and

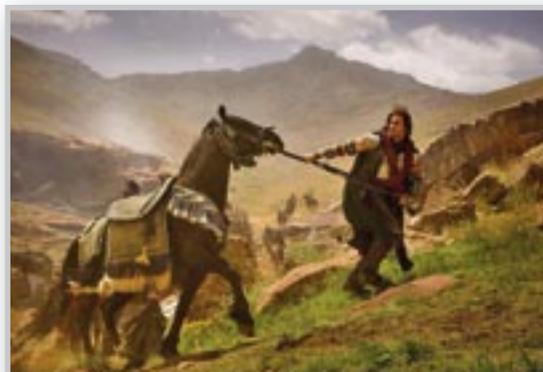
BY JOSEPH RATHBONE, AGE 11



that is when Dastan meets princess Tamina (Gemma Arterton) who is protecting the ancient dagger, a gift from the gods, that could release the sands of time. After Dastan is accused of murdering his

father, he decides to help princess Tamina protect the dagger and find the real killer.

Pretty much the rest of the movie is about Dastan and Tamina being chased by Hasansins (this is where the film becomes just another action flick) and them trying to save the dagger from falling into the wrong hands, which it does. At the end there is a very surprising twist that some of you might see coming and others won't. I recommend this movie for teenagers and adults.



Jake Gyllenhall in *Prince of Persia, the Sands of Time*.



*I would like to thank Beaucatcher Cinemas for allowing me to review these movies. Beaucatcher Cinemas has seven theatres and is located at Tunnel Road and I-240 in Asheville (321 Haw Creek Lane), phone 298-1234. All shows before 6 p.m. are at bargain price.*

### SPITFIRE - OPEN MIC

From poets to punk rockers... circus acts to scientists... calling all youth! Stand up and be heard as Spitfire continues it's monthly celebration of free self expression.

**IF YOU GO:** From 2 to 4 p.m. Saturday, July 3 at Pritchard Park, FREE. All forms of self expression welcome. Anyone under 19 encouraged to perform.

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# what to do guide™

## Every Friday, Saturday & Sunday Fleta Monaghan exhibit

The show entitled "Six Months Plus" features recent work in oils, encaustic and mixed media. On display at 310 ART Gallery until July 31, 2010. The gallery is located in the River Arts District at Riverview Station, 191 Lyman Street in Asheville. Open from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and most weekdays. Call (828) 776-2716.



## Saturday, July 3 Auditions for Twelfth Night

The Montford Park Players, North Carolina's Longest Running Shakespeare Festival, will hold auditions for Shakespeare's comedy *Twelfth Night*. We are looking for Renaissance musicians (harp, recorder, violin, etc) to form an ensemble. From 3 to 6 p.m. at the Hazel Robinson Amphitheatre, 100 Gay St. in Asheville. For more information call (828) 254-5146, visit [www.montfordparkplayers.org](http://www.montfordparkplayers.org), or email [info@montfordparkplayers.org](mailto:info@montfordparkplayers.org).

## How to place an event/ classified listing with Rapid River Arts & Culture 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](mailto:ads@rapidrivermagazine.com) Or mail to: 85 N. Main St, Canton, NC 28716. 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 non-paid 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.

## Special Film Screening: Chuck Close

### Chuck Close Film Screening, Thursday, July 8, at 7 p.m. at the Fine Arts Theatre.

This is the 2007 expanded version of the 1997 documentary (of the same name) by filmmaker Marion Cajori. This feature-length film follows Chuck Close as he paints a self-portrait and interviews many of his friends, including artists Robert Rauschenberg and Alex Katz, and features music by Philip Glass.

Presented by the Asheville Art Museum and held in conjunction with the exhibition *Limners* to Facebook: *Portraiture* from the 19th to the 21st Century.

\$8 Members/Seniors/Students, \$10 General Admission. Call (828) 253-



3227 for advance tickets or purchase them at the Fine Arts Theatre Box Office at the screening.

Asheville Art Museum, 2 South Pack Square. Call (828) 253-3227 or visit [www.ashevilleart.org](http://www.ashevilleart.org).

## Friday, July 9 The Alison Brown Quartet

Sophisticated bluegrass/jazz concert is part of the 2010 Summer at the Wortham Series. Diana Wortham Theatre at Pack Place. 8 p.m. Regular \$30; Senior \$28; Student \$25; Child: \$12; Student Rush day-of-the-show (with valid I.D.) \$10. Tickets/Info: (828) 257-4530 or online at [www.dwtheatre.com](http://www.dwtheatre.com).



Photo: David McClister

## July 9 – August 1 HART presents CHICAGO the Musical

Based on a play of the same name by reporter Maurine Dallas Watkins, who had been assigned to cover the 1924 trials of murderesses Beulah Annan and Bvela Gaertner for the *Chicago Tribune*.

Performances July 9, 10 15, 16, 17, 22, 23, 24, 30, 31 at 7:30 and July 11, 18, 25 and August 1 at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$22 for Adults, \$20 for Seniors, Student/child \$10 with special \$5 discount tickets for Students for Thursday and Sunday performances. Box Office Hours are Monday-Saturday 1-5 p.m. Call (828) 456-6322 for reservations or visit [www.harttheatre.com](http://www.harttheatre.com). All performances are at the Performing Arts Center at the Shelton House, 250 Pigeon St. Waynesville, NC.

## Sundays, July 11 & 18 The Work of Byron Katie

Learn simple, interactive inquiry to find freedom and kindness with stress-

ful thoughts. Everyone welcome! Led by Meg MacLeod, Certified Facilitator of The Work. From 2 to 4:30 p.m. at 62 Courtland Ave., Asheville, NC. \$15 to \$25 each session, sliding scale. (828) 279-6466 or [meg@interplaync.org](mailto:meg@interplaync.org). [www.thework.com](http://www.thework.com).



## Tuesday, July 13 Piano for Fun

The Asheville Music School is proud to announce a new kind of music

class geared towards adults. Piano For Fun classes are small group classes where the emphasis is on learning to make music in a more relaxed way compared to what is usually taught in more rigorous traditional piano lessons. Deborah Belcher, a nationally known piano clinician, performer and educator will be leading these group adventures into the joys of music making. These weekly classes are 50 minutes long and meet for eight weeks at a time. The first series of classes will begin at 10 a.m. and will be taught at the Asheville Music School's West location, 1408 Patton Ave.

For more information or to register for the class, call the Asheville Music School, (828) 252-8861, or visit [www.ashevillemusicschool.com](http://www.ashevillemusicschool.com). Asheville Music School, 250 Charlotte St., Asheville Music School West, 1408 Patton Ave., (828) 252-1888.

## July 22 – August 1 FolkMoot USA

A two week festival in eleven counties across Western North Carolina, features performances, parades and workshops by more than 350 performers from about ten countries celebrating culture heritage through dance and music. Tickets are on sale now

and may be purchased online at [www.folkmootusa.org](http://www.folkmootusa.org) or by calling the Folkmoot ticket office at (828) 452-2997.

## Saturday, July 24 Low-Cost Shot Clinic

Animal Compassion Network (ACN), the largest safe-for-life, non-profit, animal welfare organization in WNC, will host a low-cost rabies, vaccine and microchip clinic from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Protect your pet against rabies and other deadly diseases with low-cost vaccinations and medical services provided by Dr. Boatright.

Rabies (1 or 3 year) \$10; DHLPP or DHPP \$15; Bordatella \$15; FVRCP/FELV \$20; Microchip with lifetime registration \$18. At Pet Harmony, ACN's adoption center and retail store, 803 Fairview Street, less than a half-mile south of the I-40 off ramp and just off Hendersonville Rd. For more information call (828) 274-3647 or visit [www.animalcompassionnetwork.org](http://www.animalcompassionnetwork.org).

## Monday, July 26 Free Mystic Heart Universe Meditation Teleconference Call

This month's call is from 8 to 9 p.m. est. Join us and celebrate the mystical union of our outer divine consciousness and our inner mystical heart, which creates the marriage uniting the human and the divine, heaven and earth, the Mystic Universe.

You are invited to deepen your conscious awareness of your oneness with the God-Presence that lives and breathes each of us.

To sign up for the meditation contact Mary & Barry at (828) 338-0042 or visit [www.MysticHeartUniverse.com](http://www.MysticHeartUniverse.com).

## Through July 28 Fred Feldman Exhibit

At Studio 103 Fine Art Gallery, 103 West St. in Black Mountain. Exhibit runs through July 28. Whimsical and fun, rescued wood sculptures that play and tell time.



Feldman includes awesome speakers in his sculptures that any music phobe would die to have. Call (828) 357-8327 or visit [www.studio103fineartgallery.com](http://www.studio103fineartgallery.com) for details.

## Saturday, July 31 Summer Satsang with Bill Walz

Asheville consciousness columnist and teacher and UNCA meditation and personal consciousness teacher

## Concerts at St. Matthias Church

Concerts start at 3 p.m. unless otherwise noted.

**Sunday, July 4** – Baroque music featuring strings with organ and recorder. It will include music by Stanley, Handel, Marcello, and Vivaldi. This will be part of the First Sunday Classical Chamber Music Series.

**Sunday, July 11** – Joe Mambo Afro-Cuban Jazz ensemble will perform. This will be part of the Second Sunday Jazz Series.

**Sunday, July 18** – Soprano Amanda Horton will present a recital of arias.

**Sunday, July 25** – The Clearwater Connection singing duo will present a concert of popular standard songs.

A free-will offering will be taken for the restoration of the beautiful and historic church. St. Matthias' Church is over 100 years old and is on the national historic register. 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.).

Bill Walz will hold Satsang. Explore an afternoon of deep meditation, trans-egoic psychology and personal consciousness evolution while opening into the discovery of your deepest and wisest self.

Get beyond the trouble-making aspects of ego as you discover and live your potential. The afternoon will begin with Gentle Yoga warm-up for persons of all ages and levels of yoga experience with Kirsten Walz, RYT. More details at (828) 258-3241, [www.billwalz.com](http://www.billwalz.com)

From 2 to 5 p.m. at the Asheville Friends Meeting House, 227 Edgewood, off Merrimon. Suggested donation \$10-\$20.



## August 7 & 8 38th Annual Village Art and Craft Fair

This high quality craft fair, sponsored by New Morning Gallery and Bellagio, takes place on the grounds of the Cathedral of All Souls in Historic Biltmore Village. Fair hours are Saturday 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Sunday noon to 6 p.m., rain or shine. Free admission. Concessions available. For more information call (828) 274-2831.

# JULY EVENTS ~ ANNOUNCEMENTS ~ CLASSIFIEDS

# what to do guide™

## Laugh Your Asheville Off Comedy Festival

July 13-17

The annual festival is anchored by HBO and Comedy Central veteran Jake Johannsen. The three-day event showcases more than 40 stand-up comedians. For more information visit [www.laughyourashevilleoff.com](http://www.laughyourashevilleoff.com), call the box office at (828) 257-4530, or visit the Pack Place Box Office in person.

## Liturgical Artists to Develop Talents

August 22-27, 2010

Beginning and experienced weavers, photographers, choir singers and directors, quilters and needle workers will gather at Kanuga Conferences for the 13th Annual Liturgical Arts Conference. Students will attend hands-on classes in the morning, concentrating on one of seven areas:

- Canvaswork Sampler taught by Sally Boom of Montrose, Ala.
- Worship for Singers and Choir Directors taught by Chris Brayne of Charlotte, N.C.
- Sewing Church Linens taught by Pat Crane of Wethersfield, Conn.
- Quilted Stoles, Vestments and Altar Paraments taught by Pamela Hardiman of Farmington, Conn.
- Blackwork Celtic Knot taught by Marion Scoular of Duluth, Ga.
- Images of Spirituality taught by Robin Smith of Columbia, S.C.
- An Introduction to Weaving taught by Jane Stickney of Higganum, Conn.

Instructors will offer optional afternoon workshops on topics including canvas painting, flower arranging, color for liturgical design, reversible embroidery on a bookmark and community weaving on a traveling loom.

Daily worship services will be lead by the Rev. Robert Childers, rector of Church of the Good Shepherd located in Lookout Mountain, Tennessee.

Affiliated with the Episcopal Church since 1928, Kanuga is a 1,400-acre retreat center near Hendersonville, NC. Group discounts or financial aid is available. For more information, visit [www.kanuga.org](http://www.kanuga.org) or call (828) 692-9136.



## Justin West at Woolworth Walk's FW Front Gallery

Justin West will be showcasing his new works in the exhibit "Weathered and Feathered." Justin is a self-taught artist whose approach to his work is playful, soulful, and intuitive. The subjects of his paintings range from purely aesthetic to richly symbolic, from dark to light, from simple to chaotic. He paints on surfaces beyond the canvas including jars, flasks, glass, and wood. Through his artwork Justin aims to explore and solidify the many nuances of his experiences. Come meet artist Justin West at the opening reception **Friday, July 2** from 5 to 7 p.m.

On display through July 30, 2010 at Woolworth Walk, 25 Haywood Street in Asheville. Phone (828) 254-9234. Gallery Hours: Monday-Thursday 11 to 6 p.m.; Friday and Saturday 11 to 7 p.m.; Sunday 11 to 5 p.m.

## Best in Show



by Phil Juliano

## Callie & Cats



by Amy Downs

## Corgi Tales



by Phil Hawkins

## Dragin



by Michael Cole

## Art Classes for Adults this July

**Mixed Media/Collage**, 6 weeks starts July 8 from 1:30-4:30 p.m., beginner and up, \$200. Elizabeth Lasley instructor

**Drawing**, 6 weeks starts July 7. Beginning 9:30-12:30. Intermediate/Advanced 1:30-4:30. \$200. Scratchboard 2-Day Workshop for beginners and up, July 23 and 24 from 10-3 p.m. \$150 plus \$10 materials fee. Lorelle Bacon instructor.

**Landscape Painting**, Fridays, July 9, 16, and 23 from 10-1 p.m. On location, any media. \$45 per class or register for all three classes for \$115. Fleta Monaghan instructor.

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## Summer Music in Flat Rock

**Saturday, July 3** – Dana and Susan Robinson will perform a free concert in Flat Rock beginning at 6 p.m. Dana and Susan are two guitar-playing, banjo-frailing, fiddle-sawing, and harmony-singing interpreters of the American experience.



Scheduled concerts for the remainder of the season include: August 7 - Sally Baris, September 4 - The Swayback Sisters, October 2 - Peace Out. This is a casual, family oriented, bring-your-lawn-chair outdoor event, weather permitting. Food and beverages will be available from Flat Rock Village Bakery and Hubba Hubba Smokehouse.

Concerts are held in Flat Rock on Little Rainbow Row's back deck (behind the colorful shops, corner of Greenville Highway and West Blue Ridge Road) from 6 to 8 p.m. For further information, call Hand in Hand Gallery at (828) 697-7719 or visit [www.flatrockonline.com](http://www.flatrockonline.com).

## Craft Fair of the Southern Highlands

**July 15-18** at the Asheville Civic Center, 87 Haywood St. downtown Asheville. Thursday – Saturday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Sunday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission: Adults \$7, children under 12 free. Visit [www.craftguild.org](http://www.craftguild.org) or call (828) 298-7928 for details.

## Haywood Community Band Concert

**Sunday, July 18** – The Haywood Community Band will present a free concert beginning at 6:30 p.m. at the pavilion next to the Maggie Valley Town Hall. The theme for this concert will include patriotic melodies. In addition, the band will also play an original composition, Pickett's Charge, written by band member Mike McDonald and commemorating a major Civil War battle which took place July 3, 1863. Bring a picnic dinner and enjoy a beautiful sunset as the band plays on.

Visit [www.haywoodcommunityband.org](http://www.haywoodcommunityband.org) for more information, or call John Barrett at (828) 452-5553, or Bob Hill at (828) 452-7530.

**CLASSES ~ LECTURES ~ ARTS & CRAFTS ~ READINGS**

# noteworthy

## Haywood County Arts Council Presents the 25th Annual International Festival Day

BY KAY S. MILLER



In the Passport to the Arts children's area sponsored by United Community Bank, children are issued a "passport" and "travel" to countries like Russia, India, Latvia, United Kingdom, France, Switzerland, Jordan, Portugal and Poland, creating Indian twirling palm puppets, Kufi hats, and other one-of-a-kind crafts to take home. Festival entertainment will be provided by Folkmoot USA's international dancers and musicians, Voices in the Laurel Children's Chorus, and students from the Haywood County Arts Council's Junior Appalachian Musicians program.



The Haywood County Arts Council presents the 25th Annual International Festival Day Saturday, July 31 from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. in downtown Waynesville. For more information visit [www.haywoodarts.org](http://www.haywoodarts.org) or call the Haywood County Arts Council at (828) 452-0593.



International Festival Day is the highlight of regional performances by international folk dancers and musicians from Folkmoot USA, North Carolina's Official International Festival which takes place from July 22-August 1, 2010.

On Saturday, July 31 Waynesville's Main Street is transformed into a world bazaar where more than one hundred artists, craftsmen, and international guests sell all forms of art and craft. Art lovers can browse booths filled with handcrafted items and even catch a demonstration or two by artisans including flame workers, potters, and woodworkers. From Russian nesting dolls to Seagrove pottery, traditional Appalachian baskets, and Guatemalan carvings from vegetable ivory, art lovers will find treasures at every stop.

The international theme of the day continues at opposite ends of Main Street where food courts feature a wide variety of choices including Gyros, Asian spring rolls, Crepes, Beignets, Caribbean Shawarmas, Fajitas, and — a North Carolina staple — pulled pork barbeque.

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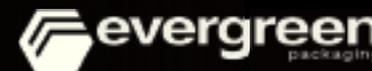
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# FOLKMOOTUSA

## NORTH INTERNATIONAL CAROLINA'S FESTIVAL

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# healthy lifestyles

## Did You Get Your Vaccinations?

BY MAX HAMMONDS, MD

Anyone who travels regularly overseas know that one needs to keep a shot record. Those who work in the health care industry also need an up-to-date shot record. Who else in the adult world needs to keep their vaccinations up-to-date? Those over 55.

### What? I thought immunizations are for kids?

There are two vulnerable age groups who need to be protected against the harmful microbes that inhabit our world: those who have yet to develop immunity (those under 10 years old) and those whose immunity is wearing out (those over 55 who have decreased resistance or increased ill-health). While the under 10 group have their mothers to check on them, the over 55 group have to rely on the health care providers to keep them up-to-date and protected.

### So what immunizations do older people need to consider?

**1. The influenza vaccine.** The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommend that everyone over 6 months of age get the flu vaccine this year. It contains the H1N1 strain along with the other strains, so there's no reason to get two shots this year. Those who have chronic illness and those who are traveling abroad (it is an international disease) should be vaccinated early.

**2. Tetanus.** The tetanus microbe is in the soil and on every object everywhere. People are exposed to it constantly. So why the immunization? An excessive exposure in a cut or wound can overwhelm a weak immune system. Therefore, the immune system needs to be updated every 10 years with a new immunization. This immunization is usually given with diphtheria and pertussis vaccines. Anyone under 65 who is exposed to infants under one year should have their pertussis (whooping cough) updated as well.

**3. Pneumococcal pneumonia.** In this day of antibiotics, people don't expect pneumonia to be fatal. The fact is: Pneumonia is the nation's leading cause of vaccine-preventable illness and death. The pneumonia caused by the pneumococcal bacteria is especially virulent in the over 65 age group and in those with long-standing health problems, transplant patients, and those without a spleen. They all should receive the PPSV vaccine one time and have it repeated once after age 65.

**4. Chicken Pox.** There is a long standing maxim in medicine that says that children's diseases are mild in children and devastating in adults. Chicken pox is one of those diseases that can have severe side effects when it happens in older adults. Health care workers, military personnel and international travelers especially need this immunization unless a blood test can confirm that they have had the disease and already have immunity.

**5. Shingles.** It's chicken pox again! This time in those who have already had the disease. Herpes zoster is a recurrence or flair up of the chicken pox virus in the nerve bodies of those who had the disease years ago. While the skin rash and initial pain can clear up in 3-6 weeks, 60% of those with shingles

can develop severe chronic pain in the same area that may take months or years to go away. This vaccine does not totally prevent this. It is about 50-60% effective. However the devastation of post-herpetic neuralgia (nerve pain) is so severe that a one-time shot seems like a good idea.

There are other vaccines that should be considered in those over 55 including: measles, mumps and rubella vaccine, meningitis vaccine, polio vaccine, and hepatitis vaccine. For more information on whether you or any older person that you care for should be receiving any of these immunizations, check with your doctor or check out the now familiar websites of WebMD or the CDC.

*An ounce of prevention...*

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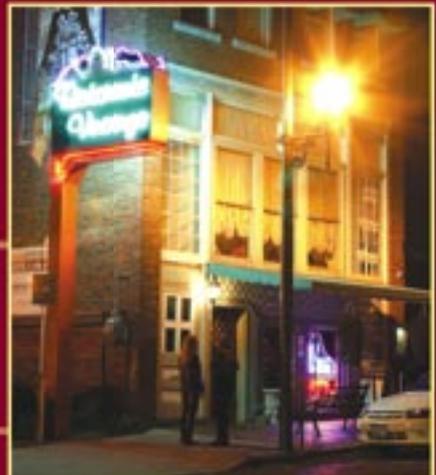
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