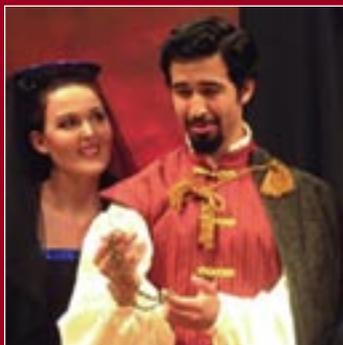


RAPID RIVER MAGAZINE

September 2010 • Vol. 14 No. 1

Arts & Culture

something beautiful



Asheville Lyric Opera has *Something Beautiful* just for you.

PAGE 7



The Asheville Area Piano Forum's 10th Anniversary Fall Benefit Concert at Diana Wortham Theatre. PAGE 17



The Asheville Ballet presents "Les Sylphides," the pure white classical ballet set to Chopin's beautiful music. PAGE 5



The award-winning string quintet Bearfoot performs "new-timey," "post-bluegrass," "newgrass" music September 25. PAGE 22



The newly finished 6.5-acre Pack Square Park creates a fun and vibrant showcase for our city. PAGE 20

performance

Asheville Symphony Presents it's
50th Season Opening Concert

BY STEVEN R. HAGEMAN

The Asheville Symphony Orchestra will celebrate the opening concert of its 50th season on Saturday, September 18 at 8 p.m., at Thomas Wolfe Auditorium in downtown Asheville. The concert will consist of works by Tchaikovsky, Szymanowski, and Hindemith, conducted by Music Director Daniel Meyer, with violinist Rachel Barton Pine as featured soloist. Due to unforeseen scheduling conflicts, Mr. Nicolas Kendall, originally scheduled to appear, will not be performing.

The 50th season festivities will begin with the lovely *Suite from The Sleeping Beauty, Opus 66a* by Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky. The composer was elated by the results of his work on this piece, and wrote to his patroness, Nadezhda von Meck: "I think the music for this ballet will be one of my best works. The story is so poetic and so grateful to set to music that I have been quite carried away by composing it and have written it with that warmth and enthusiasm which always determine the value of a work." The original ballet is over 3 hours long, and the *Suite* is a condensation of its major themes. Today, *The Sleeping Beauty* is often described as the masterpiece among Tchaikovsky's ballet scores, although the others are *Swan Lake* and *Nutcracker*!

The *Violin Concerto No. 1, Opus 35* by Polish composer Karol Szymanowski is a fascinating and dreamlike work. Written in 1916, its premiere was delayed by the Russian Revolution, so the piece was not heard until 1921, in Warsaw. The composer took inspiration from the poem *May Night*, written by Tadeusz Micinski, and the expressionistic music suits the fantastical imagery in the poem. Szymanowski's work has become popular in Europe in recent years — his style is influenced by both the German masters, and French composers such as Debussy and Ravel. This will be the first performance by the Asheville Symphony of one of his evocative pieces.

American violinist Rachel Barton Pine has been described in *The New York Times* as "a greatly gifted young violinist," and in the *Washington Post* as "an exciting, boundary-defying performer — Pine displays a power and confidence that puts her in the top echelon of recitalists." She has appeared as a soloist with many of the most prestigious orchestras, and has been featured on CBS Sunday Morning, and five times on NBC's Today show. In addition to her frequent appearances with orchestras, in recitals, and in chamber music, her love of heavy metal music has led to many non-classical projects, including a performance with



Led Zeppelin stars Robert Plant and Jimmy Page, and a recording of her favorite rock songs entitled "Storming the Citadel".

The concert will conclude with *Symphonic Metamorphosis on Themes of Carl Maria von Weber*, written in 1943 by Paul Hindemith. Maestro Meyer describes this composer's most popular work as "powerful, brazen, and celebratory". Hindemith emigrated from his native Germany to the U.S.A. in 1940, and based this piece on some of the lilting melodies written by Weber, a German early-Romantic composer (1786-1826). Although the idea was originally intended for a ballet to be choreographed by the famed Leonide Massine, that project did not reach fruition, and the plan came full circle when George Ballanchine used this music for his ballet *Metamorphoses* in 1952.

Two free presentations will be offered for those who enjoy having extra exposure to the music and its background. On Friday, September 17 from 3 to 4:30 p.m., at the Reuter Center on the Campus of UNC-Asheville, Music Director Daniel Meyer will discuss the musical works and introduce the featured soloist, and Mountaine Mort Jonas will speak about the lives and times of the composers. Then, on Saturday, September 18 from 7 to 7:30 p.m., Meyer will present an abridged version of his talk on the musical works, and will introduce the soloists, in the Banquet Hall of the Asheville Civic Center. Both events are free of charge and open to the public.

IF YOU GO Tickets for the performance are available through the Symphony office or the Asheville Civic Center box office, and range in price from \$53 to \$19 (with discounts available for students). Visit www.asheillesymphony.org or call (828) 254-7046 for more information on this concert, or to purchase subscriptions for the Symphony's 50th season.

ASHEVILLE **Bravo!** CONCERTS

"The best known, most popular composer in history."

— NEW YORK TIMES

Wall to Wall Williams

THE MUSIC OF JOHN WILLIAMS

An evening of music from the Academy Award-winning composer of the scores for *Jaws*, *Star Wars*, *E.T.* and both the *Indiana Jones* and *Harry Potter* series, among countless others. Your entire family will be caught up in the music of your favorite movies conducted by Rachael Worby, Musical Director and Conductor for the Pasadena Pops, with the West Virginia Festival Orchestra.

Friday, Sept. 10 @ 7:30 pm | Thomas Wolfe Auditorium

UPCOMING BRAVO! SHOWS

OKLAHOMA! SATURDAY, OCTOBER 23 • 7:30 PM
THE MIKADO SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13 • 7:30 PM
TIME FOR THREE SATURDAY, JANUARY 15 • 7:30 PM
BILL T. JONES FRIDAY, APRIL 15 • 7:30 PM

Tickets \$20-\$60 • Students 1/2 price • Tickets: Civic Center Box Office, ticketmaster.com or 828.225.5887 • ashevillebravoconcerts.org

Concert sponsored in honor of
CARY C. OWEN



Asheville Ballet

2010-2011 Season • Ann Dunn, Artistic Director

October 2-3, 2010
Les Sylphides



May 13-14, 2011

Carmen
and
Ballet: The Beautiful Journey

October 2-3, 2010

Free Fall

Set to LIVE Music by
the post-rock band
Kangaroo



December 9-12, 2010

The Nutcracker

Diana Wortham Theatre
Box Office: (828) 257-4530



Registration for classes with the Asheville Ballet is ongoing throughout the year!
Call Ann Dunn, Director, at (828) 258-1028, or visit www.ashevilleballet.com, for more information or to register.

www.ncstage.org
828.239.0263



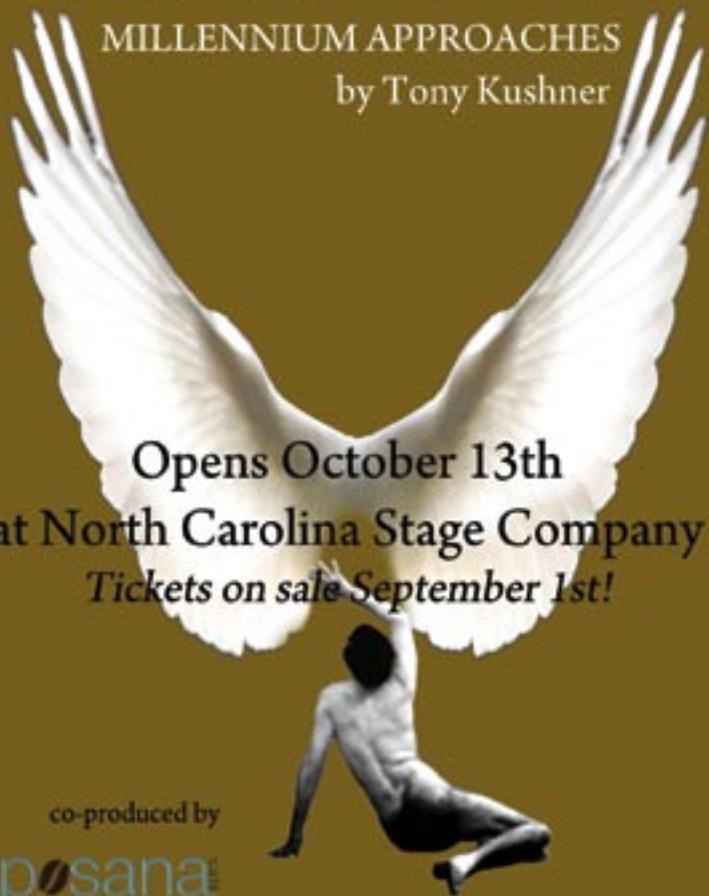
ANGELS IN AMERICA

MILLENNIUM APPROACHES

by Tony Kushner

Opens October 13th
at North Carolina Stage Company
Tickets on sale September 1st!

co-produced by
posana
the heart of the mountain



Haywood Arts Regional Theatre
Western North Carolina's Award-Winning Theatre

A Hilarious Look
at
Fishing, Beer
and the
Meaning of Life

Catfish MOON

AUGUST 25 - SEPTEMBER 5
at the Performing Arts Center

THE PERFORMING ARTS CENTER THEATRE

250 Pigeon Street on Highway 276 S. in Waynesville

Visit www.harttheatre.com or call 828-456-6322 for Tickets.



BALSAM RANGE IN CONCERT!
August 14th at 7:30 PM
at Eaglenest Entertainment
in Maggie Valley, NC

Tickets: \$15
This is a special event benefitting HART.

The Magic Flute

October 8 & 9, 2010

8pm • Diana Wortham Theatre
Preview Dress October 6 • 7pm



The debut of Asheville Symphony Orchestra
Conductor Daniel Meyer

The Christmas Concert

November 19, 2010

7:30 pm • Diana Wortham Theatre

Celebrating the Asheville Holiday Parade

ASHEVILLE LYRIC OPERA

2010 - 2011 Opera Season

*something
beautiful*

Brundibár

7:30pm • January 28, 2011

3pm • January 29, 2011

Diana Wortham Theatre



The Asheville debut of the
world's most produced children's opera

La Bohème

April 1 & 2, 2011

8pm • Diana Wortham Theatre
Preview Dress March 30 • 7pm



Featuring Asheville Lyric Opera
Principal Guest Conductor, Dr. Robert Hart Baker

Taste of Opera

June 4, 2011

Food • 6pm Concert • 7:30 pm
Diana Wortham Theatre

Asheville's feast of food, wine and music

Opera Sponsors



RAPID RIVER



VOLVO



For ticket information call 828-257-4530 + www.ashevillelyric.org

performance

Remarkable Asheville Ballet Productions

Classical + Rock 'n Roll + a Surprise

The Asheville Ballet opens its 2010-2011 Season with a double bill: the pure white classical ballet "Les Sylphides" set to Chopin's beautiful music, and "Free Fall," a world premier set to the music of the hot new Chapel Hill Post-Rock band, Kangaroo, who will perform live on stage.

We continue our tradition of commissioning new work from promising young artists, creating an excitingly contrasting performance experience for our audience, and promoting the history of dance. And there is a surprise!

"Les Sylphides," choreographed by Michael Fokine for the impresario Dhiagilev, premiered in 1908. The ballet is a lyrical contemplation on the essence of ballet itself – separated from story. There is no plot, just twenty-five minutes of breathtaking beauty. Our version, in the tradition of evolutionary performance art, celebrates the original choreography while highlighting the strengths of The Asheville Ballet's own soloists: Lyle Laney, Allison Hertzberg, Fleming Lomax and Lisa Leithman. Featured roles also go to senior teens Conner Hall and Athaya Sriskul, our exchange student from Thailand.

"Free Fall." What to say? You will be out of your seat. Your children will love it. This is dance that never stops, but also engages all your emotions along the way. The band Kangaroo is live on stage (violin, drums/percussion, guitar, bass). They are part of the choreography. Dick Kowal of WCQS is taping them live, in performance.

So your response will be part of Kangaroo's next CD. An octet, a solo, a trio, a quintet, a pas des deux, and a nonet – all set to the driving, intricate, sometimes romantic, sometimes heart-pounding music of Kangaroo. This is original choreography (we have had so much fun all summer making this movement) set to original music by a stunning young band.

The surprise: We will open with an historically accurate Isadora Duncan solo by the Duncan-Certified professional, Amy Kohler. In 1904, Isadora premiered a collection of solos set to Chopin's piano music. Guess who was in the audience? Michael

BY ANN DUNN



"Les Sylphides" – there is no plot, just twenty-five minutes of breathtaking beauty.

Fokine. Four years later he premiered our first featured ballet, "Les Sylphides." Hmmm?! We will see the remarkable, historical, and ground-breaking Duncan solo set to Chopin's "Mazurka," danced by our own Amy Kohler. Then, when you see "Les Sylphides," you will have an interesting comparison with Fokine's version.

The Asheville Ballet promotes professional excellence in performance and teaching, promotes educational outreach to children and underserved groups, promotes audience education in the belief that the community wants to learn and grow through their artistic experiences, and especially produces memorable productions that stimulate, enthuse, and entertain.



"Free Fall" will engage all your emotions.

that stimulate, enthuse, and entertain.



Performances are at Diana Wortham Theatre, with curtain times of 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, October 2 and 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, October 3.

Ticket prices range from \$20 to \$40. All children's tickets are \$15. Bring the entire family! Group rates are available. For tickets, call the box office at (828) 257-4530. Visit www.ashevilleballet.com for more information.

All-new, dazzling production features a stellar cast of local talent!

TICKETS:
\$22 Adult
\$19 Seniors & Students
\$12 Children

OLIVER!

Book, music and lyrics by Lionel Bart

SEPTEMBER 17-OCTOBER 3

Fridays & Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. Sundays at 2:30 p.m.

828-254-1320 www.ashevilletheatre.org

Asheville Community Theatre

35 EAST WALNUT STREET ASHEVILLE NORTH CAROLINA 28801

musical direction by
CHUCK TAFT
directed by
JERRY CROUCH

BUILDING BRIDGES



- of Asheville -

Going Beyond Racism
Through Understanding & Respect

Learn how **YOU** can make a difference!

NEXT NINE WEEK SESSION

Tuesdays at 7:00 pm at Asheville Middle School

September 14th - November 9th

Register online at www.buildingbridges-asheville.org

\$30 Registration Fee • For more information call 828-777-4585

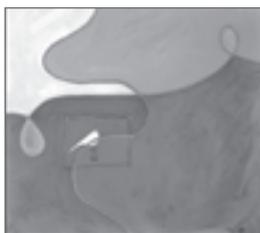
we love this place

Studio 103 Fine Art Gallery features two exhibits you don't want to miss! **Moni Hill** is quickly becoming one of Asheville's most sought after artists for personal collections. Her pieces are fun, colorful, and full of joy. In her work she seeks peace and resolution in the midst of life's contrast. Hill's exhibit runs through **September 22**.



Becca Midwood

Becca Midwood is an Austin, Texas artist who began her career in L.A. Her reception will be held **Friday, September 24** from 5 to 8 p.m. Wine and cheese will be served. Midwood's exhibit runs through **October 27, 2010** at Studio 103 Fine Art Gallery, 103 West St. in Black Mountain, behind the town chamber, and next to Mac's. Hours are Wednesday-Friday, noon to 6 p.m., most Saturdays, and by appointment. Phone (828) 357-8327 or visit www.studio103fineartgallery.com.



Moni Hill

Local stained glass artist **Cheryl Stippich** will demonstrate her soldering techniques at **Hand in Hand Gallery** on **Saturday, September 25** from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. She considers her glass pieces as "jewelry for your windows or walls." With a flair for refreshing contemporary design, Cheryl combines a rich palette of colors and textures with traditional fine craftsmanship to create dynamic works in glass. The demonstration is held in conjunction with the annual **Fall Henderson County Open Studio Tour**, which takes place Saturday, September 25 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday from 12 noon to 5 p.m.

Hand in Hand Gallery is located at 2720 Greenville Highway in Flat Rock on "Little Rainbow Row." Handicap and off-street parking are available. The craft demonstration is free and open to the public. For more information call the gallery at (828) 697-7719.



Ginkgo leaves rug design by Wence and Sandra Martinez

Weavers love finding other talented weavers during their travels. So it wasn't unusual for Barb Butler, of **sutherland Handweaving Gallery & Teaching Studio** in Asheville's River Arts District, to wander into the studio of **Wence and Sandra Martinez** while attending a weaving school in Door County, WI. She wasn't, however, expecting to fall in love with the contemporary tapestry rugs being woven there by Wence, a native of Oaxaca, Mexico.

Before she left Door County, Butler had three of Martinez' rugs in her car and a contract in hand for a special exhibition of his work at Sutherland. Titled "**Kindred Spirits**," the exhibit opens **October 8** with a slide presentation, artists' talk and reception from 6 to 9 p.m. CURVE studios & garden is located at 6 Riverside Drive in Asheville, NC. The exhibit will be on display from October 8 through November 7, 2010.



Stained glass by Cheryl Stippich.

Advertise with Rapid River Magazine

(828) 646-0071

Free web links • Free ad design • Easy monthly billing

newspapers
logos catalogs
brochures websites

Simone Bouyer's
Ad World
services

info@quickbrightsharp.com
828 689-8543

www.QuickBrightSharp.com

Peter Loewer
Printmaker Graphos=Studio

PO Box 5039 - Asheville, NC 28813
email: Spicebush@mlnarea.net

RAPID RIVER MAGAZINE Arts & Culture

RAPID RIVER ARTS & CULTURE MAGAZINE

Established in 1997 • Volume Fourteen, Number One

SEPTEMBER 2010

www.rapidrivermagazine.com

Publisher/Editor: Dennis Ray
Managing Editor: Beth Gossett
Marketing: Dennis Ray
Staff Photographer: Dennis Ray
Layout & Design: Simone Bouyer
Proofreader: Mary Wilson
Book Editor: Cauley Bennett
Poetry Editor: Ted Olson
Accounting: Sharon Cole
Distribution: Dennis Ray

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS:

Timothy Arem, Judy Ausley,
James Cassara, Michael Cole,
Karen Donde, Amy Downs,
Ann Dunn, John Ellis,
Jim Faucett, Polly Feitzinger,
Beth Gossett, Steven R. Hageman,
Max Hammonds, MD, Phil Hawkins,
Janna Hoekema, Phil Juliano,
Chip Kaufmann, Michelle Keenan,
Amanda Leslie, Peter Loewer,
April Nance, Ted Olson,
Michael Parker, Joseph Rathbone,
Dennis Ray, Clara Sofia,
Megan Stone, Ashley Van Matre,
Greg Vineyard, David Voorhees,
Bill Walz, Joe Zinich.

INFO

Rapid River Arts & Culture Magazine is a monthly publication. Address correspondence to info@rapidrivermagazine.com or write to:

Rapid River Arts & Culture Magazine
85 N. Main St.
Canton, NC 28716
Phone: (828) 646-0071
www.rapidrivermagazine.com

All materials contained herein are owned and copyrighted by Rapid River Arts & Culture Magazine and the individual contributors unless otherwise stated. Opinions expressed in this magazine do not necessarily correspond with the opinions of Rapid River Arts & Culture Magazine or the advertisers found herein.

© Rapid River Arts & Culture Magazine,
September 2010 Vol. 14 No. 1



About the Cover:

Andrea Adamcova performing at the Asheville Piano Forum's 9th Annual Fall Benefit Concert. Photo by Pavel Wlosok.

2 Performance

Asheville Symphony	2
Asheville Ballet	5
Asheville Lyric Opera	7
BRAVO Concerts	8
Asheville Area Piano Forum	17

8 Music

Summer Music in Flat Rock	8
Ronny Cox	11
Stonehoney	11
Dougie Maclean	22
Bearfoot	22
Dave Desmelik	23

9 Stage Preview

ACT presents <i>Oliver!</i>	9
Bard-a-Thon Shakespeare Festival	9
HART presents <i>Catfish Moon</i>	9

10 Columns

James Cassara - Music	10
Judy Ausley - Southern Comfort	12
Joe Zinich - Beer	25
Greg Vineyard - Fine Art	26
Michael Parker - Wine	27
Ted Olson - Poetry	28
Cauley Bennett - Book Reviews	29-30
Bill Walz - Artful Living	31
Peter Loewer - Thoreau's Garden	32
Joseph Rathbone - Youth Culture	33
Max Hammonds, MD - Health	36

13 Movie Reviews

18 Fine Art

Jon Dennis	18
Folk Art Center	19
Groewood Gallery	26
Susan Hutchinson	37
Cotton Mill Studios	38

20 Explore Asheville

New Pack Place Park	20
---------------------	----

34 What to Do Guide™

Best in Show by Phil Juliano	35
Callie & Cats by Amy Downs	35
Corgi Tales by Phil Hawkins	35
Dragin by Michael Cole	35

Distributed at more than 390 locations throughout eight counties in WNC and South Carolina.
First copy is free - each additional copy \$1.50

something beautiful

Asheville Lyric Opera's Exciting 12th Season

Beauty, Adventure, Passion. Delightful and epic discovery for characters brought to life. If this sounds like what's playing at the local cineplex then you haven't really been paying attention for the past 11 years.

For the Asheville Lyric Opera, exciting entertainment is business as usual as the company heads into its 12th season. A season that looks to be the best yet.

"We're always striving to be better," says General and Artistic Director of ALO, David Starkey. "This year in particular we're really focusing on the singing." That is saying a lot considering they have managed to pull in such heavy powerhouses as Scott Guinn from New York City Opera and Daniel Meyer from the Asheville Symphony.

Eleven years has allowed Starkey and his staff to fine tune the way they approach each production. They have learned what works and what doesn't, from certain types of special effects to the kind of operas the community wants to see. The design values are elaborate but far from being over produced. Many of the people who work behind the scenes have worked together multiple times and understand and know each other's strengths.

ALO has been producing two to three major productions a year since the beginning, something truly remarkable when examined as a whole. The community has embraced itself with this company and has been pleasantly rewarded with elaborate stunning performances from around the country and world.

"When you've been around for 12 years," Starkey says, "you find that you've gotten the opportunity to debut some talent that has gone on and has become very successful, while realizing you've brought in people who have been in the business for decades, reminding people just how good the human voice can be when sung at these unbelievable levels of skill and talent. This is what is so incredibly rewarding for us."

ALO has produced some of the most difficult productions for any company of any size to produce and they have done it well.



Artistic Director of ALO, David Starkey

"Carmen was the hardest because of the sets and the costumes and the talent needed, but probably was our most rewarding when it was done," Starkey says.

While the recession has forced many major opera companies to cut back their number of productions, such as the Atlanta Opera who had to cut a quarter of its season, to three productions for the 2010-11 season, ALO has managed to grow. It will present five main stage events and additional supporting programs throughout western North Carolina.

ALO will begin its 12th season this October with Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's *Die Zauberflöte* (The Magic Flute). It is an opera in two acts composed in 1791 by Mozart to a German libretto by Emanuel Schikaneder. *Flute* is done in a genre of opera

called 'Singspiel,' a German word meaning both spoken and sung parts.

Flute will also feature the debut of Maestro Daniel Meyer of the Asheville Symphony. (The Asheville Symphony celebrates its 50th season anniversary this year.) "Having Meyer open with us during the Symphony's big season is a wonderful blessing."

The ALO Christmas Concert (November 19), a tradition of the ALO, will feature beloved solo and ensemble music to ring in the Holiday Season on the eve of the 64th Annual Asheville Holiday Parade, with special support for ABCCM.

Hans Krasa's *Brundibár*, (January 28 & 29, 2011), an Asheville debut, is a children's opera, which will be produced as part of the ALO Education Opera program.

Giacomo Puccini's *La Bohème* (April 1 & 2, 2011), an opera classic and reigning public favorite, will be the final fully staged opera.

Taste of Opera, the fifth main stage event, will feature performances of opera's past, present and future vocal stars; gourmet food and fine wine will be served.



The Magic Flute

BY DENNIS RAY

In addition to ALO's five main stage events this season, the ALO will continue to sponsor and support the Metropolitan Opera movie broadcasts, which are shown live at the Carolina Cinemas on Hendersonville Road. Highlighting its season are the Met's new productions of *Das Rheingold* and *Die Walküre*, the first two installations of Wagner's *Der*

Ring des Nibelungen (Ring Cycle).

"The secret to creating a successful production, either operatic or spoken, is to surround oneself with talent," says Starkey. "That's where ALO has been very fortunate. Locally, the talent pool is quite deep. Through generous donations and sponsorships and the continued support from the community, we've been able to afford top performers from around the world."

The season will also feature the return of maestro Dr. Robert Hart Baker, former Artistic Director of the Asheville Symphony, Jon Truitt, Director of Opera at University of Evansville and director David Carl Toulson of Los Angeles and Washington National Opera companies. ALO Assistant Music Director and director of the Brevard College Choirs, Dr. Michael Porter, will lead soloists and ensembles in the Christmas Concert, and will conduct *Brundibár*.

As part of its dedication to making the arts affordable, ALO is offering subscription packages with varying subscriber discounts. Buyers may purchase three tickets to any of the five productions and receive \$3 off of each production, four tickets to any of the five productions and receive \$4 off of each production, or five tickets to all five productions and receive \$5 off of each production.

Founded in 1999, the Asheville Lyric Opera is Asheville's first opera company and is recognized for its excellent artistic productions of operatic repertoire that entertain and inspire audiences, featuring established and emerging operatic talent from across the nation. The state of North Carolina has recognized ALO's award-winning educational programs — programs that strive to bring opera to thousands of school-aged children each year throughout Western North Carolina. The ALO is also recognized as one of the few opera production touring companies in the United States, expanding to bring this fine art form to the smaller communities of the South.

Season tickets are currently on sale. Tickets for *The Magic Flute* and *La Bohème* range from \$24 to \$52. Preview dress re-



La Bohème



Brundibár

Asheville Symphony Children's Chorus 2010-2011 Season

The Asheville Symphony Children's Chorus (ASCC) is welcoming past, present and new members for the 2010-2011 season. Previous choral experience is not required for membership, however a placement interview is necessary for anyone new to the ASCC.

The spring 2011 semester begins on January 11 and concludes with a spring concert on May 3 and a performance for the Asheville Symphony Guild Luncheon on May 5.

Membership in the ASCC is open to qualified singers in elementary and middle school who desire a high-level musical and choral experience. Rehearsals are Tuesday nights from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at Biltmore United Methodist Church. Rehearsal time is devoted to teaching: fundamental musicianship (sight singing of pitch and rhythm); healthy vocal production; and choral repertoire for public performances. Membership fees per semester are \$85.

To register for a placement interview and/or to request a registration form for membership, contact Timothy Wilds at info@soundingsstudio.com.

.....
 rehearsal tickets are available for \$18 (adults) and \$12 seniors \$5 for students. Tickets for *Brundibár* and the Christmas Concert range in price from \$18-\$35. Tickets for the Taste of Opera range from \$41-\$52 in price.



For information on season or dress rehearsal tickets, group discounts, or for a season brochure, please contact the Asheville Lyric

Opera at (828) 236-0670 or visit www.ashevillelyric.org. Single tickets will be sold through Diana Wortham Theatre box office at (828) 257-4530, or online at www.dwttheatre.com.

Magical Performances

Asheville Symphony	pg. 2
Asheville Ballet.	pg. 5
Bravo's <i>Wall to Wall Williams</i>	pg. 8
ACT presents <i>Oliver!</i>	pg. 9
NC Stage's Annual <i>Bard-a-Thon</i>	pg. 9
Asheville Area Piano Forum	pg. 17
Diana Wortham Theatre.	pg. 22
HART's <i>Catfish Moon</i>	pg. 24

Save \$26 a month and lock in your price for *one year!*

NOW GET OVER 150 CHANNELS for 12 months for only \$29.99/mo. (The CHOICE® package)

local channels included! And many more of your favorite independent channels in select markets. And many more!

FREE FOR 3 MONTHS* Get 21 movie channels: **STARZ** 12 Channels, **WYTHNE** 9 Channels. Over \$70 Value! With activation of CHOICE EXTRA™ package or higher.

FREE DIRECTV™ HD DVR UPGRADE. Models may vary. Get your home DVR with any call phone or computer.* With activation of CHOICE EXTRA™ package or higher.

FREE PRO INSTALL IN UP TO 4 ROOMS. Custom installation extra. Handling and delivery fee \$19.95. Base fee of \$5/mo. for 1st & each additional receiver.

*Price includes \$11 bill credit for 12 months, after rebate, plus an additional \$1 when you submit rebate online, register acct. and activate.com with valid email & consent to email alerts. Offer ends 12/31 and is based on approved credit, credit card required. New customers only. Fees required, most feature programming, DVR and/or HD Record. Hardware available separately.

Switch from cable to DIRECTV! 1-866-773-1134

Credit card not required in PA and CA. *Eligibility for local channels based on service address. **DVR Scheduler requires internet access via computer or mobile phone and directv.com/logic. Remote connections may vary. Issue resolution, scheduled recordings may not be recognized. Only available on certain receivers. Visit directv.com/remote for details. ***BILL CREDIT/PROGRAMMING OFFER: Free SHOWTIME for 3 months, a value of \$39.97. Free Starz and SHOWTIME for 3 months, a value of \$72. LIMIT ONE PROGRAMMING OFFER PER ACCOUNT. Featured package names and prices: CHOICE \$35.99/mo., CHOICE EXTRA \$48.99/mo. In order to receive full \$26 credit, customer must submit rebate form online and register account on directv.com prior to rebate selection. Requires valid email address and must agree to receive email. Upon DIRECTV System activation, customer will receive rebate instructions (included in customer's first DIRECTV bill), a separate mailing or, in the state of New York, been mailed and must comply with the terms of the rebate form. Rebate begins 4-8 weeks after receipt of online redemption, or 8-12 weeks for mail-in redemption. Account must be in good standing, as determined by DIRECTV in its sole discretion, to remain eligible. DIRECTV not responsible for late, lost, illegible, misdirected, unmailed or postage-for mail. If at the end of the PROMOTIONAL PERIOD CUSTOMER DOES NOT CONTACT DIRECTV TO CANCEL SERVICE, THEN ALL SERVICES WILL AUTOMATICALLY CONTINUE AT THE THEN-PREVAILING RATES, INCLUDING THE \$9.95 USAGE FEE FOR THE 2ND AND EACH ADDITIONAL RECEIVER. In certain markets, programming may vary. Package pricing of Directv.com packages. DIRECTV System has a feature that restricts access to certain content. LIMIT ONE BILL CREDIT PER DIRECTV ACCOUNT. **NO INSTANT REBATE. Advanced equipment rebate requires activation of the CHOICE EXTRA (50¢/line) package or above. MAG ULTRA or above. Add-on or any qualifying international service bundle, which shall include the FREE HD3D CHOICE programming package. (AR) service \$69/mo. and HD Access fee (\$2.99/mo.) required for HD DVR lease. LIMIT ONE ADVANCED EQUIPMENT REBATE PER DIRECTV ACCOUNT. SYSTEM USAGE: Purchase 14 months for advanced receivers of any DIRECTV base programming package (50¢/line) or above or qualifying international service bundle required. FAILURE TO ACTIVATE ALL OF THE DIRECTV SYSTEM EQUIPMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE EQUIPMENT LEASE AGREEMENT MAY RESULT IN A CHARGE OF \$150 PER RECEIVER NOT ACTIVATED IF YOU FAIL TO MAINTAIN YOUR PROGRAMMING. DIRECTV MAY CHARGE A PROHIBITED FEE OF SALES. RECEIVERS ARE AT ALL TIMES PROPERTY OF DIRECTV AND MUST BE RETURNED UPON CANCELLATION OF SERVICE, OR ADDITIONAL FEES APPLY. VISIT directv.com OR CALL 1-866-DIRECTV FOR DETAILS. Programming, pricing, terms and conditions subject to change at any time. Pricing residential. Taxes not included. Receipt of DIRECTV programming is subject to the DIRECTV Customer Agreement, copy provided at directv.com/legal and in your first bill. Starz and related channels and service marks are the property of Starz Entertainment Group LLC. Showtime and related marks are registered trademarks of Showtime Networks Inc., a CBS Company. ©2009 DIRECTV Inc. DIRECTV and the Capture Design logo, CHOICE EXTRA and CHOICE are trademarks of DIRECTV Inc. All other trademarks and service marks are the property of their respective owners.

Enjoy Great Savings, Service and Benefits ... with the **AARP Auto & Home Insurance Program** from The Hartford.

Call The Hartford Toll-Free Today to Request Your FREE Quote:

1-877-547-1373 CODE: 471103

Monday-Friday, 7AM-11PM Eastern Time
Saturday & Sunday, 8AM-6PM Eastern Time

Most AARP® members qualify for an immediate phone quote. Please have your policy handy.



FREE Calculator/Clock!

Take our savings challenge! See how much we can save you over your current auto insurance, and you'll receive this calculator/clock ... just for requesting a quote.

The AARP Automobile and Homeowners Insurance Program is underwritten by Hartford Fire Insurance Company and its affiliates, Hartford Plaza, Hartford, CT 06155. CA License # 5152. In Washington, the Program is underwritten by Hartford Casualty Insurance Company. In Texas, the Program is underwritten by Southern County Mutual Insurance Company through Hartford Fire General Agency. Hartford Fire Insurance Company and its affiliates are not financially responsible for insurance products underwritten and issued by Southern County Mutual Insurance Company. AARP and AARP Financial Inc. receive from The Hartford payments for AARP's license of its intellectual property for use by The Hartford and for services rendered in connection with the Program. Amounts paid by The Hartford for this license are used for the general purposes of the Association and its members. AARP membership is required for Program eligibility in most states. Applicants are individually underwritten and some may not qualify. Specific features, credits and discounts may vary and may not be available in all states in accordance with state filings and applicable law. The Program is currently unavailable in Massachusetts, Canada and U.S. Territories or Possessions. All first time responders receive the free gift. Please allow 4-6 weeks for delivery. The free gift offer is not available in Georgia, but residents may still request a quote. Homeowners product is not available in all areas, including the state of Florida.

performance

A Long Time Ago, in a Galaxy Far, Far Away...

In the mid-1970's, in Hollywood, composer John Williams became a household name for his unmistakable themes from *Jaws* and *Star Wars*. In the near future — September 10 to be exact — Asheville Bravo Concerts kicks off its 79th season with *Wall to Wall Williams*, a celebration of his most beloved film scores, at the Thomas Wolfe Auditorium.

John Williams was already an established composer of Hollywood film music — and had been for 15 years — when his name became synonymous with that of director Steven Spielberg for their collaborations on those groundbreaking blockbusters, *Jaws* and *Star Wars*, followed by a long list of hit movies continuing to this day, from *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*, *E.T.* and the Indiana Jones series, right up through the Harry Potter films. Not one to let himself become pigeon-holed as composer of fantasy/adventure scores, Williams has also lent his musical imagination to stirring dramas like *Saving Private Ryan*, *Amistad*, and *Schindler's List*.

Nearly 100 films boast music composed by Williams, earning numerous Oscar and Grammy awards and countless nominations over five decades, making him “the best known, most popular composer in history” (New York Times).

Rachael Worby, Musical Director and Conductor for the Pops in Pasadena, California, will lead the West Virginia Festival Orchestra through this evening of selections



from the most popular Williams scores. Ms. Worby served as First Lady of West Virginia from 1990 to 1997, during which she created the Governor's School for the Arts, and served for four years on the National Council on the Arts. She is one of the very first female professional orchestral conductors in the U.S.



Wall to Wall Williams: The Music of John Williams. Season and Pick-3 Subscriptions are available now by calling (828) 225-

5887. Subscribers receive a discount off individual ticket prices, plus choice seating, and other exclusive benefits.

Individual tickets range from \$20-\$60 and can be purchased by calling the Asheville Bravo Concerts office at (828) 225-5887, on the web at www.ticketmaster.com, or in person at the Civic Center Box Office. Students receive half-price tickets for all Bravo concerts.

Summer Music in Flat Rock October Concert

BY DAVID VOORHEES

Peace Out will perform an eclectic blend of folk, country, African, Celtic, gospel and children's songs in Flat Rock on Saturday, October 2, beginning at 5 p.m.

This local group brings together four friends: singer-songwriter Jenny Arch, Tania Battista, Duke Domingue and Sharon Stokes, who enjoy making a joyful noise together. Their performance is sure to take you back and possibly move you forward into a little jig or sing-a-long.

This is a casual, family oriented, bring-your-lawn-chair, outdoor event, weather



permitting. Great food and beverages will be available from Flat Rock Village Bakery (pizzas) and Hubba Hubba Smokehouse (BBQ). This free outdoor concert will be 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 5 to 7 p.m.



For further information, call Hand in Hand Gallery at (828) 697-7719 or visit www.flatrockonline.com.

spinning discs

CD Reviews

by James Cassara

Yet more musical delights guaranteed to challenge your notions of music and (hopefully) expand your horizons. There's plenty to cover this month so I'll be keeping my comments short and sweet. Thanks as always for reading and feel free to email me at jjcassara@aol.com.



John Mellencamp
No Better Than This
Rounder Records

Having just reflected upon his career with a recent and somewhat unorthodox boxed set (that rarest of retrospectives favoring artistry over commerce) John Mellencamp retrenches with a deceptively laid back collection of what might be, start to finish, his strongest album yet. What first grabs your attention is the sound, mixed in mono and recorded on a single microphone into a vintage 1955 tape machine, but the real star of *No Better Than This* are the songs.

Mellencamp and producer T Bone Burnett cut the album on off days during the singer's *Life Death Love and Freedom* tour, making use of such hallowed locations as First African Baptist Church in Savannah, GA, Sun Studios in Memphis, and the same hotel in San Antonio, TX, where Robert Johnson once recorded. But it isn't the means or locales that elevate the album: what truly impresses is how mature and skillful a songwriter Mellencamp has become.

While the songs are rooted in the same Midwestern country, rockabilly, folk, and gospel sensibilities of their ancestors they reflect Mellencamp at his most focused and deliberate best. "Save Some Time to Dream" quietly opens the set as the more grown up side of "We Are the People".

The anthem-like bravado of his earlier songs is replaced with the reflections of a man now approaching 60 who knows all too well the fleeting nature of fame and the certainty that one's muse might at any time desert him.

"Coming Down the Road" and "Each Day of Sorrow" channel the primo rockabilly sounds of Carl Perkins, early Elvis, and Johnny Burnette in delightful fashion and while "No One Cares About Me" has a lyric only Mellencamp could have written, its sound hearkens directly back to mid-1950s Johnny Cash. Likewise "The West End" seems for all the world like an outtake from Dylan's second album but the eerie banjo and discordant twang are a touch only Burnett might have considered.

Mellencamp may be looking into the rearview mirror of musical styles but in no way should *No Better Than This* be heard as retro. It is rather the sound of a reinvigorated, strong-minded artist who is resolutely determined to make music on his terms or not at all.

Hit singles or Chevy truck commercials be damned, John Mellencamp still stands

nearly alone in his unswerving commitment to the sounds of the heartland. That he has yet to fully be given the critical platitudes he richly deserves is an indictment of the industry rather than the man himself.

For those of us willing to listen with unaffected ears Mellencamp continues to fascinate. ★★★



Nora Jane Struthers
Blue Pig Music

Blessed with a voice that shines of purity Nora Jane Struthers seems to

have come out of some alternate backwoods universe. Her acoustic based songs and coy vocal phrasings are the perfect antidote for much of the production heavy music that these days pass as "country."

This, her self titled debut, thrives on the use of traditional bluegrass instruments (banjo, fiddles, and mandolins) and while she isn't in the strictest sense a genre artist there is little doubt that her grass is blue. She might best be described as a country influenced folk-rock/Americana artist and while a bit of pedal steel would have fit perfectly into this delightful effort the absence of such is hardly a problem. The songs herein (all except one were written by Struthers) are top flight, beautifully constructed and performed.

Such roots-laden gems as "Greenbrier County," "Look Out on the Mountain," and "Cowgirl Yodel #3" display her strong yet winsome voice while her lyrics evoke the rural imagery of a Thomas Hart Benton painting. That's not surprising given that Struthers is a former English teacher, but considering she grew up in New Jersey and Brooklyn (to be fair she was born in Virginia) she still captures the ethos of the rural south.

Such labels and assumptions aside, this is the assured work of an artist whose awareness reaches far beyond her young years and whose future is as bright as a clear Kentucky sky. ★★★1/2

Trevor Alguire
Now Before Us
SoCan Records

As front man for the band Mercury Pickup and as a solo artist, Canadian Trevor Alguire has gained a solid reputation as a gritty roots-rocking songwriter and performer.



His previous album *Thirty Year Run* spent much of 2008 at the top of the Canadian charts while Alguire toured the United States and tried breaking into the larger market it offered.

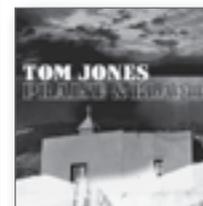
This, his third solo disc, blends straight ahead storytelling (Alguire is, first and foremost, a teller of tales) with concise arrangements and structures that carry the material in fine fashion. The emphasis is on the lyrics, anchored by a pleasant blend of country and folk, Alguire's throaty voice up front and center.

"Are You Ready" kicks things off with an allegorical rumination on life, death, and the importance of getting your house in order, while "Hold On" is a less pensive declaration of love and commitment. They're the concerns of a man looking ahead, and for much of *Now Before Us* that's precisely what Alguire does.

The hooks are catchy enough but, as is all too often the case here, Alguire begins relying too heavily on what safely works and fails to expand his own musical horizons.

While the songs are strong enough to largely stand on their own the arrangements tend to get repetitive; there's no sense of urgency here and although Alguire and his band are more than adequate musicians one gets the sense they're being underutilized.

Much of this falls upon the shoulders of Alguire as producer; he really should leave that chore to an outside hand and concentrate on what he does best. As it is, *Now Before Us* seems a bit of a missed opportunity for Alguire the musician to grab the brass ring that surely lies before him. ★★1/2



Tom Jones
Praise and Blame
Lost Highway Records

Anyone who thinks the music of Tom Jones begins and ends with "It's Not Unusual" will be surprised by the depth and substance of his latest album. But for those who've been paying attention – particularly anyone who saw his appearance in the PBS documentary "The Blues" – *Praise and Blame* seems like a logical step forward for an artist who is as much a student as a performer.

Sir Tom has long considered himself a devotee first and singer second. Of course what a singer he is. Here, his impeccable taste reinvents such classic American numbers as Rosetta Tharpe's "Strange Things" and John Lee Hooker's "Burning Hell."

Backed by a band of crackerjack play-

'CD's' continued on next page

Asheville's Oldest & Most Unique
Music Video Store



Proud to Support Local
Music in Asheville

19 Biltmore Avenue
Downtown Asheville

KARMASONICS™
828.259.9949

Superb Service
Great Product Selection

CD • DVD • Blu-Ray
Vinyl • T-Shirts • Books & More

the
greenerhome

Sustainable Living Resource
for WNC



greener
is better

www.thegreenerhome.com



Custom Picture Framing, prints, photo
frames, easels, picture lights

1103 Brevard Rd.
665-7730

what's happening

'CD's' continued from page 10

ers, including the twin keyboards of Booker T. Jones and Augie Meyers, Jones turns in the vocal performance of a lifetime. There is simply no way to adequately describe the power and passion of his voice.

There is simply no way to adequately describe the power and passion of his voice.

It has to be heard. Nowhere is this more evident than in a bold and burning take on Dylan's "What Good Am I?" Jones brings a smoldering regret into the song that is both shocking and wholly logical. Kudos to producer Ethan Johns (Kings of Leon) for his simpatico treatment of the material, but this day belongs to a 70 year old Welshman who has shown that time need not be our enemy and that true genius is in the ability to reinvent one's self.

I've played this album at least a dozen times in the past week, and each subsequent listen reveals its richness and command. As amazing as it seems Praise and Blame may well prove to be the crowning achievement of Jones' nearly half century career. And that, is most unusual *****



Treasa Levasseur Low Fidelity

A veritable melting pot of roots styles, Canadian songstress Treasa Levasseur first

made her mark as an in-demand studio vocalist and musician before branching out on her own.

Equally comfortable playing folk, blues and country to sunshine pop, heavy metal and even a dash of hip-hop, Levasseur has amazing command of her voice (although at times she seems to be holding it back) and clearly loves challenging her own skills. Such versatility serves her well on her first U.S. release, recorded in 2008 and finally making it down our way.

It's an engaging mix of styles, secured by such delights as the effervescent title track and "Truth Will Set You Free." When she hits the right notes, as she does on most of *Low Fidelity*, the results are enough to leave you wanting more.

Her inventive use of horns/keyboards as the primary backing instruments, along with the chorus of background vocals, gives the album a timeless big band sound.

Think a more modern June Christy – which is high praise indeed – and you'll have some notion of what's in store. Just don't be too surprised when *Low Fidelity* manages to surpass even those lofty expectations. ***1/2

Ronny Cox at Mountain Spirit Coffeehouse

BY JAMES CASSARA

While best known as a consummate character actor, one whose presence on the large and small screen immediately lifts the performances of others, among musical circles Ronny Cox is equally admired for his affable ability to connect with audiences via a sound so intimately comfortable that one listen is all that's required to become an immediate friend.

Since the early 1970s Cox has worked steadily – a rarity given the fleeting nature of Tinsel Town – but has never drifted far from his love of folk music and storytelling. Born in Cloudcroft, New Mexico, Cox graduated from Eastern New Mexico University before making his way to Hollywood and his long and respected acting career.

Since his debut as Drew Ballinger in the acclaimed 1972 film *Deliverance* (in which he plays the instrumental "Dueling Banjos" on his guitar with a mentally retarded banjo-playing mountain boy named Lonnie) Cox has combined his love of story and sound.

His role as the exasperated Lieutenant/Captain/Chief of Police in *Beverly Hills Cop* and *Beverly Hills Cop II* gained him widespread attention while his work with director Paul Verhoeven in *Robocop* and *Total Recall* cemented his reputation as a Hollywood dependable. Cox has also starred in the sadly neglected television series *Apple's Way* (created by Earl Hamner) and has had recurring

roles in such shows as *St. Elsewhere* and *Star Trek: The Next Generation*.

But at age 72 Cox has understandably scaled back his screen work while pursuing his music. It's a diverse mix of acoustic folk, western, jazzy-bluesy and what he likes to refer to as "just plain cornball stuff."

"I have always had pretty eclectic tastes in the music I like to listen to and to play," he states. "I have tried to approach each of my seven albums from a different perspective. My first album was for Mercury Records in Nashville, and was pretty much a "country record" . . . at least it seemed so to me. But since then I've taken a more "folkie" approach."

"My next few CDs were a bit more personal for me. I worked with my son John, who's a record producer. We pretty much played all the tunes in my little two-car studio here in my house and he and I played most of the instruments."

Since then Cox has continued to produce albums, including *Cowboy Savant* which was produced by Wendy Waldman. Two years ago Cox suffered the death of his beloved wife Mary, to whom he had been married since 1960. The loss was understandably devastating but Cox has persevered.



"My new CD, *Songs With Repercussions*, is, more than anything else, about her absence. It is also a "studio" album, with tight and precise arrangements and vocal harmonies. I found a wonderful group of players in South Carolina:

Danny Harlow, Susan Taylor and Cary Taylor, and have allowed them great latitude and encouragement in our approach to the tunes. My "Southwestern" sensibilities are always present, but there is also a distinct "Southern" feel to many of the tunes and that comes directly from them. I am extremely proud of this album."

With a lifetime of stories to tell Ronny Cox brings that Southwestern sensibility to the mountains of Western North Carolina. Come out and see a familiar face in what is for most of us an unfamiliar setting. Ronny Cox: actor, musician, humorist, and teller of tales.



Ronny Cox at the Mountain Spirit Coffeehouse, Sunday, September 12. Hosted by the Unitarian Universalist Church, 1 Edwin Place in Asheville, NC. Doors open at 6:30, music starts at 7 p.m.

STONEHONEY AT THE LAB

BY JAMES CASSARA

The group Stonehoney has been fine-tuning their live performances, touring relentlessly and giving Austin, TX another band to evidence why their adopted city is the live music capital of the world. The band's debut album *The Cedar Creek Sessions* was cut entirely live in the studio in a (successful) effort to capture the "in the moment" energy of their live shows. Released last month on Austin-based Music Road Records, *The Cedar Creek Sessions* showcases the intense vocals and smart, insightful lyrics of this four front-man band.

Comprised of veteran songwriters and musicians Shawn Davis, Phil Hurley, David Phenicie and Nick Randolph, the group met at a songwriters-in-the-round and soon realized the strength of their musical rapport and personal chemistry.

Seamless vocal harmonies embody

their collaborative spirit, striking a balance between Americana folk and straight-on rock and roll. The record is a long time coming for the group, who have maintained a heavy touring schedule and performed at venues and festivals across the country. It was tracked live at its namesake, Cedar Creek Recording in Texas, and guest musicians include Earl "Poole" Ball (Johnny Cash) and Ken Coomer (formally of Wilco).

Shawn Davis says, "It's all about this band and the songs. For four songwriters and front men to come together and shed as much ego as possible to be part of something, instead of it all being about an individual, says it all for me and for us as a team. The songs are deeply personal and reflect each band member's experiences.



We're different from a lot of bands in that each of us writes songs." Phil Hurley says, "One of my favorite aspects of this band is that everyone seems to feel invited in by our music, from teenagers to adults. It's like there's something for everyone."

IF YOU GO: Stonehoney at the Lexington Avenue Brewery, Saturday, September 4. Show starts at 9 p.m. with seating available.

Get this EXCLUSIVE OFFER



6 BOOKS
FOR
99¢

Plus a **FREE GIFT**
with membership

Doubleday
BOOK CLUB

Enter code **A5F147**
joinDoubledayBookClub.com

SOUTHERN COMFORT

Moonshiners in the Mountains

BY JUDY AUSLEY

Have you ever wondered how moonshine got its name? The late Willard Watson, of Deep Gap told me all about the process, when I interviewed him in 1993 for the Charlotte Observer.

Watson, a cousin of folk singer, Doc Watson in Boone, was already pretty much a household name in Watauga County, back when he was interviewed by the late journalist Charles Kuralt for his "On the Road" television series in 1972.

Prior to that Watson had already taken his historic whiskey still (or parts thereof) to Washington, D.C. in 1969, to hold a demonstration about the art of making moonshine for the Smithsonian Institute. The museum called the festival feature that year, "the corn culture" exhibit.

Museum staff told Watson that he must follow their strict rules before he put anything in the still; he was told to only use water and nothing else to show his method of making 'shine.

During my interview with him, Willard was rocking in an old chair on his porch, dressed in an old worn pair of overalls and a flannel shirt. His wife, Ora, to whom he had been married for 68 years, sat next to him dressed in a simple frock. They were 20 and 17 when they were married and ultimately had 7 children. "And, lots of grand kids," Ora said, smiling.

Watson loved talking about his life to folksy news reporters. I learned early on when I started writing articles in the High Country of NC, that most mountaineers really take to folks who listen to them tell tales.

Watson said he learned how to make moonshine from his grand-

daddy. Moonshine got its name long ago because it was cooked by the light of the moon. Moonshiners thought they were safe cooking at night, Watson explained, because revenue officers could not see the smoke coming from the still in the dark of night.

Just a simple recipe is needed. He only revealed, "It takes it no chemicals and no sugar," adding, "Just get yourself some mountain corn, grind it, ferment it, and cook it."

Watson sold the home-brew for 25-cents a pint and a gallon went for a dollar.

Moonshiners in the mountains do not like to talk a lot about what they do unless they think they can trust the person. It was illegal. However, that would not stop writers trying to get the stories.

Watson sold the home-brew for 25-cents a pint and a gallon went for a dollar. Watson said, he was luckier than most. He and his grandfather only were 'almost' caught by revenue officers. "Let me tell you, we were plenty scared that night," he said.

Watson said his children had to be fed so he followed in his family tradition. There were not many choices for young folks in the early days of mountain life.

Watson said he never drank much of his home-brew, because he knew when he married "Orey" she was not going to put up with his drinking.

"I had to make a few adjustments so I would not lose my good woman," he smiled and looked over at Ora, who was smiling big.

In the latter years of his life he gave up the 'shine. "It was getting to be too dangerous, so I decided to quit, Watson said. He started carving wooden toys (another mountain art form), walking canes and bird houses. Arthritis in his hands prevented much carving before he died.

Ora Watson was well known for making beautiful original quilts. She was known for the quality of her work and was honored at the Smithsonian in Washington.

Quilting is a fine art that many of the women in mountain families shared with and taught to their children and grandchildren in those days. Fondness of "real homemade quilts" from the mountains of NC is still popular today with younger women learning the trade from older quilters in the High Country.

Last time I was at their home in Deep Gap, a really funny incident occurred. Loving to laugh, Willard decided to play a trick on me that day.

That morning things were real quiet as I drove up to their house. I knocked on the door and no one answered. Then I heard Ora yell to me, "Come on in."

So, unsuspecting anything unusual, I opened the door and the first thing I saw was Willard fully-dressed in a black suit, hat and black boots, sprawled out on the couch in the living room. He was not stirring at all.

I stopped still and looked at Orey and I said, "Is he dead?" I asked. Before she could say anything, Willard sat straight up, laughing and said to me, "Hell no, not yet, I am just practicing." I hugged Orey and we all just about died laughing. That was the last time I saw Ora and Willard.

I know in my heart that many of these oldtimers in North Carolina is what makes these mountains such a special place to call home.



Writer Judy Ausley has been a reporter with newspapers in NC for 40 years. She retired in

2005 and continues to freelance at her home in Asheville. She can be contacted by e-mail at Judyausley@aol.com. If you know a character in Asheville who has not had a conventional life, put them in touch with Judy for an article in this column, *Southern Comfort*.

Only \$99 Learn How To Only \$99
MODIFY YOUR MORTGAGE
Save **HUNDREDS** On Your Mortgage
Payments Without Refinancing!
Save **Thousands In Fees** - Step By Step Guide
WRITTEN BY A REAL ESTATE ATTORNEY

Utilize "THE TRICKS
OF THE TRADE"
call 877-299-3187

HOUSING FOR RENT

**North Asheville 2 bedroom 1 bath townhouse
\$495/mo. Close to downtown Asheville.
Includes water. (828) 252-4334 WNC Rentals**

Get a FREE ADT-Monitored Home Security System.*

(With \$99 customer installation and purchase of ADT alarm monitoring services. See important terms and conditions below.)

Your Premium Package includes:

- Pet-Sensitive Motion Detector
- Yard Sign & Window Decals
- Wireless Keypad
- High Decibel Siren
- Quality Service Plan



Order now and qualify for a \$100 VISA® Gift Card!***

From Security Choice. While supplies last.

SECURITY CHOICE
ADT Authorized Company



Call Now! 1-888-380-0165

*\$99.00 Customer Installation Charge. 36-Month Monitoring Agreement required at \$35.99 per month (\$1,295.64). Form of payment must be by credit card or electronic charge to your checking or savings account. Offer applies to homeowners only. Local permit fees may be required. Satisfactory credit history required. Certain restrictions apply. Offer valid for new Security Choice - An ADT Authorized Dealer customers only and not on purchases from ADT Security Services, Inc. Other rate plans available. Cannot be combined with any other offer. ***\$100 VISA® Gift Card Offer: \$100 VISA Gift Card is provided by Security Choice and is not sponsored by ADT Security Services. Requires mail-in redemption. Call 1-888-407-2338 for complete restrictions and redemption requirements.

51st ART ON MAIN FESTIVAL

The Arts Council of Henderson County will present Art on Main along downtown Hendersonville's historic Main Street, October 2 and 3, 2010. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. both days.

Art on Main features both fine arts and fine crafts, and in the past has attracted artists from throughout the Carolinas, as well as from Georgia, Tennessee, Mississippi, and Florida.

Cash awards equal \$4,500. The top award is the Morris Broadband Best of Show which comes with a

\$1,000 cash award. Two new awards this year are the Margo Nagel Fine Art Award (\$750) and the Hans Nagel Fine Craft Award (\$750).

"One of our goals is to present a welcoming environment for the artist and the customer to connect," said Art on Main Co-Chair Kim Adams. "We want the artists to feel appreciated in Hendersonville."

IF YOU GO: For further information please contact The Arts Council of Henderson County at (828) 693-8504. Applications are also available at www.acofhc.org.

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.



- 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

Questions/Comments?

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

Coco Chanel & Igor Stravinsky

1/2

Short Take: A beautifully rendered period piece of 1920s Paris, perfume, and a revolutionary work of classical music.

REEL TAKE: Having been a classical music announcer for almost 30 years, it was a given that I would have to review this film. Movies about composers don't come along every day. There have been a number of movies about Coco Chanel including last year's *Coco Before Chanel* but this is the first mainstream one about Stravinsky and it's about time.

The first half hour recounts the scandalous 1913 premiere of Stravinsky's *Rite of Spring* where the audience booed, jeered and eventually rioted to the degree that the police had to be summoned and the theater cleared. Most people familiar with classical music history or with ballet have heard this story but to see it actually recreated was a special thrill for me. I especially marveled at the choreography and the original costumes.

Although based on a book, I'm not quite sure how historically accurate *Coco & Igor* is. In 1920 Stravinsky did accept an invitation from Chanel to move his family into one of her country estates so that he could compose without hindrance. Whether they became romantically involved is highly debatable as none of the other films about Chanel mention this fact. This is history as it should have been, not as it actually was. The filmmakers also tie in Stravinsky with the creation of the famous perfume Chanel No. 5.

In real life both Chanel and Stravinsky were very strong, self-absorbed personalities and anyone expecting a conventional romance between the two is likely to be disappointed by the way their affair is portrayed in this film. It is full of lust and sex and passion but not love. Each one used the other for their own purposes but they



Mads Mikkelsen and Anna Mouglalis portray the title characters in *Coco Chanel & Igor Stravinsky*.

ultimately were unable to make a commitment in the long run. Stravinsky needed his family and Coco her independence.

The performances by Anna Mouglalis (*Playing in the Company of Men*) and Mads Mikkelsen (*Casino Royale*) are pitch perfect. They are everything I would imagine these two cultural icons to be and their physical resemblance to them is remarkable. Two additional fine portrayals are given by Russian

performers Yelena Morozova as Stravinsky's beleaguered wife Katya and Grigori Manoukov as ballet impresario Serge Diaghilev.

I'm not quite sure why the filmmakers chose to retain the rather generic title of *Coco Chanel & Igor Stravinsky*. I would have called it *The Rite of Spring* not only because of the ballet at the beginning but because its music is used throughout to highlight powerfully emotional moments in the film. The film concludes with a 1920 performance of *Rite* which is rapturously received showing the changes that have taken place in the characters and in the world around them.

If you love 1920s Paris, modern classical music, and ballet, not to mention period pieces in general, then you need to see this movie. It's an excellent way to lose yourself in another world for a couple of hours, and you will have learned something when you come out. One can't ask more of a movie than that.

Rated R for strong sexuality and nudity.

REVIEW BY CHIP KAUFMANN

Eat, Pray, Love

Short Take: The big screen adaptation of Elizabeth Gilbert's best selling, albeit self indulgent, journey of self discovery.

REEL TAKE: Unlike most of my friends, I was not one of the biggest fans of Elizabeth Gilbert's best-selling memoir of self discovery *Eat, Pray, Love*. How authentic can the journey be when you've already got the book

deal but haven't yet had the experience? Still, this exercise in extreme privilege and self absorption has consistently graced the NY Times best-seller list since its release about four years ago. In the end I liked it more than I thought would, and kudos to anyone who gets to spend a year as Gilbert did.

For those that don't know the story, Elizabeth Gilbert takes a year-long journey to Italy, India and Bali after a bitter divorce. She wants to marvel at food, find God, and somehow find herself. When I heard the book was being adapted for the big screen with Julia Roberts in the lead, I thought it just might work. The backdrops would make it even more beautiful than its lead. Indeed, the film is truly stunning and Roberts may be at her most luminous yet (she is in fact so radiant throughout, it may perhaps be one reason why it's so hard to believe she is so miserable).



Julia Roberts is radiant on a decadently self indulgent journey in *Eat Pray Love*.

Unfortunately – and not for want of talent or production value – it's really hard to conjure feelings of sympathy for a woman of such means and all-round good fortune. Somehow her unhappiness in spite of such a life was more palpable in the book. The timing of this film may also be off — a year of such luxury and privilege, given the current economy, may just rub people the wrong way. In fact I found myself going, "Oh boo-hoo Liz! Boo freaking hoo!" and I'm not usually someone to begrudge the good fortune of others.

On the plus side, there are the food scenes in Italy and the wonderful characters

HEY KIDS! CALLING ALL FUTURE FILM CRITICS!

What better way to hone your critical skills than to serve on the jury for Asheville International Children's Film Festival (AICFF)? The jury will attend screenings throughout the festival and announce prizewinners at the Festival's closing ceremony November 14, 2010.

To apply for a spot on the jury, kids ages 8-12 should write a top ten list detailing the qualities of the perfect children's film, and send it to Artistic Director, Tim Arem, info@aicff.org. Also include name, age, grade, a short bio and complete contact information. Applications must be received by September 31.

she meets along her journey; I knew those elements would be done well. The scenes in Italy are pure unadulterated food porn. So lovely in fact, they were all I needed until Javier Bardem appeared on the scene as the 'love' in the *Eat Pray Love*. While Bardem simply takes your breath away (he too has never been more beautiful), it is Richard Jenkins who is most perfectly cast as Richard from Texas, a friend that she meets while staying at an Ashram in India. It is their scenes together that best reflect the deeper level of Gilbert's memoir. At first he's just someone who finally calls her on all of her b.s., but *he* is the character who helps bring her to a reconciliation of sorts with her past, gets her to cease her incessant pity party, and nudges her forward in life.

Eat Pray Love is very pleasant to watch, and I didn't dislike it, but much more than that I can't really say. Not that much is left to suspense, but the title says it all — along her journey she learns to eat, she learns to pray, and ultimately she learns to love (herself and another). You can bet the filmmakers were banking on the built-in audience for this film (essentially every women's book club in America), but what they didn't bank on was the literary experience. I actu-

'Movies' continued on page 14

film reviews

Seven Sisters Cinema

On Thursday, September 16 Seven Sisters Cinema we will show the film *Mountain Talk: Language and Life in Southern Appalachia* by Neal Hutcheson. The film will be shown at the White Horse in Black Mountain at 7 p.m.

Mountain Talk lets the people of Southern Appalachia tell their own stories, revealing the quick wit, good humor, and resilience that sustained them through centuries. Music, stories and candid conversations convey the shared sense of place that defines the mountain people.

The film features Popcorn Sutton, Mary Jane Queen, Orville Hicks, Jim Tom Hedrick and many others, with back-porch music performances by Henry Queen, Mary Jane Queen, Gilford Williams, Rufe Sutton, Leon Wells and others. The film is narrated by award-winning storyteller and folklorist Gary Carden.

IF YOU GO: *White Horse Black Mountain, 105C Montreat Rd. Phone (828) 669-0816 or visit www.whitehorseblackmountain.com.*

Scott Pilgrim vs. the World

🍿🍿🍿 1/2

If you've found the movies that you've recently seen boring, then you may want to consider seeing *Scott Pilgrim vs. the World* because it is undeniably unique.

Set in Toronto and based on the popular *Scott Pilgrim* comic books by Bryan Lee O'Malley, the movie follows 23-year-old bass guitar player Scott Pilgrim as he struggles to make things work with his new girlfriend, Ramona Flowers. Everything seems to be going splendidly, except for the small problem that to properly date Ramona, Scott must fight and defeat her seven evil-exes.

Scott Pilgrim caused a bit of a sensory overload for me when I first started watching it, but as the movie progressed, I began to enjoy it more. I doubt that there is a single dull moment in it. The end of the movie does drag a little, but it is possible to remain engaged.



Michael Cera is in love with Mary Elizabeth Winstead in *Scott Pilgrim vs. The World*.

Michael Cera does a decent job with the lead role and, as Scott is a member of a rock band, it allows him to seem fractionally less like a geek than he usually does. Nevertheless, it is hard to watch the film without constantly thinking, "that's Michael Cera".

Mary Elizabeth Winstead is a good Ramona, but the chemistry between her

and Cera is almost nonexistent. A standout among the other cast members is Kieran Culkin, who plays Scott's roommate and provides a lot of the laughs in the movie.

Like director Edgar Wright's other movies, *Hot Fuzz* and *Shaun of the Dead*, there is a constant stream of humor in *Scott Pilgrim*, and it is impossible to get every joke in one viewing. Although some of the jokes are hit and miss, the upside to so much comedy is that almost any viewer will find something to laugh at. Wright's quirky style can be seen in a lot of aspects of *Scott Pilgrim*, from the

fast-paced montages to the interesting camera work to the clever humor.

The whole movie is filmed in a style which could be seen as a videogame/ comic book/ music video combo. It also includes comic book style captions, and while these provide some entertainment, they can grow tedious after a while, and some of it seems like exceedingly juvenile overkill. The action sequences are very well done and there is a lot of impressive choreography as well. You'll find yourself marveling that they succeed in making it look like Michael Cera is actually fighting.

I recommend this movie to most teenagers, who will at least appreciate the humor, and more widely, to anyone who wants to see a fun movie that is not afraid to laugh at itself. If you enjoy playing video games, you'll also probably enjoy it. But, whether you like *Scott Pilgrim* or not, I bet you'll definitely agree that it stands out from other recent movies and includes some good laughs.

Rated PG-13 for stylized violence, sexual content, language and drug references.

TEEN REVIEW

by Clara Sofia



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

'Movies' continued from page 13

ally think movie goes that didn't hang on Gilbert's every written word will enjoy the film more than those that did.

PG-13 for brief strong language, some sexual references and male rear nudity.

REVIEW BY MICHELLE KEENAN

The Expendables

🍿🍿🍿 1/2

Short Take: Two thirds of a good movie bogs down in the end with over extended action sequences and unnecessary carnage.

REEL TAKE: For two thirds of the way, *The Expendables* is a big budgeted choice little B movie. If that sounds like a contradiction in terms, it is, but then *The Expendables* wants to have its cake and eat it too and except for the ending, it manages to do just that.

As is often the case with me now, when I see a new movie, I am reminded of several others. In this case merge two 1979 films, *Firepower* with James Coburn and Sophia Loren about kidnapping a drug lord from a remote island and *The Wild Geese* with Richard Burton and Richard Harris as mercenaries on a military mission in Africa and you have *The*



Sylvester Stallone and Jason Statham plot their next move in *The Expendables*.

Expendables in everything but name.

A group of aging professionals are hired by a mystery man (Bruce Willis in an amusing cameo) to take out a corrupt general on a small remote island. Once on the island they encounter a rogue CIA agent (played with lip smacking relish by Eric Roberts) involved in drug trafficking and, true to form, all hell breaks loose. In between there are reflective moments, the occasional buddy bonding scenes, several comic exchanges, and even a betrayal by a member of the group (Dolph Lundgren) which leads to another extended action sequence back home.

The main appeal of *The Expendables* is

watching the action flick veterans kick butt one more time. Co-writer, director, and star Sylvester Stallone has assembled a solid cast of genre favorites including Jason Statham, Jet Li, Terry Crews (the *Old Spice* dude), and Mickey Rourke (still dressed in his *Iron Man 2* get up). There's even a quick appearance by Arnold Schwarzenegger at the beginning which is quite funny. Oh, by the way, there are women in the picture too and one even has a bearing on the plot but they are all played by scantily clad unknowns for this is a testosterone fest all the way.

Despite some choice dialogue and Eric Roberts' villainy (he absolutely made the movie for me), the film collapses in the last half hour with a totally over-the-top mass extermination of the general and his special forces. Stallone knows his target audience and he directs and edits these final scenes as if they were a video game with heads exploding and bodies being ripped to shreds. The synthetic hardcore violence almost ruined the movie, almost but not quite. In the end I was more entertained than not and on that level *The Expendables* worked for me.

Rated R for strong bloody violence and for some language.

REVIEW BY CHIP KAUFMANN

'Movies' continued on page 15

film reviews

'Movies' continued from pg. 14



Alicja Batchleda and Colin Farrell star in the overlooked Irish indie film *Ondine*.

Ondine

Short Take: Irish storytelling is taken to a new level when Irish lore meets harsh reality in Neil Jordan's *Ondine*.

REEL TAKE: *Ondine* is magical/mythical Irish lore meets brutal reality. With films such as *The Butcher Boy*, *The Crying Game* and *Michael Collins* to his credit, Director Neil Jordan is known more for the latter than the former. Here however he combines both deftly to make a fine little film. Colin Farrell is Syracuse, a down-on-his-luck Irish fisherman who finds a woman (Alicja Batchleda) tangled in his nets one day and his life is – of course – forever changed.

Immediately his catch improves and financial burdens are lessened. He believes the mysterious woman he pulled from the sea is the source of his good fortune. When his precocious, wheelchair-bound daughter Annie (Alison Barry) discovers the mystery of the stranger, she quickly concludes the woman is a Selkie (seals that can transform into human form in Irish lore). Because she came from the sea, they call her Ondine.

Spliced between the pleasantries of getting to know Ondine, a harsh life of drink and dysfunctional family is exposed. Annie's mother and live-in boyfriend are both drunks. Syracuse is a now sober drunk who does his best to do right by his daughter. For therapy he goes to confession and talks to the local priest (Stephen Rea). Annie, bright and resilient, keeps her spirits up as she endures dialysis and bullying.

As Syracuse falls in love with his sea-faring muse, Ondine buries her seal coat in hopes of staying for at least seven years on land, determined to be devoted to her new family and perhaps even able to grant a wish to make Annie well. But just as it seems we have a fairy tale on our hands, we learn that Ondine is being followed and all is not what it seems.

The film has been criticized by some for its genre clashing change of course about three quarters of the way through the story. I found it jarring but interesting. Yes it detracts from the 'magic' that we'd all love to believe in, but then again maybe it merely shows a different magic, one based in reality. Colin Farrell delivers a wonder-

fully understated and genuine performance. Stephen Rea adds a subtle bit of comedy. Alison Barry is dear as Annie and Alicja Batchleda is appropriately beautiful, alluring and distant. Jordan has stepped into somewhat new ground here and it works.

Ondine received little attention in this country which is a shame, for it is one of the more interesting offerings of late. We are fortunate in this area; the owner of the Carolina Asheville Cinema is also the owner of Magnolia Pictures, and we have them to thank for distributing this fine little film and for delivering it to our little corner of the world. See it if you can.

Rated PG-13 for some violence, sensuality and brief strong language.

REVIEW BY MICHELLE KEENAN



Porn producer Jerry O'Connell loses his livelihood in *Piranha 3-D*.

Piranha 3-D

Short Take: Revved up remake has some solid 3-D effects but the sadistic sleaziness of it all kept me from having any fun.

REEL TAKE: You don't go to see a movie called *Piranha 3-D* and expect it to be good in a critical sense. That's not what a movie of this type is about. What you expect and usually get are some cheap sex and violence thrills, some clever utilization of lighting/camerawork and memorable use of music for dramatic effect. These elements are all available in *Piranha 3-D* but the way they were done left me with a bad taste in my mouth and I couldn't wait to get out of the theater.

Despite what you may have read and heard this film is not a remake of Joe Dante's cult 1978 offering *Piranha* (see DVD pick) or James Cameron's debut offering *Piranha II: The Spawning*. Those films were totally low budget affairs in the best Roger Corman tradition ("Here's \$600,000. You can do anything you want, just don't ask for more money.") They were not only wildly creative due to those restrictions but they had intelligent screenplays with political and social undercurrents. That's not the case here.

Piranha 3-D wears everything it has to offer openly on its sleeve and while this type of film isn't meant to be subtle,

P 3-D's heavy-handedness would make Oliver Stone gag. This time around the little beasties are a natural phenomenon (instead of a government project) released by an underground earthquake. They head straight for the local vacation resort which is in the midst of College Spring Weekend so we have lots of scantily clad, oversexed students behaving like jerks while in addition a porno producer is shooting his latest magnum opus there.

The story plays out like *Jackass* goes to *Cancun* and meets *Jaws* (Richard Dreyfus even has a cameo). No political or social commentary here just a bunch of totally self absorbed twenty somethings meeting their various gory ends. It is in this last department that *Piranha 3-D* goes too far and ceases to be fun as it clearly goes into *Saw* and *Hostel* territory (Eli Roth appropriately has a cameo). One girl is cut in half by a cable, another is scalped by a motorboat, and in the "poetic justice" category, the porn producer has his livelihood removed by a piranha and then spit out towards the camera.

I can't decide if this was a 2-D movie later enhanced (there are plenty of scenes where I removed my glasses and could see just fine) or if was deliberately done that way to resemble 3-D movies of old. It doesn't really matter. While I understood what the filmmakers were doing, I just didn't go along with it. If you should wind up seeing this, rent the original (newly released) and then see which one you enjoy more.

Rated R for strong horror violence and gore, graphic nudity, sexual content, language and drug use.

REVIEW BY CHIP KAUFMANN

The Girl Who Played With Fire

Short Take: Sequel to *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo* is just as compelling without being quite as graphic.

REEL TAKE: The middle cinematic chapter of Stieg Larsson's *Millennium* trilogy has a different director but the same principal players as *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo* minus the villains who were dealt with at the conclusion of the first film. There's a new set of bad guys to deal with this time and while this film is less graphic than *Dragon*, *Fire* is a lot grimmer in its outcome.

The film opens with titular character Lisbeth Salander (Noomi Rapace) returning to Stockholm from the Caribbean and crusading journalist Blomkvist (Michael Nyqvist) and his publication *Millennium* preparing to release a list of names involved in a sex trafficking scandal. When two members of his group are killed, Lisbeth is suspected and most go into hiding while Blomkvist and his friends work to find out who the real killer is.

ASHEVILLE FILM SOCIETY SEPTEMBER SCREENINGS

The Asheville Film Society, hosted by Mountain Xpress film critic Ken Hanke, meets Tuesday nights at 8 p.m. at Carolina Asheville Cinema. Tuesday night screenings are free, but membership is only \$10 a year and benefits include free members-only screenings, sneak previews and events.



September 7
Valentino (1977,
Ken Russell)

In 1926 the tragic and untimely death of a silent screen actor caused female moviegoers to riot in the streets and in some cases to commit suicide - that actor was Rudolph Valentino.



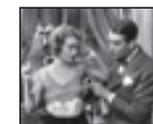
September 14
Sunrise (1927,
F.W. Murnau)

A married farmer falls under the spell of a slatternly woman from the city, who tries to convince him to drown his wife.



September 21
Hedwig and the Angry Inch (2001,
John Cameron Mitchell)

A transexual punk rock girl from East Berlin tours the US with her rock band as she tells her life story and follows the ex-boyfriend/bandmate who stole her songs.



September 28
Love Me Tonight (1932, Rouben Mamoulian)

A Parisian tailor finds himself posing as a baron in order to collect a sizeable bill from an aristocrat, only to fall in love with an aloof young princess.

.....

That's the storyline that propels the film but, just as in *Dragon Tattoo*, there is a lot more that lies beneath the surface. Lisbeth's relationship with another woman (Yasmine Garbi) shows us the depth of emotion that she keeps hidden from everyone else. Then there's the discovery that her brutal father, whom she set fire to years ago (hence the title), is still alive and may be

'Movies' continued on page 16

film reviews

'Movies' continued from page 15



Noomi Rapace takes care of business in *The Girl Who Played With Fire*.

connected to the murders. Add an enigmatic blonde giant of a man (Micke Spreitz) who is impervious to pain and you have several fascinating subplots waiting to be resolved.

As is usually the case with middle films of a trilogy (*The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers* immediately comes to mind), it helps to have seen the first movie though it isn't a necessity. However there's the inescapable conclusion that *Fire* is just a set-up for the next film in the series as there is a significant storyline which has been left unresolved at the end. The third and concluding installment, *The Girl Who Kicked the Hornet's Nest*, has already been made and is due for American release very soon.

That film will also have the same director and screenwriter and was shot concurrently with this one (just like *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows*) so the look and feel should be the same. Director Daniel Alfredson lacks the visual flair of his predecessor, Niels Arden Oplev, but he keeps things moving along at a reasonable pace and allows the actors to continue to develop their characters. As middle films go, *The Girl who Played with Fire* is a very good effort and leaves you impatiently waiting for the final chapter.

Rated R for disturbing violent content, sexual material, nudity, and language.

REVIEW BY CHIP KAUFMANN

The Killer Inside Me

Short Take: A fascinating and disturbing story of deputy sheriff turned killer in a rural Texas town in 1952.

REEL TAKE: *The Killer Inside Me* made a bit of a stir at several film festivals earlier this year, apparently startling its audiences with the nature of its brutal violence and sadomasochistic elements. Perhaps that early reaction explains why the film was pretty much ignored since its quiet release earlier this summer. Clearly this film is not for everyone, and that should be considered when weighing your decision to see it. Based on Jim Thompson's 1952 novel of the same title, *The Killer Inside Me* tells the story of a straight laced deputy sheriff

turned sociopathic, sadomasochistic killer in rural 1950's Texas.

Beautifully filmed and stylized, it's film noir like we haven't seen in a while. Even so, I knew I was in for an uncomfortable, disturbing and possibly sickening ride, but it also seemed like it might be an intriguing one in spite of its content. While I found it fascinating throughout, the film itself is a bit of a bumpy ride – at times it is near brilliance, at other times it misses the mark. I'm not quite sure why it fails where it does, but part of this may have something to do with the director himself; Michael Winterbottom's films often have a certain aloofness to them. This attribute could prove both a service and disservice to this story.

Casey Affleck plays Lou Ford, a mild-mannered deputy sheriff in a rural Texas town. When charged with the responsibility of running a certain whore (Jessica Alba) out of town, long suppressed sadomasochistic memories and tendencies arise and his murderous descent into a sort of madness begins. The first person narrative is a particularly powerful tool for this story.



Casey Affleck stars in the disturbing but fascinating psychological drama *The Killer Inside Me*.

In doing so, we are allowed a glimpse into his mind. Interestingly, this perspective can insidiously manipulate the viewer into thinking Ford isn't *that* bad (at least for a short while), when in fact he is a self justifying, deranged and brutal monster.

I've had more interesting conversations with folks about this film than any other in a long time. It also had more staying power than most films of late (not necessarily a good thing in this case). I give *The Killer Inside Me* a four star rating not because it

is a great film, but because it does so much so well in spite of its ebbs and in spite of its heinous brutality. Affleck throws himself into the layers of Lou Ford's psyche. Jessica Alba and Kate Hudson get props just for enduring the scenes they did. The rest of the supporting cast, including Tom Bower, Elias Koteas, Bill Pullman, Ned Beatty and Brent Briscoe, all turn in top notch performances.

By the time this issue comes out, *The Killer Inside Me* may actually already be gone from the theatres, but if it is at all intriguing to you, I encourage you to see it (I believe its DVD release date is for late September). If there is not enough information in this review for you to make your decision and you are unfamiliar with the story, read a full synopsis on IMDB or Rotten Tomatoes before you go; it is not for the faint of heart or for people who can't abide any depiction of violence against women.

Rated R for disturbing brutal violence, aberrant sexual content and some graphic nudity.

REVIEW BY MICHELLE KEENAN

Chip Kaufmann's Pick: "Piranha"

September DVD Picks

Michelle Keenan's Pick: "The Secret of Roan Inish"

Piranha (1978)

With the arrival of *Piranha 3-D* in theaters last month (see review on page 15), some enterprising folks decided to cash in on that by reissuing Joe Dante's original 1978 film on DVD this month. It had been on DVD before but now we have one in the proper screen ratio with lots of special features including director's commentary and behind the scenes looks at the making of the movie. This proves to be an eye opening experience as we see what Dante and company did with only \$660,000.

Aside from the obvious budget differences between the two (*P 3-D* cost \$24 million), the principal difference between the two is in the screenplay. *Piranha* was written by John Sayles and he manages to create a script that is funny, topical, political, and one that gives the characters interesting things to say while making you care about them.

A government project designed to develop piranha that can live in cold and/or salt water for use in the Vietnam war is closed down and several years later these fish escape and threaten a children's camp and a small recreational lake. A father (Bradford Dillman) and an investigator (Heather Menzies) race against time to warn people but are hindered by government officials (Barbara Steele and Bruce Gordon) who want to keep the project secret.



Even after 30 years *Piranha* still holds up well with interesting performances and still startling gore effects that are sparingly used. Keenan Wynn's death scene is far more real and disturbing than anything in the remake. Made in the days when the drive-ins still held sway, if you never saw the original or only remember it from early cable showings then check it out and see absolute proof that a big budget is no substitute for a good script and imaginative low budget filmmaking.

The Secret of Roan Inish (1994)

Coincidentally, I too picked a John Sayles film for my DVD pick this month. I was inspired to select *The Secret of Roan Inish* after watching Neil Jordan's *Ondine* (see review on pg. 15). If you are familiar with this title I'm sure you just uttered some joyous exclamation about the film. It's a magical film for those who prefer the magic of Irish lore let alone by

the cruel real world, but even so Sayles still manages to deliver a heartfelt dose of rural Irish reality. Like *Ondine*, *The Secret of Roan Inish* also revolves around the prospect of a Selkie (a creature in Irish lore who is part seal, part woman).

The story takes place in a fishing village in Donegal, Ireland. At the center is Fiona, a young girl who's been sent to live with her grandparents. Her family is still mourning the loss of her baby brother, who was washed out to sea in a boat-like cradle. When she hears rumors of a small boy on Roan Inish being raised by the seals and a legend that an ancestor of theirs married a Selkie, young Fiona becomes consumed with learning the truth and the secret of Roan Inish.

Like *Ondine*, there's no CGI technology or huge stars necessary to make an entertaining, engaging and fine little film. *The Secret of Roan Inish* certainly displays the sweeter side of Sayles, and it is a wonderful example of good old fashioned storytelling, something at which Sayles excels. He is a subtle and quiet filmmaker, yet so articulate and adept at story, character development and photography. His films are remarkably effective and, in this case, beautiful. If you need a true distraction from the day, rent *The Secret of Roan Inish*. It has a 98% fresh rating on Rotten Tomatoes, and I have yet to meet anyone who disliked this film.

performance

Asheville Area Piano Forum's 10th Anniversary Fall Benefit Concert

Asheville has become known throughout the country as a "Top Arts Destination." It also has become the city many professionally trained pianists have made their home. For ten years the Asheville Area Piano Forum has provided the public a glimpse of the amazing talents within the Forum membership by putting on two benefit concerts each year as fundraisers for student assistance awards.

This year's program will include 20 classical and jazz musicians performing solo and two-piano works, as well as the student winner of the advanced category of the Forum-sponsored Asheville Piano Competition for pre-college students.

The Asheville Area Piano Forum, with more than 80 members, includes both amateur and professionally-trained pianists. Since becoming a 501(C)3 not-for-profit organization, a number of members have joined who are not pianists but who wish to promote the charitable activities of the Forum.

The Forum was started in 1992 by a group of Asheville piano teachers who realized there was a need for piano teachers to get together to share teaching ideas, thus forming the original Asheville Piano Teachers' Forum. A few years later, the name of the organization was changed to the Asheville Area Piano Forum to reflect the changing membership criteria.

In addition to the two benefit concerts, the Forum holds five general meetings featuring outstanding lecturers on topics of interest to piano enthusiasts. These are open to the public. (Check the Forum's website www.aapf.ws for a listing of this season's programs and a list of local area piano teachers; also visit us at Asheville Area Piano Forum on Facebook.) Performance groups are held monthly in members' homes for members wishing to perform for a non-critical audience. Students have performance opportunities through Forum-sponsored student recitals and those who need financial assistance to continue their piano study are eligible for student assistance awards.

The pianists in the Forum not only donate their services to the Piano Forum but also to other arts venues. The Forum

BY POLLY FEITZINGER



Andrea Adamcova, AAPF member, performs during the 9th Annual Fall Benefit Concert. Photo by Pavel Wlosok

assisted the Asheville Symphony, donating funds to help with the purchase of their new Steinway Grand. Also, its performing members have been soloists with the Asheville Symphony and the Blue Ridge Symphony, and have appeared in the Asheville Art Museum's popular Pianoforte Series; they also perform regularly in Symphony Guild Musical Feasts. The Forum's jazz pianists appear in many local and regional clubs.



The Asheville Area Piano Forum's 10th Anniversary Fall Benefit Concert, September 26, 2010. Concert begins at 3 p.m. at Diana

Worham Theatre, 2 South Pack Square, Asheville, NC.

Tickets: adults \$20; patrons \$50; students 13-21 years \$5; children 12 and under admitted free. Call (828) 257-4530 to reserve tickets. Tickets also available at the door and at SoliClassica (828) 277-4111.

HANDS IN HARMONY: THE CONCERT

Join us as we celebrate Tim Barnwell's photographs with performances by David Holt, Wayne Henderson, Laura Boosinger, Don Pedi, Bruce Greene and others. Enjoy the music along with projections of Barnwell's captivating images. The artists will be available after the concert for a book and CD signing.

IF YOU GO: Tuesday, September 14 at 7 p.m. Diana Worham Theatre, www.dvtheatre.com. \$10 General Admission. \$8 Museum Members + Students. Photographs by Tim Barnwell on view through October 10, 2010 at the Asheville Art Museum, 2 South Pack Square.

A Gallery Where Art Dances with Nature

Find us on Facebook!

TWIGS & LEAVES

98 North Main Street, Waynesville, NC 28786
(828) 456-1940 www.twigsandleaves.com



Tell them you saw it in Rapid River Magazine

INVEST IN YOUR Health

These days, people are investing in something a bit more dependable than the stock market or real estate - their health for instance.

We think that is an excellent idea.

Investing in your health can not only give you reliable returns, you also get the bonus of living longer and looking better!

It's just smart asset management.

Call us today or visit www.drhighsmith.com to see how the health of your mouth affects the health of your body and how we can help you invest in yourself today.

John M. Highsmith, DDS

CLINICAL INSTRUCTOR FOR THE LAS VEGAS INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED DENTAL STUDIES



GENERAL, COSMETIC & IMPLANT DENTISTRY

828-627-9282

78 Nelson Street, Clyde, NC



WWW.DRHIGHSMITH.COM

Susan Marie Designs
FINE HANDMADE JEWELRY



4 BILTMORE AVENUE
Downtown Asheville
277-1272

Specializing in one-of-a-kind
and custom jewelry
DeBeers & AGTA Spectrum
Award-Winning Designer/Goldsmith

VAN DYKE
JEWELRY & FINE CRAFT



Fine Art
High Quality
Furnishings
Pottery



29 Biltmore Ave. *Exclusive Parking in the Rear*
Located between Mast General Store and Doc Chey's.
(828) 281-4044 :: www.vandykejewelry.com

fine art

Illuminating the Gourds of Art

BY DENNIS RAY

Local artist Jon Dennis uses wood or gourds to carve out the life he sees here in the mountains of Western North Carolina. He captures the falling of leaves, the snapping of a trout jumping in a river or the graceful movements of a butterfly as it absconds into flight, all through his detailed carvings. His sculptures are as much about movement, as they are about his love of nature.

His subjects may be varied but his style is uniquely his own. A style that is both mature and youthful in spirit. Every piece reflects life in the mountains, captures feeling with symbols of each season, he allows the viewer to ruminate on their own memories. Each piece tells a story and the story it tells is different for everyone.

Today, Dennis carves mostly on gourds but also loves to carve from wood, his original love. But gourds tend to be his most popular and most recognizable form of his work, so for now they are his main focus. When he does choose to carve wood he chooses "Whatever I can get my hands on," but prefers aspen, butternut, and cottonwood, for their ease in carving and for their lustrous almost translucent textures.

Art has always been a part of Dennis's life, but not always his livelihood. As a kid he loved art and was fascinated by sculptures and paintings and enjoyed them almost as much as he loved the great outdoors. But life has a way of cutting its own trench and sometimes we have no choice but to follow. In '75 although he graduated with a BFA from the University of Georgia he would spend the next 25 years as a paramedic and firefighter in metro Atlanta, dreaming of someday building a cabin in the woods and living off the land.

"I loved being a paramedic," he says. "Those were very good years. I loved living near Atlanta, but I also loved getting away from Atlanta, away from the heat and the busy fast moving life and we'd come up here to the mountains every year. Been doing that since '71 or '72."

In 2001 he and his wife finally built that log cabin on Sheepback Mountain just outside of Maggie Valley. "It's literally awe inspiring out here," he says. "Everyday I'm inspired to work." Which he does with an industrious determination, working seven



Carved gourds by Jon Dennis

hours a day five or six days every week.

"A few years ago my wife suggested I might try and put lights in the gourds. She had seen a fountain and had gotten the idea. So we tried a few different cordless types and found some that really looked good and we knew we were on to something." The light illuminates through the top of the gourd and through the spaces where he has made cutouts of leaves or flowers and these beautiful shapes shine against the ceiling and walls of the room. "The gourds are perfect as nightlights or to illumina-

nate a corner or shelving."

With the addition of the lights his gourds have exceeded in demand and even being as prolific as he is, Dennis finds it hard to keep up.

As to why he figures they sell faster with the added lights, he says, "Most folks like functional art. They like how the (gourds) create mood with shadows. People also like the way light can change art, making it more striking, creating an almost different piece, the way lights can change a sculpture in a garden. Light is itself the purest art.

Light, throughout literature, has been used as the symbol of life. Dennis uses light within his art like a soul or perhaps a dream that is endlessly waiting to escape. And that too, as to what it is and what it symbolizes, is up to each viewer.

The shell of the gourd, when dried, has a wooden appearance but has no grain. It varies in thickness from paper-thin to well over an inch. "I prefer using a thicker gourd because they carve better."

He explains that cutting open a dried gourd can present hazards; the resulting dust is extremely fine and can cause respiratory problems, and requires adequate protection, which he is careful to use.

"It is quite pleasing to take an ordinary gourd and turn it into something of beauty. I'm always surprised and dazzled as it transforms into something new," he says. Each gourd is elaborately carved and then stained. After the stain is dried he goes back and rubs in the different colors of the carved leaves or flowers or butterflies. The

'Gourds' continued on next page

fine art

A Celebration of Southern Appalachian Culture

The 30th Annual Heritage Weekend will be held September 18-19 at the Blue Ridge Parkway's Folk Art Center. This free festival sponsored by the Southern Highland Craft Guild features traditional music, dancing and heritage craft demonstrations.

A highlight of the weekend is the 30th Annual World Gee Haw Whimmy Diddle Competition on Saturday, from 2 to 3 p.m. Joe "Colonel Buncombe" Bly will emcee the competition.

Learn from area experts about beekeeping, canning and preserving, coopering, heritage toy making, blacksmithing, natural dyeing, spinning, quilting, whittling, basket weaving and folk pottery.



Blue-Eyed Girl Photo: Stewart Stokes

with traditional mountain dancing. The Blue Ridge Parkway's Folk Art Center is the ideal place for Heritage Weekend with plenty of free parking, access to hiking trails and grassy areas for a picnic. Spend an early autumn weekend in WNC honoring and learning about crafts of yesteryear while enjoying the beauty of the region. For more information, including a list of participating craftspeople and musicians, call (828) 298-7928 or visit www.craftguild.org.

IF YOU GO *A Celebration of Southern Appalachian Culture, 30th Annual Heritage Weekend. September 18-19. Hours: Saturday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. & Sunday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Folk Art Center, Milepost 382, Blue Ridge Parkway, Asheville, NC.*



Practicing for the Whimmy Diddle Competition Photo: Stewart Stokes

Musical entertainment will include the polished sounds of Buncombe Turnpike as well as Blue Eyed Girl. The Apple Chill Cloggers will thrill the audience

'Gourds' continued from page 18

final look is nothing less than amazing.

Dennis continues his studies at the Haywood Community College woodcarving program and consults closely with Cliff Hannah, a world champion carver. Dennis's work has won awards in wood carving competitions and is held in private collections. He is a member of the National Wood Carvers Association.



Carved gourd by Jon Dennis

"My art, like most, is for enjoyment today but can be

passed down for generations," he adds. Who knows, perhaps some future archaeologist might find one of his gourds and will learn a little bit about our lives here and understand a little more about who we were.

If art is the capturing of life, the capturing of the seasons, the capturing of moments for us to reflect upon years later, then our need for art is more than ethereal, it becomes our only accurate means to communicate with the future.

His work can be seen at Twigs and Leaves in Historic Downtown Waynesville.

Twigs and Leaves
 98 North Main St., Waynesville, NC 28786
 (828) 456-1940
www.twigsandleaves.com
 Hours: Monday - Saturday 10-5:30 p.m.
 Sunday 1-4 p.m. (seasonal)

DISCOVER THE BEST OF REGIONAL CRAFT



JEWELRY: BARBARA JOINER

ALLANSTAND CRAFT SHOP
 AT THE FOLK ART CENTER

MILEPOST 382 BLUE RIDGE PARKWAY, ASHEVILLE, NC
 OPEN DAILY 9AM-6PM | 828-298-7928

GUILD CRAFTS

930 TUNNEL ROAD/HWY 70, ASHEVILLE, NC
 OPEN MON.-SAT: 10AM-6PM | 828-298-7903



WWW.CRAFTGUILD.ORG

The Southern Highland Craft Guild is authorized to provide services on the Blue Ridge Parkway under the authority of a cooperative agreement with the National Park Service, Department of the Interior.

step out of the ordinary

blue

1 swan street biltmore village 277-2583



Rachel Barton Pine

MW1 • SEPTEMBER 18, 2010
OPENING NIGHT

Tchaikovsky Suite from *Sleeping Beauty*

Szymanowski Violin Concerto No. 1
Rachel Barton Pine, violin

Hindemith Symphonic *Metamorphosis*

"An exciting, boundary-defining performer"
— *Washington Post*

SPONSORS

SINGLE TICKETS FOR ALL CONCERTS ON SALE NOW!

OCTOBER • NOVEMBER



MW2 • OCTOBER 16, 2010
Beethoven's Eroica

Walton *Crown Imperial March*

Neruda Trumpet Concerto

Mark Clodfelter, trumpet

Hovhaness *Prayer of St. Gregory*

Mark Clodfelter, trumpet

Beethoven Symphony No. 3 "Eroica"

MW3 • NOV. 20, 2010

A Midsummer Night's Dream with NC Stage Co.



828.254.7046 • www.ashevillesymphony.org

"For Pets' Sake!"

A group art show to benefit Brother Wolf Animal Rescue

Join Brother Wolf in the *Save a Life Campaign*, which aims to find loving homes for ALL of Buncombe County's adoptable companion animals.



OPENING RECEPTION

live music • refreshments • silent auction

Friday, September 10th
6:30–8:30pm

at BlackBird Frame & Art

Show dates: Sept 10th–30th

Enjoy inspirational and entertaining works drawn from the artists' own experiences with animal friends.

BlackBird and the artists will donate 20% of proceeds from these works to Brother Wolf (through 9/30).

A special poster has been created for the show by Drew Findley of Subject Matter Studio—only 50 available! ALL proceeds will benefit Brother Wolf. See BlackBird's website or Facebook for details.



BLACKBIRD
FRAME & ART

365 Merrimon Ave • 225.3117
blackbirdframe.com

Shown: Philip DeAngelo, *Homecoming (detail)*, 24x24, acrylic on wood

explore asheville

New Park Brings More People Downtown

BY DENNIS RAY

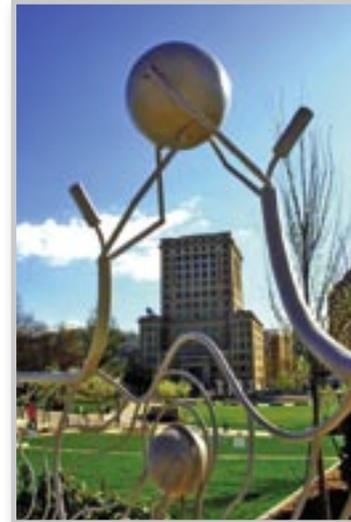
USA Today along with numerous national publications ranks Asheville as one of the most ideal places to live and retire in the country – a testament that the downtown revitalization movement over the past 30 years paid off. Asheville is valued for its Art Deco buildings, exciting performing arts scene, diverse restaurants, galleries, shopping centers and now the newly finished 6.5-acre Pack Square Park.

"Locals and tourists already tell us how much they love the park," says Gary Giniat, Executive Director of Pack Square Conservancy, the non-profit which renovated the park. "There are several water features, artworks and gathering places; also, a performance stage for outdoor concerts. Our landscape architect, Fred Bonci of LaQuatra Bonci Associates designed a dramatic showcase!"

Giniat, who grew up in Chicago and resettled here in 2009, experienced firsthand the positive impact city parks have on both locals and visitors.

"A well designed park," he says, "offers a city beauty, comfort, pride and individuality. "It's as important to the city's identity as the architecture or climate. We owe a lot to George Pack and his foresightedness."

In 1901 philanthropist George Willis Pack gave the county a plot of land for a new courthouse on College Street. The terms of his generous gift required the county to use the land where the old courthouse stood as a city park for people of Asheville "forever." The park that bears his name underwent several transformations during the past 100 years, but remains steadfast as a symbol of Asheville's perseverance.



Julia Burr railing

Talk of improving and expanding the park's green space and making it more accessible and safe to the public was often brought up during city meetings and in planning groups.

"In 1999 a water leak under a street in Pack Square brought the topic out in the open once again," says Giniat. "Because it required extensive repairs to update the waterlines people saw an opportunity to talk about updating the park."

Citizens launched a discussion about creating a more centralized and pedestrian friendly public park incorporating Pack Square and City-County Plaza. A lengthy discussion ensued between the community, business leaders and elected officials about how to approach this problem.

The solution in October 2000 established Pack Square Conservancy as the non-profit organization charged with designing, building and funding the new park.

"The citizenry wanted vibrant street life both for the fun of it and to attract business," says Giniat. "I believe we've blended the two quite well."

The Conservancy's mission is to enhance and protect Pack Square Park as a vital urban green space celebrating Asheville's unique historic, economic, and cultural character. The City oversees the park and issues all permits for its use.

"We plan to be around for a long time making certain this park continues to serve as a showcase for our city."

Splasheville, in front of the new stage, is the coolest place in town, especially on a hot day. The computerized interactive water feature fills the park with sounds of splashing water and laughing children.

"We come here almost every day," says Sharon Anderson of North Asheville. "My kids prefer the fountain to the public pool and I love just spending the day in the city. I catch



Splasheville is the coolest place in town.



Hoss Haley fountain in Pack Square

explore asheville

A 2001 Associated Press poll of 50 top executives of Fortune 500 companies rated quality of life — including parks and recreation, traffic, and climate — as one of the most important factors they consider when relocating.

up on my reading as the kids play. After, we all grab something to eat, do a little shopping and sometimes take in a play or movie. This is something (referring to Splasheville) they should have built years ago.”

“Four regional artists designed original works for the park,” Giniat says pointing to hundreds of colorful tiles, created by Weaverville ceramicist Kathy Triplett, which adorn the back wall of the Bascom Lamar Lunsford Stage. They repeat the feather motif on the façade of Asheville’s art deco City Hall and echo the color palette of that landmark building. Smaller



Pergola and County Building

tiles created by Buncombe County school children feature stylized plant forms and textured, pebble-like surfaces suggesting the region’s rocky terrain.

West Asheville sculptor Hoss Haley created the attractive stainless steel pergola forming the backdrop to the stage in front of the County Courthouse and City Hall. His massive bronze and stone fountain in front of the Asheville Art Museum became a celebrated attraction as soon as the four-ton bronze ring was put in place. Water flows from grooves in the ring and cascades over the outer edge of the circle, much to the delight of the young and the young-at-heart. Like all the fountains in Pack Square Park, this one is turned off during cold weather and reactivated in the spring.

A whimsical railing encircles part of Reuter Terrace in the middle of the park. Its creator, Julia Burr of Black Mountain, says it’s all about the draw, “the pull people feel toward our city.”



Shindig on the Green

A bronze sculpture of a seated woman, created by Jodi Hollnagel-Jubran of eastern North Carolina, draws visitors to the Veterans’ Memorial near the stage. The work represents the families of men and women in the armed forces who worry and must wait at home.

“The overall design of the park is rather stunning,” says Ted Miller of Black Mountain. “I love the way the park blends right into the city. Everything is in harmony.”

FREE CONCERT

The Asheville Symphony Orchestra and Pack Square Conservancy will present a world-class concert in Pack Square Park, Monday, September 6.



Asheville Symphony Music Director, Daniel Meyer

In celebration of the Symphony’s 50th Anniversary, members of the Symphony will perform on the new Bascom Lamar Lunsford Stage in the Roger McGuire Green. The concert will be conducted by Symphony Music Director Daniel Meyer, featuring light classical selections including Rossini’s *Finale to the William Tell Overture*, Bizet’s *Suite from Carmen*, and selections from Rogers and Hammerstein, John Williams, and Sousa.

Starting at 7 p.m. music will fill the park for 90 minutes. Bring lawn chairs, blankets, a picnic, and find a space on the lawn for free. Or, sit in comfort with a reserved seat up close to the performers for \$20. Tickets to a V.I.P. pre-concert reception with hors d’oeuvres and beverages, plus preferred seating are \$50 and must be purchased by September 2. A rain date is set for Tuesday, September 7.

IF YOU GO: Visit the Symphony website at www.ashevillesymphony.org or call (828) 254-7046 for more information about the concert and to purchase tickets.

WALL STREET

shop, create, play

GOLDWORKS
Original Jewelry and Craft
GALLERY

18 Wall St. 828.254.2530
Find us on Facebook

Fired Up!
creative lounge

Paint Your Own Pottery,
and MORE!

26 Wall St.
Downtown Asheville, NC

FREE studio fee
with this coupon!

828.253.8181 Expires 11/30/10. Not valid
with party discounts, sale
items or other coupons.

www.FiredUpLounge.com

**BEADS
and
BEYOND**

37 Wall Street
(828) 254-7927

Mon. - Sat. 10:30 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Sun. 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

PAUL TAYLOR

Since 1965 • Custom Sandals & Belts
Vintage & Modern Belt Buckles

Cool!
In EVERY sense
of the word!

Open Mon., Tues.,
Fri., and Sat. from
12 Noon to 4-ish

12 Wall St. Asheville • 828-251-0057
www.paultaylor sandals.com

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.

10 Wall St.
Asheville, NC 28801

Pur's
Yarn Emporium

828-253-2750

Yarns, Books, Tools, Patterns and Encouragement

Mon-Sat 10-6, Sun 1-5
www.puris yarnemporium.com

Paul Taylor Custom Sandals and Belts A most unique shop - the largest collection of vintage belt buckles in the country. The highest quality custom-fit English bridle leather belts, and the best handmade custom leather sandals for more than 40 years.

EXPLORE
DOWNTOWN
ASHEVILLE

10th Anniversary Fall Benefit Concert

September 26, 2010
beginning at 3 PM

Performing the Classics and Jazz in
Solo and Two-Piano Music
Featuring Asheville Area Piano Forum
Members and Guest Artists

Diana Wortham Theatre
2 South Pack Square, Asheville

In Memory of
Anthony Colin Hayward
Benefiting AAPF
Charitable and
Educational
Activities

Adult Admission: \$20 • Piano Patrons: \$50
Students 13 to 21: \$5 • Students 12 and under: Free

Call (828) 257-4530 to Reserve Tickets
Tickets also available at the door.

AICFF TICKETS ON SALE NOW

Tickets to the 2nd Annual Asheville International Children's Film Festival (AICFF) go on sale September 1 for the festival which will take place November 1-14, 2010.

The largest children's film festival in the Southeast, AICFF celebrates the best and brightest in international children's cinema with a 14-day extravaganza of more than 100 films from 30 countries.



Creature Comforts



On My Way

This year's festival includes an impressive blend of programs, including animation, features, shorts, historical films, children's jury, and hands-on workshops for the filmmakers of tomorrow.



IF YOU GO: For tickets and more information visit www.aicff.org or call (828) 298-4789.

live music

SCOTTISH FOLK PHENOMENON Dougie Maclean



Dougie MacLean
on stage Thursday,
September 23

BY JOHN ELLIS

The Diana Wortham Theatre at Pack Place kicks off its 2010/2011 Mainstage Series with a performance by Dougie MacLean, 8 p.m., Thursday, September 23 at the Diana Wortham Theatre at Pack Place in downtown Asheville.

Dougie MacLean, considered by many to be Scotland's pre-eminent singer-songwriter and one of the country's greatest musical treasures, is one of the most requested returning performers in Diana Wortham Theatre's Mainstage Series. Highly popular with Asheville audiences, MacLean has built an international reputation as a songwriter, composer, and extraordinary performer at concerts and festivals worldwide including New York's Carnegie Hall, Glasgow's Royal Concert Hall and London's

Festival Theatre.

MacLean's unique blend of roots-based songwriting and instrumental composition combine for unique, meaningful and emotion-filled music. His songs have been covered by hosts of artists, and his "Caledonia" has become one of Scotland's most popular contemporary songs. MacLean's music has been used in Hollywood films (e.g. his melody "The Gael" is heard in *The Last of the Mohicans*), has been recorded by hundreds of artists worldwide, and been the subject of three BBC television music-documentaries. Dougie MacLean's new DVD release, "Song-

maker," is a collection of acoustic versions of MacLean's songs filmed at Dougie's home in Buttermere near Dunkeld in the beautiful Tay Valley of Scotland, and performed with various members of his band.

IF YOU GO

Mainstage Special Attractions Series presents Dougie MacLean, September 23, 2010 at 8 p.m. Diana Wortham

Theatre at Pack Place. Tickets: Regular \$35; Seniors \$33; Students \$30, Student Rush day-of-the-show (with valid ID) \$10. Info/Tickets: Box Office (828) 257-4530 or visit www.dwttheatre.com. Artist website: www.dougiemaclean.com

Award-Winning "Newgrass" Quintet Bearfoot

The young, award-winning, string quintet Bearfoot, will perform "new-timey," "post-bluegrass," "string band music for the 21st century," or "newgrass." Whatever the name, there's a revolution under way where string band traditions meet youthful creativity, and Bearfoot epitomizes the movement.

The quintet, originally from Alaska, have already made a mark with four strong releases and appearances at major festivals, winning the acclaimed Telluride Bluegrass Band contest in 2001. Now, as they enter their second decade with a new Nashville home and a new lineup, Bearfoot have taken their place among the best and brightest of a new generation of musicians reshaping American roots music.

Fiddler and lead vocalist Odessa Jorgenson joined Bearfoot shortly before work on *Doors and Windows* began. Fresh from a two year stint with the popular Weaverville, NC-based Biscuit Burners, she helped the group to focus more on vocals while adding her strong fiddle resume, which extends back to classical training and extensive performance with youth symphony and chamber orchestra.



Bearfoot performs live Saturday, September 25

BY JOHN ELLIS

Windows served as a turning point for the band; by the end of the year the band members were ready to relocate outside of Alaska in favor of a mostly Nashville residence.

Under the wing of the respected Nashville production company Compass Records, Bearfoot launched itself completely into the musical territory it had already begun to explore, and sealed the deal with the acquisition of two new members already making names for themselves

as spectacularly gifted young players, providing the perfect foundation for a group headed straight into the future.

IF YOU GO

Mainstage Bluegrass Series presents Bearfoot, Saturday, September 25, at 8 p.m. Diana Wortham Theatre at Pack Place.

Tickets: Regular \$30; Seniors \$28; Students \$25, Student Rush day-of-the-show (with valid ID) \$10. Info/Tickets: Box Office (828) 257-4530 or visit www.dwttheatre.com.

Jorgenson is joined by an equally talented crew of performers: Angela Oudean on fiddle/vocals; Jason Norris on mandolin/vocals; Sam Grisman on bass, and Jake Stargel on guitar. Together they are at the forefront of a cultural shift that includes the past, present and future of bluegrass music.

Bearfoot's latest release, *Doors and Windows*, debuted at the top of Billboard's Bluegrass Albums chart in the spring of 2009 and features top musicians of the genre: Andy Hall of The Infamous Stringdusters playing dobro; banjo virtuoso Alison Brown; Andrea Zonn of the James Taylor and Band on fiddle; and Larry Atamanuik on drums. The release of *Doors and*

Visit www.bearfootband.com

live music

Dave Desmelik Opening for Richard Buckner

BY JAMES CASSARA

Asheville singer/songwriter Dave Desmelik recently returned from his first overseas jaunt, playing a series of concerts throughout the United Kingdom. It was Desmelik's opportunity to perform in front of an audience who, through the wonders of the Internet, were already familiar with his music.

Since landing back on our shores Desmelik has continued to stay busy, playing a number of local and regional gigs while relishing in his most important role: as father to his sixteen month old son Holmes. Desmelik, who later this month will open for Richard Buckner at the Grey Eagle, kindly shared some reflections about his recent adventures.



Desmelik's song "If It's Good For You" was chosen as one of the Top 25 Songs of 2010 by Indie-Music.com.

Buy Desmelik's new CD, *Onlooker* at Karmasonics, 19 Biltmore Ave. in Asheville, (828) 259-9949.

Rapid River: Talk a bit about the shows and the tour in general.

Dave Desmelik: Our recent UK tour was an incredible and valuable experience. Joining me on the lap steel guitar was Josh Gibbs and his mournful, yet spirited playing was a great compliment to the songs we performed. I felt we had a very positive reception everywhere we played. The kind folks in England, Wales, and Scotland were appreciative and eager to support independent music. We got the opportunity to play some great venues such as the famous Halfmoon Putney in London, where such names as Roger Daltry, Ray Davies, and Keith Richards have performed, as well as the popular Belladrum Festival in the Highlands of Scotland and numerous other shows.

RR: How were the audiences?

DD: Amazing! The gracious people, the landscapes, and simply being in a different part of the world was humbling and will surely be a source of inspiration. We gained knowledge on how to go back in the future and build on the good reception we received. Lots of new

Dave Desmelik onstage Wednesday, September 8 at the Grey Eagle.

friends, the chance to hear, meet, and network with some great musicians.

RR: Were there any bits of culture shock?

DD: None at all, and we didn't die driving on the left side of the road in London directly after getting off the plane in the midst of the narrow lanes and double decker buses. Just like the movies!

RR: Any new songs come out of the trip?

DD: Not yet, but I can feel it coming based on the UK experience. It [songwriting] kind of comes in waves for me; it seems especially in the last couple years. It can be sporadic. I know though in my gut there are UK songs that will come to life.



Dave Desmelik opening for Richard Buckner at the Grey Eagle on Wednesday, September 8 at 8:30 p.m. \$10 advance / \$12 day of show.

31ST

LEAF

Lake Eden Arts Festival
a non-profit organization

October 14th-17th

LEAF Stages create your weekend soundtrack while you travel through a myriad of cultures. Full performer roster & schedule online!

The Indigo Girls • *The Original Wailers of Jamaica • Leon Redbone • Playing For Change Band (Powerful Global Music Movement started w/ "Stand by Me") • Red Clay Ramblers Pimps of Joytime • April Verch • The Wood Brothers • La Excelencia • *Boukman Eksperyans of Haiti • Danny Ellis • Jai Uttal • Contra with Tidal Wave | Contraversial | Fly By Night Slavic Soul Party • Hot Club of Cowtown • *Umalali, The Garifuna Women's Project of Belize • Mariam Matossian • Free Planet Radio • River Guerquarian Project • *Bonga & Vodou Drums of Haiti • Unifire Theater & many more! Poetry Slam • Puppetry Slam • Music Jams • DANCE! • Unicycles • Didjeridoo • *Steel Drums & Puppets Parade • Fiddle Contest • Circus Arts • Lake Play • Kids Village Camp • Yoga & over 50 Healing Arts Workshops & so much to explore & experience!

*Special Caribbean Traditions celebration this Fall made possible by a grant from National Endowment for the Arts!

AlukaImages.com

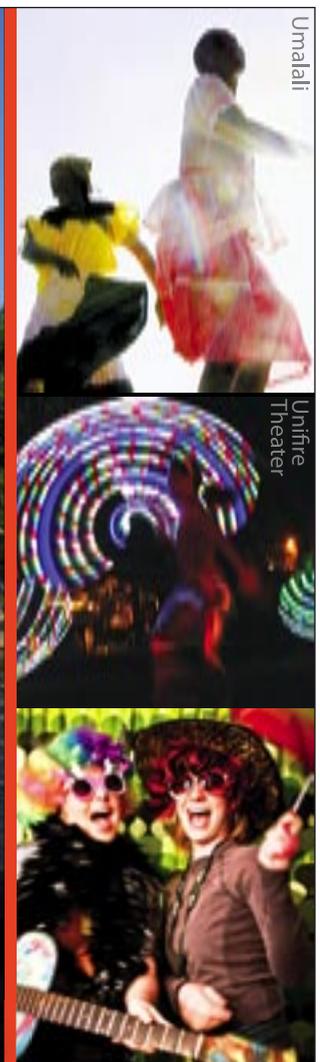
connecting cultures & creating community through music & arts

at Camp Rockmont
in BLACK MOUNTAIN NC

theLEAF.org
828|68-MUSIC (686-8742)

TICKETS SOLD IN ADVANCE ONLY • GET 'EM NOW!

MUSIC DANCE HANDCRAFTS POETRY HEALING ARTS KIDFUN LAKE ADVENTURES CAMPING OUTREACH



Jerusalem Garden Cafe

www.jerusalemgardencafe.com

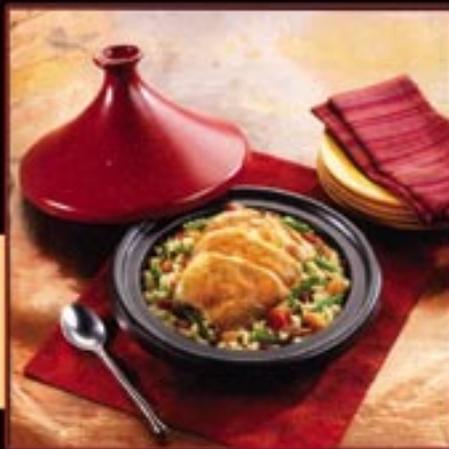


Moroccan and Mediterranean Cuisine

We bring the flavors of Turkey, Lebanon, Cairo, and the Holy Land to you!

Serving Lunch & Dinner

*Best Southern Brunch
Saturday and Sunday!*



Let Us Host Your Event!

We serve small and large groups including weddings.

An evening here will take you to Moroccan nights with authentic music and belly dancing.

78 Patton Ave.
Downtown Asheville

(828) 254-0255

*Belly Dancing & Live Music
Every Thursday, Friday & Saturday Night*

stage preview

HART presents the Southern Comedy *Catfish Moon*

HART's next play never played Broadway, or even New York, but it is one of the most popular comedies being done today. "Catfish Moon" by Laddy Sartin tells the story of a group of close friends who have had a break up and are working towards a reconciliation, or trying to. The entire thing is set on a fishing pier complete with cooler, beer, rods, lawn chairs and a full moon and plenty of laughs: An appropriate way to spend a summer evening.

"Catfish Moon" was written by Laddy Sartin, currently a resident of Rock Hill South Carolina and a Mississippi native. Sartin holds a BFA in Theatre from the University of Southern Mississippi. An actor and stage technician as well as a writer, Sartin has worked in theatre for the past two decades. In the 1970's and 80's he appeared as an actor on a number of TV series including "Matlock," but then he became a father and things changed. His wife had been the family's principal money maker as a theatre technician working on "A Chorus Line" but the family decided to leave the city and take a different direction. Sartin had been writing for years and he dug back into his trunk and found parts of what would become two celebrated plays, "Blessed Assurance" and "Catfish Moon."

Sartin was the 1991-92 recipient of the North Carolina Arts Council's Playwriting Fellowship, the state's most prestigious individual artist award and then "Blessed Assurance" was selected for the Eudora Welty New Play Series at New Stage Theatre in Jackson, Mississippi, and was performed there in March 1995.

In the fall of 1992 "Blessed Assurance" was produced by Catawba College in Salisbury, NC, and was their entry in the American College Theatre Festival and



Jackie Webb, Jack Ross, and Tom Dewees in "Catfish Moon."

received national attention. The play was also produced by the University of Southern Mississippi in September 1993 and by West Georgia College in February 1994.

HART's production is being directed by Allison Stinson and will feature Jessica Bachar, Tom Dewees, Jackie Webb and Jack Ross. This is a feel good comedy that will leave you with some things to ponder and a greater appreciation for a full moon on a summer night.

IF YOU GO

HART presents "Catfish Moon" by Laddy Sartin,
Directed by Allison Stinson.
September 2, 3, 4 at 7:30 p.m.
and September 5 at 3pm.

Tickets are \$18 for Adults, \$16 for Seniors, Student/child \$8 with special \$5 discount tickets for Students for Thursday and Sunday performances.

Box Office Hours: Monday-Saturday 1-5 p.m. Call (828) 456-6322 for reservations. Tickets available online at www.harttheatre.com. Performing Arts Center at the Shelton House, 250 Pigeon St. Waynesville, NC.

**Mellow
Mushroom
Pizza Bakers**

(828) 236-9800

Open 7 Days a Week

50 Broadway - Asheville, NC

Specialty Pizzas • Spring Water Dough • Salads
Vegan Soy Cheese, and other Vegetarian Options!



Bring in this Ad
and We'll Take
15% Off
Your Order

Excluding Alcohol
1 Coupon Per Table

Delicious

Hoagies & Pretzels
Fresh-Baked Calzones

Wireless
Internet Access!

joe's brew notes



A Beer Dinner Where "Plow to Pint Meets Farm to Table"

When the Thirsty Monk's Pint House (monkpub.com) advertised this dinner, I was interested. When I read the details, I had to go. The event presented the opportunity to speak with Sean Lilly Wilson of "Pop the Cap" fame, taste his Fullsteam Brewery's "plow to pint", southern-style beer, and enjoy the "farm to table" food created by Asheville's nationally recognized chef Mark Rosenstein. A "can't miss" and it didn't.

Chef Mark's food was as delicious as it was creative (see menu, sidebar). He is the former owner and executive chef of the Market Place restaurant in downtown Asheville and a pioneer in Asheville's slow-food movement. The food served that night was from farms within 50 miles of Asheville. Also, most of the beers Sean provided used ingredients from NC farms. My plan for the dinner was to taste the beer and the food separately and then in combination.

The El Toro cream ale was my favorite beer of the evening. It was a refreshing beer made with roasted corn grits (25% of the fermentable base) light in color and body. My favorite food was the carver-braised Imladris Farms rabbit ragout. And my favorite pairing was the First Frost wild persimmon ale (20 pounds of persimmon in the mash) and the cinnamon and chili scone with dried cranberry and fresh peach compote. An unexpected (persimmons, chili, dessert??) and tasty surprise.

Before the dinner, I spoke with Sean

BY JOE ZINICH

about his background, "Pop the Cap", and the concept for Fullsteam's beers.

Born in New Jersey, Sean graduated from Wheaton College, IL and then earned an MBA and a Master of Public Policy from Duke University. After Duke, he worked at a variety of jobs that included Durham's renowned slow-food restaurant the Magnolia Grill and All About Beer Magazine. Both had significant influence on his life and future. At the restaurant he came to appreciate the slow food movement – the value of local foods and agriculture – and at the magazine where the idea for "Pop the Cap" developed. He and co-workers agreed NC's 6% alcohol cap prevented too many of the world's most flavorful beer styles from reaching NC beer lovers. They decided to get the law changed and formed "Pop the Cap" as a non-profit with Sean in a leadership role.

What started with a few people soon grew to 35 and then, with hard work and dedication, became thousands. In less than 3 years the law was changed and the cap was increased to 15%. As Sean says, "We called, we wrote, we conquered. We Popped the Cap." The change opened economic markets for brewers, pubs, and beer stores. It



Fullsteam Brewing's CEO (Chief Executive Optimist) Sean Lilly Wilson

also removed the creative shackles from Carolina's craft brewers and gave beer fans ready access to new styles.

Soon after attending a Great American Beer Festival, Sean decided to showcase the top 5 NC beers from that festival at a number of tastings and dinners. At one dinner he met home-brewer Chris Davis. Over time they discussed Sean's idea to make beer with local, seasonal, and organic ingredients like persimmons or grits; use distinctly southern foods to make distinctly southern beers. That beer, with familiar flavors, could be an excellent way to introduce Southerners to craft

beer and help them connect the agricultural side of beer with the industrial side. Their conversations and ideas became the basis for the philosophy and identity of a new brewery.

Fullsteam (fullsteam.ag) is run by CEO (chief executive optimist) Sean, zymologist (fermentation skills) Chris, and operations manager Brooks Hamaker (former Abita head brewer). Their brewery has two distinct series of beers, Plow-to-Pint and Worker's-Compensation. Plow-to-Pint brews are not bound by tradition or style and are crafted with Southern-farmed ingredients. Worker's-Compensation brews are true-to-style, easy-drinking, session beers.

I asked Sean about the backward F in

the Fullsteam logo. His answers were, "if the F weren't backwards, you wouldn't have asked me about it." The second answer, "Our brewery revels in the past looking forward. "The F shows direction and momentum, but from a contrarian, backwards-looking starting position." In essence, the logo is good marketing, but it is also reflects his creative, dynamic approach to the brewing industry.

Sean is a visionary, a person who believes in "what if" not "what is" and is driven to achieve. He wants Fullsteam to be a landmark brewery known for distinctly southern flavors and styles. He foresees a time when all the ingredients in his beers are grown locally and is dedicated to help make that happen. I would not bet against him.

What a wonderful evening at a great event filled with interesting stories, savory beer, and delicious food. Can't wait till the next time.

From Plow to Pint meets Farm to Table: The Menu

Warm up: Curry Tossed Roasted Vegetable from Mountain Harvest Organics & Full Sun Farms paired with El Toro cream ale (made with roasted NC corn grits) and Rocket Science IPA.

First Course: Basil and chive East for Farm egg salad on Farm & Sparrow whole wheat toast served with Summer Basil (made with local basil) farmhouse ale.

Second Course: Carver Braised Imladris Farms Rabbit Ragout and roasted Sweet Potato with Sage Blue Hill Farms Grit Cakes paired with Carver Sweet Potato Beer (made with NC sweet potatoes).

Third course: Black tea, jasmine rice and hickory smoked, barbecued Sunburst Trout kohlrabi and nappa cabbage slaw paired with Hogwash hickory-smoked porter (made with house smoked barley).

Dessert: Cinnamon and Chili scone with dried cranberry & fresh peach compote served with First Frost wild persimmon ale (made with local persimmons).

BREW NEWS

Brusin' Ales (brusin-ales.com) will serve a variety of beer floats that feature ice cream from The Hop Ice Cream Cafe (thehopicecreamcafe.com) on September 3. Also, join them on September 30 for an Abita beer tasting that includes Save Our Shore Charitable Pilsner (SOS), a German Weizen (wheat) Pils. Abita is donating \$0.75 from each bottle to the cause. Proceeds from the sale of related retail items will also be donated.

Craggie Brewing (craggiebrewingco.com) presents its Hendo Schwarzwiss, a German-style black-wheat beer with subtle chocolate undertones and a fresh applewood bitterness in the finish (3.7%). It's a 100% wheat beer made with chocolate- and white-wheat malts aged on applewood from a Hendersonville orchard. Visit on September 23 for the ice cream float night that features The Hop Ice Cream Cafe's Antebel-



Food, friends, fun and beer. Life is good.

lum ice cream with Craggie's Antebellum Ale. Proceeds will benefit the YMCA of Western North Carolina.

French Broad Brewery (frenchbroadbrewery.com) introduced their LAAFF (Lexington Avenue Art and Fun

Festival) Ale in anticipation of the festival on September 5. The beer is an unfiltered pale ale crafted with 40 pounds of hops hand picked at the Winding River Hop Farm in Canton, NC. Enjoy the beer at the brewery or the festival. Also, look for their Zepptemberfest Ale, a savory twist on the Octoberfest lager style. The beer is a German pale ale with caramel malts and noble hops.

Highland Brewing (highlandbrewing.com) has released Brandon's Kolsch created by Highland Cup winner Brandon Dana. This limited edition beer is delicious and will definitely go fast. Their Clawhammer Oktoberfest seasonal is now available as well.

MALT (Mountain Ale and Lager Tasters; maltsters.org), Asheville's home brew club, hosts the 12th annual Blue Ridge Brew Off competition with the help and support of the fine people of Highland Brewery, September 11. Open to home brewers from across the nation, it is a qualifying event for the prestigious North American Masters Championship of Amateur Brewing (MCAB) and is sanctioned by the Beer Judge Certification Program organization (BJCP).

Although the judging is not open to the public, the contest keeps the Asheville beer scene in the news and all the net proceeds from the over 500 (expected) entries help support the non-profit "Helpmate" which support victims of domestic violence. Kudos to both MALT and Highland.

The Thirsty Monk (monkpub.com) presents its version of a beer festival - Thirsty Fest. Over 35 kegs and 3 casks of rare, unique, and obscure beers from across the U.S. are available for your tasting pleasure. The event began August 30 and continues till the kegs are gone. No cost to enter; just pay for the beer you drink.



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

contemplation & creativity

Open Studio Tour at Grovewood Gallery

Join the national celebration of American Craft Week by taking a self-guided tour of Grovewood Studios on October 9 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Both Grovewood Gallery and Grovewood Studios are housed in the historic Biltmore Industries complex. Biltmore Industries originated as a craft school in 1901 to better the lives of the economically deprived youth of the Appalachian region. It soon grew and gained



Artist Peg Morar

worldwide recognition for its hand-loomed fabrics. In its heyday, Biltmore Industries housed 40 working looms in steady operation.

Grovewood Studios were established in 1992, continuing the Biltmore

Industries' tradition of supporting local craft-people. Today, renowned studio artists design and create a variety of works in glass, clay, metal, wood, and mixed media, in the same workshops in which the famous homespun fabrics were once created.

Open Studio Tour is a free, self-guided tour of the 8 artists' studios on the Grovewood grounds. The tour presents an opportunity for visitors to interact with professional artists, see artwork at the source, and expose them to the rich talent that Asheville has to offer.



Tour Grovewood Studios October 9 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Private appointments for studio visits are welcome throughout the year. Visit www.grovewood.com for more information or call (828) 253-7651.



Painter Jessica Stoddart



Watercolor by Theresa Markiw, Apples and Nectarines.

An opening reception will be held September 7 from 6 to 8 p.m.

The Panoramic Gallery is the newest exhibition space on Level 3 of the Museum, which showcases works by local artists. Jurors for the gallery include Professor Gary Aday and Polly Mallory along with guest juror Sara Cole.

"Art has always been at the center of my life," Markiw says. "The arts and culture of my Ukrainian upbringing strongly influenced me — the rich colors and intricate designs of Ukrainian embroideries,

woodcarvings, pysanky (decorated Easter eggs), and Byzantine icons. My formative years of art study heightened an appreciation of nature and a capacity for close observation. My current work synthesizes these varied interests and influences with a love of simple objects, which serve as a vehicle for the articulation of multiple meanings and more complex truths, ideas and emotions."



For more information on William King Museum call (276) 628-5005 or visit www.williamkingmuseum.org. William King Museum is located at 415 Academy Drive in Abingdon.

Hours are 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday; 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Tuesday; 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday; and 1 to 5 p.m. Sunday. Free parking is available and the facility is fully accessible. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$3 for seniors, members and student free.

My Art-Filled Dream House REAL OR IMAGINED, THERE'S A PLACE FOR EVERYTHING

I love gallery-browsing at events like the RAD Studio Strolls and Downtown's Art Walks. Whether out on my own, or enjoying the additional reactions and perspectives of my artistic friends, it's fun!

But what I'm REALLY doing is secretly working on ... The House. A "Maison D'Art" in my head, dedicated to art collecting. It's ever-changing due to the constant question: "Where would this go in ... (reverent pause)... The House?" To play this game, there are only two rules. One: Money is no object! And, Two: Re-designs are encouraged. Mine is ridiculously HUGE. It's really an art museum. Only with bedrooms. And without docents. Obviously, one has to suspend disbelief to enter into this conversation. Years ago, I kept seeing Disneyland designs as entryways. Now it's more "Neutra Meets Mountains".

My latest floorplan overhaul is thanks to seeing one of Ben Betsalel's large face paintings. It struck me so deeply that my Foyer instantly morphed into an open solarium — this painting is the first visual that my imaginary visitors would see when attending my imaginary dinner party.

This major shift in the rooms also features a Lisa Clague figurative sculpture. And a large Eric Knoche ceramic work in the Bathroom Foyer (YES, my fabulous fake bathroom has its own foyer!). A Brian Mashburn apocalyptic landscape is in the entry, over a Cynthia Wynn hallway table, where I set my non-existent house keys in a large Ben Owen III "copper penny shino" dish. Richard Serra's massive steel sheet art is out back by the studio. It's small-ish for him, only 100 tons. That way the Henry Moore doesn't get dwarfed. And in this 20,000 square foot vision, my art history and artist biography library is directly over the temperature and humidity-controlled art storage vault.

One wall is all about my George Ohr collection. It's a great fake story: I found them all at flea markets. Each piece is worth \$10,000, and you can touch them. 'Cause in this alternate reality, no one is a klutz. The House also features Van Gogh, Dali, Picasso, Calder... along with Bacon (Francis,



Collage featuring "Original Sin I" acrylic on canvas by Ben Betsalel.

BY GREG VINEYARD

not the breakfast meat), Baldessari, Cornell, Modigliani, Kandinsky (two-sided!) and Gordon, just to name a few... A special room contains just one work on each wall by Basquiat, Bleckner, O'Keefe and Diebenkorn.

Equally important is art by family and friends. My existing collection includes a small ceramic

bunny, pink footprints on paper, conté crayon smudges on newsprint, photography, watercolors, drawings... all priceless. And in addition to my Williams, Stephens, Welch and other collections, I also have a stunning shino cup by Marian Parkes. I keep it next to the Edith Heath. All of these real items have special stories and sacred spaces both in reality and in The House.

A special room contains just one work on each wall...

As I walk around looking at and falling in love with humanity's creations, I envision where each item would go, from Kitchen and Bath, to Bedrooms, to Gardens. However, M.B.A.'s ("Master Bedroom Acquisitions") need to pass "The 2 AM Test". There's a lot of amazing artwork on the planet that's also somewhat unnerving; if I wake up in the wee hours and Francis Bacon startles me, it's probably best to hang him in another wing.

Art appreciation is rewarding — and creating a sky's-the-limit home in your head to house all your favorite real and wish-list items keeps the brain stimulated. If I see you in a gallery with a faraway look in your eyes, I'll know what you're doing.



Greg Vineyard is an artist and creative consultant in Asheville's River Arts District. He and his Ceramics for Contemplation & Creativity can be found at

Constance Williams Gallery, 9 Riverside Dr. Open every day from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Visit www.CURVEstudiosNC.com.

restaurants & wine

Explore! Learn Something! — BEYOND CAB AND MERLOT. TRY SOMETHING NEW.

A little over a decade ago, I witnessed a testy interaction between a sassy bistro owner and an under-informed customer who ordered Zinfandel. The owner, serving, brought out a red wine.

“Excuse me,” the customer said, “I ordered a Zinfandel, and you have brought me a red wine.”

“Yes,” the owner retorted, “You ordered a Zinfandel, and I brought you a red wine.”

The customer decided to leave, but not before saying, “Evidently, you know nothing about wine.”

Fast forward to the present. Our customers and friends annually bemoan Beaujolais, branding it all with the no-no word of the wine world, Nouveau. A waiter recently explained Petite Sirah. “It’s Syrah, but the grapes are smaller.” A dessert recipe for strawberries in red wine recommends using especially fruity reds, including “red Zinfandel.”

Cabernet, Merlot, Shiraz. No one questions or confuses their color. In spite of the fact that each of these varietals come in cheap, medium, and bold versions, that wood barrel and fruit flavors greatly vary from label to label, buyers continue to invest in the comfort of a familiar word like Merlot and will say, whatever they get, that they like what they get.

.....

Slow Food Asheville’s Mountain Fire Fundraiser

Gourmet dinner and silent auction to support WNC delegates attending the international Slow Food conference in Turin, Italy.



During Slow Food Asheville’s fundraiser, you will have

an opportunity to eat a home-grown, gourmet feast and bid on fine, local products and services. Experience for yourself this intentionally slower lifestyle centered around sustainable farming and heirloom production techniques.

IF YOU GO: Event held at Sunswep Farm Conservancy, (828) 622-7145, www.sunswepfarm.net. Tickets: \$45 adults, children 10 and under free with adult purchase. Visit www.slowfoodasheville.org for more details.

However, an attempt to introduce, say, a Montepulciano, is commonly challenged by an ignorant response like, “I don’t like Italian wine.” The people who say they like Cabernet Sauvignon, no matter what the style, are the same ones who will shun an entire nation with thousands of years of viticulture and infinite variety.

This can be extremely frustrating to those of us who know better. The world’s variety of reds is enormous and infinitely enjoyable. How do we encourage our fellow wine drinkers to “boldly” explore?

The question underscores the issues of clarity and trust — you cannot be like the smug or ignorant servers. The question also implies travel, and the metaphor of travel is a fun, effective method of introduction.

Consider these reliable and recommended regional wines

Beaujolais – Fact: there is a lot of Beaujolais that is not Nouveau, and it is a good choice for drinkers who seek a lighter style with lots of up-front fruit. Unfortunately, the annual marketing of the Nouveau is as unfair to the image of Beaujolais as MTV’s “Jersey Shore” is to the image of the Garden State. The grape of this French Appellation is Gamay. Unlike Nouveau, regular Beaujolais can and should be aged, although it does not age as long as bolder reds.

There are many that are estate bottled, usually indicated by “Chateau” on the label, and they are often marketed by a négociant like Georges Duboeuf (whose name actually adds a little to your challenge).

Salice Salentino – It’s actually fun to introduce this wine as from the heel of Italy. The rocky, ancient Mediterranean land’s end of Italy, Puglia, unsurprisingly produces a red that is best described as rustic. Think of a Puglian chef simmering an

BY MICHAEL PARKER

herbed tomato sauce around the clock and a red that would go with such hearty food. The grapes are Negroamaro and Malvasia Nera, and the wine typically shows a dark color and exhibits an appetizing tartness. Red wine from the wider region is simply called Rosso di Salento.

Douro – It is often a challenge to convince others that not all red wine from Portugal is fortified and sweet. The nation also produces plenty of quality dry wine. On the steep, ultra-rocky slopes of the Douro, they have to drive stakes into the ground in order to plant vines. Typically medium bodied with good texture, this red is often priced very low, but an increasing number of Douro winemakers are working to create noble reds that merit a higher price.

With odd grape names like Bastardo, Mourisco Tinto, Tinta Cao, and many others, it may not be worth it to memorize them (except for the one with the funny name).

These grape varietals deserve to be better known

Mourvèdre – This wine could easily become the favorite of anyone who pursues rich, earthy, masculine red. It is a value to reds from the Rhone Valley in France, and is also grown very successfully in California and Australia. The Spanish call it Monastrell.

Nebbiolo – Typically with a whiff of violets and earth, plus layers of flavors including raspberries, Nebbiolo is a deservedly famous wine of northwest Italy, and it also grows well in California. Nebbiolo is most often found under the prestigious Italian labels of Barolo and Barbaresco, and the lesser known Gattinara and Ghemme.



Petite Sirah – Remember the story of the negligent waiter and you will never again confuse this wine with Syrah. The historical name is Durif, and the berries are indeed small. Tannic and spicy, this is a great match for hearty food.

.....

September Events at the Weinhaus

Tuesday, September 14

Marco’s Trattoria in Brevard will host a fine wine dinner. Chef Marc Dambax will provide his always innovative and delicious cuisine for us. The evening begins at 7 p.m. The cost is \$65 all inclusive. Please call the Weinhaus for reservations at (828) 254-6453.

Friday, September 24

Friday night flights at the Weinhaus will feature The Kiwi Challenge, an exploration of New Zealand’s finest. The price is \$10 for a tasting of four wines and light hors d’ouvres. From 5 to 7 p.m. at the Weinhaus, 86 Patton Ave. Asheville.

Wednesday, September 22

The Orchard at the Broadmoor Country Club will present a wine dinner featuring the fine cuisine of chef Kenville of Vincenzo’s fame. The dinner will be held on the terrace overlooking the lovely French Broad River Valley. The evening begins at 7 p.m. The cost is \$65 all inclusive. Please call the Weinhaus for reservations at (828) 254-6453.

The Weinhaus

86 Patton Avenue in Asheville
(828) 254-6453

Great values & styles

**FREE Wine Tastings on Saturdays
from 2 to 5 p.m.**

Tasting wine is not only fun, but it presents a chance to learn about wine and what it is about a particular wine that you like, or don’t like. You can sip while you shop. Find some new favorites — try it before you buy it. We will usually have a few whites and a few reds open, with the occasional guest speaker. Please stop by!

Wine Retail ~ Tastings ~ Wine Classes
Great wines for any occasion and budget.



www.theAshevilleWineGuy.com

555 Merrimon Ave.
(828) 254-6500

poetry & books

Annual Hobo Ball

The Friends of Carl Sandburg at Connemara will host their third Hobo Ball fundraiser on Saturday, September 11, at the Kenmure Country Club in Flat Rock, NC. Social hour begins



(L-R) Mike Mynatt, Richard Spicka, and Joe Abrell enjoy the 2008 Hobo Ball.

at 6 p.m. with complimentary beer and a cash bar, and features live entertainment.

After dinner, renowned singer, composer, and guitarist Tom Fisch will perform.

The Hobo-style buffet dinner will include complimentary wine. A silent and live auction will also be held. Dress for the evening is casual, hobo attire encouraged! Proceeds will support the historical, literary, educational, and interpretive activities of the Carl Sandburg Home National Historic Site.

IF YOU GO: Tickets are \$75 per person and seating is limited. For more information visit www.friendsofcarlsandburg.org, or contact Kathleen Hudson at (828) 698-5208.

Rapid River ARTS & CULTURE MAGAZINE

14th Annual Poetry Contest

5 Winners

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

**Any unpublished poem 35
lines or less is wanted!**

Deadline January 15, 2011.
Winning poems will be printed in the
February 2011 issue. Reading fee: \$5
for three poems. For more information
please call (828) 258-3752.

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

Poet Bill Brown: Solace in an Inner Space

Last month's *Rapid River* poetry column lauded the efforts of one east Tennessee publisher — Celtic Cat Publishing — to make available to readers the work of two emerging poets from Appalachia. This month's column will look at two recent poetry books from another praiseworthy east Tennessee-based publisher: Iris Press.

These books, entitled *Late Winter* (2008) and *The News Inside* (2010), are different in terms of tone and aesthetic approach, which is surprising when one considers that both books were published two years apart and feature work by the same poet: Bill Brown.

Founded in 1975 in Binghamton, New York (a city that, for what it's worth, is considered part of Appalachia by the Appalachian Regional Commission), Iris Press was established "to give talented but underappreciated writers an audience and to help them reach their potential." Another early goal, according to the company's website, was to promote the work of George Scarborough (1915-2008), an acclaimed author who then lived in Oak Ridge, Tennessee.

In 1980, new owners moved Iris to Tennessee, and then, in the late 1980s and early 1990s, the press changed hands three more times, bought and sold in quick succession by two commercial publishing companies in major Southern cities and then by a small-press publisher in rural middle Tennessee. In 1996, Iris Press was purchased by Robert B. Cumming, a resident of Oak Ridge in east Tennessee. Cumming's sustained stewardship has allowed the press to return to its roots, publishing the poetry and literary fiction of promising writers from Appalachia and the South while also promoting Scarborough's work.

One of several noteworthy poets whose work has recently been published by Iris Press (others include Appalachian natives Ron Rash and Linda Parsons Marion and current North Carolina Poet Laureate Cathy Smith Bowers), Bill Brown is the author of four earlier poetry collections for other small-press publishers: *Holding On By Letting Go* (1986), *What The Night Told Me* (1993), *The Art of Dying* (1996), and *The Gods of Little Pleasures* (2001). These books contained strong poems, yet minimal distribution prevented them from garnering the readership that Brown's poetry deserves. Fortunately, as Iris Press has a track record of bringing distinctive poetry to a critical mass of people, Brown is steadily widening his circle of readers.

Brown grew up in west Tennessee, about ten miles from the Mississippi River, and he lives today in middle Tennessee. Significantly, his poetry is fully as informed by the presence of place as the work of many "Appalachian" poets. Poetry aficionados

BY TED OLSON

in Appalachia will find Brown's Iris Press books to be of interest not only for their intrinsic merits but also because they may serve as an alternative model of how to assess a region's "sense of place."

Whereas many poems about Appalachian places — at least in the past — have been characterized by strains of romanticization or mystical reverence, Brown's poems, while deeply respectful of their subjects, are witty, vividly descriptive, and unabashedly contemporary. In *Late Winter*, Brown avoids overt sentimentality by grounding his poems in the (sometimes hilarious, sometimes tragic) things of this world, and it is clear that his acceptance of things as they are provide psychic solace to help him endure the difficulties of living in a complex world.

*Brown's poems are witty,
vividly descriptive, and
unabashedly contemporary.*

One poem from *Late Winter*, "Prayer for a November Morning," typifies Brown's trust of the quotidian (a trust that renders more believable the universal truth of his poem):

Frost glosses drought grass.
The stray cat waits on the porch
for a handout. The house wren sings
its T-shirt song. The little blue spruce
we planted last Christmas is dying,
needles gone except for one green
branch that reaches out like an orphan.
What do I pray for this morning:
to be a better husband, brother,
teacher? To be kinder, selfless?
For Ray, my neighbor stationed
north of Bagdad? For families
of the five marines killed Tuesday?
For families of the forty pilgrims
bombed at a burned-out Mosque?
For hurricane victims who lost
their homes and jobs? For under-
standing of terms like *bad intelligence*?
(Dare I say it?) For thousands
maimed in the sweet name of liberty?
I silence late night news
that invaded sleep, and feed
the cat that rubs her face
in my hand. I watch golden
maple leaves shutter in the wind
and bow my head.

The News Inside is at the same time more playful and more detached than *Late Winter*. In the title poem of the newer volume, Brown ruminates that "the headline news / this morning is not new." When contrasting the human and the natural world, the poet is guided by a belief that human problems are as inevitable and eternal as the



cycles in nature. Brown has found solace in an inner space, and he is now paying closer attention to "the news inside." He now looks out on the fallen world with empathy and bemusement, and he sees even ugly things as having their own beauty.

This "cosmic" perspective is evident in the poem "Lake County, West Tennessee":

At first they are snow geese
flown from Isom Lake,
but no, white plastic bags,
scores of them captured
by the sharp fingers of harvested
cotton stubble.

A thousand acres of furrows
taper into the distance,
one shotgun shack vagrants the corner,
its windows jagged,
porch fallen in, a well pump
and two hogs rooting hardscrabble.
Something desolate abides
in a cotton field tattooed
with plastic bags—
surrender flags escaped
from the strip mall grocery
at the edge of a dying town,
each waving
Save A Lot
Save A Lot Save A Lot

A poet's gift — and responsibility — is to see the cosmic as accessible and the accessible as cosmic. Bill Brown sees the whole spectrum of his world, both the quotidian place in which he lives and the inner space in which he finds meaning. His poems are fully realized expressions of one person's experience of being alive.



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.

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.

authors ~ books ~ readings

Gardening for a Lifetime, How to Garden Wiser as You Grow Older

Written by Sydney Eddison, Illustrations by Kimberly Day Proctor

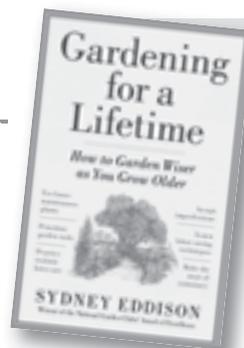
An older friend, an avid gardener, lamented to me. "Now that I'm retired I have tons of time to work in the garden," she said, "But I'm

too old to do it all!" When an elderly gardener is faced with sore joints and failing eyesight, not working in the garden is akin to giving up your driver's license. It's a rite of passage that no gardener wants to think about.

My friend was so distraught, she contemplated moving into a condo so she wouldn't have to see her beloved garden fall into ruins. There has to be a solution I thought! And I found it — in a new book by garden writer/teacher Sydney Eddison. Inspired by *Gardening for a Lifetime: How to Garden Wiser as You Grow Older* (Timber Press, 2010), my friend revived her love of gardening by changing her old habits.

As we both learned (I devoured the book before I gave it to her), you don't have to give up gardening when you get older, you have to garden differently. You have to weed out time-consuming patterns of the past and make things easier for yourself. Eddison, who daily nurtured a huge garden at her house in New England for a half-century, offers a handful of basic principles on how to garden wiser.

Since perennials take up most of a gardener's time, re-think your love of them. You can replace perennials with shrubbery, which is almost care-free and looks great all year. And if you do want perennials, whose foliage, for better or worse, stays put long after the flowers have stopped blooming, then choose a selected few whose foliage looks good all the time. And don't forget your shade garden. Eddison streamlined her perennial shade garden by using only two perennials, hostas and ferns. Hostas in the front and ferns in the



BOOK REVIEWS BY
CAULEY BENNETT

back. Voila! Gorgeous and simple.

The book includes many other tips as well as plant suggestions, making it essential reading if you want to change to (or start now, if you're smart) an easy-

to-maintain garden. One of Eddison's favorite "wise garden ways" is to use container gardening, especially with bulbs.

There are many books in the library on container gardening and I've read them all. I found that the best book is a small, simple volume, written by Peter Loewer, our own *Rapid River* nature columnist. (This month's column is on page 32.) *Small-Space Gardening: How to Successfully Grow Flowers and Fruits in Containers and Pots* told me everything I needed to know to start container gardening here in Asheville.

LUNCH AT CITY LIGHTS WITH AUTHOR JENNIFER FRICK-RUPPERT



Wear your boots because you'll want to go hiking immediately after having lunch with author Jennifer-Frick Ruppert. Her new book is a can't-put-down look at the web of interdependence between the animals and plants of the region: *Mountain Nature: A Seasonal Natural History of the Southern Appalachians* (The University of North Carolina Press, 2010).

IF YOU GO: Thursday, August 19, at 10:30 a.m. City Lights Bookstore, 3 East Jackson Street, Sylva, NC 28779. (828) 586-9499, www.citylightsnc.com

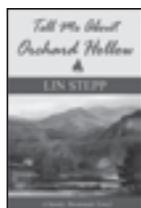
DOUBLE DELIGHTS SATURDAY AT BLUE RIDGE BOOKS

Saturday, September 18



From 10-11:30 a.m.

It's an animal party! Activities and games and creature silliness. Special guest is biologist Dawn Cusick, author of *Bug Butts*, an award-winning book on looking at bugs from their behinds. Free. For ages 10 and under. For more information on Cusick's award-winning animal books visit www.earlylightbooks.com.



From 2-4 p.m.

Tennessee author Dr. Lin Stepp presents *Tell Me About Orchard Hollow*, an upbeat contemporary romance set in Tennessee. It's the second novel in her acclaimed Smoky Mountain series. Visit www.linstepp.com.

IF YOU GO: Blue Ridge Books, 152 S. Main St., Waynesville, NC. (828) 456-6000, www.brbooks-news.com

Notes on the Art of Storytelling: The Garden Metaphor

Written and read by David Novak

Actor/storyteller David Novak is an on-stage wizard, spinning his tales with wild creativity, intelligence, and wit, and with a voice so mellifluous it makes you want to swoon. If he lived in Hollywood, he'd be a huge star. Asheville is lucky that he decided to settle here.

And lucky I was to find that five of Novak's CD's are in the



Actor/Storyteller
David Novak

Buncombe County library system so anyone can enjoy them for free. *Notes on the Art of Storytelling: The Garden Metaphor* blew me away. Not only is Novak's advice terrific for storytellers of all genres — from myth and folk tale through personal reminiscence — but for writers as well. Short story writers could greatly improve their craft by listening to

this CD instead of reading another how-to-write book.

Novak compares creating a good story to growing a garden. For example, you want your story to be like a beautiful flower, but you have to make sure its roots are strong and healthy — and the best way to do that is to nurture a story by discovering how it resonates personally to you. Then you fertilize (or prune) it by telling it over and over until it is ready to bloom. You place your story in its "landscape," sometimes you go straight to it, sometimes you meander.

Novak illustrates these simple principles and more with several stories — one of which comes from his most fertile ground, his childhood in Florida.

Author's website: www.novateller.com



Bringing a wealth of Reading and Writing to Asheville and WNC for 27 years.

MALAPROP'S
BOOKSTORE/CAFE
www.malaprops.com

SEPTEMBER PARTIAL LISTING We host numerous Readings, Bookclubs, as well as Poetry! More events posted online.

Saturday, September, 4 at 7 p.m.
Shamanic Egyptian Astrology with Star Wolf & Ruby Falconer.

Wednesday, September, 8 at 7 p.m.
Roz Savage reads from and signs copies of *Rowing the Atlantic*.

Thursday, September, 9 at 7 p.m.
Meet Merri Lisa Johnson, author of *Girl in Need of a Tourniquet: Memoir of a Borderline Personality*.

Friday, September, 10 at 7 p.m.
Mickey Mahaffey presents *Whispers of My Blood*, about living among the Raramuri Indians in the Copper Canyons, Mexico.

Monday, September, 13 at 12 noon
Roald Dahl Read-a-thon.

Saturday, September, 18 at 7 p.m.
Michael Knight reads from and signs his latest novel, *The Typist*.

Sunday, September, 19 at 5 p.m.
Patti Digh, author of *Life is a Verb* presents her new book, *Four-Word Self-Help: Simple Wisdom for Complex Lives*.

Tuesday, September, 21 at 7 p.m.
Meet Betsy Taylor & Herbert Reid authors of *Recovering the Commons: Democracy, Place, and Global Justice*.

Wednesday, September, 22 at 7 p.m.
Kyra Anderson and Vicki Forman, editors, read from and signs copies of *Gravity Pulls You in: Perspectives on Parenting Children on the Autism Spectrum*.

Friday, September, 24 at 7 p.m.
Meet Psychotherapist Rob Jacoby and artist Brian MacGregor. Prints by MacGregor will be available for purchase.

Thursday, September, 30 at 7 p.m.
Eric G. Wilson reads from and signs copies of his book *The Mercy of Eternity: A Memoir of Depression and Grace*.

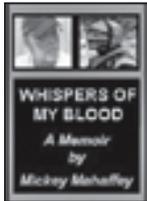
Friday, October 01 at 7 p.m.
Vicki Lane, author of *In a Dark Season*, presents *The Day of Small Things*.

55 Haywood St.
828-254-6734 • 800-441-9829
Monday-Saturday 8 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Sunday 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Downtown Books & News
Over 30,000 Used Books
Over 1,000 New Magazines
European & Domestic Papers
Out-of-Print Book Searches
dtnbooks@mindspring.com
www.myspace.com/downtownbooksandnews
67 N. Lexington Ave - Asheville
Open: M-Th 8-6 • F-Sat 8-8 • Sun 8-6
(828) 253-8654

authors ~ books ~ readings

SEPTEMBER HIGHLIGHTS AT MALAPROP'S



Mickey Mahaffey Reveals Whispers of My Blood

Friday, September 10 at 7 p.m.

Long-time local resident Mickey Mahaffey presents the unflinching tale of his spiritual journey from child preacher to acceptance into the sacred ways of the native people of Copper Canyon in Mexico. *Whisper of Blood* is a memoir unlike any you've ever read. Visit www.mickeymahaffey.com



Monique Truong Weaves Another Impossibly Beautiful Tale

Wednesday, September 15 at 7 p.m.

Vietnam-born Monique Truong, author of the stunning bestseller, *The Book of Salt*, presents her second novel, *Bitter in the Mouth* (Random House, 2010). It's story of a woman with a form of synesthesia, who experiences words as tastes, and how that fascinating condition affects her and the people she knows. Visit www.monique-truong.com



Dick Spottswood and the World's Oldest Banjo Player

Friday, September 17 at 7 p.m.

Musicologist and radio personality Dick Spottswood presents his lively musical biography of banjo player Wade Mainer, who was born in 1907. *Banjo on the Mountain: Wade Mainer's First Hundred Years* (University Press of Mississippi, 2010) is illustrated with photos and family memorabilia covering Wade Mainer's incredible career in hillbilly, bluegrass and sacred music.

IF YOU GO: Malaprop's Bookstore/Café, 55 Haywood Street, downtown Asheville. Call (828) 254-6734, or visit www.malaprops.com.



Rapid River Book Editor Cauley Bennett is an Asheville writer. You can reach her by e-mailing books@cauleybennett.com

Beauty

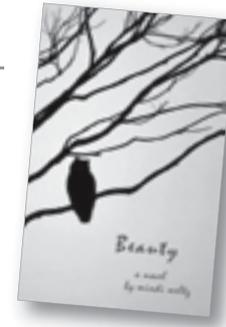
A novel by Mindi Meltz

Mindi Meltz is a name to remember, for someday she's going to be a well-known writer. Right now, the young Hendersonville resident has taken the courageous path of self-publishing her first novel, *Beauty*. I don't know if she tried the traditional path of seeking a mainstream publisher, but if she did, it had to be difficult — most publishers would shy away from her intense tale of a woman's self-empowerment. It's too unorthodox, too poetic, too sensual for the average reader. But what a delight for anyone looking for a new, unashamedly committed, and unique voice.

"When I die, I'm going to become an animal," announces the narrator of *Beauty*. She is a young writer, with no name, who spends a year of changing seasons at a wildlife rehabilitation center, somewhere in a northern forest. She's like a nature mystic, able to connect with animals, especially

deer, as if she were in an ecstatic union with them. She is assigned to the raptor unit, where she must kill other animals, mice, in order to keep the injured owls and hawks alive. Death, as she makes clear, is the partner to life, no matter how reluctant she is to accept that premise.

Into her isolation comes a young man, a fellow worker at the center, whom she refers to as "the boy." An expert tracker, but self-absorbed and cruel, he creates a painful hold on the girl. Her passion for him is never returned, leading to some of the novel's most hypnotic language. The lyricism of the girl's longing is like a song of primal loneliness, cutting through her soul and splintering across the wilderness landscape. Visit www.hiddendoorpress.com



REVIEWS BY CAULEY BENNETT

Anthrozoologist Hal Herzog Makes Two Local Appearances



Hal Herzog, Ph.D., the co-founder of the field of anthrozoology and professor of psychology at WCU, presents his fascinating new book, *Some We Love, Some We Hate, Some We Eat: Why It's So Hard to Think Straight about Animals* (Harper, 2010).

• **Tuesday, September 7 at 7 p.m.** City Lights Bookstore, 3 East Jackson Street, Sylva, NC. (828) 586-9499, www.citylightsncc.com.

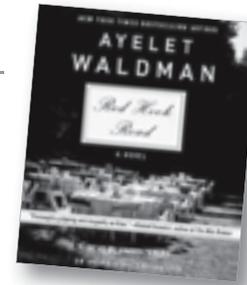
• **Thursday, September 16, at 7 p.m.** Malaprop's Bookstore/Café, 55 Haywood Street, downtown Asheville. (828) 254-6734, www.malaprops.com.

Red Hook Road

A novel by Ayelet Waldman

Ayelet Waldman is a best-selling novelist, an essayist, a popular blogger, and a darling of the New York literati, even though she lives in Berkeley. In 2005, she gained notoriety, some might say infamy, for a *New York Times* essay declaring why she loved her husband, Pulitzer-Prize winning novelist Michael Chabon (*The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier and Clay*), much more than she loved her four children.

So it's surprising that her latest novel, *Red Hook Road*, set on the coast of Maine, is the tale of two extended families who collide and then are drawn together by a tragedy with their children. The story's matriarchs, the wealthy summer resident and the woman who cleans her house, endure the tragedy



with little or no spousal love.

Waldman's language, elegant and spare, nevertheless revels in the details of traditional domestic virtues in a style I can only call neo-Victorian. Especially interesting is the way she weaves the subplots of violin playing and rebuilding a wooden ship as if they are twin versions of passionate obsession. *Red Hook Road*, with its intensely limned characters and its ferociously realistic portrayals of the power of nature, would make a wonderful movie.

I thoroughly enjoyed the audio version (Random House Audio 12 CDs, 14 1/2 hours), enthusiastically narrated by Kimberly Farr. Visit www.ayeletwaldman.com

Vodou: Visions and Voices of Haiti

Phyllis Galembo

In this astonishing photo essay book, the visions and the voices of the title represent voodoo, Haiti's national religion, which involves about 90% of the population. Phyllis Galembo, a fine art photographer who specializes in recording ritual costumes in Africa and Haiti, shot for several years in Port-Au-Prince and its countryside. Her images capture the startling, almost hallucinogenic color combinations unique to the island nation.

The voices in the book are various: chants and songs and the words of vodou practitioners mix seamlessly with essays by scholarly contributors. The explanation of vodou — chapters on spirits, sacred places,

symbols and ritual objects — is so comprehensive and respectful it should be required reading for anyone traveling to Haiti.

The most amazing accomplishment of *Vodou: Visions and Voices of Haiti* (Ten Speed Press, reprint 2005) is the way it reveals how the richness of the vodou spiritual journey survives in the abject poverty of its surroundings. Visit www.galembo.com



EVENTS AT ACCENT ON BOOKS

Wednesday, September 8 at 3 p.m. The Book Club: *Tinkers*, by Paul Harding, the surprise 2010 Pulitzer Prize winner, is this month's choice.

Thursday, September 16 at 6 p.m. Monthly Writers Support Group. No criticism, just motivation!

IF YOU GO: Accent on Books, 854 Merrimon Ave., Asheville, NC. (828) 252-6255, www.accentonbooks.com.

REVIEWED NEXT MONTH

***Broken*, by international bestselling crime novelist, Karin Slaughter, who lives in Georgia.**

Zen Sitting Meditation

"When in the Zazen posture, your mind and body have great power to accept things as they are, whether agreeable or disagreeable."

~ ZEN MASTER SHUNRYU SUZUKI (1905-71)

In the story of the Buddha's enlightenment, after all his intellectual and ascetic strivings, frustrated, but determined, he sat in meditation, completely settled in stillness, conquering all his desires and fears until at last his awakening occurred. This is the challenge and promise for every student of Zen.

Whether you sit cross-legged on a cushion or upright in a chair, the posture and attitude you bring to sitting in meditation is of greater importance than is readily appreciable from a conventional perspective. The quality of your meditation will be greatly affected by the posture of your sitting.

It could be said that your sitting posture is, in effect, the posture or stance you are taking not only to your meditation, but also to life, to the entire issue of the possibility of enlightenment. It is an attitude we take with the posture of our body that can steer our minds towards deeper and deeper levels of insight into our own deepest nature. It is a posture of dignity, of uprightness, of relaxed alertness, of compassionate curiosity, of welcoming openness to the secrets of existence.

We sit with an upright spine, a strong sense of the earth beneath us, the crown of our head reaching ever so lightly toward the sky. Our hands are folded in our lap, shoulders relaxed. If sitting on the floor, our legs are crossed or folded beneath us. If sitting on a chair, both feet are on the floor or with ankles crossed.

At first, it is good to meditate with eyes closed, although eyes half-open is traditional, and best after you have become experienced, but the focus in either case must be straight ahead, about two to three feet in front of you, about navel height, focused on nothing, consciousness turned inward. Sit with a relaxed jaw, the tongue lightly touching the roof of the mouth. As the facial muscles relax, perhaps a slight smile will emerge as the face's natural expression. Begin focusing awareness into the sensations of your breathing. (Why the breathing? We'll discuss that another time.)

Experience the subtle ever-present sensation of your ordinary every-moment breathing. Watch with the alertness of a sentry the coming and going of breath. It is important to remember that a good sentry is not tense. A good sentry watches what comes and goes with *relaxed* alertness, otherwise they would tire quickly, and with

a tense focus, they would also quite possibly miss many important observations, because a tense focus is a narrow focus.

Watch the breath coming and going. Experience the rising and falling of your chest. Experience the slight breeze across your nostrils. Exhale slightly longer than you inhale. Allow a deepening of your relaxation with every exhalation and a sharpening of the alertness of your awareness with every inhalation. Secondly, experience whatever comes along, but always, keep coming back to the breath.

What keeps coming along are thoughts, emotions, fantasies, stray sensory distractions, but, like a good sentry, you notice this mental activity, and because they are not what you are looking for, you notice them and return awareness to what you are watching for, your breath, coming and going. The thoughts will pass, like travelers through the sentry's field of vision.

Insights about the qualitative differences of civilization and Nature may arise.

Many thoughts/travelers will come and go. Some will very strongly beckon you to follow them. Let them go. Return to watching, to experiencing the breath rising and falling. As you settle into the posture of relaxed alertness, watching the breath come and go, you begin to experience a heightening of all senses. You notice the sensations of your body sitting. You may notice the feel of your clothing on your skin, the feel of the air touching skin where there is no clothing. The ambient sounds around you become clearer and more distinct.

If you are indoors, you may hear the ticking of a clock, the hum of a furnace or air conditioning, the passing of traffic outside. If you are playing music (let it be soft and quiet music) you may notice the notes with an increased clarity. If you are outside, you will notice the breeze rustling the leaves, the song of the birds, the hum of the insects – and of course, the sounds of human civilization as well.

Insights about the qualitative differences of civilization and Nature may arise. Meditating in Nature, away from civilization, is the best. The experience may begin

to be slightly psychedelic. Enjoy it, but don't be fooled that this euphoria is the point or end of meditation. Still, look deeper.

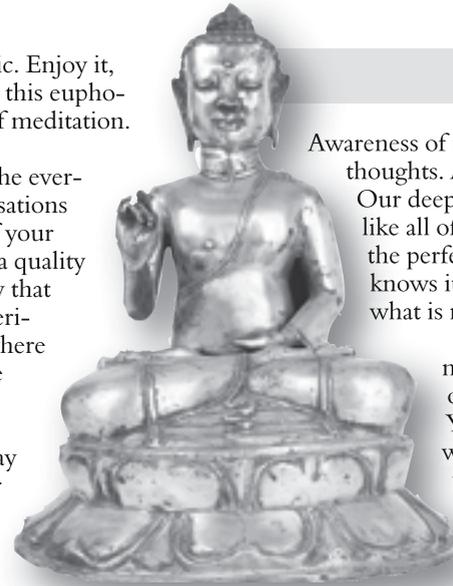
As you focus into the ever-present, very subtle sensations of your breathing, all of your senses begin to take on a quality of presence and subtlety that we do not typically experience as we rush from where we have been in our life situations to where we are going. We discover that we typically only pay enough attention to our senses and the present moment to move through the world, or for the utilitarian purposes of work or entertainment. No, in our Zazen, we have stopped all that. We have, in a sense, stopped time. We are here. We are paying attention. And in our paying attention, the world begins to open up.

There are still thoughts, but now they are quieter. In fact, you may notice there are moments when there are no thoughts. There is just the breathing and the sensations of the moment. Of course, then another thought will come along, but quieter, less insistent, and fewer of them. You may notice the inner quiet. You may discover a dimension of mind that is empty of thought, a silent mind beneath and out of which the talking mind arises.

You may notice now the sounds around you are also arising out of silence. There is sound and silence. You enter the silence with your awareness. A great feeling of well-being accompanies this. There does not seem to be this solid, separate self with its thoughts and activity as all that there is to the experience of "me." There is also silence. There is stillness. There is awareness of being aware. There may even be awareness of being the awareness. You are now at the gates of Zen. You are at the precipice where the awakening beckons you toward the realization that, in the words of the Zen Master Haku'un Yasutani (1885-1973), "*You and the Universe are one.*"

But first, as novices, Master Suzuki instructs us, with his famous sense of humor, "*When sitting, just sit. Above all, do not wobble.*" In the double entendre style of Zen, to not wobble in sitting will lead to not wobbling in life. This is our goal. Relaxed, aware, not wobbling in the face of all the comings and goings of life, just as we learned to not wobble in the face of all the comings and goings of thoughts, emotions and mental perceptions in our sitting.

"*Show me your face before you were conceived,*" challenges the Zen Master. Pure consciousness sits here. Awareness sits here. Awareness of breath. Awareness of sitting.



BY BILL WALZ

Awareness of the rising and passing of thoughts. Awareness of awareness. Our deepest nature has arisen, and like all of Nature, it is attuned to the perfection of the moment. It knows itself to be vast. It knows what is needed.

Your very next thought might not be some worry or calculation or absurdity. Your next thought may well be exactly the thought you need for deeper insight into some aspect of your life, or Life itself, for you have touched the essence of

Life with your mind. You have discovered a much bigger you than you ever imagined. From being trapped in your insecure little personal chattering mind, you have found what Buddhism calls, "big mind."

And then it is gone. Distraction returns. The whole field of awareness collapses back into something smaller. You are back to being little you, "little mind," again, reactive, no longer sitting at one with the Universe. So — return to awareness of your breathing and start the journey over again. But now, you know the destination. Over and over, you make this journey. You confront restlessness, boredom, ordinary and crazy thinking, the pain in your back and legs, even the allure of euphoric oneness. You return over and over to the breath, to the silence, to the stillness until you KNOW.

As Master Suzuki says, "In this posture there is no need to talk about the right state of mind. You already have it. This is the conclusion of Buddhism."

And as 13th Century Zen Master Dogen said, "If you cannot find the truth right where you are, where else do you expect to find it?"

Welcome to the truth. Right where you are sitting. Now stand up, walk, and live Zazen.

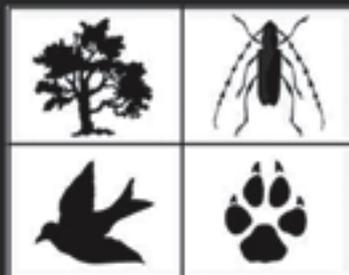


Bill Walz teaches meditation and mindfulness at UNCA and public forums, and is a private-practice meditation teacher and life-coach for individuals in mindfulness, personal growth and consciousness. He holds a weekly meditation class,

Mondays, 7p.m., at the Friends Meeting House, 227 Edgewood. He will hold an Autumn Satsang, Sunday, September 19, 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. Visit www.billwalz.com.

the compleat naturalist



nature-inspired
gifts for all ages

books & equipment
for outdoor learning

The Compleat Naturalist
2 Brook Street
Asheville NC 28803
828-274-5430 / 800-678-5430
www.compleatnaturalist.com

Come to Animal Haven
65 Lower Grassy Br. Rd., E. Asheville
Open Tue.-Sat., 11am-5pm

Visit our rescued animals...
pigs, goats, sheep, ducks, geese,
rabbits, chickens, cats, dogs.

Sponsor an animal.
Shop for great bargains in
our Thrift Store.



All store sales
and donations
benefit the
animals.
501(c)3 nonprofit

thoreau's garden

The Flowering Maple

We've always had a flowering maple in our window since the days that we lived in a five-flight walk-up in Manhattan back in the late 60s. The plants are extremely popular for pots as they flower over a long period of time and can also spend productive summers in the garden as splendid bedding plants.

The generic name is *Abutilon*, an Arabic name for a species of mallow, which these flowers closely resemble. The common name refers to the shape of the leaf for they closely resemble maple leaves both in size and shape.

Flower colors include coral pink, deep red, deep rose, pure white, lemon yellow, and orange.

One species, *Abutilon theophrasti*, known variously as the velvet leaf, the butter-print, the pie-marker, or China jute, is a naturalized wildflower — often called weedy — found growing across the United States and considered an important fiber plant in northern China. The whole plant is velvety with single inch-wide yellow flowers and an unusually shaped fruit that is often used in dried flower arrangements.

But those grown in windows are usually called *Abutilon hybridum*, a species that has given rise to an unusual number of hybrids of many colors and qualities that include bloom for most of the year. Flower colors include coral pink, deep red, deep rose, pure white, lemon yellow, and orange.

Plants can be set outside after frost danger is past and bloom throughout the summer wanting only a spot in full or partial sun and plenty of water. Then as fall approaches, they can be dug up and put back into pots, pruned back by at least two-thirds, and proceed to bloom in a sunny window for most of the winter. At least five

BY PETER LOEWER

hours of sun and night temperatures of between 50 and 60°F are needed for the best winter flowerers. When plants are not flowering during the winter, it's best to keep the soil almost dry, just enough water to prevent wilting of the leaves.

Plants should be fertilized every two or three weeks throughout the summer and benefit particularly from any commercial product from the Box Stores fish, as long as you follow directions.

Abutilon metgapotamicum or the trailing abutilon is from Brazil and will survive outdoors in the far South and southern California. 'Variegata' is an especially fine cultivar with yellow and green mottled foliage and yellow flowers with a red calyx, perfectly suited for growing in hanging baskets.

Abutilon pictum 'Thompsonii' is originally from Brazil and bears bright orange flowers with mottled yellow and green foliage. The leaf colors in this case are caused by a transmissible virus for if a variegated shoot is grafted on a green-leafed stock the whole plant soon becomes variegated. This particular plant is also a good subject for becoming a standard tree. Start with a small plant of only one shoot and put it in a 3-inch pot, tying the stem to a foot-long bamboo cane or stick that you have inserted in the dirt at the pot's edge.

Use one loop of soft cord about the stem and one loop on the stake so the stem is never crushed. When the flowering maple grows to about 10 inches, move it to a 6-inch pot, adding a longer length of stake. Now remove all the side shoots, leaving just one at the tip of the stem.



Illustration by Peter Loewer

As the plant approaches 2 feet, move it to an 8-inch pot — remember, all this time you have been forcing the plant upward, the roots have been growing, too. Now pinch off the terminal bud to force the plant into bushy growth. The stem will develop a woody look and you will have a beautiful flowering tree.



Peter Loewer, shown here, examining the blossoms of early-blooming Lenten roses, is a well-known writer and botanical artist who has written and illustrated more than twenty-five books on natural history over the past thirty years.



Old Favorite Honey Recipes Gets New Printing

Honey is nature's perfect food, captivating the senses with its flowing amber sweetness and a variety of flavors and aromas, from delicate

to robust. Its diversity is limited only by the many types of flowers visited by that busiest of workers, the honeybee. While it boasts a profusion of nutritional and healing qualities, honey also adds a delightful

essence to culinary creations of every kind.

Old Favorite Honey Recipes features more than 250 recipes gathered over the years by American honey producers, revised and updated for the modern kitchen. From the classic honey bun to more obscure dishes, this collection showcases honey's versatility in breads, desserts, vegetables, meats, and more. It also contains recipe variations, interesting facts, and an abundance of helpful cooking hints including how to substitute honey for sugar.

With a growing awareness of the need

to eat responsibly, more and more people are choosing healthier, more sustainable whole foods. The "buy local" and "eat local" movements have increased the number of farmers' markets, tailgate markets, and whole foods groceries across the country. Because of these changes, locally produced honey is now more popular and more available than ever. *Old Favorite Honey Recipes* makes it easy and exciting to take advantage of honey's many benefits.

There's no better way to enjoy the bounty and variety of honey than to cook

using *Old Favorite Honey Recipes*. With new historical images, the special edition by Bright Mountain Books brings a marvelous collection of delicious recipes back into America's kitchens.

Available at Malaprop's Bookstore and other fine bookstores, or online at www.brightmountainbooks.com. Malaprop's Bookstore/Cafe, 55 Haywood Street, Downtown Asheville. Phone (828) 254-6734 or visit www.malaprops.com.

youth culture

JOSEPH RATHBONE RECOMMENDS

This August I got an X-Box 360, so this month I will recommend and/or review some video games. A very good game for about \$20 is *Star Wars the Force Unleashed*.

If you are a huge *Star Wars* fan like I am, you will absolutely love this game. It takes place between *Star Wars episodes 3 and 4*. Throughout the game you play as Darth Vader's secret apprentice. The graphics are good and the play level is fun. This game is rated Teen for violence.

The *Halo* series is made up of a lot of really good games. I have not played *Halo 1* since it is for the original X-Box, however, I have played a little bit of *Halo 2*. The graphics are decent and the game play is fun. The storyline is pretty cool (albeit not entirely original) and it leads on to the best game I've ever played—*Halo 3*.

It is about twice as good as *Halo 2*. The graphics are great and has many new ways to play the game like being able to build your own map, play on X-Box live, and it has a new and improved UNSC army. Then in 2009 *Halo 3 ODST (Orbital Drop Shock Trooper)* came out. This game takes place before *Halo 3*. Overall this game is the same

BY JOSEPH RATHBONE, AGE 12



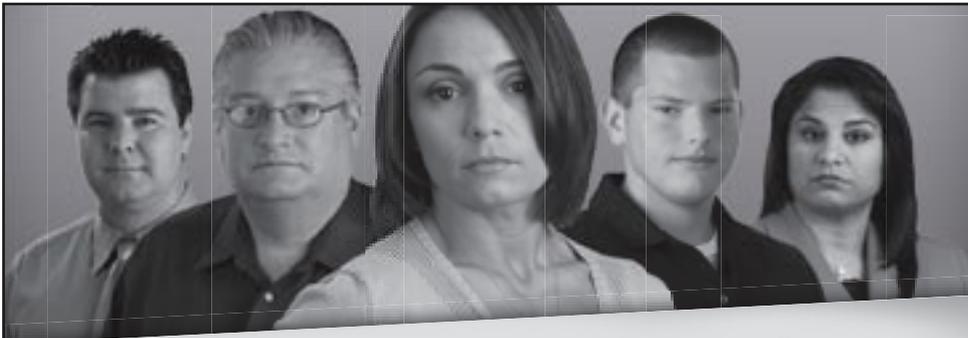
as *Halo 3*, just with a couple of new weapons thrown in.

On September 14 *Halo Reach* (or *Halo 4* if you will) will be released. From everything I have seen both on-line and on TV, this game will dominate all of the other *Halo* games, not to mention probably be the best game ever. This game stands alone as far as game play, weapon set, and other features go.

All of the *Halo* games are rated M for Mature, but really it's not that bad, there's a little bit of language and blue, purple, green, and a little bit of red blood. The violence can be intense but that's what makes the games fun.

Some games that look to be good coming out this fall are: *Star Wars the Force Unleashed 2* (rated T) and *Ghost Recon Future Soldier* (rated M).

UNTIL NEXT MONTH,
YOUR GOOD FRIEND, JOE



Over 11 Million Victims of Identity Theft Last Year.

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

Help Protect Yourself Today.

ENROLL TODAY AND GET:
30 DAY RISK-FREE* TRIAL

PROMO CODE: **ID**

CALL NOW: **1-888-252-5862**

*At the end of the 30-day free period your card will be billed automatically (\$10.00 monthly/\$110.00 annually) unless you cancel within the 30-day period. You can cancel anytime without penalty by calling 1-800-LifeLock. Offer is for new LifeLock members only.

LifeLock
#1 In Identity Theft Protection®

BEARS, BIRDS, AND DOGS TEACH VALUABLE LESSONS

Ravenna

By Stacey Curnow

Loosely based on the legend of Sir Gwain and the

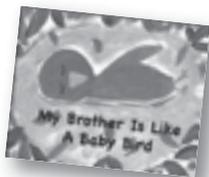
Loathly Lady, *Ravenna*, is a story about a young boy who finds a best friend in a talking bear and finds his heart's desire. But when he learns that his heart's desire may be at the consequence of another's happiness, he learns a lesson in compassion and discovers that if you love something, you must set it free. This is a great book before bedtime and kids can really relate.

IF YOU GO: Stacey Curnow and illustrator Daniel Nevins will host a debut party for *Ravenna* on Saturday, September, 25 at Malaprops Bookstore beginning at 3 p.m.

My Brother is Like a Baby Bird

By Amy Tiller

My Brother is Like a Baby Bird is a helpful tool for children who have a premature sibling. They learn how delicate, wonderful and beautiful preemie



REVIEWED BY BETH GOSSETT AND HARRISON

babies are and what children and their families must do to take care of these babies to keep them happy and healthy until they are able to come home to live.

Wonderfully colorful and delightfully written, *My Brother is Like a Baby Bird* is definitely deserving of its Mom's Choice Award!

Dingle the Helpful Ice Cream Cone Delivery Dog

By Audrey Kinsella

Dingle the Helpful Ice Cream Cone Delivery Dog is a story about a dog that is clever and learns to make a carry pack to help a disabled woman. While brightly illustrated, the subject matter may be suited for kids older than 3. It is perhaps better designed to teach school age children about diversity and how physically disabled people can utilize the attendance of animals to help them with daily chores.



PROTECT YOUR FAMILY

Violent Crime Shows Steeper Rise

The Washington Post - September 25, 2007
The FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting Program found robberies surged by 7.2% and homicides rose 1.8 percent from 2005 to 2006. Violent crime overall rose 1.9%, homicides increased more than 10% and robbery was up 12.2%.

Get Your Home Security System

THIS SYSTEM VALUED OVER \$800 IS YOURS FREE

FREE

- Ⓜ Main Door Protection
- Ⓜ Motion Detectors
- Ⓜ Police, Fire & Medical Keypad with Battery Back-Up
- Ⓜ Alarm Siren
- Ⓜ Lawn Sign and Window Decals

CALL NOW

(888) 896-1987

what to do guide™



Friday, September 3 Piano Men of Asheville

Aaron LaFalce a self-taught piano player from Asheville, and singer songwriter Dave Turner will each play a set of originals and then jam together on some of their favorite cover tunes. Show begins at 8 p.m. at White Horse Black Mountain, 105C Montreat Rd. Call (828) 669-0816 or visit www.whitehorseblackmountain.com.



Aaron LaFalce

Saturday, September 5 Lexington Avenue Arts & Fun Festival

Lexington Avenue in Downtown Asheville from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. All local, all original. Bands, performances, and music on five stages. Beyond the stage: Jenny Juice's Songwriter Lounge 1 to 8 p.m. in the Brownstone Courtyard; Bike Jousting/Big Wheels for Big Kids presented by 98.1 The River; Miss Kitty's Interactive Arts Area presented by FlyJBA; EarthFare Kid's Universe. For more information visit www.lexfestasheville.com.

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

Any "free" event open to the public can be listed at no charge up to 30 words. For all other events there is a \$9.95 charge up to 30 words and 10 cents for each additional word. 160 word limit per event.

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

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

Email Beth Gossett at: ads@rapidrivermagazine.com
Or mail to: 85 N. Main St, Canton, NC 28716. 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.

Awakening Divine Love

Mary and Barry Nadler from Mystic Heart Universe offer two free monthly meditations via teleconference calls.

Wednesday, September 8

From 8 to 9 p.m., The Joy of Unity Meditation.

Thursday, September 23

From 8 to 9 p.m., Mystic Heart Universe Meditation.

The purpose of our work is awakening Divine Love in all hearts. The mystic union of your outer human nature and inner divine consciousness creates wholeness in oneness, through Divine Love.

To sign up for the meditation contact Mary and Barry at (828) 338-0042 or mary@mysticheartuniverse.com.

www.MysticHeartUniverse.com

Saturday, September 11

Sara Gruen at Malaprop's



Asheville author Sara Gruen will present her latest work, *Ape House: A Novel* (Spiegel & Grau, 2010), the fictional adventures of a colony of language-competent bonobo apes. The event is ticketed and begins at 7 p.m. Readers may receive one ticket with each purchase of *Ape House*. The highly anticipated book will be officially released on September 7, but you can preorder the book and get a ticket by calling 1-800-441-9829, or stop by the store.

Malaprop's Bookstore/Café, 55 Haywood Street, downtown Asheville. (828) 254-6734, www.malaprops.com.

Saturday, September 11

End of Summer Blues Festival

Camp Green Cove, Zirconia, NC. 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. R&B, Zydeco, Rock. Food, drinks, crafts, & kid's area. Benefitting Autism House in Hendersonville. For more information visit www.endofsummerbluesfestival.com.

Tuesday, September 14

Green Business Alliance Networking Session

The Green Business Alliance is sponsoring quarterly networking events for business owners who are either already doing "green business" or who have an interest in becoming more environmentally-friendly in their operations.

Showcase your business within a group of green-oriented, small business owners. Come prepared to introduce your business and/or yourself in a structured five-minute timeframe. Also, bring

promotional materials to display or hand out. Free for Mountain BizWorks' Members/\$5 for public.

Presented by Mountain BizWorks from 6 to 8 p.m., 153 S. Lexington Avenue. RSVP by September 10 to naomi@mountainbizworks.org or call (828) 253-2834 ext.11.

Sunday, September 19

Autumn Satsang with Bill Walz

Explore an afternoon of deep meditation, trans-egoic psychology, and personal consciousness evolution while opening into the discovery of your deepest and wisest self. Led by Asheville consciousness columnist and teacher and UNCA meditation and personal consciousness teacher Bill Walz. Bring your questions. 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. Asheville Friends Meeting House, 2 to 5 p.m. 227 Edgewood (off Merrimon). \$10-20 suggested donation. For more details call (828) 258-3241, or visit www.billwalz.com



Friday, September 17

Eliada's Annual Corn Maze Grand Opening

"Fields of Fun" to feature 12 acres of maze trails and many new family attractions! The grand opening celebration will feature a scavenger hunt through the maze, with live music and the chance to win nearly \$3,000 in prizes including a whitewater rafting trip, Biltmore tickets, a hot air balloon ride, rounds of Golf at Grove Park, dinner for two at local restaurants, and much more!

The maze will be open each Friday, Saturday, and Sunday through Halloween. Operating hours are 4 p.m. to 10 p.m. on Friday, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Saturday, and 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Sunday. Ticket prices are \$9 for adults 12 and over and \$7 for children ages 5-11. Group admission is \$7 for adults and \$5 for children. A group is considered 20 or more individuals.

Sunday, September 19

Band Plus One

The Haywood Community Band's free concert, which is part of the Maggie

Jonas Gerard Fine Art



The formula for an engaging experience is amazingly simple. People before product.

Interaction over procedure. Jonas Gerard gets it. Focus on people and your product flows.

Abstracts in Bloom Exhibition on display through September.

September 10, 6 to 8 p.m. Gallery Open After Hours

September 11, 2 p.m. Saturday Painting Performance

November 13 & 14 Studio Stroll. For more details visit www.riverartsdistrict.com.

Jonas Gerard Fine Art
240 Clingman Ave. Asheville, NC
(828) 350-7711
www.jonasgerard.com

Valley Concert Series will be held at the pavilion next to the Maggie Valley Town Hall at 6:30 p.m. The theme for the concert is "Band Plus One," and features soloists with the band.

Trumpeter Mike Leoni will play "Over the Rainbow," Cliff Landress will play



"Carnival of Venice" on his baritone. Oboist Pat Stone will accompany the band playing

"Gabriel's Oboe," and Saxophone player Rhonda Wilson Kram will play "What A Wonderful World."

Bring a picnic dinner and enjoy a beautiful Maggie Valley sunset. For more information, visit www.HaywoodCommunityBand.org or call John Barrett at (828) 452-5553, or Bob Hill (828) 452-7530. Our last concert of the season will be on October 17.



Tuesday September 21 Flight of the Cardinal Sneak Preview

Film festival hit *Flight of the Cardinal* will be shown at 7 p.m. at the Fine Arts Cinema, 36 Biltmore Avenue in Asheville, (828) 232-0257.

Flight of the Cardinal was shot earlier

this year in the North Carolina Smoky Mountains and Blue Waters Mountain Lodge (www.BlueWatersMtnL.com) on Lake Santeetlah. *Cardinal* is the first of two North Carolina-based feature films from Gaston Pictures Entertainment. Visit www.GastonPictures.com for more information.

Join the cast and crew at 9 p.m. for cocktails after the screening at Tressa's, 28 Broadway Street in Asheville. Enjoy Tressa's one-night-only drink special: the Flight of the Cardinal Martini. Tressa's, (828) 254-7072.

Thursday, September 23 Dougie MacLean



One of Scotland's most respected and popular musicians and a returning favorite to Asheville, songwriter, guitarist and fiddler Dougie MacLean kicks off the 2010/2011 Mainstage Series at Diana Wortham Theatre at Pack Place, 8 p.m. Mainstage Special Attractions Series. Tickets: Regular \$35; Seniors \$33; Students \$30; Student Rush day-of-the-show (with valid ID) \$10. Tickets/Info: (828) 257-4530 or online at www.dwttheatre.com

Saturday, September 25 Bearfoot

Award-winning "newgrass" quintet Bearfoot performs as opening artist for the new Mainstage Bluegrass Series at Diana Wortham Theatre at Pack Place, 8:00 p.m. Tickets: Regular \$30; Seniors \$28; Students \$25; Student Rush day-of-the-show (with valid ID) \$10. Tickets/Info: (828) 257-4530 or online at www.dwttheatre.com.



Andrea Adamcova performing. Photo by Pavel Wlosok.

Sunday, September 26 The Asheville Area Piano Forum's 10th Anniversary Fall Benefit Concert

Concert begins at 3 p.m. at Diana Wortham Theatre, 2 South Pack Square, Asheville, NC. Tickets: adults \$20; patrons \$50; students 13-21 years \$5; children 12 and under admitted free. Call (828) 257-4530 to reserve tickets. Tickets also available at the door and at SoliClassica (828) 277-4111.

Saturday, October 16 A Mountain Home Companion

Join Song O Sky Chorus with guests Clearwater Connection for an evening of humor and close harmony. 7:30 p.m. Asheville Community Theatre. For tickets and more information: songosky.org or 1-866-824-9547.

SEPTEMBER EVENTS ~ ANNOUNCEMENTS ~ CLASSIFIEDS

what to do guide™

Great Smoky Mountains Railfest 2010

September 17, 18, 19

Railfest begins Friday, September 17, with the Nantahala Gorge Excursion at 10:30 a.m. At noon the specialty rides begin all around the Depot, including a Bouncy Train and Slide for children.

The Mountain Craft Fair, with quality craft vendors selling their handmade products, along with railroad memorabilia, will open Saturday, September 18 from 9 p.m. to 5 p.m., and on Sunday, September 19 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Vendors and demonstrators include chainsaw art, chair caning, wooden bowls, jewelry, gourd art, and much more.

The Heritage Alive! Mountain Youth Talent Contest begins on Saturday, September 18 at 9 a.m. The Hurleys will play two sets on Saturday, one at 12:30 p.m. and another at 3 p.m.

The Queen Family performs two sets on Sunday, September 19, one at 12:30 p.m., and at 2:30 p.m.

Other great entertainment will be taking the stage on both days. Call (828) 631-4587 for more information, or visit www.spiritofappalachia.org.

Biltmore Estate in Autumn

October 7-9

A Plein Air arts workshop with Richard Oversmith begins October 7 at 9 a.m. and ends October 9 at 4 p.m. Tuition is \$400 and includes a 12-month pass to Biltmore. Maximum students: 10

This workshop will take place on the Biltmore Estate. The structure of this workshop is designed for the intermediate student (drawing and oil painting experience a must) to improve their plein air oil painting skills.

Students will explore painting from life in plein air in an Alla Prima fashion. Working on smaller canvases (pochades) with large brushes will help students focus on the bigger shapes of a composition.

Emphasis will be put on simplifying a composition, values, edges, and color, and to create paintings that have unity. Transportation and easel necessary. Contact Richard for more information at richardoversmith@gmail.com or by phone at (828) 299-1066.



Moral Universe Exhibit at Woolworth Walk

Reception: Friday, September 3 from 5 to 7 p.m.

Prepare yourself for sweater vests, saddles, hybrid creatures and the ubiquitous blonde women inhabiting the imaginations of painters Alli Good and Julie Armbruster. Alli Good is a self-taught painter who creates narratives about relationships, unrequited feelings, and distorted insecurities. Julie Armbruster's creative vision often portrays the unbalanced relationship between humans and other animals.

On display at Woolworth Walk's Front Gallery, 25 Haywood Street in Downtown 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.



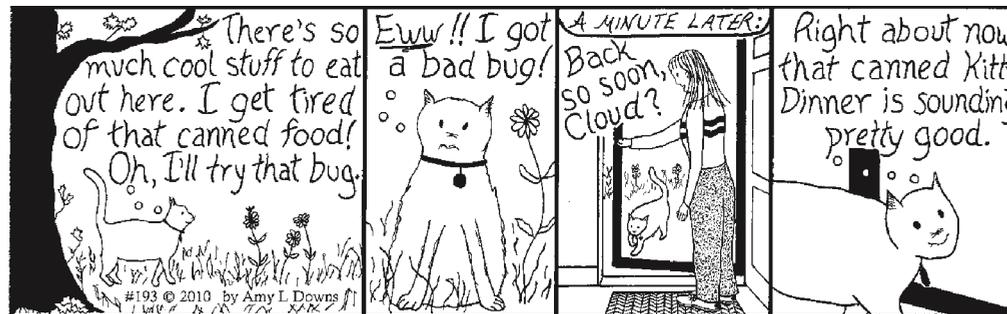
Best in Show

by Phil Juliano



Callie & Cats

by Amy Downs



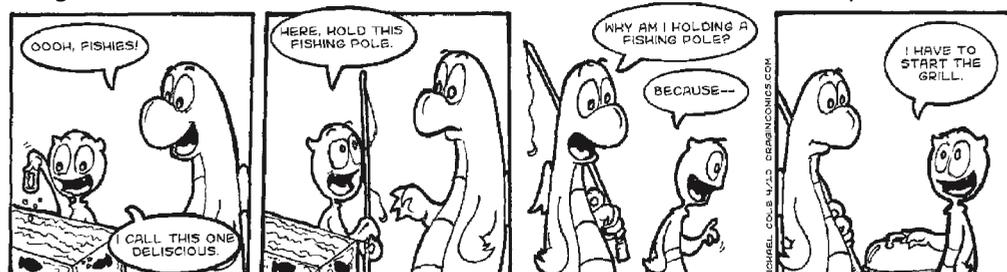
Corgi Tales

by Phil Hawkins



Dragin

by Michael Cole



Concerts at St. Matthias Church

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

September 5 – The St. Matthias String Quartet will perform its annual concert featuring music by Haydn (Op. 20 No. 2) and Mendelssohn (Op. 44). The players are: Brent Yingling and Judy Vlietstra, violins; Brenda Phetteplace, viola; and Ron Lambe, cello.

September 12 – The Looking Glass Brass Quintet will perform September 19 Musicke Antiqua Recorder Consort will perform

September 26 – There will be a concert production of Gilbert and Sullivan's Pirates of Penzance under the direction of Chuck Taft.

The production includes soloists, chorus and full orchestra. There will be a free-will offering for the St. Matthias restoration fund. 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.).

3-Day Intensives with John Mac Kah

Special topics in painting in oils.

September 22-24 – Phenomenal Painting. Full moon is September 23. We'll start in the studio and weather permitting will paint on location. Learn to paint weather phenomena: fog, rain, mist, clouds



and nocturnes. Optional Harvest Moon tail-gate painting event will be scheduled after moonrise, weather permitting.

October 20-22 – Focus on Fall Color. It's easy to get overwhelmed by the sheer abundance of local color. Learn to control temperature and contrast to render the seasonal display here in western NC.

Painting on location to capture the unique mood of color and change in mountains fauna, travel to unique sites in area parks, trails and gardens for a three day intensive.

November 18-19 – Let's Get Real: High Definition Painting. Painting in the studio, we will focus on texture, detail and contrast to create rich definition and close focus for still-life that will add interest and depth to all your paintings. Learn to paint fur, feathers, grasses, bark, foliage, reflections and foreground details.

All workshops take place Wednesday through Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Cost: \$150 plus \$25 studio fee. A \$75 deposit is requested 7 days prior to the workshop start date to reserve space. Register online or call the studio.

122 Riverside Drive, Asheville, NC
(828) 225-5000
kahartstudio.jmkah.com

Top-Rated Medical Alarm

Medical Alert Monitoring 24/7 **29⁹⁵** month

- Free Equipment
- Easy Setup
- Free Shipping
- Nationwide Service



HELP AT THE PUSH OF A BUTTON!

As seen in: **CVS/pharmacy**

Medical Alert System

Order Now! Call today: 1-888-461-8776



AFFORDABLE, FLEXIBLE health insurance. NO, REALLY.

How can **HumanaOne** help you?

INDIVIDUAL PLANS AS LOW AS

\$78

Is this you?

- Self-employed
- Early retiree
- Losing benefits at work

Short term plans are available too!

GET A FREE QUOTE IN MINUTES

Call Center Hours
M-Th 8 a.m. - 9 p.m. EST
Fri 8 a.m. - 7 p.m. EST
Sat 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. EST

HUMANA one

1-888-691-9689

*Male, 39, NS, Chicago 60605, Monogram. Rates vary by age, location and plan selection. All applications are subject to underwriting approval. Waiting periods, limitations and exclusions may apply. Insured by Humana Insurance Company, Humana Health Plan, Inc., Humana Health Insurance Company of Florida, Inc., Humana Employers Health Plan of Georgia, Inc. and Humana Insurance Company or Humana Health Benefit Plan of Louisiana, Inc. For AZ residents: Insured by Humana Insurance Company. Short Term Medical plans are not renewable, do not cover pre-existing conditions, and refunds are not available (varies by state).

GCA07A2HH_A

healthy lifestyles

To Drink or Not to Drink – That is the Question



BY MAX HAMMONDS, MD

A recent newspaper article highlighted the bravery of a young 5 year old boy who saved his grandfather. The old man had worked all day in the Florida sun without taking the time to drink.

Over dinner his grandson noted that he looked pale and tired. By supper time, the old man was sitting on the couch, staring straight ahead and non-responsive. According to the paramedics, the boy's 911 call got help for his grandfather's heat exhaustion and dehydration and probably saved him from a stroke or worse.

The take home message was not about calling 911 in an emergency. The take home message was about adequate water or other fluid intake while working in high heat and humidity conditions.

The Basics – Heat-related illnesses come in three varieties.

Heat stroke or sun stroke is caused by the heat of the sun disrupting the brain's ability to regulate body temperature. Treatment is to get out of the sun (or away from the source of heat) and to assist the body in cooling by physical means (ice water baths, alcohol baths, cool drinks, cool air blowing over the skin, etc).

This problem can quickly be fatal if the body's temperature gets above 106° F (40° C) and stays there for an extended period of time.

Heat cramps and heat exhaustion are caused by extreme loss of water and salts during excessive sweating without replacement. The body cannot continue to replace these losses from its own limited and rapidly depleted supplies.

Heat cramps result from loss and/or imbalance in the salts of the body – mostly sodium, potassium, and magnesium. While this problem is less devastating, the cramps are painful. Treatment is to quickly replace the lost salts and water – oral athletic drinks or their equivalent can do this quite rapidly.

Heat exhaustion results from a decrease in the amount of blood flowing around in the body. This is made worse when the sun's heat brings more of the blood to the surface of the skin, making even less blood available for circulation in the blood vessels.

The result is a decrease of blood flow to vital organs — the heart, lungs, kidneys, and brain. It is easy to imagine how this could happen quickly in someone who already has a decrease in body fluids (alcoholics, heart or kidney patients on water pills, patients with vomiting or diarrhea, patients taking cocaine) or are on medicines that lower blood pressure (diuretics, antihistamines, antipsychotic medications.)

A further complication is that the water part of the blood is decreased but

the cells in the number of blood cells stay the same, making the blood thicker. This can lead to a stroke or a heart attack — or increased work for the heart quickly leading to congestive heart failure.

Treatment for heat exhaustion can be as simple as fluid and salt replacement in milder cases and as emergent as IV therapy for those who are lethargic (don't force them to drink — they might aspirate), in shock, or comatose.

Bottom line

1. When working in extreme heat, drink. Just do it.
2. Before symptoms appear, replace sweat losses – both salt and water – with oral drinks that contain both water and salt.
3. Don't wait until symptoms appear. By then, one's mental state may be such that one cannot think clearly enough to drink appropriately.

During the summer months, in enclosed spaces, in the presence of extreme heat sources, these situations can develop extremely rapidly. Victims can be overcome quickly and without the intervention of someone else can be rapidly fatal. The little boy's grandfather was extremely lucky, suffering nothing more than a night in the hospital hooked up to IV's. It could quickly have become worse. Much worse.

Do you owe over 10K to the IRS?

- ✓ Settle Out Over Due Taxes for Less
- ✓ Stop Wage Garnishments and Bank Levies
- ✓ Filing (Business & Personal Taxes)
- ✓ State & Federal / Full Representation

CALL NOW!
888-460-9168

Fast IRS
Tax Relief

SETTLE IRS TAXES

For a fraction of what you owe

If you qualify we can:

- ✓ Stop wage garnishments
- ✓ Remove bank levies, tax levies, property seizures
- ✓ Settle state and business payroll tax problems
- ✓ Eliminate penalties, interest charges and tax liens

GET THE BEST POSSIBLE SETTLEMENT WITHIN IRS GUIDELINES

★ AMERICAN TAX RELIEF

If you owe over \$15,000 in back taxes CALL NOW

FREE CONSULTATION

- No Obligation • Confidential

1-888-722-1888



APPALACHIAN WOMEN'S MUSEUM OPENS SEPTEMBER 11

The town of Dillsboro, in partnership with the Appalachian Womens' Museum (AWM) will celebrate the Grand Opening of the Canning House at the Monteith Farmstead in Dillsboro, North Carolina on Saturday, September 11 from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m.

Throughout the exhibit, "Womens' Work: Preserving the Past, Educating the Future", the AWM will host a series of programs, demonstrations, and hands-on activities showcasing the original purpose of the traditional Canning House.

The exhibits to be presented include a tour of the kitchen, wood stove cooking, canning and preservation as well as an exhibit on the evolution of the home canning jar. Past and present aprons and cookbooks will be on display.

IF YOU GO: For further information, please contact Emma Wertenberger at ew.museum@gmail.com.

fine art

FIRE, NOISE, AND SMOKE: STEEL into ART

Susan Hutchinson makes her living by hammering on steel. She is a modern day artist-blacksmith—and like the “Under-the-spreading-chestnut” blacksmiths of eons past, she finds fulfillment in the dramatic process of forging steel with fire.

Hutchinson came here to the mountains in '88 to study blacksmithing at Penland School of Crafts while on a work-study scholarship from Berea College.

“I learned what I wanted to study while at Berea, but it was difficult to find mentors there. Penland and its incredible parade of talented, visionary, supportive teachers saved my butt.

“Iron, as a medium, has an appealing combination of attributes that cannot be found in other media,” Hutchinson explains. “It has tensile strength, malleability, and durability. Ironwork, as a process, is dramatic — fire, noise, smoke, and a very physical involvement. I am also a bit clumsy; most other stuff breaks or burns. Iron is pretty much forever. When you can manipulate steel, it gives you an incredible sense of accomplishment; something akin to hewing a barn from the trees in your forest.”

“My art is a reflection of life here in the mountains,” she adds. “Living on a farm is a perfect way to keep one’s vision focused and grounded.” When she takes a break from work, she attends to her small farm, driving the tractor around and caring for “the critters,” as she calls them: 15 or so goats, a handful of aging chickens and a trick pony.

Her ironwork is known for its undulating lines — steel tendrils twisting upon themselves like kudzu vines. “While function is always important,” she says, “I love

By DENNIS RAY

line. While I was a dismal failure at calligraphy, much of my work involves making steel lines seem like they came effortlessly out of some huge sort of pen.”

Her influences come from the early 20th century art movements of Arts and Crafts, Art Nouveau, and Art Deco. “The ironwork made during that time was often

exquisite, but there wasn’t much produced, largely because it was so labor-intensive, so expensive. Sometimes I think that I am making what those earlier smiths would have made if they had access to propane forges, power equipment and laser-cutting technologies. What I do, and what those artists were doing, is push and squash hot steel like it’s clay — and that takes a whole lot of focused energy.”

Her studio is an eclectic blend of the “old style blacksmithing” and modern technology. Next to the traditional big anvil, coal forge and rack of hand hammers and tongs sits a fancy pneumatic

power hammer and a big hydraulic press (which allow Hutchinson to work alone and also compete with what a team of Arnold Schwarzenegger-like men could muscle through).

“The revival of modern day smithing, (which began in the ‘60’s) spawned a mass market for (relatively) small-scale tooling, which translates into more and more interesting types of tools being available at increasingly affordable pricing. This means I can have in my own shop, equipment that a few decades ago would only be available at an institution like Penland. While fancy tools don’t automatically make a smith, they certainly open up my options, in composition and size. Blacksmithing is an expensive, equipment-heavy craft. There really isn’t any way around that.”

In addition to her current production line, Hutchinson also accepts private commissions. An accomplished instructor, she conducts blacksmithing workshops



Tendrail Hall Table. 42 x 32 x 12". Mild Steel and Granite. Outdoor finish. Stone by Carolina Stoneworks.



Large Vine Pedestal, 12 x 12 x 32". Mild Steel with brown oxide patina, and Marble. Indoor finish.



Bathroom mirror, mild steel, 24 x 36"

When you can manipulate steel, it gives you an incredible sense of accomplishment.

tures this in her work in so many gentle and subtle ways that it’s hard to imagine that any of her pieces began as crude sheets or bars of indifferent steel.

Her work can be seen at Van Dyke Jewelry and Fine Craft in downtown Asheville.

Penland School of Crafts

2687 Conley Ridge Road
Bakersville, NC 28705
(828) 765-2359

John C. Campbell Folk School

1 Folk School Road
Brasstown, NC 28902
(828) 837-2775

Van Dyke Jewelry and Fine Craft

29 Biltmore Ave.
Asheville, NC 28801
(828) 281-4044

at Penland School of Crafts and the John C. Campbell Folk School, passing on this primeval craft to anyone with a curiosity for iron and fire. “The workshops I teach are more like an Outward Bound experience than an art class,” she explains.

Hutchinson finds beauty in the world around her, in the mountains and seasons, in the earth and what it produces. She cap-

Asheville International Children's Film Festival
NOVEMBER 1-14, 2010
BUY TICKETS ONLINE
www.aicff.org

Come celebrate the best in international children's cinema with **125 FILMS** from 30 countries. You'll see films that are inspiring, magical and one-of-a-kind.

Above: Hajar's Wedding.
Left: Just So Stories.
Right: Hello Antenna.

For information visit www.aicff.org or call (828) 298-4789

Let your passion flourish!



CAREER TRAINING
 ★ Fast, Convenient, and Flexible
 ★ Get a Job in Culinary, Fashion, Design or Other Hot Fields

SPEAK TO AN ADVISOR
 9 A.M. - 5 P.M. EST
 1-866-252-5243

A DEGREE, DIPLOMA, OR CERTIFICATE CAN HELP YOU:

- ✓ Start A New Career
- ✓ Earn More Money
- ✓ Advance Quickly
- ✓ Secure Your Future

Let us help you find the school or program that fits your goals.

FREE Education Advisors Are Ready To Help You!

collegebound network Changing Lives Through Education Since 1987

Rapid River Magazine Encourages You to Support Our Advertisers

Buying local helps keep money in the neighborhood. For every 100 spent at a locally owned business, 45 goes back into the community. Local businesses are owned by people who are invested in our future.

fine art

Cotton Mill Studios Fall Open House

Art with Craft & Craft with Art

Artists of the Cotton Mill Studios will open their doors for their Fall Open House, Art with Craft & Craft with Art, on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, September 24, 25 & 26.

One of two to survive the Asheville Cotton Mill fire in 1995, this building at 122 Riverside Drive is a work site for 11 artists who work in varied mediums: pottery, painting, encaustic wax painting, jewelry, music, dance and fiber arts. Made of stalwart brick with high ceilings, steel beams and industrial-sized windows, the building was the heart of the

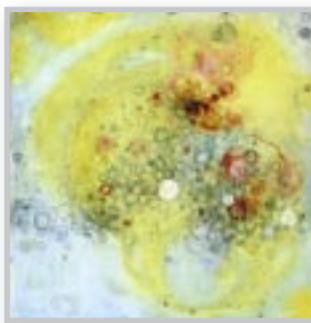
complex that housed the shipping department for the mill's output of denim and cotton fabrics.

It was purchased in 2002 by Eileen and Marty Black of The Potter's Mark as a home for their pottery.

Their retail gallery features functional pots with distinctive red glaze and serves as an anchor for the building. Each studio has a unique flavor, a reflection of the character of each artist and their chosen mediums, making the building a rich and



The Potter's Mark showroom.



Painting by Genie Maples

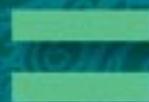
eclectic cultural center.

An added element this year will be the Mill Gallery Upstairs, an informal exhibition space for work created in the studios.

New work from students of John Mac Kah will also be on exhibit. "Teaching art forces me to think about my process," says Kah, "It's exciting when someone picks up

'Cotton Mill Studios' continued on pg. 39

Every day our members are trading such things as beach houses for braces, landscaping for legal advice, and printing for power washing.



Got something good to trade? Join in!

Great Trade Solutions gives you much more for your money.

- Take a \$500 exotic vacation for only \$25.
- Get expensive dental work for only 5% of the cost.
- Rent an RV for \$65 a week.
- Get a professionally designed brochure for only \$15.

Let us show you how to **SAVE BIG MONEY** while you do business and enhance your lifestyle.

Get started today! You'll be glad you did, and so will your family!

Respond by 9/30 and SAVE! You'll receive a \$100 trade bonus and we'll waive our \$295 sign up fee, a total savings of \$395.

704-567-9770



GreatTradeSolutions.com

fine art

'Cotton Mill Studios' continued from page 38

Cotton Mills Studios Open House – Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, September 24, 25 & 26.

on what you are trying to do and uses it in their own way.” With four painters in the building, the range of styles is varied, from contemporary realism to abstraction.

Genie Maples’ work is known for rich layered color, intricate surfaces, meticulous composition, and an evocative emotional range. She will be joined by two guest artists for the weekend: Cindy Walton and Susan Finer. Skip Rohde describes his work as contemporary narrative and includes work from his time in the service in the Middle East. He shares a studio with painter Christine Dougherty, recent recipient of the NC Grassroots Award for work to explore encaustic wax painting.

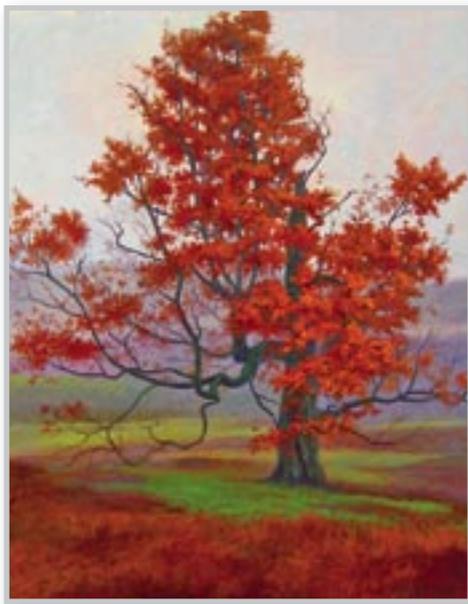
Downstairs, Barbara Zaretsky, owner of BZDesign & Cloth Fiber Workshop, is also new to the building. Barbara left her job as a graphic designer. She says, “I NEEDED to make a dream come true. I had this honest hope that I could do what I love and take care of myself at the same time.” There are two elements to her work, teaching and production.



Barbara Zaretsky's showroom.

From Cloth Fiber Workshop, she hosts classes taught by professional textile artists to students of all levels. “I’ve always been fascinated with textiles and the influence they have on our culture, [inspiring us with] color, movement, light, nature, architecture and design. Functional textiles can enhance our lives in subtle yet powerful ways.” Zaretsky’s BZDesign is the source of her studio line of hand-dyed silk, making pillows, table-runners, scarves, and other wearables.

Terpsicorps Theatre of Dance Director Heather Maloy has her personal office in the building, and Leonard Lopatin, a performer in the Asheville Symphony, is a master flute-maker whose innovative flutes made at



Painting by John Mac Kah.

his workbench are sought by artists worldwide. It is rare to find both visual arts and performing arts represented in one building, making for a rich cultural mix.

Cotton Mill Studios Fall Open House will allow visitors time for a leisurely visit, to meet artists and view works in progress, new pieces, and perhaps discover a treasure warm from the kiln, or fresh off the easel or workbench. From intimate jewelry to wall-sized paintings, functional to inspirational, humorous to contemplative, the depth and range of activity in this creative building makes it well worth exploring. Neighboring studios along Riverside Drive, from the Curve to Cotton Mill, will also be open throughout what should be a beautiful fall weekend, just outside of downtown Asheville.

Artists with work for sale and on exhibit include Eileen and Marty Black, Christine Dougherty, John Mac Kah, Leonard Lopatin, Genie Maples (with guest artists Cindy Walton & Susan Finer), Heather Maloy, Skip Rhode, Robin Black Walder and Barbara Zaretsky. Ongoing during the event will be informal demonstrations, including pottery, painting, fiber arts, and music. Refreshments will be featured during extended twilight hours on Friday evening.



Fall Open House – Art with Craft & Craft with Art. Cotton Mill Studios, 122 Riverside Drive, Asheville, NC. Hours: Friday,

September 24, 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Saturday, September 25, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Sunday, September 26, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
For more information contact The Potter's Mark, (828) 252-9122.

THE WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA AIDS PROJECT & BANK OF AMERICA PRESENT

'PAINT THE TOWN RED' RAISE YOUR HAND BENEFIT AUCTION

SEPTEMBER 25TH, 2010 - 6:00PM
DOUBLETREE - BILTMORE



artwork photography by Michelle Miller

"Gone Too Long" – Dawn Rentz

New Date • New Format
Exciting Auction Items: Art, Wine, Trips & More

Featuring culinary delights from
**Bouchon • Corner Kitchen
Fiore's • Dining Innovations**

Barbara Bell, Honorary Chair
Darr Conradson, Auctioneer

Help 'Paint the Town Red' to support the fight
against AIDS Its about living & giving.

For More Information:
wncap.org/ryh
or 828-252-7489



Sandwiches • Soups
Malts • Floats • Shakes
Organic Coffee



Meet me at
the SODA FOUNTAIN

W
WOODWORTH WALK
25 Haywood St.
828.254.9234
woodworthwalk.com

The **Chocolate Fetish**

Enjoy and Give the Best™

Award Winning Handcrafted Chocolates

We Ship Nationwide
Order Online Now
www.chocolatefetish.com

Voted Best Chocolate Shop in Western
North Carolina Twelve Consecutive Years!



36 Haywood St. • Downtown Asheville, NC • (828) 258-2353



\$500 MILLION
Look us up...
NationalHealthLottery.com



**Cotton Mill Studios
OPEN HOUSE
Sept. 26-27 11-4pm**

Register Now
Painting Fall Color
3 Day Intensives
September 22-25
October 20-22

122 Riverside Drive
www.jmkah.com
(828) 225- 5000

John Mac Kah

double exposure

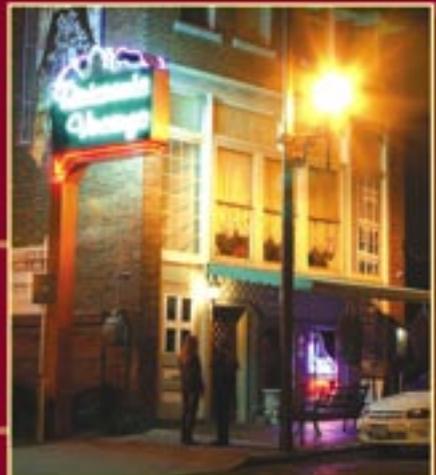
Giclee
Fine Art Printmaking

828.299.8180
Asheville, NC
doubleexposureart.com



Vincenzo's
Ristorante & Bistro

Dinner: Mon.-Thurs. 5:30-10:00
Fri. & Sat. 5:30-11:00
Sunday 5:30-9:00
Reservations Suggested



frugal framer
established 1975

knowledgeable assistance
conservation framing
conscientious craftsmanship
on-site production

95 Cherry Street N
Downtown Asheville
(828) 258.2435
www.frugallframer.com

2145 Hendersonville Road
Skyland Springs Shopping Center
Arden, NC
(828) 687.8533

MON - SAT 9:30 - 5:30

Making Memories Every Night

- Time Honored Recipes of Old Italy
- Live Music (Jazz, Blues & Standard)
- 1/2 Price Happy Hour Appetizers
- Daily Italian Wine and Drink Specials

10 N. Market St. 828-254-4698
www.Vincenzos.com