

The Weekend in Preview

The following is a brief guide to weekend events. Please call venues for more information.

CONCERTS:

Duffy's, 1412 O. St.
Sunday: Lullaby for the Working Class

Duggan's Pub, 440 S. 11th St.
Friday and Saturday: Baby Jason and the Spankers

Knickerbockers, 901 O St.
Friday: Full Blown, Mercy Rule, Holy Ghost
Saturday: Earthling, Rock Gods

Mo Java Cafe, 2649 N. 48th St., Suite D
Friday: Butch Krause

The Q, 226 S. Ninth St.
Sunday: Cabaret Show Night

The Royal Grove, 340 W. Cornhusker Hwy.
Friday: Rockin' Fossils
Saturday: Version 3

Speakeasy, 3233 1/2 S. 13th St.
Friday and Saturday: Alibi

Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St.
Friday: Studebaker John and the Hawks
Saturday: Larry Garner

THEATER:

Mary Riepma Ross Film Theater, 12th and R streets
Sunday: "Western"

Museum of Nebraska History, 15th and P streets
Sunday: "Holiday Inn," starring Fred Astaire and Bing Crosby

Lied Center for Performing Arts, 12th and R streets
Saturday and Sunday: "Romantic Rhapsody"

Star City Dinner Theatre, 803 Q. St.
All weekend: "Closer Than Ever"

GALLERIES:

Burkholder Project, 719 P St.
Friday and Saturday: "Even Cowgirls Get the Blues," "Places in Europe"

Gallery 9, 124 S. Ninth St.
All weekend: "Fruits of Passion"

Haydon Gallery, 335 N. Eighth St., Suite A
Friday and Saturday: "Jazz Photographers"

Joslyn Art Museum, 2200 Dodge St., Omaha
All weekend: "Dali's Mustache: A Photographic Interview by Salvador Dali and Philippe Halsman"

Noyes Art Gallery, 119 S. Ninth St.
Friday and Saturday: recent works by Amy Sadle, Carol Sexton, Steve Settles, John Gillett, Olive Bishop, Bonnie Goochey

Sheldon Memorial Art Gallery, 12th and R streets
All weekend: "Icons of Public Memory: Photographs from the College of Journalism"

Shall we Dance?

Mexican folk group performs in Lincoln

Dance The Facts

What: Ballet Folklorico
Where: Performance at Lincoln High School, Workshop at University of Nebraska-Lincoln East Union
When: Performance on Saturday at 8 p.m., Workshop on Sunday at 4 p.m.
Cost: Free
The Skinny: Dancers from Nuevo Leon, Mexico perform various Mexican folk dances

BY LIZA HOLTMEIER
Senior staff writer

Dressed in traditional mariachi garb, the charros contrast the grace of their female partners with the roughness of their pounding steps.

As the music's intensity increases, the women's multilayered, multicolored dresses whip around the arms of their men.

The dancers are performing the Son, a folk dance from Mexico that originated during the mixing of the indigenous population and Europeans.

It is one of many dances the Ballet Folklorico from Nuevo Leon, Mexico, will perform this weekend in Lincoln.

Under the sponsorship of several Lincoln community organizations, Ballet Folklorico will present a performance of Mexican folk dance Saturday evening at Lincoln High School. Sunday, they will offer a workshop for students wanting to learn more about the dances.

"This is unlike anything you've ever seen before," said Dana Rodriguez, a member of the committee bringing Ballet Folklorico to Lincoln. "This will be a style of dance rarely seen in the Midwest."

Ballet Folklorico is composed of students from the University of Nuevo Leon in Monterrey, Mexico.

Since its premiere in 1997, the dance troupe has garnered interna-

tional acclaim, representing Mexico at a variety of world folk dance festivals.

When the group performs this weekend, it will present folk dances from various regions of Mexico. Each region's dances will exhibit a distinctive style of movement and costume.

At the beginning of the program, the dancers will perform indigenous dances from San Luis Potosi. Costumes for these dances feature bright colors but minimal layers, and dancers wear moccasins instead of heeled shoes.

The first dance of this section is the Danza de Matlachines. Danced in honor of Mother Earth and the Sun God, this dance is performed in a circle to represent Mexico's unity.

Also in this section, the dancers will perform the Danza de Cuaneiros. Influenced by Spaniards and blacks in Mexico, this dance is common at weddings and baptisms.

Another highlight before intermission will be dances from Veracruz. Located in eastern Mexico, this region has dances with a Cuban influence. The costumes for this section feature a great deal of white, with flowered aprons for the women.

A highlight of this section will be "El Zapateado." Wearing hard-heeled shoes, the dancers exhibit lightning, pounding footwork in this piece.

"Sometimes, the music will stop, and you'll just hear the sound of their feet," Ramirez said.

"It gives you goose bumps," Rodriguez added.

After intermission, the dancers will perform dances from their native Nuevo Leon. Located about three hours from the Mexico-United States border, Nuevo Leon garners its influences from the European settlers. Dances include the polka and the shotis. The dancers will also perform dances from Jalisco.

Regardless of region, the dancers have received extensive training in each of the dance forms at the University of Nuevo Leon.

"This group is Lied Center quali-



MELANIE FALK/DN

event. At Lincoln High, audience members will also have a chance to meet with the artists.

"It's a more informal atmosphere," Ramirez said. "We wanted people to feel like they could talk to the dancers."

Students also can learn from the dancers during Sunday's workshop. The workshop is open to University of Nebraska-Lincoln students for free. All levels of dancers are invited to attend.

"We just want everyone to take part in this festive occasion," Ramirez said. "These are some of the best maestros of Mexican folk dance."

Ramirez said, "But not everyone can afford to go to the Lied Center." To make the group's performance more accessible, Ramirez said, the committee decided to have Ballet Folklorico perform at Lincoln High School. Committee members thought that venue would bring in people who wouldn't normally attend an arts

Musical addresses '70s gay life, AIDS threat

BY CHRISTOPHER HEINE
Staff writer



FALSETTOS, a Tony-Award winning musical about the advent of AIDS in the '80s, stars (left to right) Michael Simpson (Whizzer), Brett Foster (Marvin) and Ryan Rubek (Jason). The musical plays every weekend throughout the month at the Theatre at the J in Omaha.

1979 marked more than the turning of a decade for gay men. The sexual revolution of the 1960s and '70s brought the homosexual lifestyle closer to the mainstream, and for the first time in history, freed many to choose same-sex relationships.

However, the haunting, international news of "the gay cancer" was just on the brink of being heard.

"Falsettos," a musical starting a three-weekend run in Omaha's Theatre at the J tonight, puts music to a story about love, family and sexual identity at the genesis of AIDS. The storyline starts in 1979 and ends in 1982.

The production is a high-energy, nonstop singing and musical performance presented by the Omaha production company SNAP!

Veteran SNAP! performer Brett Scott plays the role of the homosexual character Marvin, whose lover is stricken with the then-unnamed affliction.

Scott said the two-act, two-hour program "runs the gamut of emotions."

"It's funny if not hilarious at times," he said. "And then other parts are very sad. Even in the rehearsal process a lot of us have been in tears. When it hits you, it hits you pretty hard."

The Tony award-winning story, written by William Finn and James Lapin, is based on a nuclear family that eventually becomes quite nontraditional. The plot revolves around Marvin.

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