

The Weekend in Preview

The following is a brief list of weekend events. Please call the venue for more information.

CONCERTS:

Duffy's, 1412 O St.
Sunday: Thomas Irvin, World Record Players, Mary Janes

Duggan's Pub, 440 S. 11th St.
Friday and Saturday: Blue House

Kimball Hall, 11th and R streets
Friday: Logan Skelton
Sunday: Michael Cochran and Patrick O'Donnell

Knickerbockers, 901 O St.
Friday: Manifest, Ezra
Saturday: Black Light Sunshine, lower case i

Sokol Hall, 2234 S. 13th St., Omaha
Sunday: George Clinton

Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St.
Friday and Saturday: Lil' Slijm and the Back-Alley Blues Band

THEATER:

Lincoln Community Playhouse, 2500 S. 56th St.
All weekend: "The Reluctant Dragon"

Mary Riepma Ross Film Theater, 12th and R streets
All weekend: Gay/Lesbian Film Festival

Mueller Planetarium, Morrill Hall, 15th and U streets
Friday and Saturday: Nine Inch Nails

Star City Dinner Theatre, Eighth and Q streets
All weekend: "Sweeney Todd"

Studio Theatre, 12th and R streets, 3rd Floor
Friday and Saturday: "The Lion in Winter"

GALLERIES:

The Burkholder Project, 719 P St.
All weekend: works by Carol Gallion, Sammy Lynn, Patsy Smith and Prairie 7

Gallery 9, 124 S. Ninth St.
All weekend: "Masks," an all-member theme show

Great Plains Art Collection, 215 Love Library
All weekend: photographs of Laura Gilpin

Haydon Gallery, 335 N. Eighth St.
All weekend: works by Judith Ernst Cherry

Lentz Center, Morrill Hall, 14th and U streets
All weekend: paintings by Shi Hu

Noyes Gallery, 119 S. Ninth St.
All weekend: "Roaring '20s," works by Sandy Meyers, LeRoy Van Glan, Ray Anderson, Max Cox and Ralph Spangler

The Sheldon Memorial Art Gallery, 12th and R streets
All weekend: "Black Image and Identity," "Modern Masters," Charles Rain's "Magic Realism," "Robert Colescott: Recent Paintings"

DESCENDING

Susan Marshall and Company bring millennium dance piece to Lied.

BY LIZA HOLTMEIER
Senior editor

As the millennium approaches, musings on this century's best and worst abound.

To explore how communities wrestle with these variances in light and dark, Susan Marshall and Company created a dance piece titled "The Descent Beckons."

The company presents the piece tonight at the Lied Center for Performing Arts, 301 N. 12th St.

The title comes from a William Carlos Williams poem, which reads "The descent beckons/as the ascent beckoned."

"It tells of a cyclical relationship," Marshall said. "It deals with death and life and birth and rebirth."

The dance piece also deals with these issues and how we grapple with the complexities these cycles pose.

Inspired by New Year's Eve celebrations and winter solstice rituals, "The Descent Beckons" moves from raucous to tender, seeking redemption for our transgressions along the way.

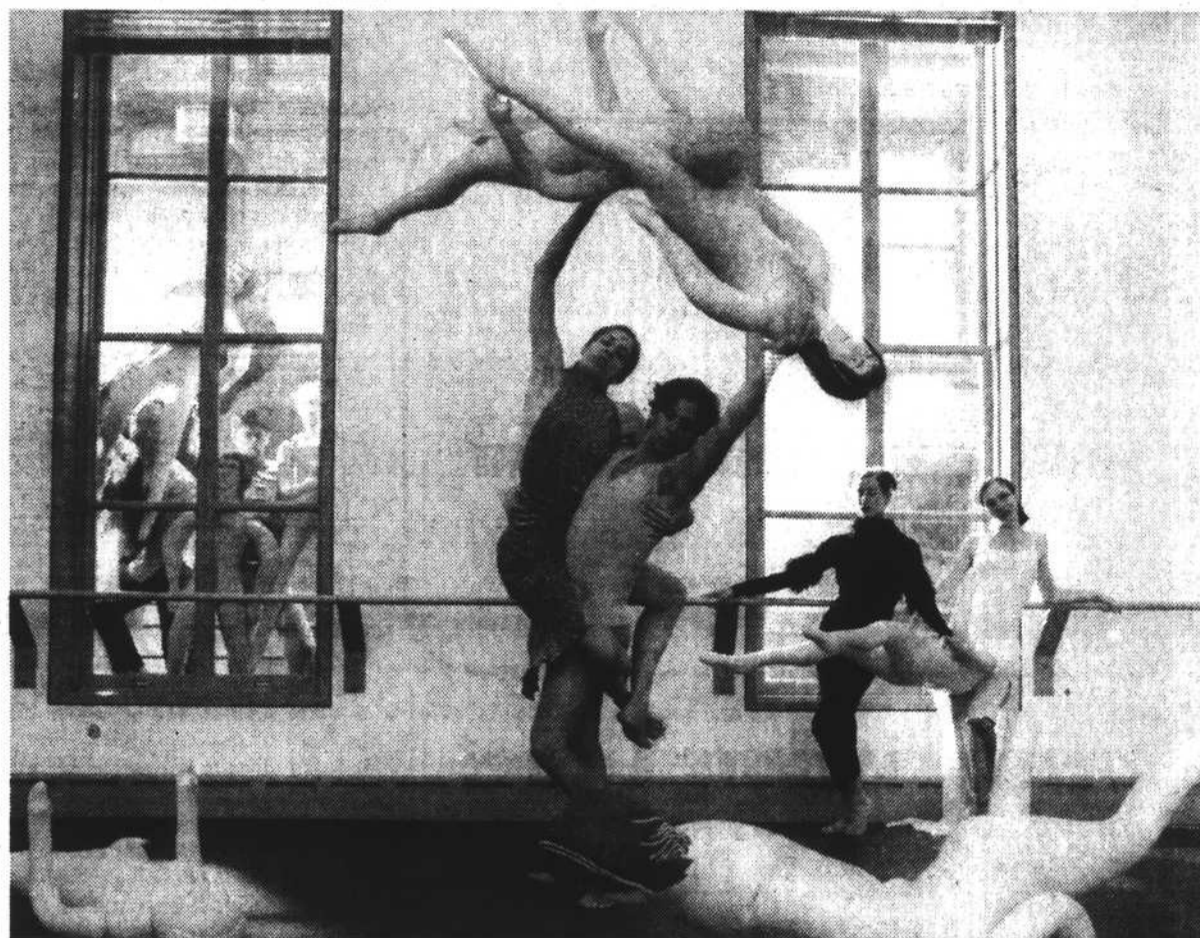
Marshall said the rituals in the piece share several common aspects.

"First, the rituals try to deal with purging the community of demons, evils and pestilence," she said.

Communities generally do this by making a lot of noise, choosing a scapegoat or creating effigies, Marshall said.

To bring scapegoats and effigies into the dance piece, Marshall and her dancers fill the stage with 100 inflatable dummies.

Marshall said the dummies have numerous connotations. Because they are manipulated by the dancers, the dummies symbolize a dominated class.



In "The Descent Beckons," Susan Marshall and Company share the stage with 100 inflatable dummies. The company performs tonight at the Lied Center.

In their nakedness, they resemble our alter egos. Because they are inanimate, the dummies also stand for the dead.

In addition to purging demons, the rituals create chaos only to reestablish order. Creating chaos involves loosening social taboos and engaging in licentious behavior, Marshall said.

To depict this chaos, she said, the piece sometimes goes over the top, using vaudeville, cabaret and Las Vegas-style entertainment.

"The Descent Beckons" is part of a co-commissioning effort by the Lied Center and several other arts organizations. The Lied Center's role in the commission is part of its ongoing emphasis on supporting new work.

Charles Bethea, executive director of the Lied Center, said the center had an obligation to support new works, especially in an era when other areas of financial support, such as governmental and foundation-based, have diminished.

The Lied Center has previously commissioned works from choreographers Danny Grossman and Donald Byrd, both of whom were featured in last year's season.

This year, the Lied Center has commissioned work from Marshall as well as a theater piece from Junebug Productions, Roadside Theater and

Please see DANCE on 14

'60s art pops into Omaha's Joslyn

BY JASON HARDY
Senior staff writer

The question, "What makes something art?" has always been a hot topic, especially as artists try to relate their work to the general public.

And while art is still seen by some as being largely inaccessible, some aspects of art and contemporary culture were at one time combined to create an affordable alternative to one-of-a-kind masterpieces.

This weekend, the Joslyn Art Museum, at 2200 Dodge St. in Omaha, is showcasing a wide variety of works by some of the most notable names in pop art, including Roy Lichtenstein, Claes Oldenburg, Edward Ruscha, George Segal and Andy Warhol. These names are attached to some of the 100 works on display in the Joslyn's exhibit, "The Great American Pop Art Store: Multiples of the Sixties."

Pop art multiples were a medium that started in the mid-1960s. The multiples incorporated an original design that was copied numerous times and sold to ordinary people rather than strictly collectors and museums.

Because of the accessible nature of the medium, many of the pieces are hard to come by today. While pieces

Gallery Preview The Facts

What: "The Great American Pop Art Store: Multiples of the Sixties"
Where: The Joslyn Art Museum, 2200 Dodge St., Omaha
When: Saturday through Jan. 2
Cost: \$5 for adults, \$3 for senior citizens and students, \$2.50 for ages 5-17
The Skinny: Exhibit features works by Claes Oldenburg, Roy Lichtenstein, Edward Ruscha, George Segal and Andy Warhol.

are readily available in galleries across the country, to group 100 of them in one exhibit is almost unheard of.

Amy Krobot, media relations coordinator for the Joslyn, said aside from the sheer volume of the event, the quality of the works was also very notable.

"The whole exhibition is wonderful in the sense that it's not very often that you get this many pop art pieces in one place," Krobot said. "But even if there weren't so many objects, it's still important to showcase them, so people can see a variety of pop art multiples."

Some of the more notable pieces in the collection include Oldenburg's baked potato, some prints by Lichtenstein and Warhol's "Cows" and "Campbell's Soup Can."

Krobot said regardless of whether



Artists Claes Oldenburg, Tom Wesselmann, Roy Lichtenstein, James Rosenquist and Andy Warhol as well as fashion model Jean Shrimpton celebrate at a party at Warhol's Factory in the 1960s. Some of the artists' works are featured in a new exhibit at the Joslyn Art Museum.

people recognize the actual pieces, they will still have the opportunity to see something different.

"This show gives you a chance to see some of the other things these artists have done," she said. "They'll recognize the names of the artists for sure, and I think they'll realize that they know more about pop art than

they thought, because it is such a big part of our culture."

As part of this weekend's opening, the Joslyn is also including a Family Fun Day on Sunday from 1 to 4 p.m. in which visitors can come dressed in '60s-style clothing, listen to '60s music and make art inspired by some of the pop art exhibited in the show.