

Event Preview

Art & Antiques Fair 2000

Where: Sheldon Memorial Art Gallery, 12th & R streets

When: Sat., Oct. 14, 10 a.m. Talk by Richard Francis, "The Auction Market & Collecting at Auction," 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. Appraisals by local experts

Cost: \$15 includes talk & entrance fee. \$10 browsers, too

Fair offers appraisals of antiques

BY MELANIE MENSCH

In the spirit of the PBS television show "Antiques Roadshow," the Nebraska Art Association will hold its own antique extravaganza this weekend.

Sponsored by the Nebraska Art Association, the Art and Antiques Fair 2000 welcomes bargain hunters and treasure bounties alike to the two-day event.

First, a reservation-only dinner and a live auction conducted by Richard Francis of the world-renowned auction house Christie's will be held Friday night at the Hillcrest Country Club, 8901 O St.

On Saturday, Oct. 14, the general public is invited to hear Francis speak on "The Auction Market and Collecting at Auction" beginning at 10 a.m. at the Sheldon Memorial Art Gallery. Then, in the main gallery, local experts will appraise visitors' items until 5 p.m.

Kathy Piper, the association's executive director, said the fair gives visitors an opportunity to appraise valuables.

"We have a network of experts to give people verbal evaluations," she said. "Most appraisers charge up to \$50, so this an inexpensive first step to find out the value of your things."

Visitors pay \$15 for each portable item appraised by one of 13 experts from Lincoln and Omaha. While oversized items are not allowed into the gallery, visitors can bring photos of their items instead.

Diane DeVriendt, a Lincoln appraiser and fair coordinator, said the event's goal was to raise \$10,000 to benefit the Sheldon's acquisition fund and building maintenance.

"There is a tremendous interest in the value of things people inherit," she said. "Heirs are very excited to learn what their stuff is about."

Mary Neksky, event publicist, said the association expected a "healthy turnout" on Saturday.

"People always think they're going to find buried treasure in everyday things," she said. "It has widespread appeal because antiques are a link to our past."

DeVriendt said the goal of the event was to raise \$10,000 to benefit the Sheldon's acquisition fund and building maintenance.



Delan Lonowski/DN

WWW.GODS.B

Pumpkins post album online

BY ANDREW SHAW

In the last moments of the 1980s, The Smashing Pumpkins helped usher America and the world into a new era of rock music.

On Sept. 5, months after announcing their imminent breakup, the Pumpkins made another step to drastically change the face of the music industry.

The Pumpkins have recently released an album which, though wholly illegal, can be received by any Internet user. The fans' reception has been extremely positive.

"Machina II/The Friends and Enemies of Modern Music," the latest and apparently last official album by the foursome, has taken the World Wide Web by storm.

According to an e-mail from Eric Agnew, the Webmaster of the Smashing Pumpkins Fan Collaborative, www.spifc.org, and friend of the band, only 25 copies of "Machina II," a set of 3 vinyl EPs and 2 vinyl LPs, were made.

These 25 copies were given to prominent supporters and fans of the band with the intent to circulate the music to all Pumpkins fans worldwide, Agnew said.

The night following the album's distribution, the 25 songs were converted to MP3 form and placed on various sites on the Internet.

There are no plans to officially release "Machina

II" in any other format, Agnew said.

A frequently asked questions file on the Agnew's Web site concludes that this action was taken because Virgin Records, the former record label of the Pumpkins, refused to back the sequel to the band's February release, "Machina/The Machines of God."

The first installment of "Machina" completed the Pumpkins' contract with Virgin, but the agreement included a covenant not to compete, which prohibits the group from releasing any recorded music for one year.

The album, which contains previously unreleased material from the "Machina" era, was released under the Constantinople record label, owned by front man Billy Corgan.

Dave Asselin, a friend of the band and curator of one of the largest collections of live Pumpkins recordings, said the album is not technically legal.

"But if and when Virgin takes them to court, it can be shown that there was no financial gain on the band's part, thus no profits to share," Asselin said in an e-mail.

The Pumpkins have become frequent users of the Internet in the last year. On March 9, the Pumpkins participated in an on-line chat before they performed live on MTV. At the same time, they

Please see PUMPKINS on 6

New Pumpkins album not for novices

BY ANDREW SHAW

It's over, but not how you imagined. No smoke, no lights, no advertising and no press release.

The final album by the alternative-rock architects The Smashing Pumpkins has been released in a non-traditional way.

The trailblazers of loud, distorted, guitar-heavy rock are calling it quits, and "Machina II/The Friends and Enemies of Modern Music," an album available free via the Internet, is the last of their studio releases.

The songs on "Machina II" are from the same batch that produced "Machina/The Machines of God," the

Pumpkins' official release earlier this year. In fact, many of the same songs are present on both albums but in different forms.

But it's not simply leftovers. In July, after touring extensively in the United States and Europe, the Pumpkins returned to the studio to touch up the songs found on "Machina II."

Twenty-five songs make up this collection of moody, sometimes outrageously crunchy, sometimes psychedelically cerebral but always captivating selections.

This album is not for everyone, though anyone could find a great deal of inspiration and thought-provoking material from studying the Pumpkins' music.

MUSIC REVIEW

The Smashing Pumpkins

Title: Machina II: The Friends and Enemies of Modern Music

Label: 2000 Constantinople Records

★★★★ of 4 stars

At this time, "Machina II" is only available in MP3 form on the Internet, including their

Please see REVIEW on 6

Nearly 700 dancers expected for annual clogging event



Nate Wagner/DN

■ The eighth annual Clog Your Socks Off workshop draws dancers from across the country to Lincoln to display the newest steps in the art of clogging.

BY KEN MORTON

OK all you dance enthusiasts, it's time to get out your clogging shoes.

The 8th annual "Clog Your Socks Off" workshop and competition kicks off Friday at the St. John's Gym, 7601 Vine St., and organizers expect anywhere from 650-700 participants this year.

The Capital City Cloggers, who put on the event, expect cloggers from Colorado, Iowa, South Dakota, Kansas and even Minnesota to travel to Lincoln for the event.

Geri Lorenzen, publicity chairwoman for the Capital City Cloggers said the club

started in 1988 with only eight members.

"It's grown to about 350 members now," she said. "We usually get 10 to 15 new lesson takers a year."

The workshop, slated to take place all day Friday and Saturday, will include several instructional classes run by two nationally known cloggers: Chip Woodall and Scotty Bilz.

Lorenzen said both will conduct classes at different times and said she appreciated the assistance of two high-caliber cloggers with the event.

The festivities on Friday night will be capped off with a freestyle competition where any of the workshops' attendees can compete for trophies.

On Saturday morning, the Capital City Cloggers will have a free breakfast for participants, followed by another day of clogging clinics. On Saturday night, the cloggers will hold an exhibition along with several other groups.

Lorenzen said the number of participants in not only the

"Clog Your Socks Off" event but the Capital City Cloggers as well has shown no signs of slowing down.

"We start them at 3 years old," she said, "and most stick with it for a long time."

Lorenzen said the advent of new kinds of music used with clogging has broadened the scope past traditional bluegrass and country.

"We've got kids clogging to modern music and jazz now," she said. "I think it's a good way to keep the young ones interested."

Susan Phillips, marketing director for the National Clogging Organization, said the change in music is simply a sign of the times.

"Cloggers are always looking for something different," Phillips said, "whether it be new music or new steps."

New dances, like the Canadian step dancing, have also infiltrated clogging, Phillips said.

"A few years ago, the 'Riverdance' steps were popular

"We've got kids clogging to modern music and jazz now. I think it's a good way to keep the young ones interested."

Geri Lorenzen
publicity chairwoman

and now it's the more modern Canadian steps," she said.

Clogging started in the rural areas of the Appalachian Mountains in the 1700s. The English, who controlled most of the colonies, wouldn't allow the lower classes - mainly made up of immigrants - to dance the formal English dances.

These classes instead created their own form of dancing and evolved much like country and bluegrass music did: by taking pieces of traditions from different cultures and molding them together into a uniquely American dance tradition.

Because clogging borrows from cultures like the Irish,

English and even the Russian gypsies, Phillips said the assimilation of new steps is simply a continuation of this "borrowing" tradition.

Lorenzen said the new steps give clogging a fresh appeal, and although she prefers the more traditional clogging, she does like to see the new steps from cloggers every year.

"I'm excited to see what people came up with this year," she said.

The National Clogging Organization, which runs several competitions nationwide, has now split its events into

Please see CLOGS on 6