

Things to see and places to be seen: Top June 2008 Northside picks

By Melissa Culross



COLE PORTER'S OUT OF THIS WORLD

Thursdays-Sundays, June 5-29 & Wednesday, June 18, Eureka Theatre

Greek Gods and Hollywood movie types all in one show; that Cole Porter knew what he was doing, my friends. 215 Jackson St. (at Battery), 415-255-8207, www.42ndstmoon.org

1... 2... 3:45, 6-7-8!

Saturday, June 7, Union Square

OK, I admit that I have no idea what this is, but I'm intrigued. Organizers claim that we need to show up at Union Square at precisely 3:45 p.m. on the 7th for the most memorable five minutes of the year. I just hope no cults are involved. Stockton and Post Streets, www.12345678unionsquaresf.com

GOLDEN GLASS WINE TASTING

Sunday, June 8, Fort Mason Festival Pavilion

Celebrate some of the exciting, sustainable wines from around the world by tasting them. Fort Mason Center, Marina Blvd. (at Buchanan), 650-589-7569, www.thegoldenglass.com

DAHANN CARROLL

Tuesday-Sunday, June 10-15, Rrazz Room

The parade of legends at the new Rrazz Room continues with Tony winner and Oscar nominee Diahann Carroll. Hotel Nikko, 222 Mason St. (at O'Farrell), 866-468-3399, www.therrazzroom.com

STERN GROVE FESTIVAL

Sundays beginning June 15, Sigmund Stern Grove

San Francisco's annual free outdoor concert series. Some days the grove is cold, some days it's warm, but it always gets crowded. So get there early with your snacks and picnic blankets and enjoy the tunes. Sloat Blvd. and 19th Ave., 415-252-6252, www.sterngrove.org

OLD 97's

Tuesday, June 17, The Fillmore

One the best bands out there that isn't a household name. Treat yourself to the goodness that is the Old 97's. 1805 Geary Blvd. (at Fillmore), 415-346-6000, www.thefillmore.com

DRAMARAMA

Thursday, June 19, Red Devil Lounge

These 80s rockers will do "Anything, Anything" to get you to join them for this show. 1695 Polk St. (at Clay), 415-921-1695, www.reddevillounge.com

LOQUAT

Friday, June 20, Café du Nord

Join local scenesters Loquat at one of the City's best intimate music venues. 2170 Market St. (near Sanchez), 415-861-5016, www.cafedunord.com

And to compel you to get across town:

ATTACK OF THE KILLER B MOVIES: THE BLOB

Thursday-Saturday, June 5-7, Dark Room Theatre

Why just watch a movie when you can see a movie come to life? Live actors recreate the cult classic *The Blob* in an intimate venue. 2263 Mission St. (at 19th), 415-401-7987, www.darkroomsf.com/killerbs

ANOTHER HOLE IN THE HEAD FESTIVAL

June 5-19, Roxie New College Film Center

An entire film festival dedicated to the horror, sci-fi, horror-comedy, and dark fantasy genres; you'd have to have a hole in the head to not attend. 3117 16th St. (at Valencia), 415-820-3907, www.sfndie.com

The Choir of Men and Boys:

Festal Evensong

Sunday, June 8, 3 p.m.

Grace Cathedral

Grace Cathedral's Choir of Men and Boys join with choir alumni for a special choral event. Free. 415-749-6300, www.gracecathedral.org

Hairspray

Tue-Sun, June 10-22

Orpheum Theatre

Don't miss Broadway's musical-comedy phenomenon that inspired a major motion picture and won eight 2003 Tony Awards, including Best Musical. 415-512-7770, www.shnsf.com

BATS Improv: Theatresports Tournament

Fri-Sat, June 13-Aug 2

Bayfront Theater, Bldg. B, Fort Mason Center

Teams playing as residents of various San Francisco 'hoods and 'burbs (and even some out-of-towners) will square off, performing improvised games, songs or scenes inspired by the audience (a la *Whose Line is it Anyway?*). 415-474-8935, www.improv.org

Pocket Opera Presents: Roberto Devereux

Sat-Sun, June 14-21

Legion of Honor

Donizetti's opera of high drama finds Robert Devereux, the Earl of Essex, returning after military triumph in Ireland, but not to the hero's welcome one might expect. Instead, he faces charges of treason, concocted by his many envious political rivals. 415-972-8930, www.pocketopera.org

Tuna Does Vegas

Tue-Sun, June 17-22

Curran Theatre

This new installment from the legendary Greater Tuna creative team reunites the lovable and eccentric characters from the "third smallest town in Texas," as they take a rambling romp in Sin City. 415-512-7770, www.shnsf.com

Concerts at the Presidio

Thu-Fri, June 19-20, 7:30 p.m.

Golden Gate Club

(135 Fisher Loop at Main Post)

Classical concerts and recitals highlighting young artists are offered free to the community by Pacific Union Presents. Reserve seats by calling 415-447-6274. www.presidio.gov/calendar

R. Buckminster Fuller: The History (& Mystery) of the Universe

Friday, June 20

Cowell Theater, Fort Mason Center

Z Space Studio and Rubicon Theatre Company present this tribute to the legendary architect, engineer and inventor, featuring veteran character actor Joe Spano. The show is part of the Z Space Studio Gala Benefit and includes an hors d'oeuvres reception, wine, silent auction, and raffle. 415-345-7575, www.zspace.org

Opera at the Ballpark

Friday, June 20, 8 p.m.

AT&T Park

A free simulcast of Donizetti's bel canto masterpiece, *Lucia di Lammermoor*, will be transmitted in high definition, live from the War Memorial Opera House stage to AT&T Park's 3,200-square-foot

Diamond Vision scoreboard. Free; advance registration required. 415-864-3330, www.sfopera.org

Harvard Glee Club

Tuesday, June 24

Grace Cathedral

The oldest college choir in America (founded in 1858) is considered by many to be the premier collegiate men's chorus. Their repertoire spans Renaissance, classical and contemporary periods. 800-838-3006, www.harvardgleeclub.org

The Return of Charo

Sunday, June 29

Herbst Theatre

The cuchi-cuchi queen returns to the Herbst (fresh from her duties as Pride Celebration Parade grand marshal) with her Las Vegas-style show, complete with a back-up band and dancers. 415-392-4400, www.koshercomedy.com/charo

FILM & LECTURES

Indestructible

Through June 5

Roxie Theater

Diagnosed with ALS, filmmaker Ben Byer starts documenting his life on camera. A series of video diaries grows into an epic journey spanning three years and six countries as he scours the globe looking for answers - and a cure. 415-863-1087, www.roxie.com, www.indestructiblefilm.com

Jewish Socialists in America: History and Legacy

Thursday, June 5, 7:30 p.m.

BJE Jewish Community Library (1835 Ellis St.)

In the late 19th and early 20th century, Jewish immigrants created a vibrant, secular, left-wing culture in the Yiddish language. Tony Michels will address the achievements and failures of Yiddish socialism and what remains of that legacy a century later. Free. 415-567-3327 ext. 703, www.bjesf.org

Film Night in the Park

Saturday, June 7, dusk

Washington Square Park

Watch the breakthrough film in martial arts special effects, *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon*, on a giant outdoor screen. Attendees are encouraged to picnic before screenings and are discouraged from bringing chairs. 415-465-FILM, www.sfneighborhoodtheater.org

The Barbary Coast Trail - Part 2

Saturday, June 14, 10 a.m.-noon

Portsmouth Square, upper level

(Kearny & Clay Sts.)

Meet Jeanne Beaudet for a "Gold Rushers, Shanghaiers and Jazz Dancers" walking tour down Commercial Street to the original shoreline. Visit the Pony Express headquarters site and the grave of a Gold Rush-era ship, and see the City's remaining Gold Rush and Barbary Coast-era buildings. 415-537-1105, www.sfhistory.org

Your Renewal at 50+

Thursday, June 26, 5 p.m.

Mechanics' Institute Members' Lounge (57 Post St.)

RSVP San Francisco presents an inter-

active life transitions workshop given by Linda Artel, career consultant. Free. Reserve seats by calling 415-474-7787.

The Dominant Animal: Human Evolution & the Environment

Friday, June 27, 7 p.m.

Cowell Theater, Fort Mason Center

The Long Now Foundation presents Paul Ehrlich in a seminar on long-term thinking. Free (\$10 donation recommended). 415-561-6582, www.longnow.org

Evil Genes: A Book Talk by Barbara Oakley

Friday, June 27

World Affairs Council (312 Sutter St.)

Prompted by clues in her sinister sister's diary, author Barbara Oakley takes the reader inside the heads of history's truly malevolent characters in *Evil Genes: Why Rome Fell, Hitler Rose, Enron Failed, and My Sister Stole My Mother's Boyfriend*. Dubbed a female Indiana Jones, Oakley's writings combine worldwide adventure with solid research expertise. 415-335-4618, www.centerforinquiry.net/sf

Film Night in the Park

Saturday, June 28, dusk

Union Square

An "elegantly bitchy story" about an aspiring actress, featuring Ann Baxter and Bette Davis, *All About Eve* will be shown on a giant outdoor screen. Attendees are encouraged to picnic before screenings and are discouraged from bringing chairs. 415-465-FILM, www.sfneighborhoodtheater.org