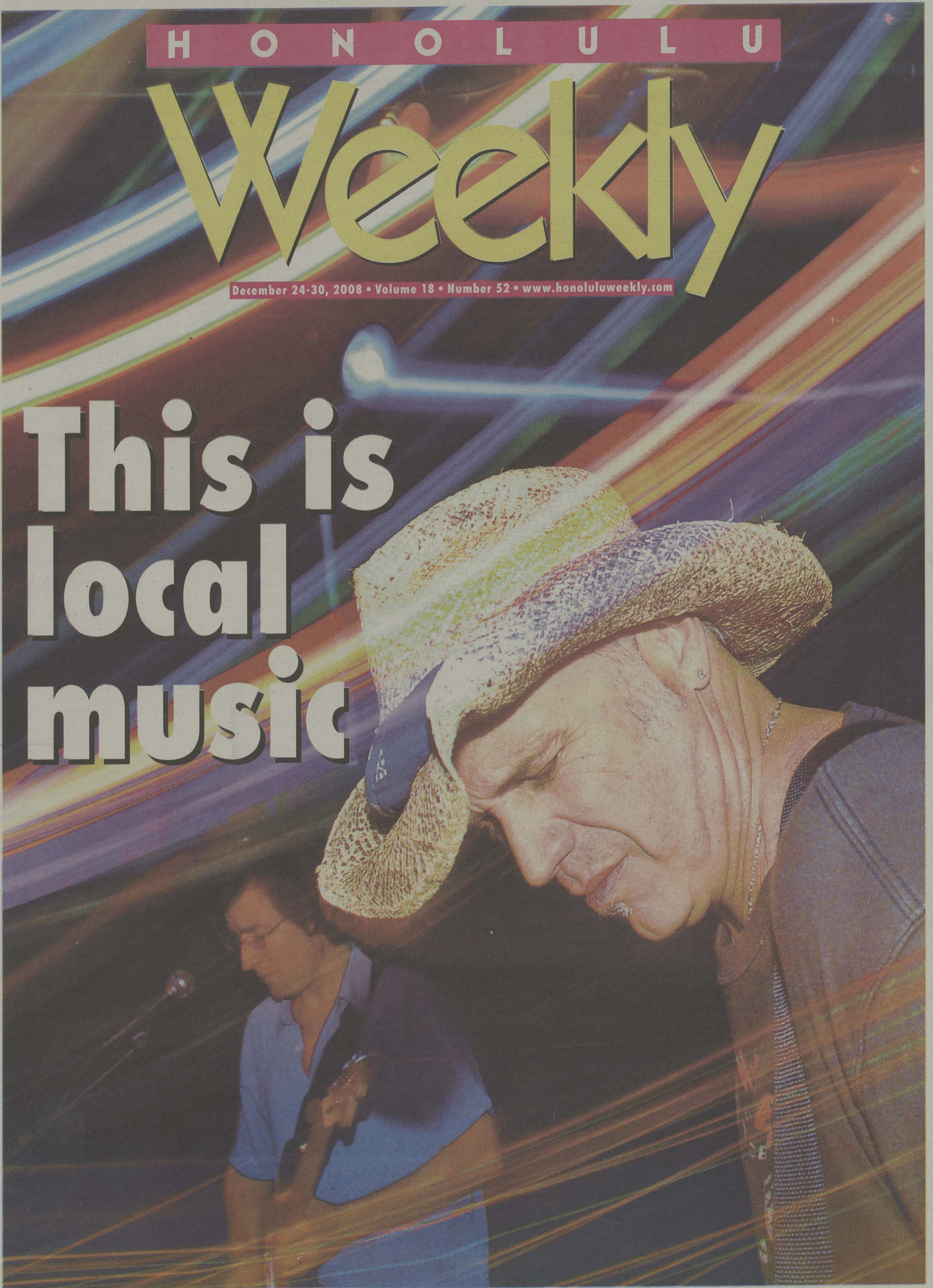


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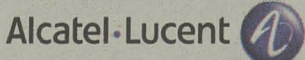
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Throwing stones

We are the managers of Hi'ipaka LLC, which is the sole owner and manager of Waimea Valley. While we appreciate that the rock fall on Nov. 21 along our main entry road was newsworthy, the piece written by John Wythe White ("Landslide Decision," 12/10) was filled with inaccuracies. We would like to take this opportunity to share what is happening and correct the record, especially because—contrary to the article—we were never contacted by the author for comment.

Anyone who has seen the results of the rockslide clearly recognizes the amount of work ahead of us to clear the debris, restore services (electrical, water, phone), and replace a section of the main roadway, while protecting all the natural and cultural resources in the area.

Similarly, anyone who has exper-

rienced a similar situation understands that implementing all of the logistics takes time and patience. In the first day we consulted our attorneys and insurers, arranged for an assessment by a consulting geologist and 24-hour security. In the next few days, working closely with our consultants and advisors, we began to devise a plan to address the clean up, safety issues, permitting issues, and of course the cultural issues that may arise if iwi kupuna were disrupted.

We also quickly began close contact with our acquisition partners—the State Department of Land and Natural Resources, the City & County of Honolulu and the U.S. Army—on the status of the rockslide and the Valley's needs. They have all been supportive and understanding and are assessing how they might assist us; indeed we received our emergency SMA permit from the City & County within two days, and are extremely appreciative for their timely response.

The headline that read "Two weeks after a rock slide closed Waimea Valley, park management came out of hiding" is categorically false. It is our responsibility to ensure that information disseminated about Waimea Valley is accurate. Our on-going policy states that all media inquiries will be directed to the executive director, and given the seriousness of the rock slide we reminded employees of the policy. The purpose of the policy is not to "gag" employees or suppress concerns but to ensure that the general public receives accurate information. Incidentally, the decision to prohibit the husband of a Waimea Valley Grill employee from returning to the Valley was made by the owner of the Grill, not Hi'ipaka LLC.

Anonymous comments as in the article are difficult to assess. However, if some negative comments in the article are from current employees, it is regrettable. All of our employees are continuing to work in the botanical gardens, on the facilities and are preparing programs and activities for the re-opening. We sincerely appreciate their patience as we do all that is required to remove debris, reconnect utilities, make necessary repairs and ensure that the valley is safe to welcome visitors again.

Professional estimates are that the necessary work to be done will take approximately four to six weeks. Ideally, we could re-open as early as mid-January, and there is even the possibility that we could re-open sooner. No one can give us a guarantee, but we are doing all that we can as quickly as we can. We look forward to being open again and actively pursuing our mission to perpetuate the natural and cultural resources of Waimea for generations through education and stewardship.

Jonathan Likeke Scheuer,
Clyde W. Nāmu'o
Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA)

Claus. Santa Claus.

It has come to our attention that Chris Kringle (alias Santa Claus) does not work for Macy's department store anymore, but is currently employed at the First Hawaiian Bank's Waikiki branch.

Vincent Siraesa
Honolulu



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Dear Sen. Fred Hemmings,

How simple minded do you actually think we actually are, mon? When you try to tell Hawaiians that the cardboard cottonhead exiting the White House cares about the Pacific Ocean, that's patronizing. Have you ever wondered what the fate of those NW Islands would be if there were any pockets of oil under 'em? Did you used to be a cheerleader, too, like your "environmental" prez? About all I'd ever heard, on your history, before your letter to the Weekly, had something to do with your surferboy past. Thanks for the update. In my opinion, anyone who votes for you deserves you and your "legacied" anti-woman hero. Unless you learn to speak the truth with courage, and without simpleminded patronizing, you'll probably go the way of McCain-and-Palin. Be real, okay?

Jesse McCarty
Honolulu

Revved up like a deuce

Our Governor is blinded by ambition! Just before this last election she made three trips to the mainland to campaign for McCain-Palin. After the election she flew off to Bali for 10 days, but she couldn't bother to fly to meet with our own local-boy president-elect and other governors to voice needs and concerns of her constituents at this time of America's deep economic crisis.

While Lingle went campaigning for McCain-Palin, Laura Thielen, her DLNR chief, threatened to evict Hawaiian families who for generations have lived in Kahana Valley, forcing them into the ranks of the homeless.

Thielen insisted on eviction even after a group of senators stated changes could be made in the next

legislative session allowing these Kahana families to remain in their homes. Thielen finally agreed. The Lingle administration's callous treatment of these Kahana families is related to the "sale of our Hawaiian ceded lands" court case now before the U.S. Supreme Court. Remember, Lingle is appealing last January's State Supreme Court's unanimous ruling that ceded lands could not be sold or transferred until Hawaiian claims were settled for the theft of our Hawaiian nation.

Lingle now states that though we Native Hawaiians have "strong moral claims to our Hawaiian ceded lands, we do not have a legal right to these lands." Perhaps the Governor can understand that what Israel is to the Jews, Hawai'i is to the Hawaiians; or is it the timeless adage of "might makes right."

Shame on Governor Lingle, who for past years has pretended to sup-

port Hawaiians! I remember she and Duke Aiona marching with thousands of us through the streets of Honolulu a few years ago. How many of us Native Hawaiians were fooled into supporting her these past two elections?

Tomas Belsky
Honolulu

We love to get letters and print as many as space allows. Letters often are edited for length and clarity. Letters should be signed with the writer's full name and their town or city and state, as well as phone number for confirmation only.

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—Arundhati Roy

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More than a century later, one editorial still holds up.

And that goes for you too, Hawai'i!



Manny Pangilinan '07

This is an alternative weekly, and so probably we're expected to have something snarky or ironic to say during this holiday week. We don't. Instead, we offer for your imaginative pleasure the following exchange between a young girl and journalist Francis P. Church, which played out on the editorial page of the New York Sun in late 1897. More than a century later, it remains the most famous and perhaps most important newspaper editorial of all time.

Happy Holidays from all of us at Honolulu Weekly.

Dear Editor: I am 8 years old. Some of my little friends say there is no Santa Claus. Papa says, "If you see it in The Sun, it's so." Please tell me the truth; is there a Santa Claus?

—Virginia O'Hanlon

Virginia, your little friends are wrong. They have been affected by the skepticism of a skeptical age. They do not believe except what they see. They think that nothing can be which is not comprehensible by their little minds. All minds, Virginia, whether they be men's

or children's, are little. In this great universe of ours man is a mere insect, an ant, in his intellect, as compared with the boundless world about him, as measured by the intelligence capable of grasping the whole of truth and knowledge.

Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give to your life its highest beauty and joy. Alas! How dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus. It would be as dreary as if there were no Virginias. There would be no childlike faith then, no poetry, no romance to make tolerable this existence. We should have no enjoyment, except in sense and sight. The eternal light with which childhood fills the world would be extinguished.

Not believe in Santa Claus! You might as well not believe in fairies! You might get your papa to hire men to watch in all the chimneys on Christmas Eve to catch Santa Claus, but even if they did not see Santa Claus coming down, what would that prove? Nobody sees Santa

Claus, but that is no sign that there is no Santa Claus. The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men can see. Did you ever see fairies dancing on the lawn? Of course not, but that's no proof that they are not there. Nobody can conceive or imagine all the wonders there are unseen and unseeable in the world.

You may tear apart the baby's rattle and see what makes the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world which not the strongest man, nor even the united strength of all the strongest men that ever lived, could tear apart. Only faith, fancy, poetry, love, romance, can push aside that curtain and view and picture the supernal beauty and glory beyond. Is it all real? Ah, Virginia, in all this world there is nothing else real and abiding.

No Santa Claus! Thank God! he lives, and he lives forever. A thousand years from now, Virginia, nay, ten times ten thousand years from now, he will continue to make glad the heart of childhood. ■

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One local hospital sees medical potential in creativity

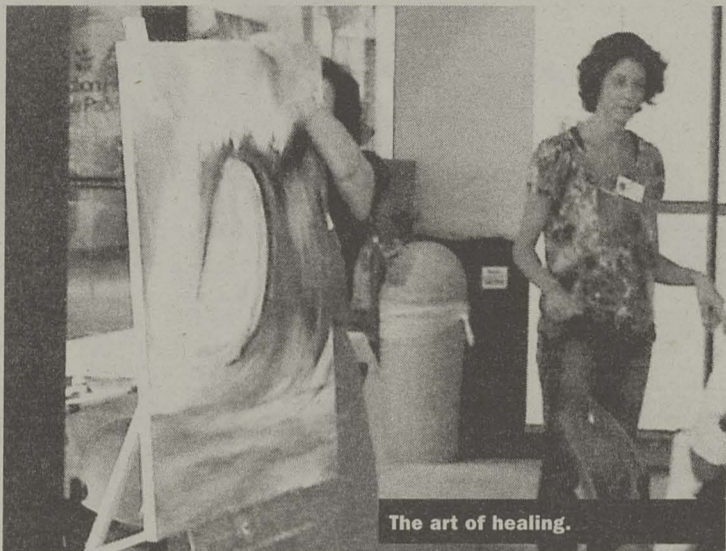
The healing arts

JAMIE WINPENNY

It's an otherwise gloomy gray day in Liliha, but the courtyard at the Rehabilitation Hospital of the Pacific is abuzz with activity and cheerful vitality. Dozens of in-patients and out-patients are busy in a forest of easels, participating in the Louis Vuitton Creative Arts Program. Some work intently on their latest projects while others mill about offering words of encouragement and praise for the work of friends. The works produced by patients in the program are featured in the Louis Vuitton Gallery in the lobby and adorn most of the wall space throughout the facility.

"There's art in practically every nook and cranny," says Reuben Young, who teaches patients to paint here. "It's great to see the growth of these patients as artists." A graduate of the fine arts masters degree program at the University of Hawai'i, Young came to the hospital in 2001. A handful of volunteers assist with setting up tables and easels and stretching canvasses in a variety of sizes over frames that are donated by Pacific Gallery and Frames.

Young's smile is genuine and disarming as he discusses his love for



The art of healing.

the work he does: "This program fosters a sense of family, a sense of community and truly fosters healing. The goal is to make the patient as well as they can be and to heal the soul."

Many of those who are part of the program have suffered through accidents or illness, and the physical act of painting is, for some, a struggle in itself. Some artists paint with their mouths, others with their non-dominant hands or even their feet. "Productivity is such a major part of the healing process," says Young. "When people are inspired

to pick up their materials and paint instead of just watch television, it can only be good for them." Indeed, the program not only has spiritual and emotional benefits for its participants, it has clinical merit as well. It has physical and cognitive benefits, including improving range of motion and learning to use non-dominant hands, says Young.

Some of the artists have suffered strokes or spinal cord injuries and are confined to wheelchairs. One such artist is Alex. He speaks enthusiastically about his art, his inspiration and his technique. He is a

prolific painter and a 10-year veteran of the arts program. He continues to hone his skill of painting with the brush between his teeth. "I do my work lying down in bed," he says he says mischievously, winking at a lady visitor who is listening. "That's where I do all my best work." He scoots his electric wheelchair down a hallway crowded with paintings. "Come, come. I'll show you one of mine." He explains that his colorful mountain and waterfall offering was inspired by a tiger, but soon gave itself over to his fascination with the television show *Lost*.

Linda is a bubbly tūtū and she reveals that the inspiration for her angelic Christmas piece is a Hans Christian Andersen tale. She's had to restart some parts, but remains undaunted. Linda indicates Young. "He knows me. I'm the stingy one. I don't want to throw it away," she chirps.

Sessions are available for in-patients and out-patients each Monday and Wednesday, with a third session of in-patients only on Wednesdays. Since the program's inception in 1994, more than 7,000 patients have participated. The biggest challenge over the years has proven to be fundraising. While the framing is donated, canvasses, paints and other materials are costly. Louis

Vuitton dedicated its gallery in 2005. Paintings are offered for sale, with proceeds going to both the artist and the program.

In strolling the halls decorated with the work of the program's artists past and present, one is easily captivated by the collective narrative of physical, spiritual and emotional healing that the program makes possible. It is a vivid visual anthology of the sources of inspiration that spark the creative fire for each artist. Some works are literal, such as a favorite cat or a still life. Others are abstract washes of color conceived within the artist rather than perceived.

That transformation from patient to artist is an empowering experience, one that connects the artist with that part of himself or herself that cannot be defined by physical difficulties. It allows for communication and expression that might not have been possible without a brush, a canvas and some paint. Young recalls a Japanese national who had suffered a stroke and was unable to speak. As hard as it was for him physically and for him to conquer his innate reserve, Young says, "The first thing he painted was for his wife. It was the words 'I love you.'"

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A look at some of the island rhythms you don't hear on the radio



Tassho Pearce and the Specifics.

This is local music

HOP TO IT

Honolulu's local tight-knit hip-hop scene is expanding.

ADRIENNE LAFRANCE

By this point you've probably heard their names—Tassho Pearce, Creed Chameleon, that Deadbeat Harumi—but what you really need to know is that unless you're actually part of the local hip-hop game, the players aren't doing any of it for you. One could argue that this can be said of almost any art form—that the creative process is about self-expression and, lucky for the rest of us, it just so happens to manifest itself in a way that others can gather around and enjoy.

But something about hip-hop seems more exclusive in many ways—the aggressive delivery, the fierce loyalty within crews, the lyrical conflict and the fact that, on O'ahu, the scene itself is somewhat hard to follow. Part of that is because most members of the local hip-hop community, even those who have strong underground followings, not only have day jobs but also have limited options for where and when they can perform. And whether they like it or not, the same crews throwing down at the same Chinatown clubs week after week and a smattering of once-or-twice-monthly DJ battles elsewhere doesn't exactly make for a take-your-pick hip-hop buffet. But none of that is for lack of passion or talent on musicians' behalf.

"If we could make money off of this, we'd be doing it 24/7, but we don't," said Kalani Pokipala, also known as DJ Packo, who spins for the Specifics and just released the so-called glitchtape mixtape *Mosquito Die-*

sel. "Still we try to play as many gigs as we can and I think local hip-hop is growing. It's getting bigger and I can't say it's getting worse. There are more emcees, more DJs and there's still so much room to expand."

The Specifics—who bill themselves as "locally grown" and "guaranteed fresh" on their Myspace page—came together a couple of years ago with a drummer, guitarist, bass player and rotating emcees. It wasn't until Pokipala came along that they had someone scratching—and in many cases adding even more local flavor to performances.

"Just to be from Hawai'i and representing our style is unique in itself because every city and every location has its own unique sound," said Pokipala. "Of course there's East Coast rap and West Coast rap, but you can distinguish hip-hop by any region if you listen closely. You know if you really listen to the vocalism, the way someone's cadence is and what they talk about or if you're mixing in Hawaiian samples or quotes from the movie *North Shore*, things like that. It all contributes to how we want to sound good and, being from Hawai'i, we are trying to have our own sound. The sound of aloha."

The local sound is distinctive enough that, more and more, it's drawing in national and international talents. The Specifics regularly work with Pearce and Chameleon, both of whom are repeatedly cited in the hip-hop community as the most promising names in local music—Pearce gets some radio airtime on L.A. stations. The Specifics also work with Meiso, who moved to Honolulu from Japan more than a decade ago and raps in Japanese.

"It's awesome, I don't know what he's saying but it sounds cool," said Pokipala. "We always try to get translations but it's so tough because it's kind of hard to get an equivalent. We just listen to his delivery and vibe with him."

Come Jan. 9, Pokipala is slated to take the stage at Loft with the legendary Californian

DJ Swamp, who has worked with Beck and is known to literally set his turntables on fire during performances, along with Chameleon and up-and-coming Southern Californian emcee Tommy "Kahlee" Victorino, among others.

"I've been trying to get back out to do Hawai'i for a long time," Kahlee said. "I grew up Hawaiianized because my dad was born there. You know the Polynesian hip-hop artists, before this year, I didn't know that there were any emcees. I knew there were b-boys, a lot of street stuff, but they weren't really that dope to me. Now, like in this last year, I've been running into, either in person or on the Internet, a lot of Polynesian cats who just really turned the gas on for me."

Kahlee said in addition to the January performance, he's working with a group of Polynesian artists on a compilation hip-hop album, which he hopes to release by late spring. He said the pride he feels for his Hawaiian heritage runs parallel to the kind of loyalty that runs through the hip-hop community.

"Hip-hop is different for everyone," he said. "But the whole spirit of aloha is real. If I see a Hawaiian dude in a car, I am probably going to let him pass before I let someone else pass. It probably isn't even intentional, but that's what it's about in hip-hop in a lot of ways when you have someone's back. That's like a common bond. You know, I got my boys in Hawai'i that are hustlin' hard. They're dope and I would be listening to them even if I didn't know them. There's going to be a lot of mentions about being Polynesian because that's what we are. The main thing is, you got the positive hip-hop movement and you got the negative hip-hop movement. But for us, it's just the music and it's up to the people to hear what it's all about." ■

NO CLAIMS TO THE CROWN

Local indie rockers move and shake the cultural landscape

MARGOT SEETO

Melodic drums roll and seamless guitar chords blend into gripping bass lines. All elements slowly come together and crescendo into what seems like an all-encompassing wash of noise at unconventional time signatures. Drummer Jack Tawil says, "We're the odd man out because we're the only band with no vocals"—"that's not a jam band," quips guitarist A.J. Feducia. But the music of the performance-based band still packs an undeniable energy—the audience can't hear anything but.

No, this is not Portland. Or Toronto. Or even Omaha. This is Honolulu. And the band in its current incarnation is just two months old. As Hawai'i's only instrumental post-rock band (at least as far as the band members know), City, formerly known as At Sea, already has a strong reputation as one of the top local indie rock bands. City has four members—Feducia and Noah Viernes on the guitars, Jason Lowe on the bass and Tawil on the drums. All have been members of other local bands, all have spent years both on the mainland and here and all have navigated the island's physical and sometimes cultural isolation to use it to their musical advantage, citing other instrumental bands that operate successfully out of isolated areas such as Icelandic band Sigur Rós.

Similarly, Lyle Matsuura, one-half of the brains behind what he describes as "psychedelic stoner rock" band Vaive Atoish ("alights from the cloud" in the Native American Cheyenne language), chose to move back to Hawai'i after three-and-a-half years in pursuit of musical opportunities in New York. "I liked being in bands with buddies," Matsuura says, alluding to the type of chemistry that is conducive to creating good music, but is often only cultivated by luck. Drummer Aren Souza co-writes songs with guitarist and vocalist Matsuura and records them. The two then play the tracks for bassist Ryan Miyashiro and guitarist Mike Pooley to make up their own parts, and all pull out a performance that transitions from piece to piece so well that it seems as if songs stretch to an epic 20 minutes or more in length. What originally started as a recording-based project has turned into a well-liked band that sounds different in live performances, to the delight of the band.

Welcome to the Honolulu indie rock scene. A place where it "is the easiest place to 'do it yourself'...[there are] plenty of shows, plenty of venues and a small, tight scene that makes it easy to be a known band," said promoter, Kaleidoscope (a weekly indie rock club night) co-founder, 86 List and Black Square band member Josh 86. And while bands, venues and other support systems aren't as plentiful compared to other indie rock hubs such as San Francisco and New York, KTUH DJ and promoter Catwings expounded, "The scene isn't dead. It's just always changing." "There never was a heyday or a bad time, it just goes in waves," said Tawil.

Many young people move to the mainland in search of greater musical opportunities, but "a lot of people move back and are staying. The quality of life is so amazing here...there's no reason why we can't have amazing music," said Kaleidoscope co-founder, KTUH DJ and pro-

"It's a waste to be a musician in Hawai'i and not be in a band..."

Everyone should get off their asses and play music."

moter Ross Jackson. Jackson's Kaleidoscope partner, promoter and (recently on hiatus) Malcognitas lead singer Ara Laylo "chose to stay here" even after her family moved out-of-state to help the indie rock and arts scene grow.

And with the Internet enabling access to music from around the world in a heartbeat, the Information Age is rapidly eroding the disability that Hawai'i has of being five years behind mainland cultural trends. City, Vaive Atoish and Jackson all pointed to the newly formed (and mostly underage) indie rock band The Jump-Offs as an example of Hawai'i youth utilizing the Information Age, with Jackson observing that the band sounds, "contemporary and sharp, forward looking."

While all-ages venues can be liabilities for promoters, many interviewees pointed to the importance of all ages venues in encouraging young people to create music and keep the indie rock scene moving, reminiscing about venues such as Club Pauahi, Club Mustang, Pink Cadillac, Detox, warehouses and Otto's old bakery parking lot. Laylo pointed to higher authorities—the city and state—that should create safe all-ages venues and artistically-oriented festivals "so young people don't want to move away and they'll want to throw shows...Hawai'i is such a beautiful place, a positive environment for anything. People take it for granted and don't utilize what's in front of them. Don't move away. Stay here and make it better." Lowe agreed, "It's a waste to be a musician in Hawai'i and not be in a band...Everyone should get off their asses and play music." ■

City, myspace.com/atseanoise (show at Kaleidoscope, thirtyninehotel, 39 N. Hotel St., Tue 1/6, 9PM); Vaive Atoish, myspace.com/vaiveatoish.

TWICE BITTEN

Piranha Brothers cover it all

DEAN CARRICO

It's noon on a Wednesday and Mike and Tom Piranha are lugging their equipment upstairs in preparation for their gig in the evening. It's something of a routine, what with their 32 gigs per month, sometimes at two different venues on the same day. It's a grueling schedule, one that has rightly earned them a reputation of the hardest working band in Hawai'i.

"We have a hard time keeping guitarists, because most people can't keep up with our schedule," Mike jokes. "That's why our guitarists are usually much younger than us. Otherwise this schedule would kill them."

After setting up their equipment, the two run through a few practice songs to check the sound of the room in comparison with the vocals. It's a mix of rock standards, beginning with Tom Petty's "American Girl." In the last 34 years, they've done this so often that they can tell if something with the levels are off before they finish the first verse. Tommy adjusts the levels set next to his drum kit and they start again. Within five minutes, both are satisfied.

That evening, the Piranha Brothers play a blistering, exhausting set for nearly two and a half hours before taking their first break of the night, plowing through primarily cover songs from the '70s through '90s featuring some of the most memorable, sing-alongable songs from those eras, everything from "Dirty Deeds Done Dirt Cheap" to the Beatles' "Nowhere Man." On occasion, without hype or ego, they slip an original song in the set, and it fits seamlessly. Some people think it's another cover, just one they can't remember the words to, and after a few visits, these are often the songs that will bring the crowd to their feet and on the dance floor.

Cover bands have been around forever. Sometimes, playing a known favorite can fire up a list-

less crowd. Other times it's to pay homage to a fellow artist. Some even make careers off other people's music, even adopting the persona of musicians long since dead or no longer relevant. But Honolulu is the rare place musicians can make a living at it, without the need to constantly tour the country.

"People come to visit," Mike explains, "No matter where they come from, they want to bring their living rooms with them. They want something familiar." But the road the Piranha brothers traveled to get here was anything but familiar.

In 1975 Chicago, Mike and Tom were brought together by a mutual friend ("And I hated Mike when we first met," Tom interjects) for a band called Getcher Kicks. Previously, Mike had been on the road as a professional musician since he was 19. "I was hired because I fit in the leisure suit of the guy they had just fired," Mike said. "Chicago was really slow, not like L.A. or one of the bigger musical hubs. But just as they do to this day, the band played relentlessly, making a name for themselves, even when they didn't have a name, picking fake monikers for themselves and changing the name of the band to whatever they thought was funny at the time, from Bucky and the Buffalo Chips to Your From Poland to Free Beer. Interacting with the crowd and joking with the crowd, the band knew that connecting with the audience was a key to success, and they began incorporating covers into their set. "You have to remember," said Mike, "this was two years before MTV. Some people may not have known it was a cover."

In 1978, during a winter tour, they got an offer to play in Hawai'i. "We were supposed to play 13 weeks," Mike said, "but we fired the management and stayed for a year, living in Jack Law's guest house. We made eight return trips."

Meanwhile, the Chicago music scene began to get more noticed by the recording industry, and in 1988 MCA Records offered them a deal. "We were never so poor as when we were on MCA," Mike said. "We recorded two albums' worth of material, and one eventually got released, but almost all of it went to the lawyers." Mike says he figures that the actual members



The Piranha Brothers

of the band made about \$800 each from record sales. Then, in 1992 they got a call in the airport as they were preparing for another flight to Honolulu: MCA was dumping them to concentrate on their newly-acquired Motown records.

"What was terrible about that was that for those two-and-a-half years," Mike said, "we were being courted by other labels that we couldn't talk to because we were contractually obligated, only to be dumped two-and-a-half years later. When we got cut, we were both 38. We weren't young and good looking anymore. We were old and good looking."

Within two years Mike started to talk to Tommy about moving to Hawai'i permanently. First relocating to the Big Island, they found it hard to get enough gigs around the island, not to mention the commuting times making it difficult. To make ends meet they started managing a Mexican cantina. "We fixed everything up," Tom explained. I did carpentry on the room and the stage, and we ended up managing not only the night club portion, but the restaurant as well, and still playing there at night." That lasted nearly three years until the cantina burned down—with all their equipment

inside.

A move to Honolulu made more sense—more people, more places to play. Operating this time under the name the Swinging Johnsons, they still incorporated original material into their sets, but saw the value of covers. "All the roots stuff still lasts," Mike explained. As they rebuilt a following, Tommy worked as a bartender, carpenter and brick layer. "I worked as a drug dealer and a musician," Mike admits. Eventually, they settled on the Piranha Brothers, taken from a Monty Python sketch.

Even now, with both of them able to live off their music, it can be a grueling schedule. "If I weren't playing with Mike," Tommy said, "I'd probably get out of the business."

"Yeah, and I won't let him leave," Mike answered. "We've always been able to survive, and we've always been blessed with work. In between sets, I always try to thank every person in the room. We've been together all this time, and we've always been doing it the way we wanted to. It's what we do."

Mike pauses for a minute, then smiles.

"It's either this or Wal-Mart greeters." ■

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hot picks

DECEMBER 24-30 Gigs 10 Concerts & Clubs On Sale 11 Theater & Dance/Museums/Galleries 12 Words/Learning/Keiki & 'Ohana/Botanical/Hikes & Excursions/Food & Drink/Whatevahs/Volunteer/Sports/Neighbors/Gay/Mixed Media 17 Films 18

Comedy

This is Howie does it

I turn on the TV to see my worst nightmare: the boxes, the models, the shiny bald head blinding me in my post-dinner state. I know I shouldn't watch it because it causes sweaty palms and outbursts of yelling at the set, but I do it anyway. **Howie Mandel** is an evil, evil man. I mean that in the nicest way!

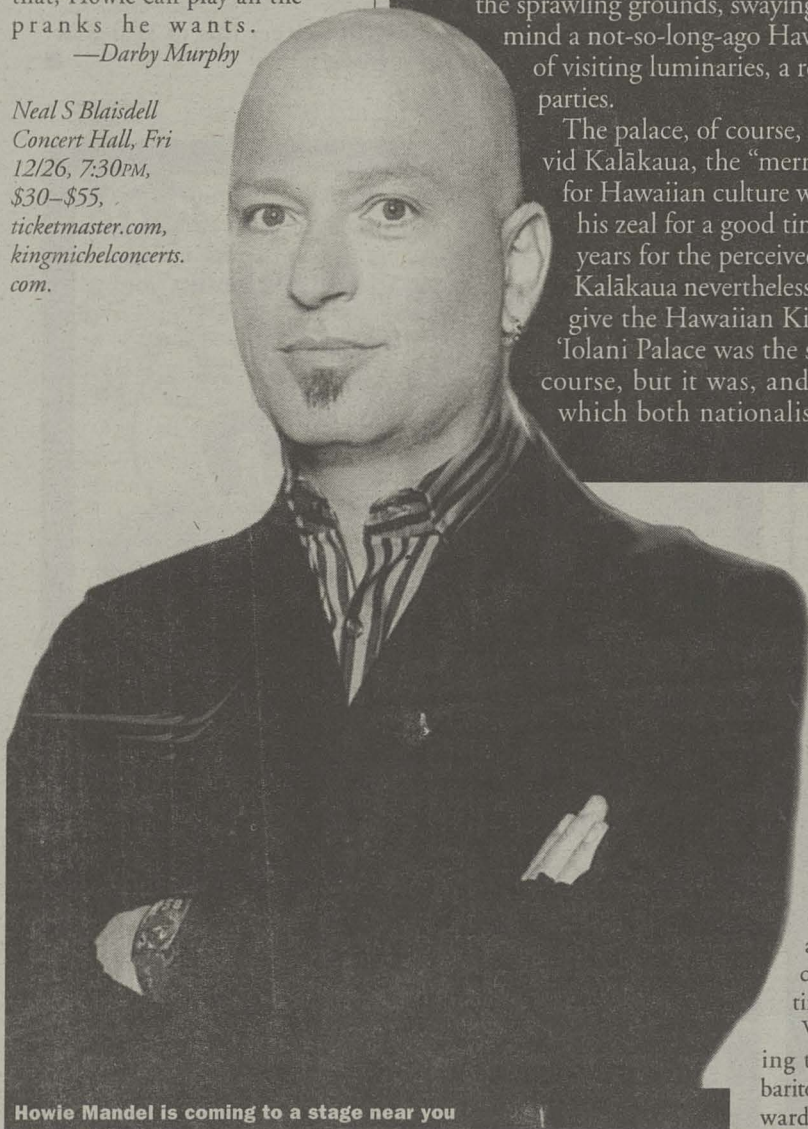
Apparently he is also funny. So funny that he is taking over the boob tube. Yes, again. But not before his appearance here in our fair city.

According to King Michel Productions, Mandel is "set to premiere his new TV show *Howie Do It* on NBC Jan. 9. No situation is safe and nothing appears quite as it seems when he takes to the streets and delivers a refreshing and wildly unpredictable new take on the classic TV prank. In this hilarious one-hour reality show, the camera is exposed but the motives remain hidden to the unsuspecting marks.

It's no secret that reality shows have taken over the universe. Many friends ignored my predictions back in the early '90s that this would happen. Yet here we are watching, soaking it in, this thing we call reality. What you should really do is get off the couch, fork over the money and get some full-on belly laughs. It'll be good for you, since you ingested all that egg nog and pig meat. After that, Howie can play all the pranks he wants.

—Darby Murphy

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ticketmaster.com,
kingmichelconcerts.com.



Howie Mandel is coming to a stage near you



Whatevahs

Palace in wonderland

There may be nothing quite so romantic, even on this extraordinary island, than the sight of Iolani Palace lit up in its winter colors. The warm lanterns seem to float above the sprawling grounds, swaying in the mo'ae and calling to mind a not-so-long-ago Hawai'i of kings and princesses, of visiting luminaries, a resurgent hula and legendary parties.

The palace, of course, was the dream home of David Kalākaua, the "merrie monarch" whose passion for Hawaiian culture was matched perhaps only by his zeal for a good time. Much-criticized over the years for the perceived extravagance of his vision, Kalākaua nevertheless managed with his palace to give the Hawaiian Kingdom a center of gravity. Iolani Palace was the site of much debauchery, of course, but it was, and remains, the axis around which both nationalism and cultural expression

continue to spin into the present day.

This time of year, the palace decks itself out in celebration of the holidays, and also to mark the birthday of Queen Kapi'olani on December 31. On Saturday night, the Friends of Iolani Palace invite everyone inside, in honor of that occasion, for a rare treat: the palace's halls draped in electric lights, winter flowers and other accoutrement of the late 19th Century. The Blue Room's piano will be out and in use, and many of the palace's relics and treasures of the Hawaiian monarchy on display allowing guests to be carried away to those merrie days without even closing their eyes.

So take your kids and let the burst of music, color and history fire their growing imaginations. Better yet, let a long, moonlit wander through the brilliant and floating city of lights rekindle your own.

—Ragnar Carlson

Iolani Palace, 364 South King St., Sat 12/27, 5:30-9PM, \$3-6, iolanipalace.org.

Concerts

Oh, the joy!

This is the Symphony of the big shoulders, the whole enchilada, the Alpha and Omega of romanticism. This is a love pill of orchestral sound so enormous, it also requires four soloists, a full chorus, and an hour of listening time to swallow it all.

When that chorus kicks in during the last movement, after the baritone finishes exhorting us all toward more "joy! joy!," it would be

hard not to float up to the heavens and happily stay there until Obama's inauguration.

That's Beethoven's Symphony No. 9 in D minor and it's become traditional around the world to felicitously start off the New Year with this masterwork by one of the world's musical geniuses. Symphony conductor Andreas Delfs will be joined on stage by four formidable vocalists, two of whom have local ties: **Lea Woods Friedman**, soprano and Punahou grad, and **Quinn Kelsey**, baritone and University Lab School grad. Both have made major names for themselves of late in opera and concert venues. Handling the tenor and mezzo parts will be the husband-wife team of Noel Espiritu Velasco and Gigi Mitchell-Velasco.

—Steve Wagenseller

Blaisdell Concert Hall, 777 Ward Ave., Sat. 12/27, 8PM, \$20-\$82, tickets available at Macy's & Times or online at ticketmaster.com.

Tiki tiki tempo

Ah, Boston. The baked beans, the Green Monster, the road rage, the...exotica bands? One might be surprised that **Waitiki**, an ensemble dedicated to keeping exotica music in a contemporary context and the related tiki culture alive, is actually based out of Boston. But don't forget the college town is home to musical breeding grounds such as the Berklee College of Music and the New England Conservatory.



Waitiki showcase their skills in exotica and self-promotion

ry—both schools having turned out three of the band's seven members. With tiki culture's strong association with the Islands, be happy that local boys Abe Lagrimas Jr. and Lopaka Colon are a part of the vibrant septet to add some homegrown connection.

The group pays tribute to the music of composers such as Arthur Lyman and Martin Denny—tunes that may remind baby boomers of 1960s suburbia. For those not as familiar with the genre, visit Waitiki's page on Facebook.com and watch the performance of "Black Orchid." The best part of the video is when you see the silhouettes of a middle-aged couple shuffle up to the front of the stage to do more shuffle two-step cha-cha kind of, uh, dancing. Hey, it's not as embarrassing as seeing your parents rock out to Journey (maybe). Anyway, the media-savvy crew is not only hip to having a FB page and YouTube videos in addition to the official dot-com site, but also has a Scooby Doo-like comic for sale, featuring the band members in whodunit-like adventures. It doesn't end there. The band has its own customized exotic drink menu created by professional mixologists (there's a drink named El Wongjito created by band co-founder Randy Wong).

But as much as you'll want to be sipping a giant Scorpion Bowl with two-foot-long straws while the rolling xylophones put you in a relaxing trance, no cocktails will be served at this performance. Though Mai Tai Bar is just a cha-cha shuffle away for a pre- and post-exotica party. It doesn't matter that the concert is in the dignified Hawai'i Public Radio building. Go with your urge to be that couple that shuffles up to the stage—perm, plastic-framed glasses and all.

—Margot Seeto

Atherton Performing Arts Studio, 738 Kaheka St., Sat 12/27, 7:30PM, \$20 general, \$17.50 Hawai'i Public Radio members, \$10 students with i.d., hawaiiipublicradio.org, 955-8821

Chai jazz

Looking for something fun and mellow to cure the post-Christmas blues and gear up for the New Year? Internationally acclaimed, native Hawaiian entertainer, **Ginai**, will be performing for the first time at Chai's Island Bistro at the Aloha Tower Marketplace in an

exclusive holiday engagement.

"I have been a long-time fan of Ginai's," said Chai Chaowasaree, owner and Executive Chef of Chai's. "I am so happy to finally have her perform here."

The jazz vocalist has a Na Hoku Hanohano Award and three Hawaiian Music Awards under her belt as well as eight CD releases including her hit solo album *Jazz Island*, which has singles playing on radio stations across the country. She recently got together with the Hot Club of Hualaville, lead by Sonny Silva, to a packed house at the Mānoa Valley Theatre in its popular and successful



Poet songstress Diane Jarvenpa

concert series, "A Christmas in Hualaville." She also performs every Friday night at The Dragon Upstairs on Nu'uānu Avenue in Chinatown where she plays the congas while singing her signature smooth R&B flavored jazz. In addition to the delectable musical stylings, the evening should be an excellent opportunity to grab a decent bite and cocktail from one of O'ahu's finest restaurants.

Chai's Island Bistro, Aloha Tower Marketplace, 12/27, 7pm, minimum purchase of \$25 per person, chaisislandbistro.com, 585-0011

Candygram

Life with candy canes, crackseed and even the loathed fruitcake, the holidays are a time for sickly sweet confections of sublime indulgence that, more often than not, leave you sticky. It makes sense, then, that one's ears and desire

for dance should be treated to a similarly guilty pleasure during a celebratory season. **Kandieland at Pipeline Cafe** on Saturday has billed over a dozen DJs, most of whom appear to be up-and-comers from all over the 808 map. We're not sure if the term rave has become passé, but as the old folks say, "if it looks like a duck..." Of interest is the appearance of DJ Kitsch, a local girl prodigy who made the move to Los Angeles for sparklier pastures a couple of years ago. She's since earned a busy schedule in la-la-land, spinning hardcore for seething crowds of groove junkies all over California. It's hard to imagine that Eleanor Abbott could have imagined that the game she invented while recovering from polio in the 1940s would become the namesake for an aural bacchanal of the bubble gum set. Sweet. —Jamie Winpenny

Pipeline Cafe, 805 Pohukaina St., Sun 12/28, 10PM-4AM, \$20, 18+, 589-1999

Fin soup

Musical tradition is so engrained in cultural identity that bagpipes actually sound like Scotland, sitars like India and slack-key guitar like home. Some of these associations are more widespread than others. Take Finland, for example. You're probably not alone if you don't immediately think of the kantele, a harp-like instrument that can have anywhere from five to 40 strings. Poet and musician **Diane Jarvenpa** learned to play it as a way to connect to her heritage.

"I find that I'm very much drawn to music from Finland because all my grandparents came from there and I never knew my grandmothers so it becomes a way for me to sing for them," said the Minneapolis-based Jarvenpa. "I am keeping something going, and honoring them in some way."

Jarvenpa says it's also what enabled her to connect with the Finnish-American community in Honolulu when she visited last spring. You can hear her play the instrument and share some of her award-winning poetry for a peaceful close to the year the night before New Year's Eve in Kaimuki. —Adrienne LaFrance

Coffee Talk, 3601 Wai'ālae Ave., Tue 12/30, 7:30PM, free, 737-7444

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Participant 31032

Editor's note: We should have gotten this piece into the last issue. When the opportunity arises to tell a good story in a timely manner, you'd like to make good on it. Things don't always work out that way, though. And you know how it is with some things: Better late than never.

Last Sunday night, I was driving home along Kalaniana'ole Highway when I noticed a group of people sitting by the side of the road in 'Aina Haina. They had Honolulu Marathon participant numbers pinned to their chests. It was 8pm and they were near the 19-mile marker. I turned around.

I parked and approached them: 17 Japanese nationals, all of them marathon participants. The first thing that struck me about the group was its high spirits. People were smiling, laughing, even singing. I found one woman who spoke a little bit—a very little bit—of English and asked her what was going on. She pointed toward a man lying down at the edge of the group.

The man was writhing in pain. Next to each of his arms was a crutch. Working each of his calves was a fellow marathoner. He wore a look of almost indescribable agony on his face—the only point of reference that came to mind was of someone giving birth. He had been running the marathon for more than 14 hours. According to my translator, his name was Kozo Sugino, and he had a rare and terminal form of cancer. All of the other people present, she said, had flown over with Sugino to support him in his goal of finishing the marathon and, in so doing, to learn how to conquer his disease. They had all finished the race hours earlier and had returned to the course to cheer Sugino on.

2008 HONOLULU MARATHON

December 14–15, 5AM–12:43AM

Getting In: honolulumarathon.org

Dress code: Nothing that chafes

Soundtrack: Chants, songs, tears

Signature drink: Water

Sightings: A whole lot of joy

With that stunning revelation in hand, I did some quick calculations, took a few photos, and went home. Just before midnight, I went back out and found the group nearing the top of Diamond Head. I parked the car on Coconut Avenue and ran the last mile of the marathon backwards, clicking away amid the spectacle of 20-plus people charging forward in the dead of night, raising their arms, signing and chanting and crying.

At 12:43AM on Monday, 19 hours and 20 minutes after his official start time, participant 31032 broke through a make-shift ribbon installed by his friends in front of the bandstand at Kapi'olani Park and finished the Honolulu Marathon. According to marathon spokesman Pat Bigold, the organization does not keep last-finisher data, but Sugino is likely the latest finisher in the race's history.

Asked how he felt moments after his achievement, Sugino said simply, "very happy."

—Ragnar Carlson

THE SCENE

Gigs

24/Wednesday

COMEDY

Bo Irvine, Chief Sielu, Kento-san, Michael Staats, *Comedy Polynesia at the Sheraton Princess Ka'iulani* (8pm) 531-HAHA
Kenny Johnson, Shawn Felipe, Arthur Wayne, *Sharkey's Comedy Club at the Sheraton Princess Ka'iulani* (9:30pm) 531-HAHA

COUNTRY/FOLK

The Geezers, *Arnold's Beach Bar* (7pm) 924-6887

HAWAIIAN

Cory Oliveros, Sarah Noyle, *Breakfast on the Beach, Waikiki Beach Hotel* (7:15am) 922-2511
Kahalepuna Trio, *Sheraton Waikiki* (6pm) 922-4422

Sam Kapu Trio, *Banyan Court, Moana Surf-riders* (6pm) 922-3111
Lawrence Kidder, *Beach Bar, Moana Surf-riders* (8pm) 921-4600

Maiiaki Makainai, *Hula Grill* (7pm) 923-HULA
Kawika Ortiz, *Amuse Wine Bar* (7pm) 237-5429

Tahiti Rey Trio, *RumFire* (5pm)

Ellsworth Simoona, *Duke's Waikiki* (4pm) 922-2268

Ray Sowders, *Chili's Kapolei* (7pm) 693-8722
Haumea Warrington, *Duke's Waikiki* (10pm) 922-2268

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Windward Jazz Trio, *Cisco's Cantina* (8pm) 262-7337
Newjazz Quartet, *Sansei Seafood Restaurant & Sushi Bar* (10pm) 536-6286
Chris Yeh Quartet w/ Satomi, *The Dragon Upstairs* (8pm) 526-1411
Starr Kalakahi, Adj Lagossa, Ben Taaca, *Uncle's Fish Market & Grill* (6pm) 275-0063

ROCK/POP

2 Point 5, *Chart House* (7:30pm) 941-6660
Barefoot Bob, *Arnold's Beach Bar* (6:30pm) 924-6887

Brendan, *O'Toole's Pub* (9pm) 536-4138
Rocky Brown & Friends, *Don Ho's Island Grill* (5:30pm) 528-0807

"Chicago Bob" Morgenweck, *Hank's Cafe* (8pm) 526-1410

Johnny Helm, *Hard Rock Cafe* (4pm) 955-7383
Mango Jam, *Chuck's Cellar* (6pm) 923-4488

Piranha Brothers, *Irish Rose Saloon* (9pm) 947-3414

Roland & Co., *Chart House* (7pm) 941-6660
Taja, *Kelley O'Neil's* (9pm) 926-1777

Swampa ZZ, *Bar 35* (10pm) 537-3837

26/Friday

COMEDY

Improv, *Laughtrack Theater Company* (8pm & 10pm) 384-3362

Howie Mandel, *Blaisdell Concert Hall* (7:30pm) 591-2211

HAWAIIAN

David Ah Sing, Kamuela Kahoano, *Hula Grill* (7pm) 923-HULA

Baron Bento Trio, *Banyan Court, Moana Surf-riders* (6pm) 922-3111

Cory Oliveros, Sarah Noyle, *Breakfast on the Beach, Waikiki Beach Hotel* (7:15am) 922-2511

Tiamune Duo, *Hyatt Regency* (8:30pm) 923-1234

Kelly DeLima 'Ohana, *Sheraton Waikiki* (6pm) 922-4422

Maunalaia, *Duke's Waikiki* (4pm) 922-2268

Ben Mejia & Friends, *Kona Brewing Co.* (7pm) 394-5662

Naluho, *Eastside Grill* (6:30pm) 952-6555

Pa'ahana Trio, *House Without a Key* (5:30pm) 923-2311

Peter Milo Duo, *Sam Choy's Breakfast, Lunch and Crab* (6pm) 545-7979

Piliikia, *Chart House* (6pm) 941-6660

#2 Special, *Cha Cha Cha Salsaria* (7pm) 395-7797

Kelly Villaverde, *Beach Bar, Moana Surf-riders* (8pm) 921-4600

Haumea Warrington, *Duke's Waikiki* (10pm) 922-2268

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Bongo Tribe, *Snappers Bar & Grill* (9pm) 947-8057
Allen Ubald, *Amuse Wine Bar* (7pm) 237-5429

WORLD/REGGAE

Hot Club of Hulaville, *Cafe Che Pasta* (5:30pm) 524-0004

Maacho & Cool Connection, *Anna Bannana's* (9:30pm) 946-5190

Mike Love, The Ionz, *Tropics Cafe Bar & Lounge* (9pm) 927-1797

Ooklah the Moc, Boardriders (10pm) 261-4600

Natural Vibrations, *Pipeline Cafe* (10pm) 589-1999

27/Saturday

COMEDY

Bo Irvine, Chief Sielu, Kento-san, Michael Staats, *Comedy Polynesia at the Sheraton Princess Ka'iulani* (8pm) 531-HAHA

Improv, *Laughtrack Theater Company* (8pm & 10pm) 384-3362

Kenny Johnson, Shawn Felipe, Arthur Wayne, *Sharkey's Comedy Club at the Sheraton Princess Ka'iulani* (9:30pm) 531-HAHA

Kenny Johnson, Shawn Felipe, Arthur Wayne, *Sharkey's Comedy Club at the Sheraton Princess Ka'iulani* (9:30pm) 531-HAHA

COUNTRY/FOLK

Anthony Ryan and The Ridgecrest Wranglers, *Kemo'o Farms, Pub* (9pm) 621-1835

HAWAIIAN

Nohelani Cypriano Trio, *Banyan Court, Moana Surf-riders* (6pm) 922-3111

Ells & Lawrence, *RumFire* (5pm)

Eric Lee, Shauna Sanborn, *Breakfast on*

THE SCENE

Nihoa, Waikiki Beach Walk (4pm)
Pa'ahana Trio, House Without a Key (5:30pm) 923-2311
George Kuo, Martin Pahinui & Aaron Mahi, Moana Terrace (6:30pm) 922-6611
Pu'uhonua Trio, Banyan Court, Moana Surf-riders (6pm) 922-3111
Ray Sowders, Chili's Kapolei (7pm) 693-8722

JAZZ / BLUES

Falling Down Romance, RumFire (5pm)
Sea-Ray Jazz Quartet, Breakers, Hale'iwa (4pm) 637-9898
Rico, Arnold's Beach Bar (8pm) 924-6887

ROCK / POP

Don Baduria, Mai Tai Bar, Ala Moana (5pm) 947-2900
James, Jamie & Jader, O'Toole's Pub (9pm) 536-4138
Juke Joint, Hyatt Regency (6:30pm) 923-1234
Henry Kapon, Duke's Waikiki (4pm) 922-2268
Soulution, Kelley O'Neil's (9pm) 926-1777
John Valentine, Beach Bar, Moana Surf-riders (8pm) 921-4600

WORLD / REGGAE

Ali Garcia, Mexico Lindo (6pm) 263-0055
Conscious Roots, Mai Tai Bar, Ala Moana (9:30pm) 947-2900
Celtic Waves, Kelley O'Neil's (4pm) 926-1777

29/Monday

COUNTRY / FOLK

The Geezers, Arnold's Beach Bar (7pm) 924-6887

HAWAIIAN

Beach 5 Unplugged, Hyatt Regency (6:30pm) 923-1234
Pacific Blu, Banyan Court, Moana Surf-riders (6pm) 922-3111
Eric Lee, Shauna Sanborn, Breakfast on the Beach, Waikiki Beach Hotel (8:45am) 922-2511
Nā Kama, Hula Grill (7pm) 923-HULA
Sam Kapu Trio, Sheraton Waikiki (6pm) 922-4422
Albert Maglimat, Beach Bar, Moana Surf-riders (8pm) 921-4600
Marlena & Co., RumFire (5pm)
Pa'ahana Trio, House Without a Key (5:30pm) 923-2311
Ellsworth Simeona, Duke's Waikiki (4pm) 922-2268
Haumea Warrington, Duke's Waikiki (10pm) 922-2268

JAZZ / BLUES

Coleman Conlan Blues Band, OnStage Drinks & Grinds (6pm) 306-7799
David Yamasaki, Cheryl Bartlett, Honolulu Club (5pm) 543-3916
High Mercury, Jazz Minds Arts & Cafe (9pm) 945-0800

ROCK / POP

Soul Bucket, Mai Tai Bar, Ala Moana (5:30pm) 947-2900
Mark Caldeira, Pearl Ultra Lounge, Ala Moana Center (6pm) 944-8000
Mike Love, O'Toole's Pub (9pm) 536-4138
Andy Sexton, Chart House (7pm) 941-6660
Tavana & Friends, Kelley O'Neil's (9pm) 926-1777
Bongo Tribe, Irish Rose Saloon (9pm) 947-3414

30/Tuesday

HAWAIIAN

"Auntie Pudge" Young, Kūhiō Beach Hula Stage (6:30pm) 843-8002
Cory Oliveros, Sarah Noyle, Breakfast on the Beach, Waikiki Beach Hotel (7:15am) 922-2511
Tava'esina, Sheraton Waikiki (6pm) 922-4422
Stephen Inglis, Cha Cha Cha Salsaria (6:30pm) 395-7797
Shawn Ishimoto, Beach Bar, Moana Surf-riders (8pm) 921-4600
Christopher Lau & Walt Keale, Hula Grill (7pm) 923-HULA
Ka Moana Trio, Banyan Court, Moana Surf-riders (6pm) 922-3111
Peter Milo Duo, RumFire (5pm)
Sean Na'auao Duo, Hyatt Regency (6:30pm) 923-1234
Ellsworth Simeona, Duke's Waikiki (10pm) 922-2268

JAZZ / BLUES

Abe Lagrimas, Jazz Minds Arts & Cafe (9pm) 945-0800
Rico, Arnold's Beach Bar (6pm) 924-6887

ROCK / POP

Darrell Aquino, Mai Tai Bar, Ala Moana (4pm) 947-2900
BBC, Hank's Cafe (8:30pm) 526-1410
Brendan & Dewing Time, Kelley O'Neil's (9pm) 926-1777
Guy Cruz and Friends, Indigo (8pm) 521-2900
DNA, Chart House (7pm) 941-6660
Dolls Till Daylight, thirtyninehotel (9pm) 599-2552
The Strangers, OnStage Drinks & Grinds (6pm) 306-7799

Tavana, O'Toole's Pub (9pm) 536-4138
Bongo Tribe, Irish Rose Saloon (9pm) 947-3414

WORLD / REGGAE

Epic Sessions, Mai Tai Bar, Ala Moana (9:30pm) 947-2900

Concerts & Clubs

Candy Cane by Get Fresh Fridays The annual charity drive to help IHS is always in time for the giving spirit of the holidays. Booty shake your way to donating. *Indigo*, 1121 Nu'uano Ave.: Fri 12/26, (10PM.) \$10; free with canned foods or toys of \$10 value or more. 521-2900

Honolulu Symphony and Symphony Chorus Holiday Concert (See Hot Picks, page 8.) Visit ticketmaster.com or call 792-2000. *Blaisdell Concert Hall*, 777 Ward Ave.: Sat 12/27, (8PM.) \$20-\$82. 591-2211

Howie Mandel (See Hot Picks, page 8.) Ticketmaster.com. *Blaisdell Concert Hall*, 777 Ward Ave.: Fri 12/26, (7:30PM.) \$30-\$55. 591-2211

Las Vegas Strip Wish you could've been part of The Rat Pack era? Here's your chance to relive old Vegas with showgirls (Cherry Blossom Cabaret), the sounds of The Padilla Quartet and card sharks. No cameras allowed. *Loft*, 115 N. Hotel St.: Sat 12/27, (9PM-2AM.) \$10 before 10pm; \$15 after. 21+ 688-8813

Na Mele No Na Pua Kama'aina Sunday Showcase This week's concert features the Hawaiian music of Nihoa. *Waikiki Beach Walk*. Sun 12/28, (4-5:30PM.) Free.

Soul Clap: The 3rd Annual James Brown Tribute Party Travel back in time musically for the popular tribute to the King of Soul. RSVP to steve@djeskae.com. *thirtyninehotel*, 39 N. Hotel St.: Fri 12/26, (9PM-2AM.) \$10; \$5 with RSVP. 599-2552

Tyrone Wells Los Angeles recording artist teams up with his local-born wife Elina and Kevin Chang of Kupa'aina for an evening of pop rock and contemporary Hawaiian music. *Anna Bannana's*, 2440 S. Beretania St.: Sat 12/27, (9PM.) \$10. 21+ 946-5190

Waitiki (See Hot Picks, page 8.) *Atherton Performing Arts Studio*, Hawai'i Public Radio, 738 Kāheka St.: Sat 12/27, (7:30PM.) \$10-\$20. 955-8821

Wednesdays at Saint Andrew's Free lunch-time concerts in this beautiful building. This week features guest organist John McCreary on Christmas Eve. *St. Andrew's Cathedral*, Queen Emma Square: Wednesdays, (12:15PM.) Free. 524-2822, ext. 217

On Sale

Aesop Rock None Shall Pass through the concert without getting an earful of politically charged underground (sort of) hip-hop. With Cage and El-P. Visit ticketmaster.com. *Pipeline Cafe*, 805 Pohukaina St.: Fri 1/16, (9:30PM.) \$28-\$35 general; \$55-\$66 VIP. 589-1999

Augie Rey's New Year's Eve Show Feast on the last meal of 2008, then enjoy the musical stylings of Augie Rey with The Little Big Band, Bobby King, Carlos Barboza and featured guest, Tahiti Rey. Call 955-0555, ext. 2 and make reservations under "Friends of Augie Rey." *Hale Koa Hotel*, 2055 Kālia Rd., Fort DeRussy, Waikiki: Wed 12/31, (7PM.) \$89 (all-inclusive).

Automatic Slim Slide guitar master Rick Smith returns to the Atherton with his new blues-inspired band. *Atherton Performing Arts Studio*, Hawai'i Public Radio, 738 Kāheka St.: Sat 1/10, (7:30PM.) \$15-\$25. 955-8821

The Bangles It will be a night of greatest hits from three hot MILFs (nee chicks). hawaiiipacificentertainment.com, 237-3675. *Coral Ballroom*, Hilton Hawaiian Village, 2005 Kalia Rd.: Wed 12/31, (9PM.) \$90, \$130, \$200. 946-6306

Burns Night Celebrate the 250th anniversary of the birth of Scottish poet Robert Burns. Singing, country and highland dancing, piping, poetry, food and drink. Call 591-9398 by 1/14. *Scotsin-hawaii.org*. *Hawai'i Convention Center*, 1801 Kalākaua Ave.: Sat 1/24, (5:30PM.) \$80 general; \$70 Caledonian Society of Hawai'i members.

Cheryl Bartlett The singer, songwriter, actress, dancer and former Miss Hawai'i presents a concert she'd like to call, "Like Ocean, Like Lace." *Atherton Performing Arts Studio*, Hawai'i Public Radio, 738 Kāheka St.: Sat 1/3, (7:30PM.) \$10-\$20. 955-8821

Craig Robinson The stand-up comic got his start in college and the smart ass has kept on going since then. Not to be mixed up with Michelle Obama's basketball coach brother. Visit ticketmaster.com. *Pipeline Cafe*, 805 Pohukaina St.: Wed 1/14, (8:30PM.) \$20-\$25 general; \$40-\$45 VIP. 589-1999

Don Ho's New Year's Eve Party A New Year's Eve buffet awaits, and the party include favors, a champagne toast, entrance to the night club and reserve seating on the pier for the fireworks show. *Don Ho's Island Grill*, Aloha Tower Marketplace: Wed 12/31. \$70. 528-0807

Ed Rush & Optical, Creed Chameleon, Ramy+++Plus Hawai'i's Best in Electronic Dance Music A local hip-hop and electronic music extravaganza. Visit ticketmaster.com. *Pipeline Cafe*, 805 Pohukaina St.: Sat 1/9, (10PM.) \$15-\$20. 18+. 589-1999

Fanny Pak and So Real Cru Two of *America's Best Dance Crews* tootsie roll (or maybe not) on the Islands. Visit ticketmaster.com. *Blaisdell Concert Hall*, 777 Ward Ave.: Sat 1/3, (7PM.) \$30-\$60. 591-2211

FireWater New Year's Eve Yacht Party Pimpbot and Lovechile play live on one level of the yacht, while DJs Mr. Nick and Mixmaster B spin on the first level. Guests receive party favors and drink specials. Visit firewaterevents.com. *Pier 5*, Aloha Tower: Wed 12/31, (9PM.) \$40 pre-sale; \$50 door. 21+

Foreigner Urgent! The Juke Box Heroes are Waiting For A Girl Like You who might possibly be either Cold As Ice or Hot Blooded for Dirty White Boys so that they might give you Double Vision. Visit ticketmaster.com or call (877) 750-4400. *Sheraton Waikiki Hotel*, 2255 Kalākaua Ave.: Wed 12/31, (7PM.) \$125-\$175 general; \$250 VIP seating. 922-4422

Gloria Estefan With all of her '80s and '90s hits, plus an Olympic theme song under her belt, this Miami sound machine has only been getting stronger as time moves on. Visit ticketmaster.com. *Blaisdell Arena*, 777 Ward Ave.: Sat 1/17, (8PM.) \$65-\$100 general; \$125 VIP. 591-2211

Grateful Dead's Bill Kreutzmann The Dead drummer will be joined by Papa Mali, James "Hutch" Hutchinson of the Bonnie Raitt Band and Matt Hubbard of the Willie Nelson Band. Mon 12/29, *Charley's Restaurant*, 142 Hana Hwy, Maui, \$25, 21+, (808) 579-9453; Wed 12/31, *Voyage East*, 375 West Kuiaha, \$65-\$100, 21+, (808) 269-0831, (10PM.)

Gutenberg! The Musical! A two-man musical spoof. An Off-Broadway success from 2007. *Mānoa Valley Theatre*, 2833 East Mānoa Rd.: Runs 1/14-2/11. Wed & Thu, 7:30PM; Fri & Sat, 8PM; Sun, 4PM. \$20-\$35. manoavalletheatre.com, 988-6131

Spin Zone

A SELECTIVE GUIDE TO DJ NIGHTS

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24

TOTALLY '80s @ Loft
COUNTRY NIGHT @ Kahuna's KMCB
ENJOY (house) @ Zanzabar
HIP HOP HUMP! (hip-hop) (top 40) @ Hula's Bar and Lei Stand
MAJESTIC @ Cirque Hawai'i
MIC:CTRL (house) (techno) (hip-hop) @ Lotus w/ DJs Willis Haltom, Zane, Zrama, SubZero, Ernie K
OVER THE HUMP WEDNEZDAYS (mix tape night) @ Just One
MIXTAPE (old school hip-hop) @ thirtyninehotel
DJ RASTA VIBES @ Boardriders
SALSA @ 4 Play
UNSEEN FOUNDATION @ Indigo
WAKU WEDNESDAYS @ Lotus Soundbar
WET 'N' WILD WEDNESDAYS @ Venus w/ DJs K-Smooth and Mixmaster B
WICKED WEDNESDAYS (top 40) (mashups) @ Fashion 45

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25

BOOTY LAULEA @ The O Lounge
'80S NIGHT @ Cirque Hawai'i
CASUAL THURSDAYS @ Fashion 45
COSMO (electro) (house) (mash-up) @ Hula's w/ DJs KSM, Honu, rebel neB
FIRE UP THURSDAY @ Play Bar (Scruples) 18+
HOUSE @ thirtyninehotel w/ DJs Haboh, Grady Gillan
JET BOY, JET GIRL (indie rock) (goth) @ Mercury Bar
MIXTUP MAYHEM FROM THE PURPLE PLANET @ Jazz Minds Arts & Cafe w/ DJ Miki Mayhem
ROW BAR @ Doraku Sushi
THIRSTY THURSDAYS (hip-hop) (house) (trance) @ Zanzabar
THREE DOLLAR THURSDAY @ 4 Play

THROWBACK THIRST DAZE @ Lotus Soundbar w/ DJs Revise, Disobayish, Swerve

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 26

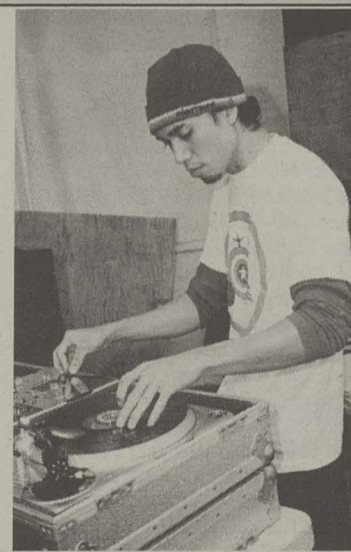
'80s, '90s, NOW @ Hula's Bar & Lei Stand
THE CANDY BAR @ Pearl Ultralounge
CANDY CANE AT GET FRESH FRIDAYS @ Indigo w/ DJs G-Spot, I45, Quiksilva, IKON, Lava, Sovereign-T, NSK
CARNAVAL FRIDAYS (latin) (reggaeton) (hip-hop) @ Pipeline w/ DJs Don Armando, Caju, Mano Lopez
CHEMISTRY @ Cafe Sistina
THE CORNER @ Visions Nightclub w/ DJs Check-one, Slant, City ill, Sho
FIRE! FRIDAYS @ Cirque Hawai'i
FRIDAYS @ Lulu's w/ DJs Gary O, Sub o
THE GENDER BENDERS @ Fusion Waikiki
THE GOOD LIFE @ Fashion 45 w/ DJ Kenbo (Tokyo), Jami
HEAT (hip-hop) (reggae) (island jams) @ Don Ho's w/ DJ Hong
LAVISH CLUB (hip-hop) @ EEO Trading Company
LIMELIGHT (hip-hop) (r&b) ('80s) @ The Living Room at Fisherman's Wharf
PARADISE @ Venus w/ DJs Technique, Crazy K
THE PEACH PIT @ Level 4 w/ DJs Lostboy, Delveider/Technique
DJ RUDE DOGG, DJ MASTER MIND (hip-hop) (reggae) (R&B) (Top 40) @ Fashion 45
SALSA @ Boardriders
SHANGRI LA @ the W Hotel w/ DJs Mixmaster B, Betty, Ryan Sean
SINSUAL FRIDAY @ Zanzabar
SKYE SUSHI LOUNGE @ Aaron's atop the Ala Moana Hotel
SONNY SILVA'S HULAVILLE (gypsy jazz) @ Cafe Che Pasta
SOUL CLAP: JAMES BROWN TRIBUTE PARTY @ thirtyninehotel w/ DJ Eskae
SOUL HEAVEN @ Lotus Soundbar
SOUTH BEACH (mash-up) (hip-hop) (downtempo) (trip-hop) @ Ciao Mien
SPIN @ Hula's
STYLUS FRIDAY NIGHTS @ Lotus Soundbar
THRASH @ Loft w/ DJs Eskae, Jami, Durtie Rice
VESSEL @ Next Door w/ DJ Mr. Nick
WONDERFUL (downtempo) (mash-up) ('80s) @ Zanzabar w/ DJs Ryan-Sean, Mike D
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27
DANCEHALL CITY @ Indigo w/DJs 45 Revolver, Ross Jackson
THE DISCO @ The Waterfront
DISCO BALL @ Bar 35 w/DJs G-Spot, Quiksilva, Sovereign-T
DJ Memoirs (hip-hop) @ Mercury Bar

Running with the Packo

If hip-hop heads think the scratch DJ scene is dead, vinyl visionary DJ Packo believes a resurgence is in order. One of the illest cutmasters in the 808, Packo has cut with scratch world elite such as Qbert, Shortkut, Mix Master Mike and D-Styles.

"There are no real DJ battles any more such as the DMC and ITC," said the Maui-born, Big Island-raised talent. "Nowadays, it's up to us as the turntablists [to survive]."

His new mixtape *Mosquito Diesel: The Glitchtape* is an example of his mind at work. Whether he's getting down with his SIQ Records mates or letting loose in hip-hop band The Specifics, music is on his mind and his mind is on his music. —Kalani Wilhelm



Metro Park, Ala Moana Shopping Center, Fridays, 4-8pm; Fri 12/26, GroundUP Art & Fashion Show, Loft, 115 N. Hotel St., 21+, 688-8813

DJ RACER-X @ Hula's Bar and Lei Stand
DJ ROD eI MORENO (Salsa) @ Dream to Dance
DRAGONFLY @ the W Honolulu
EMPIRE SATURDAYS (hip-hop) @ Lotus Soundbar
FLASHBACK SATURDAYS ('70s-now) @ Rumours Nightclub, Ala Moana Hotel w/ DJ Sho
GRAVY @ Chai's Island Bistro
HOUSE OF RA @ Zanzabar
I-DELIVER ENT @ Just One w/ DJ Phil
KNIGHTS OF THE TEMPO @ EEO Trading Company
MAD HATTER & STYLISH T @ Aaron's
MONKEY BAR @ Ciao Mein
MY EVOLUTION SATURDAYS @ Cirque Hawai'i
NIGHT FEVER (disco) (house) (eclectic) @ thirtyninehotel
PAPERDOLL REVUE @ Fusion Waikiki
PURE @ Aaron's, atop the Ala Moana Hotel
RE:VIBE @ The Living Room at Fisherman's Wharf w/ DJs Wyatt Earp (Denver), Willis Haltom, Zane
REFRESH (hip-hop) @ Cafe Che Pasta w/ DJ Lava
RICE CRACKER @ Chai's Island Bistro

DJ RUDE DOGG, DJ MASTER MIND (hip-hop) (reggae) (R&B) (Top 40) @ Da Big Kahuna
SALSA @ Hard Rock Café
SALSA SAVADO POR LA NOCHE @ Cafe Che Pasta w/ DJ Jonathan
SATURDAY NIGHTS (hip-hop) (mashup) (house) @ Play Bar Waikiki
THE SAUCE SATURDAYS @ Brew Moon
SKYLINE @ The Hanohanoroom w/ DJs KSM, Jedi, ShawnG, Ksmooth, SubZero, Byron the Fur, mbrRowen
SPEAKEASY (house) (downtempo) (progressive) @ The Living Room at Fisherman's Wharf
STUNNA SATURDAYS @ The O Lounge (18+)
SURF SHACK SATURDAYS (rock) (reggae) (rap) The Shack Waikiki
SWAGGER SATURDAYS @ The Living Room w/ Zack Morse, Compose, Jatte
TASTE @ Aaron's Atop the Ala Moana Hotel w/ DJ Ryan Sean
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28
BEACH PARTY BLAST @ Hula's Bar and Lei Stand (5pm) w/ DJ KSM

THE BLOCK @ Brew Moon & The Living Room w/ DJs Delve, XL, Sub-Zero, Jrama, Sovereign, Durtie Rice, Jimmy Taco
CARIBBEAN NITES @ Loft w/ Terra Nova, DJs Jonathan, 45 Revolver
DOUBLE DOUBLE SUNDAYS @ Hula's Bar and Lei Stand (9pm) w/ DJ Racer-X
HOT ISLAND DJ SPIN-OFF @ Mai Tai Bar
MOTION @ Lotus Soundbar
MY EVOLUTION SUNDAYS @ Cirque Hawai'i
PALLADIUM NITES (Latin) @ O Lounge w/ DJs Don Armando & Cube
PHOENIX @ RumFire
DJ SHO @ Red Lion
SIZZLING SUNDAYS (dance contest) @ Zanzabar w/ DJ Mike D
SOUL FOOD SUNDAY @ Just One
SUNDAY NIGHT SOCIAL (acid jazz) (deep house) (progressive house) @ Da Big Kahuna w/ DJ Miki Mixtup
SUNDAY SALSA @ 4 Play
A TOUCH OF RED @ The W Hotel

MONDAY, DECEMBER 29

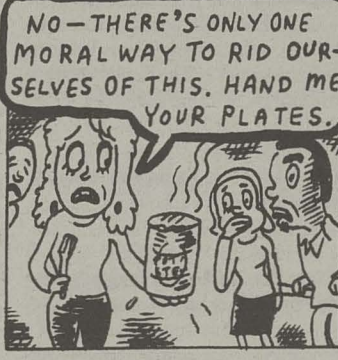
BEACH PARTY MONDAYS @ Zanzabar
BLUE MONDAYS @ Cirque Hawai'i
FLASHBAXXX (retro) @ Hula's Bar and Lei Stand
FLIRT MONDAYS INDUSTRY NIGHT @ Lotus Soundbar w/ DJ Disobayish
LATIN CARRIBEAN HOTSPOT @ Play Bar
LOLLIPOP @ The O Lounge
MASHED UP MONDAYS @ Lava Rock Lounge
MELLOW MONDAZE @ Pipeline
PHAT TUESDAYS @ Lotus Soundbar
SHOCK MONDAYS @ Venus

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 30

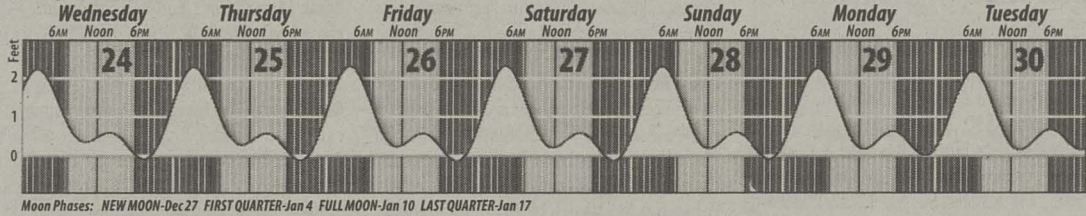
\$2 TUESDAYS @ O Lounge w/ DJs Betty, Mike D
AFTER "THE POINT" AFTER ('70s) ('80s) @ Pipeline w/ DJ Mikie D
EYE CANDY @ Hula's Bar and Lei Stand w/ VJ Racer-X
FALLING DOWN ROMANCE (jazz) @ Indigo
DJ FREQ @ Anna Bannana's
HOT LATIN TUESDAYS @ Zanzabar w/ DJs Ray Cruz, Rod Moreno, Mano Lopez
KALEIDOSCOPE (indie rock) @ thirtyninehotel w/DJ Ross Jackson
MIDNIGHT JUNKIES @ Just One / DJ G
RENDEZVOUS @ Bar 35
SALSA TUESDAYS @ Cirque Hawai'i
WINTER BOOTY BASH @ The O Lounge

HOLIDAY FEAST TROUBLETOWN STYLE!

BY LLOYD DANGLE



Sun, Moon & Tides — Honolulu Harbor



The Immigrant's Table A staged reading by author Mary Lou Sanelli, which weaves together the elements of poetry, storytelling, Italian food and wine (for you, too!) all in a tale of growing up as a second generation Italian American. Visit honoluluboxoffice.com or call 550-8457. **The ARTS at Marks Garage**, 1159 Nu'uuanu Ave.: Sat 1/31, (8PM.) \$20 (includes glass of wine and antipasti). artsatmarks.com, 521-2903

Leon Fleisher The pianist, conductor and teacher made his performance debut at age 16 with the New York Philharmonic. honolulu-academy.org, 532-8768. **Doris Duke Theatre**, Honolulu Academy of Arts, 900 S. Beretania St.: Sat 1/24, (7:30PM.) \$20-\$25. 532-8768

Mainland Education Scot Izuka's romantic comedy set in an early 1980s University of Kansas. Racial hijinks ensue! **Kumu Kahua Theatre**, 46 Merchant St.: Runs 1/8-2/8. Thu-Sat, 8PM; Sun, 2PM. \$5-\$16. kumukahua.org, 536-4441

Mstrkrft The mustachioed Canadian electronic music group makes Honolulu a little hairier. Visit bampproject.com. **Nextdoor**, 43 N. Hotel St.: Sat 1/3, (9PM.) \$25. 589-1999

Ne-Yo If Ne-Yo has become your addiction, be the first in line to get tickets to this R&B crooner's first Hawai'i appearance. He might even kick off his shoes and dance in his socks. Visit ticketmaster.com. **Blaisdell Arena**, 777 Ward Ave.: Mon 1/5, (7:30PM.) \$35-\$55. 591-2211

New Year's Eve at Senior Frog's Before you party the night away, fuel up with a buffet menu, which includes a mix of Mexican, American and Italian food. Also expect party favors, contests, live music and DJs. **Senior Frog's**, Royal Hawaiian Shopping Center, 3rd level: Wed 12/31, (8PM-4AM.) \$75 (all-inclusive). 440-0150

Nick Swardson This *Grandma's Boy's* shit is definitely not weak. Just don't ask him what smells like the Great Depression. Visit ticketmaster.com. **Pipeline Cafe**, 805 Pohukaina St.: Sat 1/17 & Sun 1/18, (7PM.) \$35 general; \$50 VIP. All ages. 589-1999

NOFX The band that "rocked against Bush" shakes up Honolulu for one show only, along with *The Expendables*. See the exclusive *Weekly* interview with Fat Mike in the Nov. 19 issue. Tickets available at hnlnow.com and at all Hawaiian Island Creations locations. **Pipeline Cafe**, 805 Pohukaina St.: Sat 1/17, (9PM.) \$25 general. All ages. 589-1999

Shanghai Circus One of the premier troupes of the 2,500-year-old art form of amazing human feats does a tour across the Islands. **Hawaii Theatre**, 1130 Bethel St.: Fri 1/16, 7:30PM; Sat 1/17 & Sun 1/18, 2PM & 7:30PM. \$22.50-\$37.50. hawaiiitheatre.com, 528-0506

Shwayze with Cisco Spend New Year's Eve with this hip-hop duo. If just because of their names. Visit ticketmaster.com. **Pipeline Cafe**, 805 Pohukaina St.: Wed 12/31, (9PM.) \$45-\$50 general; \$90-\$100 VIP. 589-1999

Soja The Soldiers of Jah Army (Washington D.C.) have a name that make them fit in with any local reggae band, jah and all. With guest band Gentleman. Visit ticketmaster.com or Butigroove.com, Holy Smokes, Hungry Ear, Pipeline or UH Campus Center. **Pipeline Cafe**, 805 Pohukaina St.: Thu 1/8, (10PM.) \$23-\$28 general; \$50-\$55 VIP. 18+ 589-1999

Star of Honolulu New Year's Eve Cruise Enjoy great views and a fireworks show, a champagne toast, party favors, dinner, live entertainment and dancing. Visit starofhonolulu.com or call 983-7827. **Pier 8, Aloha Tower**. Wed 12/31, (10:45PM-12:45AM.) \$150 and up; \$113.76 and up for kama'aina/military. 922-1886

Throw Da Shaka If you like throwing shakas (from baby to giant) or anything musically associated with the hand sign, this concert is for you. Visit ticketmaster.com. **Waikiki Shell**. Sat 1/17, (4PM.) \$10-\$30. 545-4000

The Toadies The Texas raw rock band may be getting older, but not less intense. ticketmaster.com. **Pipeline Cafe**, 805 Pohukaina St.: Fri 1/9, (7PM.) \$25; \$50 VIP. All ages. 589-1999

Translations Brian Friel's play, set in 1833 Ireland, illustrates the cultural effects of the loss of the Irish language. Visit hawaii.edu/theatre/stage/primetime.htm. **Earle Ernst LAB Theatre**, UH-Mānoa campus: Wed 1/21-Fri 1/23, 8PM; Sun 1/25, 2PM. \$5-\$14. 956-7655

Tyga The hip-pop artist puts the lime in the coconut and twists it all up. In the club. **Compton-style**. In the club. ticketmaster.com. In the club. **Pipeline Cafe**, 805 Pohukaina St.: Sat 1/10, (10PM.) \$25-\$30 general; \$50 VIP. 589-1999

Waiting for the Sun DJs KSM, Daniel J, G-Spot and Ikon keep you up all night (in addition to whatever else you may be on). groovetickets.com, 591-3500. **The Shop**, 580 Dillingham Blvd.: Wed 12/31, (9PM-sunrise.) \$10 pre-sale.

Wig Out! A New Year's Eve champagne wigout, featuring Honolulu's first champagne and absinthe bar. And nothing else rings in the new year like a wig contest does. Visit thirtyninehotel.com. **thirtyninehotel**, 39 N. Hotel St.: Wed 12/31, (8PM-2AM.) \$12 pre-sale. 599-2552

Theater & Dance

The Eight: Reindeer Monologues One of Santa's reindeer accuses the old fat man of sexual harassment. Scandalous information comes out with the exploration of each reindeer's twisted personality. A dark holiday comedy for mature audiences. **Kawanakaoa Backstage Theatre**, Near the corner of Pauoa Rd. and Funchal St.: Fri & Sat, 7:30PM; Sun, 3:30PM. Through 1/4. \$15-\$25. hawaiiiretheatre.org, 545-7170

Ring of Fire A thoughtful play about the consequences of combat trauma on military wives. **The Actors' Group**, Jos. P. Mendoca Bldg., 1116 Smith St., 2nd Fl.: Thu-Sat, 7:30PM; Sun 2 & 5PM. No performances on 12/25 & 12/26. Through 12/28. \$12-\$16. taghawaii.net, 722-6941

Auditions

A Lesson Before Dying A 7-person cast is needed for the play based on Ernest J. Gaines' tear-jerker of a novel. Rehearsal and production period runs from February through April. As the character Grant says, "...show them the difference between what they think you are and what you can be." **The Actors' Group**, Jos. P. Mendoca Bldg., 1116 Smith St., 2nd Fl.: Sat 1/17 & Sun 1/18, (12-2PM.) taghawaii.net, 722-6941

Cherry Blossom Cabaret Honolulu's favorite burlesque troupe is looking for auditioners to perform in front of a live audience. Dancers, singers, divas, hula hoopers, comedians and anyone who can add an element of tease are welcome. E-mail cherryblossomcabaret@gmail.com for entry form. Ongoing.

THE SCENE

The Glass Menagerie Tennessee Williams' well-known story comes to life. Play needs a mother (mid-40s to mid-50s), son (late 20s to late 30s), daughter (early to late 20s) and daughter's gentlemen caller. Show runs 4/3-5/3. Call 254-0853. **HPU Paul and Vi Loo Theatre**, Hawai'i Pacific University Hawai'i Loa campus: Fri 1/30, 7PM; Sat 1/31 & Sun 2/1, 12PM. 375-1282

Museums

Bishop Museum 1525 Bernice St. Open daily 9AM-5PM. \$15.95 adults; \$12.95 ages 4-12; under 4 free. bishopmuseum.org, 847-3511

'Ili Iho: The Surface Within A rare kapa cloth, a famous makaloa mat and a feathered cloak are among the museum's treasures shown in conjunction with the Textile Society of America's symposium. Through 4/5.

Megalodon: Largest Shark That Ever Lived Giant. Sharks. Pre-historic style. Through 1/11.

Pauahi: A Legacy for Hawai'i Without Princess Bernice Pauahi Pāki Bishop, the museum may have never been. This exhibition of objects will undergo several rotations until the completion of the Hawaiian Hall Complex renovation finishes in 2009. Letters, clothing, jewelry and weapons are just some of the history to find. Through 12/31.

The Contemporary Museum 2411 Makiki Heights Dr. Open Tue-Sat, 10AM-4PM; Sun, noon-4PM. \$5 adults; \$3 students/seniors (free on third Thursdays). tcmhi.org, 526-1322

At 20: The Sharon and Thurston Twigg-Smith Collection of H.C. Westermann—A Gift/Promised Gift in Honor of The Contemporary Museum's 20th Anniversary 34 prints, 17 sculptures, 12 drawings and watercolors from as early as 1949. Through 3/15.

Free Admission Twenty-somethings get in for free from through September of 2009 in celebration of the museum's 20th anniversary.

The Contemporary Cafe 2411 Makiki Heights Dr. Tue-Sat, 11:30AM-2:30PM; Sun, noon-2:30PM. 526-1322

Heavenly Garden Mural on the cafe lanai by renowned local tattoo artist Mike Ledger.

The Contemporary Museum at First Hawaiian Center 999 Bishop St. Open Mon-Thu, 8:30AM-4PM; Fri, 8:30AM-6PM. Validated parking available; enter on Merchant St. 526-1322

Contemporary Fiber Artists of Hawai'i Through 1/13.

Hawai'i Plantation Village 30 structures preserved in their original condition offer a glimpse of plantation life from the mid-19th century through World War II. 94-695 Waipahu St. Guided tours Mon-Sat, 10AM-2PM. \$5-\$13. Children 3 & under free. hawaiiplantationvillage.org, 677-0110

Koreans on the Plantation Focuses on the early years of immigration. Through 12/31.

Hawai'i State Art Museum No. 1 Capitol District Building, 250 S. Hotel St., 2nd Fl. Open Tue-Sat, 10AM-4PM. Free. 586-0900

Accession: Recent Acquisitions from the Art in Public Places Collection Highlights work collected by the Hawai'i State Foundation on Culture and the Arts. Through 7/18.

Intertwine: A Selection of Hawai'i Fiber Art A sampling of art from the Art in Public Places collection, in conjunction with the 11th Biennial Symposium of the Textile Society of America. Through 1/17.

Honolulu Academy of Arts 900 S. Beretania St. Open Tue-Sat, 10AM-4:30PM; Sun, 1-5PM. \$10 general, \$5 seniors/military/students; free for kids 12 & under and museum members. honoluluacademy.org, 532-8700

Bang! Zoom! See the diversity of manga and anime in this exhibition presented by the local group Manga Bento. Through 12/30.

Good News from Hiroshige: A New Interpretation of the Series "One Hundred Famous Views of Edo" A new look at the celebrated ukiyo-e artist's last great series. Through 1/11.

Graphic Cabinet #3: Face to Face Portraits from the Academy's photography collection by a who's who of photographers such as Robert Frank, Yousuf Karsh, Robert Mapplethorpe and Garry Winogrand. Through 2/22.

He Ho'ala Ana: An Awakening Kapa by Marie Donald. Through 1/18.

Muraqqa: Imperial Mughal Albums from the Chester Beatty Library, Dublin An exhibition of exquisite Indian miniature paintings, created for the emperors Jahangir and Shah Jahan in the 17th century, from one of the world's finest collections. This is the first time these works are being shown outside of Ireland. Through 3/1.

Richard Lane and the Floating World The first exhibition of works from the Richard Lane Collection, which the museum acquired in 2003. Fine examples of the work done by the Academy's Asian Paintings Conservation Center. Through 2/1.

Academy Art Center at Linekona 1111 Victoria St. Open Tue-Sat, 10AM-4:30PM; Sun, 1-5PM. Free admission. honoluluacademy.org, 532-8741

Iolani Palace The palace is the only official residence of royalty in the United States. King Kalākaua built the palace in 1882 to enhance the prestige of Hawai'i overseas and to mark Hawai'i's status as a modern nation. **Corner of King & Richards Sts.**: Guided tours: Tue-Sat, 9-11:15AM, \$20 adults, \$15 kama'aina, \$5 children (under 5 years not admitted). Audio tours available 11:45AM-3PM, \$13 adults; \$6 children. Galleries open: Tue-Sat, 9AM-4:30PM. \$6 adults; \$3 kids. Free admission to island residents with ID on Kama'aina Sundays (the first Sunday of each month). iolanipalace.org, 522-0832

Evening Holiday Tour Experience the palace at night with glowing lights, as it was back in the 19th century. Sat 12/27, 5:30-9PM. \$6 general; \$3 ages 5-12. First-come, first-served basis.

Mission Houses Museum Step into 19th century Hawai'i when you visit the original homes of the first missionaries to the Islands. Learn about the challenges they faced, the struggles they endured and the legacies they left behind, such as the development of a written language, the printing of books in the Hawaiian language and Western-style schools. 533 S. King St. Open Tue-Sat, 10AM-4PM; closed Sun. Tours available at 11AM & 2:45PM. \$6-\$10; 50% kama'aina discount on last Saturday of each month. missionhouses.org, 531-0481

Fundamental Fibers: Lauhala, Tapa & Quilts In conjunction with the Textile Society of America's 11th Biennial Symposium. Through 1/3.

Pacific Aviation Museum Historical artifacts and aircrafts—including a Japanese Zero fighter and Navy Wildcat—tell heroic stories of military aviation during WWII. Pearl Harbor, Hanger 37, Ford Island, 319 Lexington Blvd.: \$14 general (\$10 kama'aina); \$7 children (\$5 kama'aina). pacificaviationmuseum.org, 441-1000

Free Combat Simulator Flight Download the coupon at PacificAviationMuseum.org. Good through June.

Queen Emma Summer Palace Revel in Hawaiian history and American architecture from the Victorian period at the summer retreat. 2913 Pali Hwy.: Daily, 9AM-4PM. \$1-\$6. daughtersofhawaii.org, 595-6291

Prince Albert Kauikeaouli Leiopapa Exhibit A display of the prince's belongings celebrates his 150th birthday.

Galleries

Opening

8 Bit Eight artists doing their part to raise money for non-profits. Runs 12/29-1/24. Receptions 1/2, 5-9PM; 1/15, 6-8PM. **Louis Pohl Gallery**, 1111 Nu'uuanu Ave.: 521-1812

Enso: The Timeless Circle A collection of over 60 Zen circle paintings. Opening Reception Sat 12/27, 1-5PM. **Robyn Buntin of Honolulu**, 848 S. Beretania St.: 523-5913

Visions of Life: A Makk Retrospective Showcases the Makk family's 60 years of artwork. Unveiling Sat 12/27, 6-9PM. Runs 12/27-1/10. **Hyatt Regency Waikiki Hotel Gallery**, 2424 Kalākaua Ave.: 373-2772

Continuing

Backbone of the King and Other Marcia Brown Stories Through 12/31. **Bridge Gallery**, Hamilton Library, UH-Mānoa, 2550 McCarthy Mall: 956-7214

3 for 3 Show Through 3/20. **The Association of Hawai'i Artists Gallery**, Honolulu Country Club, 1690 Ala Puuamalu St.: 395-3238

23rd Annual Holiday Wreath Exhibit Through 1/4. **Lane Gallery**, Honolulu Hale, 530 South King St.: 768-6622

Archipelago and Remains of the Rainbow Through 1/31. **The ARTS at Marks Garage**, 1159 Nu'uuanu Ave.: 521-2903

Bethel Street Gallery Ongoing. **Bethel Street Gallery**, 1140 Bethel St.: 524-3552

Cade Roster Puts the "F" in Fine Art Through 12/27. **Chinatown Boardroom**, 1160 Nu'uuanu Ave.: 585-7200

Continued on Page 17

SEASON'S FLEETING, NEW YEAR'S TEETHING

2009

NEW YEAR'S GUIDE

BY THIS TIME, YOU'RE OVERSATURATED WITH YEAR-IN-REVIEWS FROM MULTIPLE PERSPECTIVES. Hopefully, you're aware of the major events of the year that have shaped our collective lives—locally, nationally and internationally. Otherwise, maybe you don't need to celebrate anything with any more substances. But no matter whether the year has been the best ever or the bane of your existence, you'll want to party like it's 2008 while working on your first hangover of 2009. Then continue figuring out how to make this world a better place.

—MARGOT SEETO

CONCERTS

While many smaller music venues will be holding spirited events to sound in the new year with upbeat tunes, a couple of bigger concerts may just make some fans' year. Choose between the ladies or the gents below.

THE BANGLES

If your eternal flame still burns for the women of The Bangles, then even just seeing three of the four original members of the band should keep some body part of yours walking like an Egyptian all the way through to manic Monday.

Coral Ballroom at the Hilton Hawaiian Village, 2005 Kalia Rd., \$90-\$130 general, \$200 VIP, 9PM, honoluluoffice.com, 550-8457

FOREIGNER

You've been waiting for a concert like this. It'll almost be like the first time.

Hawai'i Grand Ballroom, Sheraton Waikiki, 2255 Kalākaua Ave., 8:30PM doors, \$125-\$175 general, \$200 VIP, ticketmaster.com.

SHWAYZE WITH CISCO

Both rappers and recent reality television stars, Shwayze and Cisco will probably get the whole of Pipeline to drink a lot of Corona and lime. If you didn't get that last line, you probably won't care to go to the concert.

Pipeline Cafe, 805 Pohukaina St., 9PM, \$22.50-\$55 general, \$45-\$100 VIP, ticketmaster.com, 589-1999

EATS

There's nothing wrong with being a glutton at the end of the year—either as one last diet-breaking hurrah, a decadent way to start off a new year, or just because you're a foodie who loves any excuse to eat out. Some New Year's Eve dinners help to absorb the glass(es) of champagne you may consume as the clock strikes midnight. Others may be for the ones who'd rather have a quieter, earlier but still classy way to end the year.

BON TON ROULE

Hawai'i is hot, but there's still something about the spicy flavors of the South that can't be matched.

Enjoy a five-course Creole-influenced menu from Chef Sean Priester (look forward to shrimp and Hawaiian snapper etouffe), all the while enjoying the modern jazz and grooves (their words) of NewJass Quartet. An all-out Nawlin's New Year's Eve experience, topped off with a sweet sky-high view. And the party favor is a \$20 gift certificate.

Top of Waikiki, 2270 Kalākaua Ave., 18th floor, 5 & 7PM seating tickets are \$75, 9PM seating tickets are \$95, topofwaikiki.com, 923-3887

3660 ON THE RISE

Chef Russell Siu helps you to remember 2008 as fire roasted keawe smoked tenderloin of pork, baked New Zealand oysters and other tasty soon-to-be memories.

3660 Wai'alaie Ave., 5-8PM, \$92, 737-1177

YARD HOUSE

If you're the kind of planner who doesn't like to plan, the Yard House welcomes you with open arms. With no reservations or formal dress code required, revelers still get party favors and a complimentary champagne toast at midnight. Just get there before everyone else does to choose from over 100 beers on tap and towers of beer-friendly food.

Yard House, Waikiki Beach Walk, 226 Lewers St., yardhouse.com,

923-9273

SEÑOR FROG'S

Fuel up for a night of partying with a buffet spanning American, Italian and yes, Mexican cuisine. Then enjoy music from The Froggy Band, contests and DJs into the wee hours of the night. Though you should probably wait an hour after eating before twisting it all up.

2201 Kalākaua Ave., 8PM-4AM, \$75, senorfrogs.com, 440-0150

DON HO'S ISLAND GRILL

Another eat-then-play venue, though Don Ho's waterfront location offers prime views of the fireworks. And prime rib.

Don Ho's Island Grill, Aloha Tower Marketplace, \$70, donhos.net, 528-0807

DINNER, DANCING AND AUGIE REY

The dinner will be delicious. The dancing may be cheesy. But the Augie Rey-headlined show will be the highlight of the night. Augie will be joined by Bobby King and Carlos Barboza of The Little Big Band, as well as special guest Tahiti Rey (Augie's daughter).

Hale Koa Hotel Banyan Tree Showroom, 2055 Kalia Rd., 7PM, \$89, 955-0555, ext. 2 (make reservations under "Friends of Augie Rey")

NEW YEAR'S EVE ELEGANCE

A four-course menu, including



butter poached Kona lobster, plus amuse bouche and intermezzo, promise to end your year with a satisfied and full stomach.

Stage Restaurant, Honolulu Design Center, 1250 Kapi'olani Blvd., seatings between 4:30-9PM, \$75, \$115 with wine pairings, stagerestauranthawaii.com, 237-5429

ALAN WONG'S

From smoked day boat scallop carpaccio to house cured duck pipikaula, one of the mainstays in upscale local cuisine promises good taste into the New Year.

Alan Wong's Restaurant, 1857 S. King St., seating begins at 4:30PM, \$105, alanwongs.com, 949-2526

A GAY OLE TIME

Why have a separate gay club event listing? Everyone knows gay bars know how to celebrate in a style few mainstream clubs can, including extending the party to New Year's Day. Take your pick, or try to celebrate at every venue. We believe in you.

THE THUNDER-BALL

OK, anything that's gay and has the word ball in it is hilarious. So make it loud and proud with "a night that'll leave you shaken and stirred." Martinis, entertainment and supposedly the biggest cash balloon drop of all.

Fusion Waikiki, 2260 Kūhiō Ave., 10PM-4AM, \$10 pre-sale, \$15 door, 21+, 924-2442

IN BETWEEN NEW YEAR'S EVE

Look forward to the complimentary champagne toast at midnight, but also merrily celebrate the old and New Year with \$3 shots all night. If you want to keep celebrating, the venue welcomes all New Year's hangovers starting at 12PM on New Year's Day with \$3 bloody marys.

In Between, 2155 Lau'ula St.,

9PM-2AM, 21+, inbetweenonline.com, 926-7060

SPARKLE

All things glitter at Hula's—especially on New Year's Eve. Expect giveaways and optional sexy bottle service (says the flier). After you sleep off the rest of 2008, go to the hangover party the next day starting at 9PM.

Hula's Bar and Lei Stand, 134 Kapahulu Ave., 2nd floor, 9PM-2AM, hulas.com, 923-0669

A NEW BEGINNING

Ring in the New Year with all of your friends at Angles. And maybe make some new friends with the aide of some champagne.

Angles Waikiki, 2256 Kūhiō Ave., 9PM-2AM, 21+, angleswaikiki.com, 926-9766

ON THE TOWN AND IN THE WATER

If you can't stay put in one place to welcome 2009, here are some land and sea options to quell your restlessness.

RAVENCHASE ADVENTURES' THIRD ANNUAL QUEST FOR FATHER TIME

Race around town to solve clues to keep Father Time from keeping us locked in 2008. After you save the world, enjoy free pūpū and drinks from 9PM-midnight and the sounds of the Blue Light Funk Band at the after party.

7PM, \$125 per person, father-timerace.com, 266-0478

NEW YEAR'S BOOZE CRUISE

In just a mere two hours, the Star of Honolulu yacht party provides you with dinner, dancing, entertainment, party favor, a champagne toast and a beautiful view of the New Year's Eve fireworks.

Pier 8, Aloha Tower Marketplace, 10:45PM-12:45AM, \$150 and up, \$113.76 & up for kama'āinalmili-



The Medical Corner Presents...

THE Company Doctor GAME



Join us and learn how to lower your company's healthcare costs by attending a seminar hosted by The Medical Corner and Dr. Robert Sussman, Hawaii's Company Doctor.

WHEN: December 30, 2008

TIME: Continuous 20 minute seminars between 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.

WHERE: Dave and Busters showroom

Please call 943-1111 or e-mail Onsite@TheMedicalCorner.com to hold your company's place. Seating is limited so register early!



PRESCRIPTION FOR A HEALTHY BOTTOM LINE

- Show this ad to your boss & sign up
- Bring your boss & receive a Prize
- Meet The Company Doctor, network and eat pupus
- Play
- Apply your new found knowledge
- Win a raise from your boss*
- Take the rest of the day off (see rules for #12)

*No guarantee on raise but we do guarantee fun and prizes

PRESCRIBED BY: Dr. Robert Sussman, Hawaii's Company Doctor

WAIKIKI • AIRPORT • KAILUA • KAPOLEI • PALI

BE GI NI! START!

Join us and learn to play the game on December 30th 11:00am - 7:00pm

1 Land Get a Real Job!

2 Collection Site Issues
Temperature Dilution Adulteration
GC MS machine at the LAB

3 MRO calls DONOR
Pick an excuse card

4 Isomers and other MRO issues
split & shy bladder

5 FREE Tie dye shirt with negative test!

6 HI! The Medical Corner
Open 8am-8pm Daily

7 Physical Exam

8 Labs

9 Tests

10 Immunizations

11 Attendance
Pick a card

12 Attendance
Pick a card

13 EASY CARE!!
Office Visits \$40

14 Recognize Patterns of Abuse

15 FMLA
Hospital care
Absence plus treatment
Pregnancy
Chronic conditions requiring treatment
Period of Incapacity
Multiple treatments

16 Your Ticket To WELLNESS!
Pick a Card

17 Industrial Athlete

18 Health Fair
HRA? Cholesterol?

19 Meet the Company Doctor
Flu shot with the Flu Crew

20 MYTHS & Excuses

21 SAFETY IDEAS
WORKERS COMP
FIRST AID

22 Safety Annual Training

23 Avoid Dr. Feelgood
No work x6 months?
Go back to square 1

24 Access to Records 24/7
Pick a Card
First Aid

25 Slip and Fall Risk Management
Real time access to record

26 Disease Management
PERSONAL CARE COSTS
Medical Care Pharmacy
Online Care 24/7

27 Slip and Fall Risk Management
Treatment Hold Ups

28 Chronic Pain Relief

29 Review for Savings!

30 Review for Savings!

31 Review for Savings!

PRODUCTIVITY COSTS
Absenteeism STD Overturn
LTD Turnover
Temporary staffing
Replacement training
Off-site travel for case
Customer dissatisfaction
Variable product quality

PEE IN A CUP

HOLD HIRE

PLAY THE Company Doctor GAME

The Medical Corner
Dr. Sussman
TheMedicalCorner.com
phone: 808-954-4500

For official rules and more game cards please visit our website.

How to Play (the bolded type is what you do when landing on the space)

- #1 Start**
PEE IN A CUP is what we were going to call the game, but we choose not to just so folks would not get too pissy.
- #2 Collection Site Issues**
Many things can happen at the collection site. Don't try to fool a test. We can tell if you sneak urine in and we can tell if it's too hot! Discuss what you know about trying to fool a drug test.
- #4 MRO call the Donor (PICK A CARD)**
Medical Review Officer's hear all kinds of excuses. Read the "excuse" out loud. Discussion of excuses with the other players is encouraged before looking at the MRO's interpretation.
- #5 Isomers and Other MRO Issues**
Shy bladder is not what you think (not being able to pee standing next to someone else). Discuss other drug testing results and issues and why you need an MRO.

- #6 FREE Tie Dye T-shirt with negative test**
Not exactly the shirt off our back (that would be disgusting!). Discuss where you have seen this "new standard" in drug free certification (hopefully your workplace).
- #11 Immunizations (PICK A CARD)**
Discuss immunization programs. Pick a Hold on Hire card which allows for discussion of the many reasons why an applicant's hiring should be "put on hold."
- #12 Attendance (PICK A CARD)**
Many employers are plagued by employees who call in sick and adversely impact the organizations performance. Eg. Nurses and police always need someone on duty. Pick an Attendance card and read the excuse aloud and see if it is acceptable.
- #14 Easy Care**
Discuss how having a discount medical plan can save your uninsured employees AND company money. We call it "Easy Care" and office visits start at only \$40.
- #16 Fittest CEO**
The Medical Corner has sponsored Hawaii Business magazine's Fittest Executive contest and this year we will do a Healthy Company Contest. Dedication to Fitness begins at the top. Discuss ways to make your boss sweat! You could win a company picnic at Hawaiian Waters Adventure Park.

- #19 Flu shot with the Flu Crew**
Discuss what you would do if half your staff could not show up for 1 week or even longer. Could you function? The Medical Corner's flu crew can come to your work site (including neighbor islands) to provide flu shots and additional onsite services.
- #20 Meet the Company Doctor**
Our Employee Nurse Practitioners, Physician Assistants, Medical Assistants and Administrative Staff are all dedicated to the Company Doctor Program to keep your costs down and production up. We do this by keeping your employees healthy. This loyalty program rewards companies who try to use us exclusively with additional services at no charge. We also offer discounts on services you use every day. It also allows for additional reporting and results tracking. Discuss how a Company Doctor could help your company. What would it be worth to your bottom line? What if we told you we could Guarantee you will save money? Ask how!
- #21 Safety Annual Training**
Discuss how cool it would be to send employee reminders for annual training, OSHA exams, vaccinations or even birthdays. Our computer system can do that for you and even send you a summary before and after to measure compliance.
- #23 Avoid Dr. Feelgood**
Doctors who are inexperienced with the system, or working it for their own benefit. Beware of providers who prolong disability and increase your costs by ordering unnecessary tests and medications. Not to mention, they prescribe too much time off. Discuss Dr. Feelgood's impact on your workplace.

- #27 Slip and Fall Risk Management**
Third party injuries can be a pain and not just to the injured, but to the employer/landowner and other "responsible parties" who can be drawn in. Discuss advantages of early objective evaluation immediately upon notification of an injury. We can even help if a Dr. Feelgood is involved.
- #30 Review for Savings**
Lets talk money! Show us what you are paying now and we can discuss ways to save you money on employee health costs. These savings go right to your bottom line!
- #31 Let us be your Company Doctor**
Sign up for our monthly newsletter and keep up with the changes and trends that are affecting your business. Let us help you keep your costs down and your company productive.

For more information, log on to: www.TheMedicalCorner.com





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Taipei Stop Over

- Day 1 Taipei** Transfer to your hotel
- Day 2 Taipei** Morning guided visit to Taipei's cultural, historic and fashion districts. Learn to use their state of the art mass transit
- Day 3 Taipei** Morning guided visit to the National Palace Museum, the largest and finest collection of Chinese Art in the world.
- Day 4 Taipei** Day at leisure to explore this cosmopolitan city; enjoy the pleasures of a hot spring resort.
- Day 5 Taipei** Transfer to the airport

Sun Moon Lake and Taroko Gorge

- Day 1 Taipei-Sun Moon Lake** Travel by high speed train and private car to Sun Moon Lake. Cruise the lake.
- Day 2 Sun Moon Lake-Taroko Gorge** By private car, cross to the East Coast via the Central Scenic highway to Hualien.
- Day 3 Taroko Gorge** Visit Taroko Gorge National Park. Fly back to Taipei

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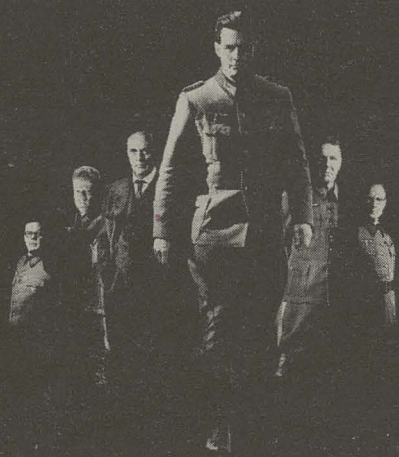
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tary, 21+, starofhonolulu.com, 983-7827

NEW YEAR'S ABOARD THE NAVATEK I

The usual cruise fare: dinner, dancing, favors, entertainment, a great view of the fireworks. Can't wait 'til midnight for the bubbly? This cruise offers a welcoming glass of champagne to start off the evening rather than one to end it.

Pier 6, Aloha Tower Marketplace, 10:30PM-12:45AM, \$145 general, \$170 window seating, 21+, 973-1311

FOR THOSE WHO LIKE TO SWEAT

For the new year, many of us like to dance crazy enough in a room dark enough and crowded enough under the influence of more than enough champagne that we might not even notice enough difference between 11:59PM and 12:00AM. But who cares?

DRUNK LIKE BIBLE: READY SET GO

According to the flier, it'll be Neu Year's Eve. "New" is so 2008. And you also are encouraged to "dancedancedancelikethedevil." What else can you do when you're under the influence of DJs Ross Jackson, Jami and Delve1? Combined with the now-rarely active venue Nextdoor, who knows what surprises await you in each unisex bathroom stall.

Nextdoor, 43 N. Hotel St., find the flier with the number to text for free cover, 548-6398

TOTALLY '80S NEW YEAR'S EVE

Party like it's 1985 with your favorite '80s DJs Nocturna, Quiksilver and G-Spot. For those of us who wish the '80s never left us. Or for those of us who prefer to ring in the New Year in neon rather than in black and white.

Loft, 115 N. Hotel St., 8PM-2AM, \$5 pre-sale, \$10 door, 21+, groovetickets.com, double-o-spot.com, 591-3100, 688-8813

WIG OUT!

Nothing says 2009 like a wig contest. Don a new identity for the New Year or just pre-

tend it's Halloween. With DJs Harvey, Mark Chittom, the thirtyninehotel all-stars, a laser light show and allegedly Honolulu's first champagne and absinthe bar.

thirtyninehotel, 39 N. Hotel St., 8PM-2AM, \$12 pre-sale, thirtyninehotel.com, 599-2552

BAR 35 PLAYS & PARTIES

What's the difference between the two? Well, try to do both on New Year's Eve, anyway. Get to the bar early enough for happy hour, Andy Baker's beer tasting, then guest DJs and champagne by the glass all night long.

Bar 35, 35 N. Hotel St., free, 537-3535

SEASON FINALE 2008 NEW YEAR'S EVE

Well-known club promoters Flash and Matty Boy ring in the New Year at the classy W Hotel with a masquerade ball. It's not quite a wig party, but you'll make do. And we'll overlook the fact that 2008 is a year, not a season.

The W-Honolulu Diamond Head, 2885 Kalākaua Ave., 21+, flashandmattyboyrepresent.com.

WAITING FOR THE SUN

This is possibly the longest New Year's Eve celebration on the island. Drawing a DJ line-up from clubs around O'ahu, peak or come down to the sounds of KSM, Daniel J, G-Spot (this guy is all over the place) and IKON.

The Shop, 580 Dillingham Blvd., 9PM-6AM, \$10 pre-sale, groovetickets.com, myspace.com/doubleospot.

IN THE CHURCH

NEW YEAR'S AT THE CATHEDRAL

Whether you truly want to have a wholesome beginning of the year or whether going for the sake of irony is still a novelty to you, enjoy an organ concert followed by a Holy Eucharist and blessing of the city at midnight.

The Cathedral Church of St. Andrew, 229 Queen Emma Sq., 10PM, free, open to the public, 524-2882, ext. 217

From Page 12

California Hotel and Casino: Hawai'i's Home Away from Home Through 1/23. *Teruya Courtyard and Community Gallery*, Japanese Cultural Center of Hawai'i, 2454 S. Beretania St.: 945-7633

Choice Art Through 1/3. *Pegge Hopper Gallery*, 1164 Nu'uuanu Ave.: 524-1160

Chris Campbell & Diane KW Through 1/11. *Second Floor @ Cedar Street Galleries*, 817 Cedar St.: 589-1580

Creative Hands Hawai'i Through 1/16. *The Exhibit Space at 1132 Bishop Street.*: 559-5009

Endless Portraits *Mercury Bar*, 1154 Fort Street Mall: 537-3080

Field of Flowers: Mughal Carpets and Treasures Through 12/31. *East-West Center Gallery*, 1601 East-West Rd.: 944-7177

Francis Haar's Hawai'i Years, 1960-1997 Through 12/31. *Bridge Gallery*, Hamilton Library, UH-Mānoa, 2550 McCarthy Mall: 956-7214

Having Fun with My Friends and Family Through 4/30. *Hawai'i Convention Center*, 1801 Kalākaua Ave.: 943-3500

Hawai'i in the News...International Coverage of Events in the Islands Through 12/30. *Canon Photo Gallery*, Ward Plaza, 210 Ward Ave., Ste. 200: 522-5930

Kahi 101: An Introduction to Kahi Ching—An Art Show Featuring an Awareness of Dyslexia Through 1/31. *Kahi Gallery*, 460 'Ena Rd.: 941-0524

Kāne'ōhe Head Start Through 1/2. *Gallery on the Pali*, First Unitarian Church of Honolulu, 2500 Pali Hwy.: 595-4047

Kim Taylor Reece Ongoing. *Kim Taylor Reece Gallery*, 1142 Bethel St.: 546-1144

Korea to Honolulu Through 1/19. *Sub-Zero Wolf Showroom*, 938 Pi'ikoi St.: 597-1647

M. Good and Juicy Art Through 12/26. *Louis Pohl Gallery*, 1111 Nu'uuanu Ave.: 521-1812

One Breath Photography *Outrigger Reef Hotel*, #C106, 2169 Kalia Rd.: 922-5110

The Pacific Gallery and Frames Collection Through 1/31. *Rehabilitaiton Hospital of the Pacific*, 531-3511

Pastels of the Windward Side Through 12/31. *Bogart's Cafe*, 3045 Monsarrat Ave.: 739-0999

Patrick Ching Gallery Showing Through 12/31. *Naturally Hawaiian*, 41-1025 Kalani-anaole Hwy.: 259-5354

PeekaBooMonster! Hawai'i-only limited prints, T-shirts and original art work on display and for sale from this friend of the Pocket Full of Monsters crew. Through 12/30. *The Lightsleepers Pop-Up Store*, 1311 Kapi'olani Blvd.: 222-9284

Rainbow's End, Mānoa Through 12/24. *Ko'olau Gallery*, Mānoa Marketplace: 988-4147

Re-Visioning Family: A Photovoice Project with Transgenders and their Families in Hawai'i A follow-up to the 2008 dissertation study by L. L. Ikeda-Vogel, UH-Mānoa's School of Social Welfare. *Gallery 721*, Saunders Hall, 7th Fl., University of Hawai'i-Mānoa, 2424 Maile Way: 956-7464

Sandblasted and Painted Recycled Glass Through 1/31. *town*, 3435 Wai'ālae Ave.: 735-5900

Sea Life Fantasy Glass jewelry and sculpture by Christopher Upp. Through 12/24. *Ko'olau Gallery*, Mānoa Marketplace: 988-4147

Small Doses Daily Through 1/16. *Hawai'i Pacific University Art Gallery*, 45-045 Kamehameha Hwy.: 544-0287

Water Series Through 1/31. *town*, 3435 Wai'ālae Ave.: 735-5900

Call To Artists

Abraham Lincoln: A Man of His Time, A Man for All Times Students grades K-12 are invited to design posters that illustrate their thoughts on the given topic. Visit librarieshawaii.org. Deadline is 1/24.

Artists of Hawai'i 2009 Visit honoluluacademy.org for details. *Honolulu Academy of Arts*, 900 S. Beretania St.: Deadline to submit is 1/2. 532-8700

Call for Compositions Composers with ties to Hawai'i are invited to submit three contrasting works, including at least one choral work, to the O'ahu Choral Society. The Society is commissioning a short choral work (10-15 minutes) on an aspect of the life of Father Damien. Visit oahuchoiral.com. Selected composer announced on 1/31.

Words

Diene Jarvenpa (See Hot Picks, page 9.) *Coffee Talk*, 3601 Wai'ālae Ave.: Tue 12/30, (7:30PM.) Free.

Friends of Pearl City Library The book sale extravaganza lives! This Sunday, scoop up hardcover non-fiction works for only 75 cents each. *Pearl City Public Library*, 1138 Waimano Home Rd.: Sun 12/28, (10AM-3PM.) 453-6566

Wild Mind Free Writers Group New writing salon has begun in Chinatown. For new and experienced writers wanting to improve their writing muscle. Write on a series of topics and share writing. For further information, contact facilitator Madison at 255-9890. Every other Tuesday; 12/23, (6:30PM.) Free.

Call to Authors

Kumu Kahua/UHM Theatre Dept. Playwriting Contest Plays for the Hawai'i Prize (\$600) must be set in Hawai'i or deal with "the Hawai'i experience," for the Pacific Rim Prize (\$450), plays must be set in or deal with the Pacific Islands, Pacific Rim or Pacific/Asian-American experience; for the Resident Prize (\$250) plays on any topic must be written by a Hawai'i resident (at the time of submission). Call Kumu Kahua at 536-4222 or check out kumukahua.org for complete rules. Postmark by 1/2.

Learning

Art Lunch Lecture Series The downtown art scene gets its lunchtime fix the last week of each month. This month: "Prelude to Pigs and What's Next." Jackie Mild Lau discusses her work in ceramics and sculpture. *Hawai'i State Art Museum*, No. 1 Capitol District Bldg., 250 S. Hotel St.: Tue 12/30, (12PM.) Free. 586-0900

Beginning Swing Dance Learn to swing dance with the Hawai'i Jitterbugs. E-mail lomicheck@gmail.com or call 282-0053 to register. *Ong King Art Center*, 184 N. King St.: Thursdays, (7PM.) \$15 per class; \$60/six weeks. 306-7823

Hula Time Learn hula with Colsen Kanei and Kawaiianuhealehua. Information available at gotulack@yahoo.com or 298-7821. Every Tue, *Kailua High School*, Room Q-10, 4:30PM (teens-adults) or every Wed, *Kūhiō Elementary School*, Room C-6, 3PM (keiki). \$30 monthly.

Nominations for Papahānaumokuākea Workshop on Midway Atoll The program is Papahānaumokuākea 'Ahahu'i Alaka'i (PAA). It runs from 6/13-6/23. The purpose is to create a greater understanding of the Monument and to inspire community environmental stewardship at a local grassroots level. Visit papahanaumokuakea.gov or call 933-8181. Nominations accepted through 1/2.

Keiki & 'Ohana

Holiday Story Time with Auntie Pat School Superintendent Pat Hamamoto shares holiday stories for keiki ages 3 and up. *Hawai'i State Public Library*, 478 S. King St.: Sat 12/27, (10:30AM.) Free. 586-3500

Honolulu City Lights Fire Truck Rides Here's a chance to celebrate the holidays and the Honolulu City Lights on a 1936 fire truck. Reservations suggested at 590-2100. No tours on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, *Mission Houses Museum & Kawaiha'o Plaza*, 553 S. King St.: Every evening through 12/28, (6-9PM.) \$7; \$3 for keiki ages 2 and younger.

Mochi Pounding The annual Mochitsuki takes place to ring in the Japanese New Year. Gather to prepare, shape and fill mochi. Go early for the best experience. Call 486-0282. *'Aiea Hongwanji Buddhist Temple*, 99-186 Puakala St.: Sat 12/27, (7:30AM-everything is pau.) 488-5685

Senator Fong's Plantation And Gardens Guided walking tour tailored for the keiki and family. *Senator Fong's Plantation & Gardens*, 47-285 Pulama Rd., Kāne'ōhe: Mon-Sat, 10:30AM & 1PM; Sun, 1PM. \$14.50. 239-6775

Botanical

Free Garden Mulch The Honolulu Board of Water Supply and Hawaiian Earth Products partner to offer you mulch to help your garden grow and reduce water evaporation. BYO containers and shovels. Only take what you can carry. *Hālawa Xeriscape Garden*, 99-1268 Iwaena St., Hālawa Industrial Park: Saturdays, (9AM-3PM.) 527-6113

Garden Craft Club Use materials by the garden and prepare to share. *Foster Botanical Garden*, 180 N. Vineyard Blvd.: Every Monday, (9:30AM-12PM.) Free. 522-7064

Garden Tours View rare and beautiful plants from tropical regions of the world. Reservations recommended. Guided tours available Mon-Sat, 1PM. *Foster Botanical Garden*, 180 N. Vineyard Blvd.: (9AM-4PM.) \$5; \$3 kama'āina; \$1 kids. 522-7064

Help Restore Places on O'ahu with Ka'ala Farm Ka'ala Farm Seeks Groups to assist in the floral restoration of five site in West O'ahu. Call 696-4954 or e-mail kaalafarm@gmail.com. Ongoing.

Lyon Arboretum Self-guided tours available Mon-Sat starting at 9AM, guided tours available at 10AM. The 193-acre botanical garden is open 9AM to 4PM. Classes also available. Visit hawaii.edu/lyonarboretum. *Lyon Arboretum*, 3860 Mānoa Rd.: Mon-Sat. Free. 988-0456

Tropical Plant Nature Walk Enjoy a guided nature hike with tropical plants and majestic views of the Ko'olau range. Reservations required. *Ho'omaluhia Botanical Garden*, 45-680 Luluku Rd., Kāne'ōhe: Every Sat, 10AM & Sun, 1PM. Free. 233-7323

Worm Composting Workshop Recycle with earthworms—learn to vermicompost! Fee includes mini-bin, starter colony of worms and owner's manual. E-mail waikikiworm@hawaii.rr.com or call 382-0432. *Mānoa Gardens Senior Housing Complex*, 2790 Kahaloa Dr.: Sun 12/28, (1PM.) \$30. 527-6113

Hikes & Excursions

Barack Obama's Local Neighborhood This non-politically affiliated tour, led by the Clean Air Team, explores sites in the Pāwa'a and Makiki districts of Barack Obama's youth. Meet under the trees at Beretania and Punahou. Call 948-3299 for info. Wednesdays through 2008, (1PM.) Donations in any amount.

Beautiful and Historic Nu'uuanu Valley Last chance to take a 2-mile walk along the quiet avenues, homes and gardens in the Dowsett District with the Clean Air Team. *Meet at Damien statue*, State Capitol: Last Saturdays; 12/27, (1-4PM.) \$10 and two city bus fares (or use a pass). 948-3299

Hawai'i Wartime Tour for Christmas Day Local historian Steven Fredrick will guide a historic wartime four-hour walking tour to the recreation sties and entertainment hangouts frequented by U.S. Servicemen during WWII. Wear comfortable shoes. E-mail filmguy54@hotmail.com or call 395-0674 to reserve your spot. *Fort St. Mall*, Between Merchant and S. King.: Thu 12/25, (1PM.) \$20.

The Heart of Honolulu All the major historic sites in the civic center district are included in this 1-mile walk. Presented by The Clean Air Team. *Meet at Damien statue*, State Capitol: Fri 12/26, (9AM-12PM.) Free. 948-3299

'Iolani Palace Holiday Evening Tour (See Hot Picks, page 8.) Visit iolanipalace.org or call 522-0822. *'Iolani Palace*. Sat 12/27, (5:30-9PM.) \$6; \$3 ages 5-12. 532-1050

Jungle Hike to Jackass Ginger Waterfall Walk along the Old Pali Road, hike up the Judd Trail and descend to the waterfall with the Clean Air Team and the Program to Preserve Hawaiian Place Names. *Meet at Damien statue*, State Capitol: Every last Sat; 12/27, (9AM-12PM.) \$10 plus two city bus fares (or use a pass). 948-3299

The Royal Mausoleum & Two Asian Temples The walk is less than a mile but all participants need to pay for two city bus fares (or use a pass) for this educational tour. *Meet at Damien statue*, State Capitol: Last Fridays; 12/26, (1-4PM.) \$10 plus two city bus fares, (or use a pass). 948-3299

Star of Honolulu Premier Whale Watch Cruise If you don't see one you get a free ticket to come back until you do. Join the crew in whale and cultural activities. Visit starofhonolulu.com or call 983-7827. *Pier 8, Aloha Tower*. Daily through 4/30, (12-2:30PM.) \$39 general (\$29.29 kama'āina/military); \$23.50 kids (\$17.65 w/Hawai'i I.D.). 922-1886

Windward Nature Outing Must be reasonably fit for this one, with three consecutive walking tours. Call the Clean Air Team at 948-3299. *Meet at Damien statue*, State Capitol: Last Sundays; 12/28, (9AM-5PM.) Free.

Food & Drink

Alan Wong's Christmas Eve & Christmas Dinners Up the ante on the Christmas turkey and go for butter poached lobster or red wine braised duck, among other delectable entrees. *Alan Wong's*, 1857 S. King St.: Wed 12/24 & Thu 12/25 \$85. 949-2526

Bon Ton Roule Enjoy a New Orleans-inspired jazz festival while enjoying a five-course Creole-infused menu, which includes shrimp and Hawaiian snapper etouffe. *Top of Waikiki*, Waikiki Business Plaza, 2270 Kalākaua Ave., 18th Fl.: Wed 12/31, (5PM, 7PM & 9PM.) \$75 for 5 & 7pm seatings; \$95 for 9pm seating. topofwaikiki.com, 923-3877

Korean Cooking Class Food pundit Walter Rhee will teach you how to make real Korean barbecue, rice cake oop, jun sauces, sashimi and more. Reservations required. Call 391-1550. Sat 12/27, (5:15-6:45PM.) \$39.

Raisin d'Etre Multi-course wine pairing dinner with Chef Scott Nelson. Seating limited, reservations required. *Brasserie Du Vin*, 1115 Bethel St.: Every Mon, (6:15PM.) \$60-\$70. 545-1115

Wine By Numbers This new wine shop offers different themed tastings each week. *Wine By Numbers*, 94-1235 Ka Uka Blvd., Unit B: Fridays 6-8PM; Saturdays 3-6PM. winebynumbers.com, 671-1120

The Wine Stop Sunday Seminar Enjoy a port seminar and taste and learn to distinguish the major categories of the wine. Desserts included. Reservations required. *The Wine Stop*, 1809 S. King St.: Sun 12/28, (5PM.) \$35. Club discounts apply. thewinestophawaii.com, 946-3707

Wrath of Grapes Taste killer wines from a different presenter each week. Reservations required. *Du Vin*, 1115 Bethel St.: Every Tue, (6PM.) \$20 plus tax and gratuity. 521-2900

Whatevahs

Audubon Christmas Bird Count Watch the birdy, count the birdy in the Audubon Society's annual event. Visit hawaii.audubon.com or call 528-1432 for times, locations and group leaders. Through 1/15.

Hale'iwa Art Walk Galleries, shops and restaurants open late. Enjoy artist demos and live entertainment. gonorthshore.org, 637-4558. *Hale'iwa*. Last Sat: 12/27, (6-9PM.) Free.

Holiday Ball & Dinner Dance Join Swing Dance Club Hawai'i for a home-cooked dinner with all the trimmings, music and door prizes. Though you should probably wait a bit before busting out a Princess Dip. RSVP: 529-8816, 942-2442 or 778-6480. *Ala Wai Golf Course Clubhouse*, 404 Kapahulu Ave.: Sun 12/28, (6:30PM.)

Volunteer

Kaha (Kawainui Neighborhood Park) Help maintain a plant landscape at Kaha (Kawainui Neighborhood Park). E-mail email@ahahui.net or call 593-0112. *Kawai Nui Neighborhood Park*, Kapa'a Quarry Rd., Kailua: Sat 12/27, (8:30AM-12:30PM.) 263-9397

Kalihi Stream Clean Up Help pick up trash, rake out rough areas, plant native plants while weeding invasive species. Tools and gloves provided. *Kūhiō Park Terrace*, 1454 Linapuni St.: Every second and fourth Saturday; 12/27, (9AM-12PM.) alohafrancesca@gmail.com

Makiki Watershed Awareness Initiative Help restore a small portion of the Makiki Watershed by caring for native plants and pulling weeds. Bring long-sleeve shirt, pants, gloves, bug spray, water, lunch and sturdy shoes. *Meet at the Makiki Forestry baseyard*, by the Hawai'i Nature Center: Every fourth Sat, (9AM-2PM.) 973-9782

Mānoa Heritage Center Docent Training Train to guide tours through this botanical garden and cultural site. *Mānoa Heritage Center*. Classes begins Mon 1/5. manoaheritagecenter.org, 988-1287

Rehabilitation Hospital of the Pacific Volunteers needed for the Louis Vuitton Creative Arts Program, hospital gift shop and with clerical duties. Call 544-3443. Ongoing.

Sports

Beer Run Great opportunity to meet other Leeward runners and hang out afterwards. All ages welcome, though probably not for the beer. *Runner's Hi*, 98-390 Kamehameha Hwy.: Every Tue, (5:30PM.) Free. runnershi.net, 488-6588

Bike Clinics Focus on a different aspect of bike maintenance and repair each week. Call for information on topic of the week. *IT&B*, 569 Kapahulu Ave.: Every Saturday, (6PM.) \$10.

Critical Mass Assert your right to the road with your human-powered vehicle—part political statement and part roving street fest. E-mail criticalmass@honolulu.gov. *Meet in front of the State Capitol*. Last Fridays; 12/26, (4:30PM.) Free.

Heavy Breather Rides Aren't they all? Ride with a group on a 25- to 40-mile moderate-paced excursion; eat well afterward! Call to confirm. *Pāki Park*, 3503 Lē'ahi Ave.: Every Sat, (9AM.) 479-8142

Niketown Running Club Meeting year round, rain or shine, the group meets, stretches and runs (or walks) 3 to 7 miles. *NikeTown*, 2080 Kalākaua Ave.: Every Mon, 9AM; Wed, 6PM; Sat, 9AM. Free. 943-6453

Gay

Gay Discussion Group A discussion and support group for the GLBT community and supportive people. Call 955-3488. *Waikiki Community Center*, 310 Paoakalani Ave.: Tuesdays, (7:30PM.) 923-1802

Gift Giving Christmas Eve Win holiday prizes—already wrapped—for you. Or that special someone. *Angles Waikiki*, 2256 Kūhiō, Ave., second floor: Wed 12/24, (11PM.) 926-9766

Hunky Santa Pose with sexy Santa (yes, on his lap) in this benefit for the Life Foundation. This year's jolly St. Nick is Michael Lunde, former MrGay.com and cover boy for *Instinct* magazine. *Hula's Bar and Lei Stand*, Waikiki Grand Hotel, 2nd floor, 134 Kapahulu Ave.: Wed 12/24, (9PM.) hulas.com, 923-0669

The Phoenix Party The party tells you to get your flame on (as if you need more of that) and claims to be Hawai'i's only gay oceanfront party. Full frontal? *RumFire*, Sheraton Waikiki: Last Sundays; 12/28, (5-10PM.) Free. 866-952-3473

Sexiest Santa Contest A contest for every holiday. And you know drink specials are included. *In Between*, 2155 Lau'ula St., Waikiki: Thu 12/25, (Midnight.)

Mixed Media

Aloha Shorts Author and journalist Cedric Yamanaka hosts this weekly show, which features local actors reading works by local authors. *KIPO 89.3 FM*. Every Tue, (6:30PM.) 955-8821

Metropolitan Opera Broadcasts Miss the Met? Hear the live broadcasts. This Saturday features *The Magic Flute*, Family Production version. Tooting one's horn doesn't have to be so adult. *KHPR 88.1 FM*. Sat 12/27, (1PM.) 955-8821

Monday Night Live Hear the bands that don't get the airplay they deserve. This week's show features the Dave Young Band (folk rock/acoustic/country). *KTUH*, 90.3 FM Honolulu, 91.3 FM North Shore, 89.9 Windward: Mon 12/29, (10PM.) 956-5288

On Politics A new call-in discussion program with HPR Talk Show Executive Producer Beth Ann Kozlovich and Political Reporter Wayne Yoshioka. *KIPO 89.3*. Tuesdays, (5PM.) 955-8821

Submissions

"The Scene" provides groups and individuals with free listings of community events, activities and entertainment. Submissions must include the following:

- Date and time;
- Location (include a street address);
- Cost or admission price (please note if event is free);
- Contact phone number;
- Description of the event. If submitting an entry to the music section, include the general type of music (jazz, rock, hip-hop, Hawaiian, etc.).

Deadline for submissions is two weeks before the listing should appear. Listings appear the Wednesday before the event. "The Scene" is also posted each week on our Web site, at honoluluweekly.com.

Send all submissions c/o Honolulu Weekly Calendar Editor, 1111 Fort Street Mall, Honolulu, HI 96813, fax to 528-3144 or e-mail calendar@honoluluweekly.com. Submissions are not accepted over the phone. Please note: We welcome photographs with submissions, but cannot guarantee returns—please do not send original art.

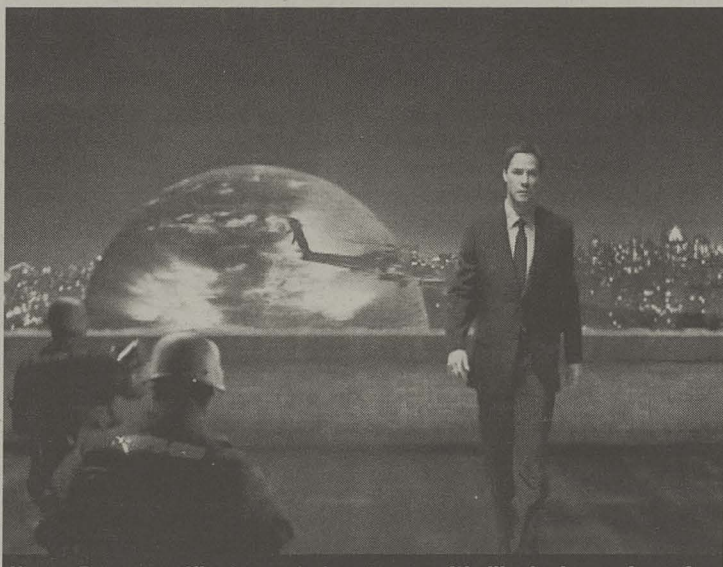
The prophet motive

BOB GREEN

The urge to re-make alleged classics, like 1951's *The Day the Earth Stood Still*, could be ascribed to many unpleasant motives, with lack of creativity or imagination high on the list. Remakes hardly ever work, however "up to date" the parasite movie is rendered, however many special effects thrown in.

Rewritten in an apparent attempt to rope in the family demographic/psychographic, the new *Earth* has a mother/son dynamic. Jennifer Connelly plays what she generally plays—a beautiful scientist deeply involved in whatever potboiler is simmering. Her son (Jaden Smith) gets all the plot-exposition questions: Who? What? Why? When? How? Mom explains as best she can.

Here's the deal: A spacecraft (this time a sphere) lands in Manhattan after knocking out all our defensive safeguards, and everybody—military, high muck-a-mucks in hazmat suits and even the secretary of defense (Kathy Bates, who should not wear pantsuits onscreen) wonders, "What to do?" Emerging from the craft is a suited figure—who is promptly shot by a nervous soldier—and then a giant robot (looking like



Keanu Reeves as Klaatu wants to save you. It's like he knows kung fu.

a 50-foot Oscar statuette, sans gold plating), which stops further gunplay from occurring. The injured figure, encased in a placenta-like guck, is operated upon and quickly turns into the alien in human form: our old friend Klaatu, here essayed by Keanu Reeves, whose on-the-nose casting might be a little too on-the-nose. Essentially Reeves gives the same performance here as in most of his endeavors—blank face, monotone line readings, a remoteness bordering on catatonia. His Klaatu speaks in an idiomatic English ("tipping point," "gotta," "precipice of doom"),

The Day the Earth Stood Still is on shaky ground

in an effort to "save the earth." But not the human species, which he says is hopeless.

It is thus the task of Connolly and son to prove to Klaatu that humanity is capable of changing its ways and

should not be wiped out. Good luck there, Jennifer.

To prove to Klaatu that humanity is not so bad, Connolly takes the alien to visit a prize-winning scientist, whom we know is classy because as we enter his study, he's listening to Bach. (Wagner, we suppose, would be worse.) Now, boys and girls, in order to win a free trip, all expenses paid, to Tierra del Fuego, name the actor hired to play the hot-shot scientist. Give up? Why, none other than John Cleese, quite subdued, looking like Basil Fawlty on Xanax.

We have now entered the second half of the movie, which descends into what looks remarkably like self-directed collapse, replete with every cliché in the sci-fi book, strange—very strange—casting, and a whole bunch of destruction (after all, peace-making is not very photogenic). Part of the planet is destroyed, some people killed, well-known monuments tumbled and disintegrated, sports stadia menaced and soldiers' eardrums shattered by sound emitted by the Giant Oscar (here called Gort), which also shoots rays from his eyes, messing up our high-tech equipment and troubling defense secretary Bates to no end (she sits and pouts the rest of the movie).

Now, if you are still reading this, what do you think? Does Klaatu stop

his spate of destruction? Do mother and son, in a display of slightly oedipal-looking love, convince him that our species—you know, people who make movies like this one, and don't listen to Bach—should be given one more chance? Can we change our ways? Can't we behave finally? I'm afraid that here, everyone becomes a little philosophical, not to say preachy. Don't storytellers, even Hollywood hacks, know that their job is to dramatize, not lecture down to us? No wonder we prefer violence.

The movie proves to be quite high-minded by its conclusion. Not able to deal with the issues it has raised, it...well, that would spoil it. Just for the record, the 1951 movie had better acting (Michael Rennie in a foil jumpsuit as Klaatu), better music (*Psycho's* Bernard Herrmann, who used a theramin as lead instrument), a better Gort and a better scientist than John Cleese, rest assured.

Plus also, as Keanu Reeves would say, the original American movie (there was also a Swedish one) actually had a scene in which the Earth did stand still. But not the re-make. Heaven forbid it should live up to its title—or prove its thesis. Is our species worth saving? The movie does not make its case. Auwē. ■

Regal Cinemas no longer releases its movie listings in time for *Honolulu Weekly* to publish them.

Town

WARD STADIUM 1044 Auahi St. 593-3000

◆ **Bolt** (Wed & Thu 11, Fri-Tue 11, 3:40, 5:45); **The Day the Earth Stood Still** (Wed & Thu 11:40, 12:20, 1, 2:15, 2:55, 3:35, 4:50, 5:30, 6:10, 7:25, 8, 8:45, 9:20, 10, 10:30, Fri-Tue 11, 1:20, 3:45, 6:10, 8:30, 10:55); **Doubt** (Wed & Thu 12:15, 2:50, 5:25, 8, 10:30, Fri-Tue 11, 1:20, 6, 8:20, 10:40); **Four Christmases** (Wed & Thu 11, 1:20, 3:40, 6, 8:15, 10:30, Fri-Tue 11:20, 1:35, 3:50, 6:05, 8:20, 10:35); **Quantum of Solace** (Wed & Thu 12:30, 3:05, 5:40, 8:05, 10:30, Fri-Tue 10:40); **Seven Pounds** (Wed & Thu 11, 12, 1:55, 2:55, 4:50, 5:45, 7:40, 8:35, 10:30, Fri-Tue 11, 12, 1:45, 4:30, 7:20, 10:10, 10:55); **The Tale of Despereaux** (Wed & Thu 11, 12, 1:20, 2:20, 3:40, 4:40, 6, 7, 8:20, 10:30, Fri-Tue 11:25, 1:40, 6:10, 8:25); **Twilight** (Wed & Thu 11:20, 2, 4:40, 7:20, 10, Fri-Tue 2:40, 5:20, 8:05); **Yes Man** (Wed & Thu 11:30, 12:30, 2:05, 3:05, 4:40, 5:40, 7:15, 8:05, 9:50, 10:30, Fri-Tue 12:30, 3:05, 5:40, 8:15, 10:50)

● Thu 12/25: **Bolt in Disney Digital** (Wed & Thu 12, 2:30, 5, 7:30, 9:55); **Nothing Like the Holidays** (Wed & Thu 1:10, 3:40, 6, 8:15, 10:30)

● Fri 12/26: **Bedtime Stories** (Fri-Sun 10:20, 11:45, 12:45, 2:15, 3:15, 4:45, 1:15, 8:15, 9:45, 10:45, Mon & Tue 11:45, 12:45, 2:15, 3:15, 4:45, 7:15, 8:15, 9:45, 10:45); **The Curious Case of Benjamin Button** (Fri-Tue 11, 12, 2:35, 3:35, 6:15, 7:15, 9:50, 10:50); **Frost/Nixon** (Fri-Tue 11, 1:55, 4:50, 7:45, 10:35); **Marley & Me** (Fri-Tue 11, 12, 1:45, 2:45, 4:30, 5:30, 7:15, 8:15, 10, 11); **The Spirit** (Fri-Tue

1:10, 3:35, 6:05, 8:30, 11); **Valkyrie** (Fri-Tue 11:15, 2:05, 4:45, 7:35, 10:25)

Windward

KO'OLAU STADIUM Temple Valley Shopping Center (808) 593-3000

◆ **Australia** (Wed & Thu 11:15, 3, 7, 10:15, Fri-Tue 9:40); **Bolt** (Wed & Thu 11:05, 1:15, 3:30, 5:45, 8, Fri-Tue 11); **The Day the Earth Stood Still** (Wed & Thu 10:30, 11:30, 12:45, 1:45, 3:10, 4:10, 5:25, 7, 8, 9:15, 10:15, Fri-Tue 10:30, 12:45, 3:10, 5:25, 8, 10:15); **Four Christmases** (Wed & Thu 11:20, 1:25, 3:40, 5:50, 7:50, Fri-Tue 11, 1, 3, 8); **Seven Pounds** (Fri-Tue 11:10, 2, 4:45, 7:10, 9:55); **The Tale of Despereaux** (Fri-Tue 10:50, 1, 3:10, 5:25, 7:35); **Twilight** (Wed & Thu 11:15, 1:45, 4:15, 7:10, Fri-Tue 5:15, 10:05)

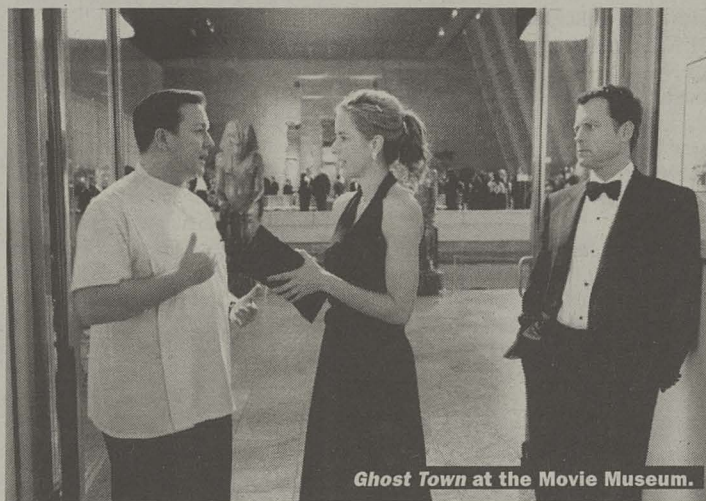
● Thu 12/25: **Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa** (Wed & Thu 11:05, 1:05)

● Fri 12/26: **Bedtime Stories** (Fri-Tue 11, 1:15, 3:30, 5:45, 8, 10:15); **The Curious Case of Benjamin Button** (Fri-Tue 11:15, 2:35, 6, 9:25); **Marley & Me** (Fri-Tue 11:30, 2:05, 4:40, 7:15, 9:50); **The Spirit** (Fri-Sat 1:10, 3:25, 5:55, 8:20, 10:45, Sun-Tue 1:10, 3:25, 5:55, 8:20); **Valkyrie** (Fri-Tue 11:05, 1:45, 4:25, 7:05, 9:45); **Yes Man** (Fri 12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:30, 9:50, Sat-Tue 11, 11, 1:10, 3:20, 5:40, 8, 10:15)

East

KAHALA 8-PLEX Kahala Mall, 4211 Wai'ala'e Ave. (808) 593-3000

◆ **Australia** (Wed 11:40, 3, 6:30); **Doubt** (Fri-Tue 11:40, 2, 4:45, 7:10, 9:30); **Four Christmases** (Wed 10:55, 1, 3:05, 5:10, 7:20); **Milk** (Wed 11:30, 2:10, 4:50, 7:40, Fri-Sat, Mon-Tue 11, 1:50, 4:45, 7:30, 10:20, Sun 1:50, 4:45, 7:30, 10:20); **Seven Pounds**



Ghost Town at the Movie Museum.

(Fri-Sat, Mon-Tue 10:50, 1:40, 4:30, 7:20, 10:10, Sun 1:40, 4:30, 7:20, 10:10); **Slumdog Millionaire** (Fri-Sat, Mon-Tue 11:30, 2:10, 5, 7:40, 10:15, Sun 2:10, 5, 7:40, 10:15); **Twilight** (Wed 11:20, 1:55, 4:30, 7:10); **Yes Man** (Fri-Tue 10:50, 1:10, 3:30, 5:50, 8:10, 10:30)

● Fri 12/26: **The Curious Case of Benjamin Button** (Fri-Tue 11:20, 3, 6:30, 9:55); **Valkyrie** (Fri-Tue 11:50, 2:30, 5:10, 7:50, 10:30)

KOKO MARINA STADIUM 8 593-3000

◆ **Australia** (Fri-Tue 9:30); **Bolt** (Wed & Thu 10:50, 1, 3:20, 5:30, 7:40, 9:50, Fri-Tue 10:50); **The Day the Earth Stood Still** (Wed & Thu 10:50, 12:10, 1:10, 2:30, 3:30, 4:50, 5:50, 7:10, 8:10, 9:30, 10:30, Fri-Tue 11:45, 2:15, 4:40, 7:40, 10:05); **The Tale of Despereaux** (Fri-Tue 10:55, 1, 3:05, 5:10, 7:20); **Yes Man** (Fri-Tue 11, 1:20, 3:40, 6, 8:20, 10:40)

● Thu 12/25: **Four Christmases** (Wed & Thu 11:20, 1:30, 3:40, 5:45, 8, 10:10); **Twilight** (Wed & Thu 11:30, 2:20, 5, 7:45, 10:20)

● Fri 12/26: **Bedtime Stories** (Fri-Tue 10:50, 1:05, 3:25, 5:45, 8, 10:20); **The Curious Case of Benjamin Button** (Fri-Tue 11:30,

2:55, 6:20, 9:45); **Marley & Me** (Fri-Tue 11:10, 1:50, 4:30, 7:10, 9:55); **The Spirit** (Fri-Tue 1:05, 3:30, 5:55, 8:20, 10:45); **Valkyrie** (Fri-Tue 11:20, 2, 5, 7:50, 10:30)

Central

MILANI TOWN CENTER STADIUM 14 95-1249 Meheula Parkway (808) 593-3000

◆ **Australia** (Wed & Thu 7); **Bolt** (Wed 11:45, 2:20, 4:45, 7:30, 9:40, Fri-Tue 11); **The Day the Earth Stood Still** (Wed 11, 11:40, 12:20, 1:20, 2, 32:40, 3:40, 4:20, 5, 6, 7:25, 8:25, Fri-Tue 11, 1:15, 3:35, 5:50, 8:10, 10:30); **Four Christmases** (Wed 10:55, 1, 3:05, 5:10, 7:20, Fri-Tue 11:25, 1:30, 3:40, 5:45); **Seven Pounds** (Wed 11:05, 11:50, 1:45, 2:30, 4:30, 5:15, 7:15, 8:05, Fri-Tue 11:10, 1:50, 4:30, 7:10, 7:55, 9:50, 10:35); **The Tale of Despereaux** (Wed 11:05, 12, 1:20, 2:15, 3:30, 4:40, 5:40, 7:05, 7:55, Fri-Tue 11:05, 12:05, 1:15, 2:25, 3:25, 4:40, 5:40, 7:05); **Twilight** (Wed 11:15, 1:50, 4:25, 7:10, Fri-Tue 7:50, 10:25); **Yes Man** (Wed & Thu 11:30, 12:15, 1:55, 2:40, 4:20, 5:20, 6:45, 7:45, Fri-Tue 11:55, 2:30, 5:05, 7:45, 9:30, 10:10)

● Thu 12/25: **Madagascar: Escape 2**

MovieClock

Film locations and times are subject to change. Please call venues for latest information

Legend:

- Showing ◆
- Closing ●
- Opening ●

Film

Victory!

RYAN SENAGA

By now, *Slumdog Millionaire* is on pace to win dozens of awards and make hundreds of critics' top 10 lists, and for good reason. It is that rare feel-good movie that earns its feel-goodness through genuinely sincere and nuanced character development. In director Danny Boyle's non-rabid zombie hands (with co-director Loveleen Tandan), the film also has a kinetic, driving energy, a masterfully detailed sense of place and a riveting music score. Only a huge missed opportunity for tonal closure at the end mars this propulsive film from being an absolutely perfect.

We open on a young poor Indian boy named Jamal, who is being interrogated by the police. He is accused of cheating on a game show based on *Who Wants to Be a Millionaire?* After all, how can an uneducated orphan "slumdog" answer all of those hard questions? As the inspector watches the video tape of Jamal answering each question, we are shown in flashback how the unfortunate events in the boy's life led to the knowledge of each answer.

When not contemplating the different ways the world could end (28 *Days Later*, *Sunshine*), Boyle's fa-

vorite subject seems to be poor kids obtaining large sums of money. Unlike *Millions* though, *Slumdog* is decidedly for adults, and paints a sweeping, amber-toned picture of the slums of India that calls to mind Fernando Meirelles' *City of God*. But Boyle injects a driving force into the narrative that is all his own; the drama is practically thriller-

You probably shouldn't read this if you don't want the ending spoiled

like in its urgency. The movie also improves on the book on which it was based, *Q & A* by Vikas Swarup, in that Jamal still has one more question to go before winning the jackpot. Instead of a flashback, the final suspenseful round of the game show happens in real time.

Everything is irresistibly involving up to the final question. No spoilers here: it's just that screenwriter Simon Beaufoy (*The Full Monty*) misses a golden opportu-

nity to tie things up by not allowing key characters to know certain things. The fact that the film ends on such a sloppy note somewhat ruins the worthiness of a truly emotional conclusion. If the characters' fates are that pre-ordained, why do they bother even leaving the shanty since they're waiting for their goals to be "written"? (yes, this is completely unclear unless one sees the movie, but anyone with any interest in cinema should see *Slumdog* anyway. Still, for an example of an ending of true organic inevitability, pop *The Dark Knight* in that DVD player again.)

Regardless of anti-climax, everything ends with a traditional, big Bollywood-style dance number, and the sense of fun and triumph as the audience exits the movie theater is infectious. As much as the film deserves acclaim in the categories for best picture, screenplay, cinematography and director, "Jai Ho" deserves an Oscar nomination for best original song. ("jai ho" means "victory.") When a song is that winning, who cares if one doesn't comprehend it. The same goes for that crucial plot point in *Slumdog Millionaire's* ending. Even bad screenwriting judgment can't ruin one of the best films of the year. ■

6 CRITICS' CHOICE AWARD NOMINATIONS
BEST PICTURE

5 GOLDEN GLOBE AWARD NOMINATIONS
BEST ACTRESS
Meryl Streep

5 SCREEN ACTORS GUILD AWARD NOMINATIONS
BEST ENSEMBLE CAST

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BEST PICTURE

3 SCREEN ACTORS GUILD NOMINATIONS
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Africa (Wed 11, 1, 3); **Nothing Like the Holidays** (Wed 11:10, 1:30, 3:45, 6:05, 8:20)

● Fri 12/26: **Bedtime Stories** (Fri-Tue 11:05, 12, 1:25, 2:20, 3:45, 4:45, 6, 7:20, 8:15, 9:40, 10:40); **The Curious Case of Benjamin Button** (Fri-Tue 11:15, 12:10, 2:40, 3:35, 6, 7, 9:20, 10:20); **Marley & Me** (Fri-Tue 11, 11:50, 1:45, 2:35, 4:30, 5:15, 7:15, 8, 9, 5, 10:45); **The Spirit** (Fri-Tue 11:10, 3:30, 5:55, 8:20, 10:45); **Valkyrie** (Fri-Tue 11:30, 2:10, 4:55, 7:35, 10:15)

PEARLRIDGE WEST (808) 593-3000

◆ **Bolt** (Wed & Thu 11:15, 1:30, 3:45, 6, 8:20, Fri-Tue 11:45, 2:30); **The Day the Earth Stood Still** (Wed & Thu 10:30, 11:15, 12, 1, 1:45, 2:30, 3:30, 4:15, 5, 6, 7, 7:45, 8:25, Fri-Tue 10:45, 1, 3:15, 5:30, 7:55, 10:15); **Doubt** (Fri-Tue 12, 2:40, 5:05, 7:30, 10); **Four Christmases** (Wed & Thu 10:45, 11:45, 12:55, 1:55, 3:05, 3:55, 5:15, 6:15, 7:20, 8:20, Fri-Tue 7:50, 10); **Seven Pounds** (Wed & Thu 10:45, 11:45, 1:30, 2:30, 4:15, 5:15, 7, 8, Fri-Tue 10:45, 1:30, 4:15, 5:15, 7, 8, 9:45, 10:45); **The Tale of Despereaux** (Wed & Thu 11, 12, 1:15, 2:15, 3:30, Fri-Tue 11:10, 12:10, 1:25, 2:25, 3:40, 4:40, 5:40, 7:10); **Twilight** (Wed & Thu 10:30, 11:30, 1:15, 2:15, 3:55, 4:55, 7, 8, Fri-Tue 11, 1:40, 4:20, 7, 9:40); **Yes Man** (Wed & Thu 10:40, 11:40, 1:05, 2:05, 3:30, 4:30, 5:55, 7:20, 8:20, Fri-Tue 10:45, 1, 3:20, 5:45, 8:05, 9:20, 10:25)

● Thu 12/25: **Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa** (Wed & Thu 11, 1, 3, 5); **Nothing Like the Holidays** (Wed & Thu 11:10, 1:25, 3:40, 6, 8:15); **Punisher: War Zone** (Wed & Thu 7); **Quantum of Solace** (Wed & Thu 8:30)

● Fri 12/26: **Bedtime Stories** (Fri-Tue 11:15, 12:30, 1:30, 2:45, 3:45, 5, 6, 7:15, 8:15, 9:30, 10:30); **The Curious Case of Benjamin Button** (Fri-Tue 11:05, 12:05, 2:35, 3:35, 6, 7, 9:25, 10:25); **Marley & Me**

(Fri-Tue 11:10, 12:10, 1:50, 2:50, 4:30, 5:30, 7:10, 8:10, 9:50, 10:50); **The Spirit** (Fri-Tue 11:30, 2, 4:30, 7:25, 9:55); **Valkyrie** (Fri-Tue 11:05, 1:45, 4:25, 7:05, 9:45)

Leeward

KAPOLEI MEGAPLEX 890 Kamokila Blvd. (808) 593-3000

◆ **Bolt** (Wed & Thu 12, 12:45, 2:10, 3, 4:20, 5:15, 7:30, Fri-Tue 12:15, 2:30, 4:45); **The Day the Earth Stood Still** (Wed & Thu 11, 11:45, 12:30, 1:20, 2:10, 2:50, 3:40, 4:35, 5:10, 6, 7:30, Fri-Sat, Mon-Tue 11, 1:20, 3:40, 6, 8:20, 10:40, Sun 1:20, 3:40, 6, 8:20, 10:40); **Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa** (Wed & Thu 11:10, 1:15, 3:20, 5:25, 7:30, Fri-Sat, Mon-Tue 11, 1, Sun 1); **Nothing Like the Holidays** (Wed & Thu 11:05, 1:20, 3:35, 5:50, Fri-Tue 3:15, 5:30); **Quantum of Solace** (Wed & Thu 11, 1:40, 4:20, 7, Fri-Tue 9:15); **Seven Pounds** (Fri-Tue 11:05, 12:05, 1:45, 2:45, 4:25, 5:25, 7:05, 8:05, 9:45, 10:45); **Twilight** (Wed & Thu 11, 1:40, 4:20, 7, Fri-Tue 8:10, 10:40); **Yes Man** (Fri-Sat, Mon-Tue 11, 1:20, 3:40, 6, 7, 8:20, 9:20, 10:40, Sun 1:20, 3:40, 6, 7, 8:20, 9:20, 10:40)

● Thu 12/25: **Australia** (Wed & Thu 7); **Four Christmases** (Wed & Thu 11:15, 1:20, 3:25, 5:30, 6:30, 7:35); **Transporter 3** (Wed & Thu 11, 5:55, 10:35, Sun 5:55, 10:35)

● Fri 12/26: **Bedtime Stories** (Fri-Tue, Mon-Tue 11:05, 12:05, 1:20, 2:20, 3:35, 4:35, 5:50, 6:50, 8:05, 9:05, 10:20, Sun 12:05, 1:20, 2:20, 3:35, 4:35, 5:50, 6:50, 8:05, 9:05, 10:20); **The Curious Case of Benjamin Button** (Fri-Sat, Mon-Tue 11:20, 12:20, 2:40, 3:40, 6, 7, 9:20, 10:20, ASun 12:20, 2:40, 3:40, 6, 7, 9:20, 10:20); **Marley & Me** (Fri-Sat, Mon-Tue 11:10, 12:05, 1:50, 2:45, 4:30, 5:25, 7:10, 8:05, 9:50, 10:45, Sun 10:05, 1:50, 2:45, 4:30, 5:25, 7:10, 8:05, 9:50, 10:45); **The Spirit** (Fri-Sat, Mon-Tue 11:10, 1:25, 3:40, 5:55, 8:10, 10:25, Sun 1:25, 3:40, 5:55,

8:10, 10:25); **The Tale of Despereaux** (Fri-Sat, Mon-Tue 11, 12:15, 1:10, 2:30, 3:20, 4:40, 5:30, 7, Sun 12:15, 1:10, 2:30, 3:20, 4:40, 5:30, 7); **Valkyrie** (Fri-Sat, Mon-Tue 11:50, 2:25, 5, 7:35, 10:10, Sun 2:25, 5, 7:35, 10:10)

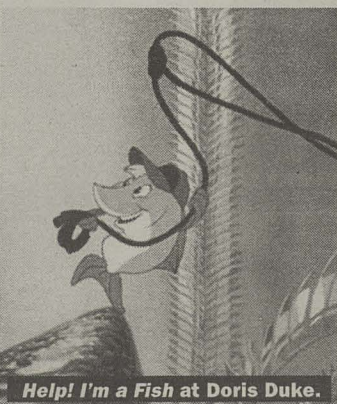
Art House

DORIS DUKE THEATRE Honolulu Academy of Arts, 900 S. Beretania St. \$7 general, \$5 members. 532-8768

◆ **Girls POV: Shorts for Ages 10+** (Tue 1, 7:30); **Help! I'm a Fish** (Fri 1, 7:30); **Kid Flix Mix: Shorts for Ages 3-8** (Sat 1, 7:30); **NYICFF Party Mix: Shorts for Ages 8-16** (Sun 1, 7:30, Mon 7:30)

MOVIE MUSEUM 3566 Harding Ave. \$5 general, \$4 members. 735-8771

◆ **Ghost Town** (Sat 12:30, 2:30, 4:30, 6:30, 8:30); **Granny Gabai (aka Saga no Gabai Baachan)** (Fri 12:30, 2:30, 4:30, 6:30, 8:30); **Station Jim showing with CRAC!** (Sun 12:30, 2:30, 4:30, 6:30, 8:30); **The Wedding Director** (Mon 12:30, 2:30, 4:30, 6:30, 8:30)



Help! I'm a Fish at Doris Duke.

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NOW SHOWING - CHECK DIRECTORIES FOR LISTINGS

O'ahu Films

Unattributed film synopses indicate movies not yet reviewed by HW staff. Indicates films of unusual interest

Opening

Bedtime Stories Adam Sandler holiday movie about bedtime stories coming to life.

The Curious Case of Benjamin Button Director David Fincher (*Fight Club*) helms this drama about a man "born old" (Brad Pitt) and growing younger. He needs to meet some lady right in the middle.

Gran Torino Clint Eastwood plays a Korean War vet who learns his racism and bigotry do not fit into the new demographics and psychographics of his neighborhood. Rice rockets may make an appearance. Fastwood also directed this film.

Marley & Me Owen Wilson and Jennifer Aniston star in a holiday romantic comedy (rom com, anyone?). The crazy twist? Learning life lessons from their naughty dog (no innuendo here).

The Spirit The '30s graphic novel becomes a live-action flick about a crime fighter who comes back from the spirit world to...fight crime (surprise!).

Valkyrie Tom Cruise is involved in a plot to assassinate Hitler. One short man against another.

Continuing

Australia While the movie shallowly uses WWII as a melodramatic plot point worthy of Michael Bay's *Pearl Harbor*, at an unexpectedly fast-paced two hours and 45 minutes, *Australia* is a pleasant enough way to snuggle in a theater and spend a winter date night.

—Ryan Senaga

Cadillac Records Adrien Brody plays Leonard Chess, the man who



Granny Gabai at Movie Museum

discovered some of America's best blues musicians including Muddy Waters, Howlin' Wolf, Chuck Berry and Etta James. If nothing else, the music ought to rock. Brody's usually no slouch either.

The Day the Earth Stood Still Keanu Reeves comes down to earth to proclaim dire warnings delivered in monotone. Sort of like what happened in *Little Buddha*.

Doubt Playwright John Patrick Shanley takes his Pulitzer Prize-winning play to the big screen in a story of power dynamics within the Catholic church.

Four Christmases Vince Vaughn transforms an above average X-mas movie into a comedy tour de force (for himself). Reese Witherspoon is there too, but mostly she just coasts.

—Bob Green

Milk Sean Penn nails the persona of Harvey Milk, considerable flaws and all, while Josh Brolin, his career on a roll, plays Dan White not as a demon, but an emotionally complex man. Director Gus Van Sant captures this without didacticism and keeps its good humor almost throughout.

Nothing Like the Holidays (Sing in chipmunk voices) "Christmas, Christmas time is here. Holiday movies are time for fear."

Quantum of Solace For his second mission, Daniel Craig as Bond does the best he can, though the movie barely slows down to let him act. Most of the time, he rampages like a terminator programmed to imitate Jason Bourne.

—R. S.

Seven Pounds Will Smith reunites with *The Pursuit of Happyness* director Gabriele Muccino, which means this tale of an IRS man with a choice to make will probably come off as well-intentioned, but a little too syrupy.

Slumdog Millionaire (See review, page 19).

The Tale of Despereaux An animated tale about a mouse and his love of good food. Just where do they get their ideas?

Twilight Think of it as *High School Musical* for goths, but that's not necessary a bad thing. Hot Topic patrons with black lipstick need to chew bubble gum, too.

—R. S.

Yes Man Jim Carrey changes his life by saying, "Yes," to every opportunity that comes his way. Like doing what looks like yet another awful Jim Carrey movie.

Art House & Short Runs

Chris and Don: A Love Story

(2007) A comprehensive doc about the 30-year love affair between writer Christopher Isherwood and portraitist Don Bachardy, three decades his junior. Archival footage, home movies, interviews combined inventively and charmingly, we're told. *Doris Duke Theatre, 900 S. Beretania St., Wed 12/17, Thu 12/18, Fri 12/19, 1 & 7:30PM, \$7 general, \$5 members, 532-8768*

Granny Gabai (Japan, 2006) Hawai'i premiere of the celebrated version of a popular autobiographical novel about a young boy sent to live with his poor but spirited, resourceful grandmother who provides him with a terrific life in a small Japanese town.

Movie Museum 3566 Harding Ave. #4, Fri 12/26, 12:30, 2:30, 4:30, 6:30 & 8:30PM, \$4 members, \$5 general, 735-8771

Ghost Town (2008) The one that got away. This inventive, spirited romantic comedy seemed poised to be a big hit, but audiences stayed away in droves. The star is Ricky Gervais (*Extras*, the *Brit Office*), as a man who has had a near-death experience and thus is enabled to see ghosts. Among those who want his services is Greg Kinnear, in another good performance. Those who have seen it, both of them, say it's a comedy highlight of 2008. *Movie Museum, 3566 Harding Ave. #4, Sat 12/27, 2:30, 4:30, 6:30 & 8:30PM, \$4 members, \$5 general, 735-8771*

Station Jim (UK, 2001) The 1890s, England. This one involves a talented Jack Russell terrier, an orphanage, an alleged visit by Queen Victoria, who is amused. Family entertainment, as they say. On the same bill: Oscar-winning animated short **CRACI** (1961) by genius-animator Frédéric Back. *Movie Museum, 3566 Harding Ave. #4, Sun. 12/28, 12:30, 2:30, 4:30, 6:30 & 8:30PM, \$4 members, \$5 general,*

735-8771

The Wedding Director (Italy/France, 2006) Satire and romantic comedy, as a troubled middle-aged movie-maker falls for a princess about to be married. Winner of all kinds of Italian awards. *Movie Museum, 3566 Harding Ave. #4, Mon 12/29, 12:30, 2:30, 4:30, 6:30 & 8:30PM, \$4 members, \$5 general, 735-8771*

Help! I'm a Fish (Denmark, 2000) Part of the New York International Children's Film Festival, this is a beautifully-animated undersea adventure (72 min.) about three fish, working for scale, who foil a plot to rule the world. With the voices of Alan Rickman and Terry Jones (*Monty Python*). *Doris Duke Theatre, 900 S. Beretania St., Fri. 12/26, 1 & 7:30PM, \$3 for kids under 12, \$7 general, \$6 seniors & military, \$5 members, 532-8768*

Kid Flix Mix: Shorts for Ages 3-8 10 films from six countries. Part of the International Children's Film Fest. *Doris Duke Theatre, 900 S. Beretania St., Sat. 12/27, 1 & 7:30PM, \$3 for kids under 12, \$7 general, \$6 seniors & military, \$5 members, 532-8768*

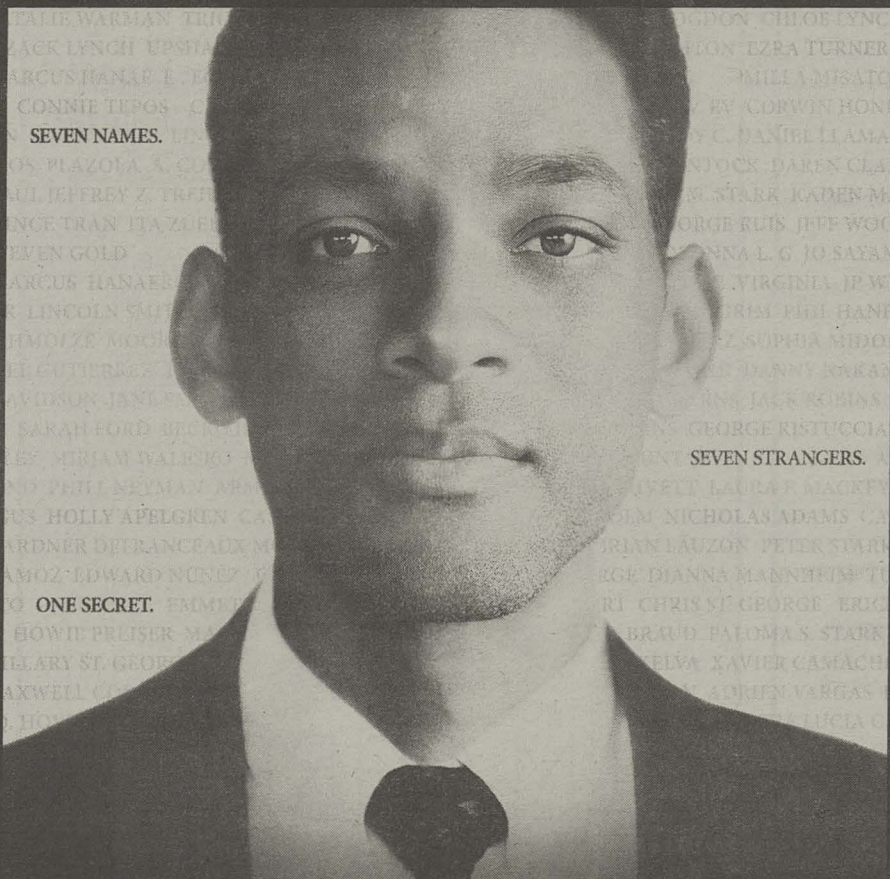
Party Mix: Shorts for Ages 8-16 (New York Int'l Children's Fest) Interactive program of more than 10 shorts from nine countries.

Doris Duke Theatre, 900 S. Beretania St., Sun, 12/28, 1 & 7:30PM; Mon 12/29, 7:30PM, \$3 for kids under 12, \$7 general, \$6 seniors & military, \$5 members, 532-8768

Girls POV: Shorts for Ages 10-plus (Children's Film Fest) The theme is images of the female body and societal conditioning; introduction and Q & A by actress Ginger Gohier.

Doris Duke Theatre, 900 S. Beretania St., Tue 12/30, 1 & 7:30PM, \$3 for kids under 12, \$7 general, \$6 seniors & military, \$5 members, 532-8768

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The Straight Dope

By Cecil Adams

As I stare into the beautiful dark sky above my home in Hawaii and see all the stars and satellites, I ponder the possibility of "space accidents." With all those satellites up there, are there any collisions? I don't suppose anybody is handing out OUIs (for orbiting under the influence), but how do they decide what satellite should go where? Who oversees all those orbits? Is it just a stellar free-for-all?

—Roy Orbits Son

No, but it's not iron discipline either. To date we've been content to let just about anybody heave stuff into orbit, requiring only minimal reporting for most launches. But with increasing commercialization of space, things are starting to get crowded up there—the Union of Concerned Scientists lists 898 active satellites, operated by everybody from the U.S. to Luxembourg. Given the vastness of space, even in earth's immediate vicinity, it's not like we're talking bumper-to-bumper traffic.

But consider:

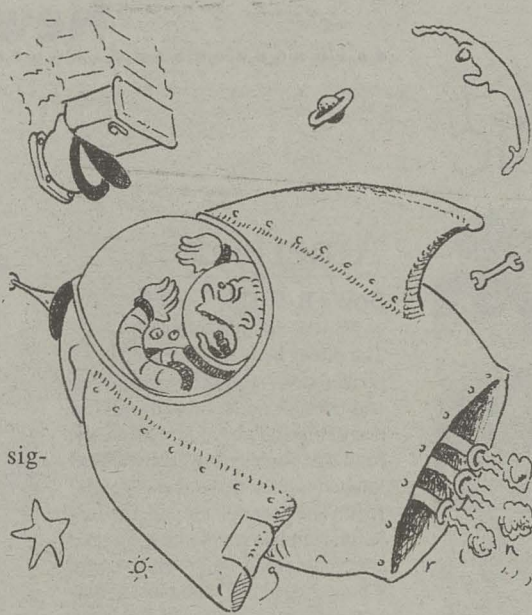
(1) Those 898 satellites constitute

only a fraction of orbiting objects. The North American Air Defense Command (NORAD) currently tracks about 13,000 spaceborne items, mostly junk. It's likely hundreds of thousands more bits have escaped detection.

(2) Satellites are expensive—the huge ones, like Europe's *Envisat*, can cost billions, and just putting something, anything, into orbit is likely to run you (per one NASA estimate) between \$50 million and \$400 million.

(3) Orbiting objects travel at tens of thousands of miles per hour. If two of them collide, they're both going to be moving at a good clip, so the net impact speed of a glancing blow won't necessarily be that high. But even if something merely sideswipes your \$500 million orbiting investment, chances are it's hosed.

In short, the day may not be far off when we'll need space traffic control—and in fact people have been thinking along these lines for a long time. In 1959 the United Nations recommended that rules be drawn up for handling run-ins among spacecraft, but no detailed regulations yet exist. The 1974 Convention on Registration of Objects Launched Into Outer Space requires



natory nations to report their space launch details to the UN. Presumably all do, but where they actually put the spacecraft is still up to their individual space agencies. There's no international regulation on where low-earth satellites—those orbiting at less than about 1,200 miles up—can operate.

Not-so-low-earth satellites are a different story. I speak here of geostationary satellites, which travel in a special orbit that allows them to remain in a fixed location relative to the earth's surface—a handy thing for communications and weather gear. The geostationary orbit is a relatively narrow ring about 22,300 miles above the equator. Because you need two degrees of separation between satellites to avoid radio interference, there are only 180 slots available. You can put multiple satellites in the same slot as long as they use different frequencies;

ILLUSTRATION: SLUG SIGNORINO

nonetheless, these slots are a coveted commodity. Seeing a chance to cash in, a group of equatorial countries issued the Bogota Declaration in 1976, claiming jurisdiction over the space above their countries. But as I've mentioned before, the declaration

has been largely ignored, since the countries have no way to enforce it. Instead, the International Telecommunications Union, a UN agency, decides geostationary claims. For example, circa 1990 the tiny island nation of Tonga tried to reserve 16-plus slots for itself, possibly for speculative resale; other countries complained to the ITU, and Tonga settled for 6.

A bigger challenge is space debris—defunct satellites, booster rocket parts, and fragments of both. Mere regulation won't accomplish much—a lot of this stuff has been bouncing around the spaceways for decades. Hundreds of close calls happen each day. Admittedly "close call" is defined as approaching within one kilometer, which may sound like plenty of room. But some encounters are of a much closer kind:

• In December 1991, debris from

the Russian *Cosmos 926* satellite hit the *Cosmos 1934*, an event that went unnoticed at the time and was only detected years later on analysis of old tracking data.

In July 1996, a small French satellite called *Cerise* suddenly started tumbling in orbit. The cause? A piece of space debris from an old U.S. rocket hit *Cerise's* stabilizing boom at over 31,000 MPH. Amazingly, the satellite recovered and completed its mission.

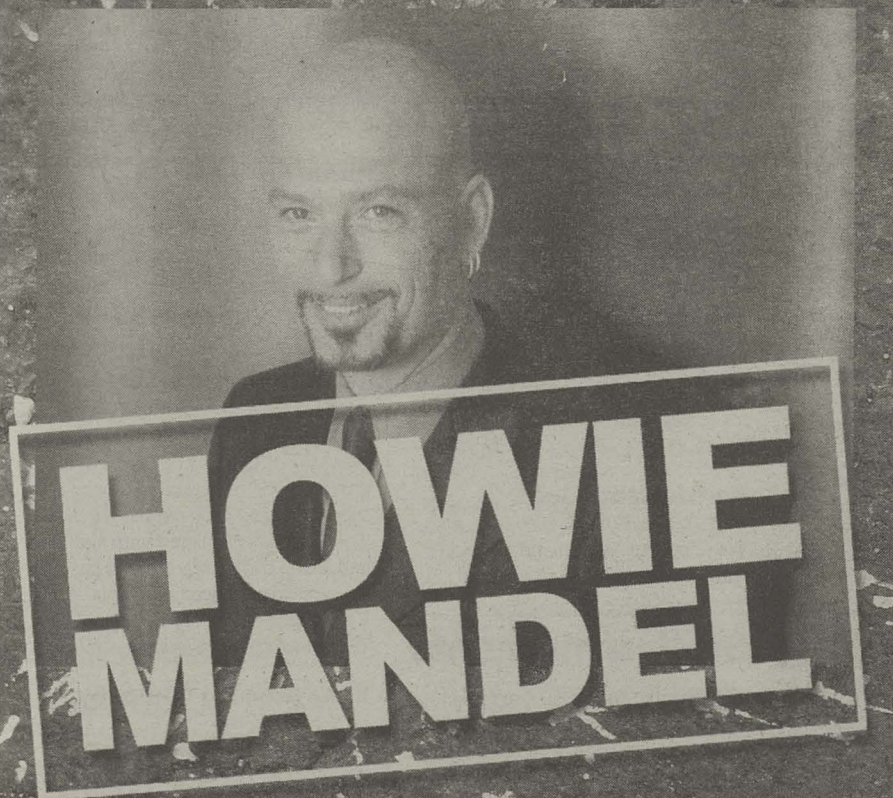
• In January, 2005, a piece of a Chinese rocket had a high-level meeting with a 31-year-old U.S. rocket booster, scattering new debris.

These impacts were in relatively low orbits, but even high orbits can be hazardous. In March 2006, a Russian telecommunications satellite in geostationary orbit was irreparably damaged following apparent impact with an unknown object. The same thing had seemingly happened to a geostationary European communications satellite in 1993.

So the forthcoming space traffic control agency has its work cut out for it. I'll volunteer to get on the horn with Luxembourg—nobody can tell me those jamokes need 16 satellites. But random debris is a tougher nut, and space cops alone won't crack it. Someday we'll need orbital street sweeping, too.

Comments, questions? Take it up with Cecil on the Straight Dope Message Board, straightdope.com, or write him at the Chicago Reader, 11 E. Illinois, Chicago 60611

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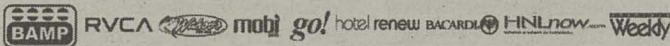
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New or Noteworthy

American

Bob's B-B-Q

— K.H. (6/6/07)

The prices here are easy on the pocketbook—you can order a burger and fries for under \$6 and walk away full. But cheap fare aside, the food that comes out of the walk-up kitchen is stick-to-your-ribs good food. The portions are big, the food is fresh and there's something for everyone. Bob's will even give you a breakfast better than most restaurants in town. Don't visit Bob's for ambience—eat here because you like good food with a semi-Southern flair. Eat here because you're hungry. 1366 Dillingham Blvd. (842-3663). Daily 6AM–10PM. Entrée: From \$2.50–\$13.25. MC, V.

Downtown

— K.H. (8/8/07)

The bright and spare cafeteria-like eatery on the ground floor of the Hawai'i State Art Museum is the most necessary addition to the downtown lunch-scape. It promises fresh, locally grown, no-frills fare; and it delivers. Quiches, antipasti and panini are the building blocks for ultra-fresh plate lunches that come served to go in earth-friendly take-out containers that are guaranteed to break down naturally within 80 days. Talk about guilt-free eating—not only are you satisfying your hunger with bright orange-carrot hummus, you're supporting a movement to save the Earth. Who knew you were so aware? Hawai'i State Art Museum, 250 S. Hotel St. (536-5900) Mon.–Sat. 11AM–2PM. Entrée: From \$9.50–\$14.95. AmEx, Disc, MC, V.

Duc's Bistro

— K.H. (10/3/07)

The little restaurant on Maunakea Street is as unassuming as it is surprising. Duc himself is the gracious host that greets and seats you. Start with the Kobe beef tartar, a tender mound of pink beef minced with lemon, onions and capers and served with toast and a trio of condiments—diced tomatoes, onions and capers—to spoon onto the build-it-yourself open-faced triangles. The throwback to the simple French preparation is a welcome deviation from the over-the-top treatment we're used to giving seafood. Classicism is the common thread for the remainder of the menu, where French and Vietnamese dishes co-exist, but don't commingle. The Vietnamese dishes are clean, fresh and fragrant. The French dishes are hearty and rich, like the seafood Feuille de Joinville, a decadent blend of prawns, scallops and morels tossed in a crawfish sauce and served in a flaky puff pastry. 1188 Maunakea St. (531-6325) Mon.–Sat. 5AM–10PM. Entrée: From \$20–\$32.95. AmEx, MC, V.

'Elua Restaurant and Wine Bar

— K.H. (8/15/07)

'Elua, the Hawaiian word for "two," is the theme of the culinary collaboration between Donato Loperfido and Philippe Padovani. The two opt for a dual menu in which one part—the part with the French-inspired dishes—belongs to Padovani and the other to Donato, where his Italian heritage is splashed all over the page. Here, the experience is in eating as much as it is in the food itself, which means that you should allow a few hours for a meal. The servers don't rush the courses—they want you to sit, sip and eat. Slowly. All the comfort and familiarity of gasthaus food, with the delicacy of a French gourmet. 1341 Kap'i'olani Blvd., (955-ELUA) Lunch Mon.–Fri. 11:30AM–2PM, Dinner Daily 6PM–10PM. Entrée: From \$12–\$38. AmEx, Disc, MC, V.

Food for Thought

— Carlie Singh (4/2/08)

For the owners and patrons of Food for Thought, being "green" means more than just organic, local ingredients—it also means handmade, homemade and slow-made. Along with delicious food, this wagon offers 100 percent biodegradable and compostable packaging, made from renewable resources such as corn, potato and sugarcane. The falafel pita wrap is especially satisfying—light and crispy on the outside, steamy and savory on the inside. The Ho Farms cherry tomatoes make several dishes pop with juicy joy and as one patron says, "these sprouts are so good, they make me want to laugh." 66–472 Kamehameha Hwy., (780-7928). Mon.–Sat. 11AM–6PM.

Giovanni Pastrami

— K.H. (9/5/07)

With its Peruvian glass tiles, concrete bar and golden-toned banquettes, the place looks more like a modern mid-scale Italian trattoria than a deli, pizza parlor or sports bar. There are a few reasons to visit, the first being its roast brisket and jack cheese grilled sandwich. Giovanni Pastrami takes a bit of a deli detour with a full breakfast menu that is served all day until midnight. The restaurant's signature crab cake eggs benedict has the potential for a good twist on an old classic. Your best bet is to choose something you can't get elsewhere—it'll make it worth the trip to the strip. 227 Lewers St., Ste. 118, (923-2100) Daily 7AM–Midnight. Entrée: From \$7.95–\$14.95. AmEx, Disc, MC, V.

Hank's Haute Dogs

— K.H. (8/22/07)

We're talking good, solid, all-beef franks that are no more harmful

than your hoity-toity slices of say, mortadella. The menu is all hot dogs, with a few sides like French fries (bistro-thin and twice-cooked to perfection) and onion rings, made with sweet Maui onions. His classic dog (the Chicago) anchors the menu, and is made with Vienna brand all-beef franks. Gourmet dogs run the gamut from meat-on-meat to no meat at all ("No Dog," an all-veggie sandwich). 324 Coral Ave., (532-4265) Mon.–Fri. 10AM–5PM, Sat & Sun. 11AM–5PM. Cash only.

Ige's 19th Puka Restaurant & Tavern

— Walter Rhee (4/30/08)

Although the tavern has a honky-tonk feel with live bands belting out tunes and line dancing diners, the family dining area is filled with all ages and groups. The dinner menu offers four different daily entrées with the choice of two sides. In particular, the saimin deluxe has a taste to die for. The 1940s original broth is taste-fortified wit different flavors of pork, kamaboko, mustard greens, and shredded cabbage topped with green onions. Good food, good music and a very friendly staff with good service—it's the place to and relax in the 'ohana spirit. 98–761 'Oihana St., (486-3500) Mon, Wed & Thu 3PM–10PM, Tue 3 PM–9 PM, Fri 3 PM–11:30PM, Sat 3PM–11PM. Entrée: From \$8.49–\$14. AmEx, MC, V.

Keoni By Keo's

— Rachel Brown (6/11/08)

While Keoni's serves American and Thai cuisine for lunch and dinner, the true star is its breakfast with egg yolks, fluffy rice, succulent ham, and enough vegetarian options to keep the angriest of the granola crowd satisfied. The menu has all the standard local and mainland favorites—loco moco, Denver omelette, pancakes and bacon—as well as a few surprises. Offering a rare combination of superior service, good food and reasonable prices with an atmosphere that can't be beat. Keoni's knows how to put a smile on any face. 2375 Kūhiō Ave. (922-9888). Sun-Sat. 7AM–10PM. Entrée: From \$10–\$15. AmEx, DC, Disc, JCB, MC, V.

Kiawe Kitchen

— Leanne Trapedo Sims (7/13/08)

Kiawe Kitchen's menu morphs daily, with Executive Chef Jonah Van Gieson's signature infusion of improvisational wizardry and experimentation concluding in the gustatory experience of your life. Van Gieson seeks to take Kiawe Kitchen to a "greener" place, as he works intimately with local vendors and the farming community. For fish lovers, the uku, or gray snapper, has resulted in a new special: steamed uku in the Kitchen's wood-fired oven seared with shallots and leeks, truffle oil, almond basmati rice and spicy macadamia nuts. As Van Gieson says, "It's a keeper." 19-4005 Haunani Road, Volcano Village (967-7711).

Kona Brewing Company

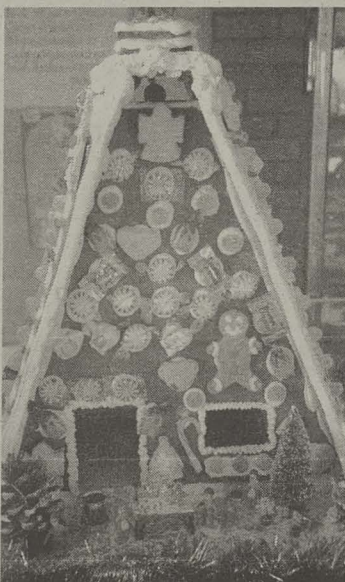
— K.H. (5/16/07)

Stick around for dessert and your faith in beer as an ingredient might be renewed. The desserts—beer-infused offerings such as mango bread pudding with pale ale caramel sauce and Tahitian vanilla bean ice-cream with Black Sand Porter sauce—do a much better job of showcasing the beers and what they can do for food. When it comes to locally made brews, there's really no competition. Add to those hand-tossed pizzas and there's all the reason you need to choose Kona Brewing Company over Outback. 7192 Kalamia'ole Hwy. (394-56621). Mon.–Fri. 11AM–11PM, kitchen closes at 9PM, bar closes at 10 PM. Entrée: From \$13–\$19. AmEx, Disc, MC, V.

Stollen moments

For the best stollen in Honolulu, look no further than Fritz European Bakery in Kalihi. Fritz is an institution well known to Hawaii's germanic tribe for its rye and buttermilk breads. This traditional stollen, known as Weihnachtsstollen, is rich with marzipan, butter, raisins, jamaican rum and vanilla extract. When served with a cup of strong coffee it will transport you to northern climes. Get yours while you can—it will only be available until the new year arrives. Also available are tasty gingerbread boys of various sizes.

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Start the Night off right

Food

PATRICIA CHANG

Snack Pack



Summer Chau runs a one-woman smoothie operation at Summer Frappe's new location.

Quick bites don't have to skimp on flavor

PATRICIA CHANG

Breakfast, lunch and dinner are great, but it's the quick bites between meals that really keep us going throughout the day. We all know about Waiola Shave Ice and Leonard's malasadas, but there are other snack havens worth mentioning. Here are four recommendations, all locally and family owned, that will definitely satiate your sweet and/or salty cravings without taking too big of a bite out of your day.

Funnel Cake & Yogurt

The name almost says it all. Its specialty is funnel cake and it also offers delicious frozen yogurt that's tart and perfectly creamy, which isn't as easy as it sounds and is rarely executed very well in many other frozen yogurt places on the island. For those unfamiliar with funnel cake, it is made by pouring batter through a funnel in to hot oil in a circular pattern. After being deep fried to a golden brown it's taken out and covered in powdered sugar and whatever toppings the customer desires.

Hidden in the Discovery Bay Center, behind Bombay Indian Restaurant and the soon-to-be Buffalo Wild Wings, it's incredibly easy to miss even while walking by. It's no surprise that owners Daniel and June Yoon have been making the carnival favorite for four years now. After a friend gave them the idea of selling funnel cake, the husband and wife duo rented a kiosk in Waikiki in front of Planet Hollywood and started selling the crispy cake creation. They attribute the perfect taste and texture of the cakes to using only the best batter. "We use high quality batter only," said Daniel. "It's called 'World's Greatest Funnel Cake Mix'. Kind of expensive but worth it." The Yoons opened this store seven months ago in May after their lease expired at the kiosk and while they have found their inconspicuous location a bit hard to work with, they have a steady stream of regulars that come in sometimes multiple times a day to get their sweet fix.

In addition to the two specialties, Funnel Cake & Yogurt also offer a wide range of drinks from

smoothies and blended drinks to coffee and tea. The bright store is impeccably clean and well managed. Yogurt flavors—pineapple, peach, mango or blueberry change every few days. Funnel cake is \$3.85 for a 6 inch and \$4.85 for an 8 inch. Frozen yogurt is \$3.95 for the plain and \$4.25 for the flavored but the portion is enough for two.

Discovery Bay Center,
1778 Ala Moana Blvd. #UL5C,
Hours: 10AM-9PM daily, 382-1895

Summer Frappe

Previously located in Maunakea Marketplace in Chinatown for the last four years, this smoothie oasis closed down this past June due to rising rent prices. Owner Summer Chau (who recently adopted the nickname Summer over her birth-given Bang-Nhi to better match her store) re-opened the first week of this month just a couple of blocks up from her old location. The menu is still the same—exotic fruit smoothies, bubble drinks, Vietnamese sandwiches, summer rolls, shave ice, with a few added extras—a green papaya salad and grilled sandwiches. The new store is better by far. It's a lot more spacious, not as hidden and has more seating available.

Chau says all her fruits are locally grown and she only uses Hawaiian produce. She carries all the sought after Southeast Asian fruits like jackfruit, durian, soursop, and the Filipino favorite, chico—nutty in taste, apricot sized and kiwi textured on the outside. Currently, her winter seasonal produce includes avocado, starfruit and watermelon. Chau also recommends certain smoothies that can help troubleshoot any problems you may be having with your body. For example, she claims her aloe and papaya smoothie can help beautify skin in a matter of weeks.

Among the many things customers love about the always colorful and friendly owner, maybe what they love most is that she doesn't raise her prices. Smoothies are still \$3-\$4 and bubble drinks are \$2.50. "I am the only employee," said Chau. "So no need to raise prices."

82 Pauahi St., Hours: Mon-Thu
7AM-5PM, Fri-Sat 7AM-7PM,
Sun 7AM-5PM, 772-9291

Puka Dog

Rick and Dominique Quinette started selling lemonade and hot dogs eight years ago to attract people to Dominique's art gallery on the west side of Kaua'i. They never thought their idea would expand the way it has. Dominique said she wanted to make sure that whatever she sold was remarkably different and Hawaiian in flavor, so she reconstructed the hot dog—a polish or veggie sausage—by inserting it into a puka made in the bread, and toasting the whole thing from the inside out. She also made an assortment of relishes and sauces to complement her creation.

Dominique designed the spiked bun toaster and Rick built it. She sticks her custom made buns on each spike and the bread is toasted from the inside. She thought of the idea to put a puka in the bun because she "doesn't like to wear [her] food". It's still messy but not as bad as a regular hot dog. A variety of sauces are available to go with the puka dog, all invented by Dominique, the most popular of which are the mango and pineapple relishes.

Puka Dog also offers lemonade, shave ice and even dog treats made from leftover scraps of bread or hot dogs that can't be served to humans (such as a mixed-up order, or items that fell on floor). They grind the scraps up, make a batter and bake the biscuits. In an attempt to further curb food waste, Puka Dog will soon start offering a kid-sized portion aptly named the "Puka Puppy."

Since opening their second store in Waikiki last year, they've been featured twice on the Travel Channel—first in *10 Best Hot Dogs in America* and Anthony Bourdain's *No Reservations*. Puka dogs run you \$6.25 and it's cash only.

Waikiki Town Center, 2301
Kūhiō Ave., Hours: 10AM-10PM
daily, pukadog.com, 924-7887

Kokonuts Shave Ice and Snacks

This little hole-in-the-wall has been around for more than 10 years. Owner Sabina Yi is the third owner and she says each time the store has been under new ownership it goes through a little menu transformation. Originally only a shave ice store, the previous owner added bubble drinks and Yi added açai bowls last August.

Reflecting a national trend, her açai bowls have become increasingly popular. Yi lets her patrons custom-make their açai bowls, offering pure açai without sugar or açai with sugar.

The bubble drinks are also popular. To make the drinks even chewier, customers can also add or substitute mochi balls for the tapioca pearls. Kokonuts is like a snack heaven. It's the perfect stop for adults nostalgic for their childhood favorites such as grilled cheese or ice cream sundaes and a definite after-school stop for kids. The hot food selection includes hot dogs, crepes and homemade mandoo. In the front of the store, a wide selection of Samurai crackseed, chips and candies are also on display. The best seller, however, is and has always been the shave ice.

7192 Kalaniana'ole Hwy. #E-121,
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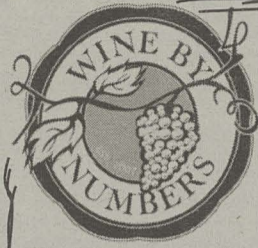
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Online at WeeklyMarketplace.com

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Ad Deadlines

Line Advertising: Copy, space reservations and payment must be submitted before Monday, 10 am.

Display Advertising: Copy, space reservations, art and payment must be submitted by 12 pm on the Thursday prior to publication. Call for rates.

Placing an Ad

By Phone: Call the Classified Department at (808) 534-7024 Monday through Friday from 8:30 am to 5 pm.

By Fax: Fax your ad 24 hours a day to the Classified Department at (808) 528-3144.

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By E-Mail: Email your ad copy to classifieds@honoluluweekly.com.

In Person: Visit our offices Monday through Friday 9:00 am to 5 pm at 1111 Fort Street Mall, Honolulu, HI 96813.

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Classified

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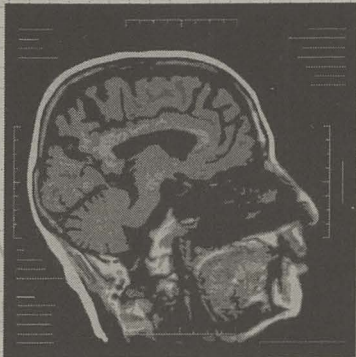
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FREE WILL ASTROLOGY

by Rob Breznsky
ARIES

(March 21-April 19)
Most people spend their entire lives immersed in three modes of awareness: waking, sleeping, and dreaming. But there are many other modes that have been explored down through the ages by the pioneers of consciousness. Some of them aren't very interesting to me—like those sought out by people who use cocaine or methamphetamines, for instance—while others are states I aspire to inhabit, like lucid dreaming, deep meditation, and a visceral perception of the fact that love is the fundamental law of the universe. I bring this line of thought to your attention, Aries, because I believe that in 2009 you will have excellent opportunities to open up your mind to levels of consciousness that are beyond the basic three. No drugs are necessary to take advantage—only a driving curiosity to tune in to realities that are currently outside of your field of vision.

TAURUS

(April 20-May 20)
In the original Constitution of the United States, adopted in 1787, each black slave living in America was counted as three-fifths of a person. Seventy-eight years later, the Thirteenth Amendment conferred the missing two-fifths on all who had up until then been regarded as partial humans. I predict that a comparable milestone will come for you in 2009, Taurus. Where in your life have you been marginalized or perpetually unfinished? What fragmented role have you been compelled to play? What situation has prevented you from being all you can be? You will have an excellent chance of completing the circuit in the coming months.

GEMINI

(May 21-June 20)
According to the novelist John Gardner, there are just two kinds of stories in literature: you go on a journey, or a stranger arrives in your world. According to my analysis of your destiny in 2009, you will reap rich rewards by including both of those plotlines in your life story. So let the brainstorming begin, Gemini: What's the best journey you could choose for yourself—a journey that will educate, challenge, and delight you? And what can you do to attract the best kinds of strangers into your world—strangers who will educate, challenge, and delight you?

CANCER

(June 21-July 22)
To get ready for 2009, I invite you to fantasize in depth about the fertile alliances that might be possible for you to cultivate in the coming months. These lively, inspiring bonds could be with people you haven't met yet. They could be with acquaintances you barely know but would like to know better. And they could be with friends, collaborators, and loved ones you're already intimate with but want to become even closer to. The coming year has the potential to bring revolutionary advances in the quality and intensity of your relationships, so it will be smart for you to work hard on making that happen.

LEO

(July 23-Aug. 22)
"What do I long for?" should be a core question for you—always, of course, but especially in 2009. Are you adventurous enough to look beyond the status symbols your ego is attached to and the transitory wishes that constantly flit through your imagination? If so, you'll prime yourself to establish a root connection with your soul's deepest yearnings. And when you're in daily touch with those primal motivators, the obstacles in your life will seem less overwhelming, the lies you tell yourself will dissolve, and you will consistently have crisp intuitions about what your next move must be. Life may not necessarily be a breeze, but it'll be profoundly magical.

VIRGO

(Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
When I predict that liberation will be one of your primary tasks in 2009, Virgo, I'm not speaking about it in the usual way. The definition I'm working with is one that the writer David Foster Wallace articulated: "The really important kind of freedom involves attention and awareness and discipline, and being able

truly to care about other people and to sacrifice for them over and over in myriad petty, unsexy ways every day." I hope you'll be moved to add other nuances and flourishes to that approach as you experiment with it liberally in the coming months.

LIBRA

(Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
"I saw the angel in the marble and I carved until I set him free." That was Michelangelo talking about how he approached his work as a sculptor. He didn't build the statue, in other words, but got rid of the unnecessary stuff that was surrounding it. I suggest that you try this approach in 2009. You have the potential to create a great thing—maybe even two great things—by chiseling away the extraneous material that's obscuring their unique beauty.

SCORPIO

(Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
In 2009, don't just tune in to your hunches now and then. Be more diligent and intense than that. Check in with your intuition at least three times a day on all 365 days of the year. Be precise in the questions you pose it. Gather its clues craftily. Have fun as you joke and play with it. Conscientiously experiment with the suggestions it provides. This will be the year you can establish a steady, reliable connection with your inner voice. Be devout in your dedication to the cult of your intuition!

SAGITTARIUS

(Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
Want to supercharge your luck in 2009? Get yourself some vivid new superstitions. The more outrageous they are, the more likely it is they'll generate lots of crazy sweet karma. You might want to draw inspiration from pro football player John Henderson, for instance, who swears he can trick destiny into working in his favor if his trainer smacks him in the face before each game. Former hockey player Bruce Gardiner might also be a worthy role model. To rev up his good fortune, he always shoved his hockey stick into a toilet prior to skating out onto the ice. JUST KIDDING, Sagittarius! In fact, I hope you will make 2009 your least superstitious year ever. Let's drink a toast to lucid logic, impeccable objectivity, and cool, clean reason! Add some compassionate sarcasm and loving satire into the mix, and you will generate lots of crazy sweet karma.

CAPRICORN

(Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
The most expensive bat mitzvah in history took place at New York's Rainbow Room in November 2005. David Brooks, a billionaire defense contractor, spent \$10 million on his daughter's rite of passage. Among the stars he hired to perform at the bash were Aerosmith, Tom Petty, Nelly, and 50 Cent. Promise me, Capricorn, that if you get wealthy in the coming year, you won't blow your money on ridiculous "luxuries" like that. Here's a secret: The more high-minded you are in cultivating your dreams, the greater the likelihood is that you'll get richer quicker.

AQUARIUS

(Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
Imagine you're driving down a very wide highway that's 50 lanes across even though there are no lines dividing one lane from another. Speed limit signs aren't posted, and some vehicles are zipping along in zigzag paths at over 100 mph while others crawl along like old-lady turtles. Now and then you've got to weave your way through a congested area where many on-ramps all feed into the road simultaneously. You haven't seen an off-ramp yet, and you're not sure where to get off anyway. I figure, Aquarius, that 2008 had some resemblance to the scenario I just described. Luckily, I predict that no later than your birthday, you will find an off-ramp and exit onto an uncluttered backroad with great scenery.

PISCES

(Feb. 19-March 20)
"How do you slay the dragon?" journalist Bill Moyers asked mythologist Joseph Campbell in an interview. By "dragon," he was referring to the dangerous beast that symbolizes the most unripe and uncontrollable part of each of our lives. In reply to Moyers, Campbell didn't suggest that you become a master warrior, nor did he recommend that you cultivate high levels of sleek, savage anger. "Follow your bliss," he said simply. Personally, I don't know if that's enough to slay the dragon—I'm inclined to believe that you also have to take some defensive measures—but it's definitely worth an extended experiment. Would you consider trying that in 2009?

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EARTH TALK

Questions & Answers About Our Environment

Dear EarthTalk: I've noticed that bamboo is very trendy right now, apparently—in part—for environmental reasons. Can you enlighten?

—Eric M., via e-mail

Bamboo has a long history of economic and cultural significance, primarily in East Asia and South East Asia where it has been used for centuries for everything from building material to food to medicine. There are some 1,000 different species of bamboo growing in very diverse climates throughout the world, including the southeastern United States.

Bamboo's environmental benefits arise largely out of its ability to grow quickly—in some cases three to four feet per day—without the need for fertilizers, pesticides or much water. Bamboo also spreads easily with little or no care. In addition, a bamboo grove releases some 35 percent more oxygen into the air than a similar-sized stand of trees, and it matures

(and can be replanted) within seven years (compared to 30-50 years for a stand of trees), helping to improve soil conditions and prevent erosion along the way. Bamboo is so fast-growing that it can yield 20 times more timber than trees on the same area.

Today, heightened consumer environmental awareness has given sales of bamboo flooring, clothing, building materials and other items a huge boost.

As an attractive and sturdy alternative to hardwood flooring, bamboo is tough to beat. According to Pacific Northwest green building supplier Ecohaus, bamboo—one of the firm's top selling flooring options—is harder, more moisture resistant and more stable than even oak hardwoods. Ecohaus carries both the EcoTimber and Teragren brands of bamboo, and ships worldwide.

Bamboo is also making waves in the clothing industry as an eco-chic and functional new fabric. Softer than cotton and with a texture more akin to silk or

cashmere, bamboo clothes naturally draw moisture away from the skin, so it's great for hot weather or for sweaty workouts. It also dries in about half the time as cotton clothing.

Some critics point out that the process of converting bamboo to fabric can take a heavy environmental toll, with the most cost-effective and widespread method involving a harsh chemical-based hydrolysis-alkalization process followed by multi-phase bleaching. The Green Guide counters, though, that bamboo still has a much lower environmental impact than pesticide-laden conventional cotton and petroleum-derived nylon and polyester fabrics. Consumers interested in trying out bamboo clothing should look for the Bamboosa and EcoDesignz labels, two of the leaders in the fast-growing sector of green fashion.

Bamboo is also making inroads into the paper industry, though there are fears that too fast a transition there would threaten ecologically diverse bamboo forests across Southeast Asia and elsewhere. The Earth Island Institute, among other groups concerned about forest loss due to paper consumption, would instead like to see more research into using agricultural waste to

make paper instead of wood pulp or bamboo. Regardless, bamboo in all its forms might one day soon be one of the most important plants in the world.

There are quite a few stores available on the island for your bamboo shopping convenience. Bamboo Home USA has all of your possible fabric wants and needs from bed sheets to yoga pants. If you are looking for a fresh look for your floor try Bamboo Flooring Hawai'i, with many different types of bamboo to choose from. Looking to start a DIY project involving bamboo? Bamboo Hawai'i is there for you with construction, interior and exterior decorating bamboo. Or you can skip the DIY and just buy furniture at Bamboo Works.

—Additional reporting by
Lauraly Wade

CONTACTS:

Ecohaus, ecohaus.com;
The Green Guide, thegreenguide.com;
Bamboosa, bamboosa.com;
EcoDesignz, ;
Earth Island Institute, earthisland.org;
bamboohawaii.com/index.html; bambooflooringhawaii.com; bamboohomeusa.com/bamboo-about.php; bambooworks.com/

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Read past columns at: www.emagazine.com/earthtalk/archives.php.

"I've been known to be naughty every now and then, but we're not getting in to that."

Equal-protection Claus

Santa's bringing an extra-big package this year

INTERVIEW BY RAGNAR CARLSON



Hula's Bar and Lei Stand owner Jack Law is one of the founders of the Life Foundation, which aims to stop the spread of HIV and AIDS and provides a host of services and support for those affected by the virus. Every year for the past seven years, he's hosted a fundraiser for the organization at his iconic nightclub. This year's event features a special sit-down with a very special Santa Claus—guests can take photos on the lap of Michael Lunde, a former Mr. Gay.com who doubles as the jolly gift-bearer but oddly does not bear much of a resemblance to most contemporary representations of Santa. We spoke with him this week.

What's your favorite cookie?

Krumkake, a Norwegian pancake cookie that's rolled. It's fabulous. Wait. Can Santa say "fabulous?"

What's your favorite kind of milk?

Two percent. Since I was young, it's tradition I guess. It has to be really cold, though, like in the North Pole. You get really cold milk from really cold cows. You get even colder milk from reindeer!

What does reindeer milk taste like?

It's a little bitter.

What's your favorite Christmas movie?

I always got a kick out of *National Lampoon's Christmas*

Vacation. I like to laugh. That Chevy Chase is pretty funny.

So...umm...no beard this year, I guess?

No, not this year. I shaved it. My facial hair didn't grow in white this year. But I put this paste over it, and it ended up messy, and I ended up wiping it off.

What does Mrs. Claus think of that?

[laughs] Umm. You're gonna have to rephrase that.

Are you saying there is no Mrs. Claus?

There is a certain somebody.

Ahh. I see. So, I guess no presents for California this year, then? Is everyone there naughty this year?

Most of them are naughty. But I still have a few favorites.

When you deliver toys to the Hawai'i, do you wish lived here instead of the North Pole?

Well, that's a good question. (pause)

What, are you worried about the politics of answering? You're Santa! Say what you mean!

The Islands have always been dear to me, yes. I have a timeshare down here I use every now and then.

What's the worst part of your job?

Finding good elves. I have had my favorite elf, who works with me every year. His name is Kawika. He always says he's going to recruit some new ones,

but he hasn't followed through.

What's the best present you ever got?

I find a better gift in giving. I'm at my happiest when I help make other people happy. That is the aloha spirit, isn't it?

No chimneys here in Hawai'i. How do you get into the houses?

I can't give all my secrets away.

Do your feelings get hurt when everyone wants to talk about Jesus instead of you?

[silence]

Are you depicted unfairly by the media?

Well...I'm timeless, the whole aging thing doesn't really bother me. I enjoy the media for the most part. Especially this paper.

Kris Kringle, Saint Nick, Santa... how do you prefer to be called?
Just don't call me uncle!

Does it hurt your feelings when people don't believe in you?

Those that don't believe, that hurts my feelings. If you don't believe in me, you don't believe in the Christmas spirit, which is nothing but a good thing.

How naughty can you be and still end up on the nice list?

We're all going to make mistakes, but as long as you treat people the way you want to be treated every day, for the most part you'll be fine. I've been known to be naughty every now and then, but we're not getting in to that.

Any particular message this time of year?

Just remember, Santa loves everybody.

Hula's Hunky Santa Fundraiser for Life Foundation. Hula's Bar & Lei Stand, 134 Kapahulu Ave., Wed 12/24, 9PM, \$5 for photos with Santa, hulas.com.

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THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW

2008 YEAR IN REVIEW

A WHOLLY SUBJECTIVE
AND THOROUGHLY IN-
COMPLETE LOOK BACK
AT THE YEAR THAT WAS

PART TWO: THE END OF AN ERROR

EARLY SEPT.: THE R.N.C.
SPENDS OVER \$150,000
ON PALIN FAMILY WARD-
ROBE, INCLUDING SILK
BOXERS FOR TODD.

I ONLY WEAR
THEM FOR THE
GOOD OF THE
CAMPAIGN!

SEPT. 17: LADY LYNN
FORESTER DE ROTHSCHILD
CALLS OBAMA AN "ELITIST,"
ENDORSES MCCAIN.

SEPT. 18: LADY DE ROTHS-
CHILD EXPLAINS ON CNN
THAT OBAMA DOES NOT
RESPECT "THE PEOPLE...
WHO ARE THE REDNECKS
OR WHOEVER."

NOV. 4: AMERICANS VOTE
TO END LONG NATIONAL
NIGHTMARE; PUNDITS BEGIN
2012 SPECULATION.

WILL SARAH PALIN CHOOSE
JOE THE PLUMBER AS
HER RUNNING MATE?

NOV. 18: DEMOCRATS
VERY STERNLY ALLOW
JOE LIEBERMAN TO KEEP
HIS CHAIRMANSHIP.

I'VE CERTAINLY LEARNED
MY LESSON!

JULY 7: JOHN MCCAIN
REVEALS HIS PLAN TO
BALANCE THE BUDGET.

WE'LL USE THE MONEY
WE SAVE BY WINNING THE
WARS IN IRAQ AND AF-
GHANISTAN!

SERIOUSLY,
THAT'S MY
PLAN.

SEPT. 2: JOE LIEBER-
MAN ENDORSES THE
MCCAIN/PALIN TICKET IN
A PRIME TIME SPEECH
AT THE REPUBLICAN CON-
VENTION.

SUCK ON
THIS,
NED
LAMONT!

SEPT. 30: SARAH PALIN
IS ASKED WHAT NEWS-
PAPERS AND MAGAZINES
SHE READS.

"UM--ALL
OF THEM!"

AGAIN, THE "GOTCHA"
MEDIA ARE TO BLAME.

NOV. 25: N.Y. POST RE-
PORTS THAT DUE TO A
BROKEN JAW, ANN COULTER'S
MOUTH HAS BEEN WIRED
SHUT.

MMRRPH!
MMRRPH!
MMRRPH!

ATHEISTS EVERYWHERE ARE
GIVEN MOMENTARY PAUSE.

JULY 30: OBAMA SUG-
GESTS KEEPING YOUR
TIRES PROPERLY INFLATED;
CONSERVATIVES FIND THIS
HILARIOUS.

WHAT NEXT? REGULAR
OIL CHANGES?

CAN YOU BELIEVE
HE CALLED SARAH
PALIN A PIG
THESE LIBERALS
I GOTTA TELL YA
IT'S JUST SHOCKING

SEPT. 10: OBAMA USES
THE EXPRESSION "LIPSTICK
ON A PIG"; CONSERVATIVES
SPEND A WEEK PRETEND-
ING TO BE OUTRAGED.

CONSERVATIVES DENOUNCE
THE "GOTCHA" MEDIA.

OCT. 1: LATEST TOM
TOMORROW COMPILATION
IS RELEASED, BECOMES
IMMEDIATE BESTSELLER.

THE FUTURE'S
SO BRIGHT
I CAN'T BEAR
TO LOOK
WHAT?
YOU
DIDN'T
HEAR
ABOUT
THAT?

OCT. 12: BARACK OBAMA
THREATENS TO LOWER A
PLUMBER'S TAXES, MUCH
TO PLUMBER'S APPARENT
DISMAY.

YOU'LL NEVER
GET AWAY
WITH THIS,
YOU--YOU
SOCIALIST!

DECEMBER: COLLAPSE OF
CAPITALISM CONTINUES; BLAG-
OJEVICH SCANDAL ERUPTS;
CHRISTMAS WARRIOR BILL
O'REILLY CONTINUES HIS
LONELY STRUGGLE.

HO HO HO,
DAMMIT.
...SEE YOU NEXT YEAR!

AUG. 21: MCCAIN IS
ASKED HOW MANY HOUSES
HE OWNS.

"I THINK--
I'LL HAVE
MY STAFF
GET BACK
TO YOU!"

SEPT. 15, MORNING:
MCCAIN SAYS FUN-
DAMENTALS OF
ECONOMY ARE
STRONG!

SEPT. 15, AFTER-
NOON: MCCAIN
SAYS FUNDAMEN-
TALS ARE AT
GREAT RISK!

...SEE YOU NEXT YEAR!

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