

the Stranger

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THE FIRST 100 MINUTES

MCGINN'S ADMINISTRATION IS ALREADY A DISMAL FAILURE BY DOMINIC HOLDEN **P. 15**

CITY MEMO TO NEWLY ELECTED OFFICIALS: GET ON THIS **P. 11** **MUSIC** LARRY MIZELL JR. LOVES SHABAZZ PALACES **P. 25** **DRUNK** AUNT ROACH GETS HEAD **P. 37**

theSTRANGERSUGGESTS

THU
JAN 7

'Wet and Leatherhard' ART

Kristen Morgin's *Spy vs. Spy*

The three basic states of **dryness in ceramics** are wet, leather-hard, and bone-dry—and this show is about the unfixed first two. Seattle-based artist Susie Lee, who studied at UW's experimental ceramics program (where nobody made just ceramics), has organized this show, including **fascinating artists at all stages of their careers**: recent UW grad Ben Waterman, L.A. stars Kristen Morgin and Sterling Ruby, **Stranger Genius Wynne Greenwood**, Japanese phenom Meiro Koizumi, UW elder statesman Doug Jeck, and beloved formerly Seattle-based (now New York-based) photographer Tim Roda. Complementing the show is young conceptualist **Caleb Larsen's first solo outing** at Lawrimore. (Lawrimore Project, 831 Airport Way S, 501-1231. 6–9 pm, free.) JEN GRAVES

FRI
JAN 8

14/48 THEATER

Relocated to ACT and feted by the former mayor, the once-grungy **14/48 theater festival** is now a legitimate Seattle institution. But no matter the locale or civic plaudits, the main point of 14/48 will forever be **barely controlled chaos**, as a gaggle of Seattle's favorite actors, directors, playwrights, musicians, and designers are **forced to write, direct, rehearse, design, produce, and perform 14 new short plays in 48 hours**. Tonight brings the seven plays created in the first 24 hours to the stage, where some will soar, some will flop, and some will quiver mysteriously. At least one will make you **love theater all over again**. (ACT, 700 Union St, 292-7676. 8 and 10:30 pm, \$20.) DAVID SCHMADER

Shabazz Palaces MUSIC



Shabazz Palaces, **the new project of Ish of Digable Planets fame**, is the single most important Seattle hip-hop act to emerge in 2009, and tonight's onstage debut promises to be the scene's first major event of 2010. The *Shabazz Palaces* and *Of Light* EPs are wide-eyed night rides through a Seattle reimagined brick by brick on an omnivorous MPC sampler (the bass makes me want to buy a car just to listen to it on a car stereo) and narrated by a guide as lyrically swift-witted as he is sure-footed. **Miss this at your peril**. (Neumos, 925 E Pike St, 709-9467. 8 pm, \$10, 21+.) ERIC GRANDY

SAT
JAN 9

Eldridge Gravy and the Court Supreme MUSIC

Seattle 11-piece Eldridge Gravy and the Court Supreme follow in the uproarious tradition of **expansive funk ensembles** that have been raising roofs since Nixon was befouling the Oval Office. The seven songs on their *Us Is What Time It Is* CD flaunt a fleet, fiery funk bolstered by **soaring orchestrations, tight arrangements, and groin-grinding rhythms**. Vocalist Eldridge Gravy recalls Stevie Wonder's youthful, animated tenor, ably conveying the soulful inspiration upon which these units thrive. Sweet, sweaty times await you. (Tractor Tavern, 5213 Ballard Ave NW, 789-3599. 9:30 pm, \$8, 21+.) DAVE SEGAL

SUN
JAN 10

'110/110' Celebration BOOKS



University Book Store has been **selling books for 110 years** this year, and to celebrate, they've edited a **marvelous little book of 110 local authors writing 110 words** (essays, fiction, poetry, comics, sheet music, and recipes) about whatever they'd like. Virtually every Seattle author worth reading is in there (including Stacey Levine, Ivan Doig, Rebecca Hoogs, Cliff Mass, Matt Ruff, and, um, Dan Savage). It's a fun, witty way to celebrate a great bookstore, and this launch party (with **free cake and cider**) is a perfect excuse to come down and check it out. (University Book Store, 4326 University Way NE, 634-3400. Noon–5 pm, free.) PAUL CONSTANT

MON
JAN 11

Chili's Deli & Mart CHOW

Situated at the northern end of the Ave and semidisguised as a convenience store, **Chili's Deli & Mart** is one of the few places in Seattle to get **southern Indian cuisine**—crepe-like *dosas* and doughnutty *vada*, all served up in a clean, simple dining area reminiscent of a factory break room. If you've never tried southern Indian food, **you must**, and you should probably start with the **masala dosa**, a friendly blend of north and south that's essentially **the Big Mac of southern India**. (Chili's Deli & Mart, 5002 University Way NE, 526-9392. 10 am–9:30 pm.) DAVID SCHMADER

TUE
JAN 12

Amir Zaki ART

There should be a whole strain of poetry devoted to **the lifeguard tower**, its spindly architecture propped all the way up there. They're often photographed in romantic shadow, against a setting sun. But **L.A. photographer Amir Zaki looks baldly at them**, these irregular objects just hanging in the sky. He's digitally manipulated them, but you'd be hard-pressed to say exactly how. Sometimes they glow and face up to the sun like Californians. **Sometimes it's foggy and they are spaceships**. Sometimes it's gray and cloudy, and they may as well be miniatures marooned in the corner of a Russian factory in winter. (James Harris Gallery, 312 Second Ave S, 903-6220. 11 am–5 pm, free.) JEN GRAVES

WED
JAN 13

'The Imaginarium of Doctor Parnassus' FILM

So **Heath Ledger died**. Did you hear? It sucked. Before he died, he **acted in half a movie**, Terry Gilliam's *The Imaginarium of Doctor Parnassus*. The movie is more than half good. *Parnassus* is a **baroque, grimy, spectacular, Gilliam-style vision**—ladders to the clouds; a lurching, triple-decker Gypsy wagon; **Tom Waits as the devil**; a magic mirror into Christopher Plummer's brain. You know the type. Ledger is beautiful and dirty. Gilliam's story is visually stunning but conceptually hollow. You should see it anyway. (See *Movie Times*: thestranger.com/film.) LINDY WEST

