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Arts & Life

SECTION D

Life: Heather Rayhorn, (503) 589-6920, life@StatesmanJournal.com

Sunday, July 18, 2010



Artist Nha Vuu hangs a painting at the Salem Art Fair & Festival.

KOBBY R. BLAIR | Statesman Journal

Abbey Bach Festival at end of July

By BARBARA CURTIN
Statesman Journal

ST. BENEDICT — There are music festivals throughout the Mid-Valley, but none is quite like the Abbey Bach Festival.

For one thing, no other music festival is sponsored by monks who have practiced hospitality as a key part of their mission for more than 1,000 years.

And no other music festival takes place on a hilltop that affords panoramic views of Marion County farmland and the Cascades.

Tickets still are available for the 39th Annual Abbey Bach Festival, which takes place July 28-30 at Mount Angel Abbey.

Each evening's program officially starts at 5:20 p.m. in the abbey's church with Vespers, the service of psalms sung by the abbey's Benedictine monks.

But many participants arrive hours earlier: They set elaborate tables to augment the limited tables and chairs

provided, or they visit the retreat house and the renowned library designed by Alvar Aalto.

At 6 p.m., there is a musical performance in the abbey's church featuring performers from the Mid-Valley. This year, Salem's Paul Klemme will give an organ concert July 28; Klemme and trumpeter Gerald Webster will play July 29; and about 55 members of the Willamette Master Chorus will sing July 30.

At 6:30 p.m., the monks will serve picnic baskets on the lawn. Each basket contains a simple supper with wine for four. If groups have fewer than four, the monks will introduce them to like-minded supper-mates — an example of Benedictine hospitality, said Sandra Chiodo, abbey spokeswoman.

At 8 p.m., the evening's featured performance starts in the Damian Center (now air-conditioned, for those who remember steaming nights of years ago). This year's performers are harpsichordist Luc Beauséjour; soprano Marie-Josée Lord, Isabelle Bozzini on baroque cello and Grégoire Jeay on baroque flute

At a glance

WHAT: 39th Annual Abbey Bach Festival
WHEN: July 28-30

WHERE: Mount Angel Abbey, St. Benedict

TICKETS: \$45 a night or \$120 for three nights; patron tickets are \$125 for one night (\$80 tax-deductible) or \$375 for three nights (\$255 tax-deductible)

INFORMATION:
www.mountangelabbey.org/bach-home.htm, (503) 845-3066 or (800) 845-8272

5 Art Fair Artists

By CARA PALLONE
Statesman Journal

Navigating the Salem Art Fair & Festival is kind of like house cleaning.

It's a bit overwhelming, but skip a spot, and you may regret it.

We suggest picking a corner and starting here.

Here are a few of the artists you may meet along the way.

Asian influence

Aisle 10, booths 103 and 104

Her imagination and intuition guide Nha Vuu as she draws.

She has an affinity for lines and shapes and how they play out on elongated spaces.

Her contemporary watercolor paintings, with a traditional Chinese influence, are a reflection of those details.

Vuu traveled from Austin, Texas, for the Salem Art Fair & Festival. This is her fifth year at the show.

"I like this show because it's really well-supported by the community," she said.

The artist has lived and worked in Seattle and Asia, and her art combines her cultural origins and extensive travels.

Vuu blends a rich, ebony, Chinese ink with watercolor on delicate, handmade paper to create cityscapes and plum blossoms.

Cathy McMullin of Mt. Angel was captivated by the paintings.

"I've been really into cityscapes and how they come together," she said.

Vuu's paintings range in price from \$25 for small prints to \$5,000 for some of the larger originals.

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