

# Arts & Entertainment

GALLERIES ■ THEATER ■ DANCE ■ DINING

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## Hot tickets

### Trick or treat

Celebrate Halloween and go back in time from 2-4 p.m., Sunday, Oct. 27, at the Detroit Historical Museum. The Detroit Historical Society presents "Treats in the Streets" along the museum's signature Streets of Old Detroit exhibit. The event is a safe opportunity for kids of all ages to dress up as their favorite cartoon character, super hero or historic figure and trick or treat. Admission to the Museum is free to everyone dressed in a costume. In addition, there will be treats, a chance to decorate your own Halloween bag, a puppet show, a strolling magician and a variety of other events. The museum is located at 5401 Woodward, at Kirby in Detroit. (313) 833-1405.

### One man band

Keller Williams combines amusing lyrics, acoustic guitar, multi-layered sampled sound Tuesday at the Ark.



316 Main, Ann Arbor. The show is at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door. (248) 645-6666.

### Pick a bear

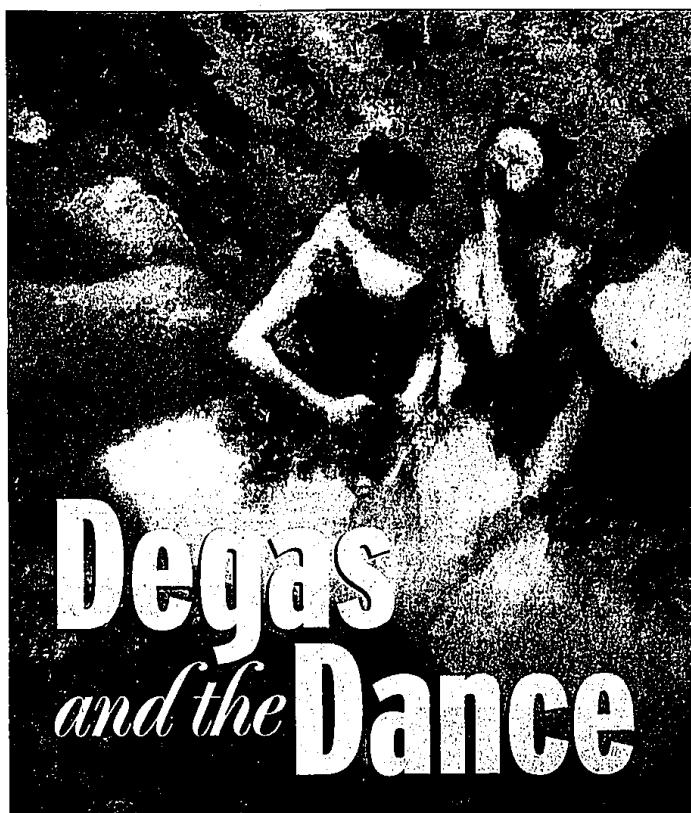
Check out the Polar Palooza exhibit at the Detroit Zoo this weekend. Take a picture of your family by your favorite bear and tell us why it's your favorite - you could win a family pack of zoo tickets. Send your entry by Nov. 7 to Keely Kaleski, Observer & Centric, 805 East Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009; e-mail at kaleski@oe.homecomm.net; or fax it to (248) 644-1314.

### Mark Twain

Hal Holbrook portrays Mark Twain at 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Oct. 25-26 at the Fisher Theatre, 3011 West Grand Boulevard, Detroit.



Tickets range from \$25-\$45. They're available from Ticketmaster outlets and by calling (248) 645-6666.



## Degas and the Dance

French Impressionist demystifies dance in 19th century Paris

### DEGAS AND THE DANCE

What: A landmark exhibition exploring the artist's work on the Paris ballet in the 19th century

When: Through Jan. 12. Hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Friday-Saturday, and until 8 p.m. Sunday

Where: Detroit Institute of Arts, 5200 Woodward Avenue

Tickets: \$16 Tuesday-Friday, \$18 Saturday-Sunday. 58 ages 6-17, children under five free. Call (313) 866-DEGASIX. Special walk-up, same day use prices for seniors age 65 and older with ID, \$10 at the DIA box office 2-6 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN  
STAFF WRITER

Edgar Degas was the master of bringing the private world of dancers to life. Known as the "painter of dancers," the French Impressionist spent countless hours observing classes and rehearsals under the roof of the Paris Opera, home of the national ballet and opera in the 19th century.

But Degas did more than document the training of aspiring young dancers. His use of color and roving subject matter draws the viewer into a place where dancers stretch at the barre, adjust tutus and chut amongst themselves.

Degas allows us to peer into a world normally unseen. Backstage, male admirers flock around the dancers. Then he switches perspective taking the viewer beyond the footlights and

PLEASE SEE DEGAS, B5



Three Dancers in Yellow Skirts (top, c. 1899) from the UCLA Hammer Museum in Los Angeles and Orchestra Musicians (above, 1870-1871) from Stadelchen Kunstinstitut, Frankfurt are two of the works in "Degas and the Dance." The dancers in *Orchestra Musicians* were among the first to be painted by Degas. He was 35 at the time. The oil was one of several ballet scenes to launch his career as the "painter of dancers."

### EATING OUT

BY ELEANOR HEALD  
CORRESPONDENT

Originally a Cantonese custom, dim sum, meaning "a little bit of heart," is closely linked to the Chinese tradition of "yum cha" or drinking tea, yet it took several centuries for the culinary art of dim sum to develop.

At first, it was considered inappropriate to combine tea with food. Perhaps this was due to a famous third century Imperial physician's claim that it would lead to weight gain. As tea's ability to aid digestion became known, tea house proprietors began adding a variety of snacks, and the tradition of dim sum was born.

Today, dim sum is served throughout China, particularly in Shanghai. Yet,

culinary experts indicate that although the broadest assortment of savory and sweet dim sum dishes can be found in Canton, the best dim sum chefs are not in Canton but in Hong Kong, where restaurants begin serving dim sum as early as 6:30 a.m. and continue through mid-afternoon.

The Detroit metro-area, including Windsor, Jim Lark, proprietor of The Lark restaurant in West Bloomfield said, "is one of only a handful of cosmopolitan areas with restaurants serving traditional dim sum using carts, like they do in Hong Kong. Some area restaurants serve dim sum only on weekends, and even then, do

not use carts." Lark and his wife Mary are dim sum aficionados.

Serving traditional, Hong Kong style dim sum is challenging and but three area restaurants do it. Hong Kong style dim sum is served daily at Shangri-La in West Bloomfield. At Wah Court a two Windsor locations, the tradition can be experienced on weekends only.

What's dim sum?

Dim sum came ashore in the U.S. with 19th Century Chinese immigrants from Canton who settled on the east and west coasts. Since the word brunch was only coined in the late 1800s, some gastronomes believe that dim sum may have inspired it.

If you enjoy menu browsing or desire a

PLEASE SEE DIM SUM, B10



PHOTO BY RICKS PHOTOGRAPHY

Linda Boston (left), Michelle McKinney, Lydia Willis, Mala McKinney, and Monica Cantrell are among the *Sophisticated Ladies* singing and dancing in Plowshares Theatre's Company's opening production at Music Hall. Directing the 14-piece orchestra is Detroit jazz legend Marcus Belgrave (seated).

### Artistic Expressions

Linda Chomin

## Theater company swings into new season

Gary Anderson was looking for a dynamic way to open Plowshares Theatre Company's new season when Duke Ellington's *Sophisticated Ladies* came to mind. The musical review hadn't been done in Detroit in some 20 years and fit the bill. What audience wouldn't move to songs like *It Don't Mean a Thing If It Ain't Got That Swing*?

Originally conceived by choreographer Donald McKayle to the music of Edward "Duke" Ellington, the show features lyrics by Billy Strayhorn among others. So hop on the A Train as Plowshares Theatre Company opens its production Thursday, Oct. 24, at Musical Hall Center for the Performing Arts in Detroit. It's an all-star cast with Detroit jazz trumpeter Marcus Belgrave leading and playing with an orchestra of 14.

Choreographer Mayowa Lisa Reynolds lays down the steps for the tap dancers. "We're trying to build audience so we wanted to begin with a big bang," said Anderson who co-founded the professional African American theater company with Michael Garza more than 10 years ago. "Most people don't realize the breadth of Duke's talent. He died in 1974 and began in the early 1920s."

*Sophisticated Ladies* is basically music from the Cotton Club to the latter part of his career. It's a fantastic evening with one of the country's best composers, everything from standards in jazz repertoire to beautiful ballads, his

PLEASE SEE LADIES, B10

## Have some fun with dim sum



Server Judy Yu serves Joel Bruss his selections off of the Dim Sum cart at The Shangri-La Chinese Restaurant in West Bloomfield.

## Ballet Shoes or Wing Tips?



Makes no difference as long as you take time to put your feet up, get comfortable and spend some time with us.