

GOOD TIMES event picks of the week

YOU KILL ME

New York performance artist Iris Rose has based her work on the American nightmare of psychopathic murder. Her "Serial Killer Series" presented monologues we might have heard from Ted Bundy, John Wayne Gacy, Henry Lee Lucas and Velma Barfield. A *Village Voice* review noted that Barfield (the 52-year-old grandmother executed for poisoning four people, including her own mother) was "the only apparent tragedy of the lot because she was battered and addicted to pills." Perhaps that's why Rose, in her L.A. appearance, teams Velma with a performance of *Camden*, "an American musical tragedy" based on the story of Jeanne Anne Wright, a New Jersey mother who drowned her four children, echoing the despair of a town where the once-thriving industry is gone and most of the people are on welfare. In her exploration of these grim tales, Rose seems to be distinguishing the deranged from the despondent.

—Shana Patterson

Iris Rose at Oranges/Sardines, 320 S. Omar Ave., dwtwn.; Fri.-Sat., March 27-28, 8:30 p.m.; \$6. (213) 687-4716.

BALI HIGH

There'll be lots of funny names and funny foods at CalArts this weekend and next, but go ahead, be adventurous — you won't get the chance again until next year. We're talking about Valencia's annual World Music Festival, a lively six-day potpourri of music and dance from Indonesia, Africa, Bali and North and South India, as well as jazz from CalArts' own Charlie Haden et al. With the attitude that if you can pronounce it you can go home, thrill to K.R.T. Wastodigrat (the leading musician and composer of Java); Gonarasaswathy Rao (an expert in Carnatic music); instruments like the bansuri and — most important — the equally unfamiliar but delicious ethnic dishes from the regions represented in the music.

—Mary Beth Crain

World Music Festival, CalArts, Modular Theater, Valencia; Fri.-Sun., March 27-29 & April 3-5, 8 p.m.; \$6 per performance, \$2 students & seniors. (818) 362-2315. (See classical music listings for schedule.)

WITTY-ISMS

Artists Harry Gamboa, Daniel Martinez and the ever-charming Gronk are presenting an intermedia performance called *Ismania*, an interrelation of some interesting "isms" inherent in our culture. Mr. Gronk and the boys, using everything but song and dance — set pieces, projection, figures of speech, you name it — mysteriously reveal our obsession with dogma, rituals, dogma, customs, dogma and rules of order, one at a time. These guys are pretty famous, celebrated for their work with the performance group ASCO, co-founding of LACE and making paintings that sell before the paint is dry, among other things. *Ismania*, made possible by one of seven LACE grants, may well tear the roof off the sucker.

—Hubert Mensch

Ismania, LACE, 1804 Industrial St., dwtwn.; Sat., March 28, 8 p.m.; \$7, \$5 LACE members, students & senior citizens. (213) 624-5650.



Murder, my sweet: performance artist Rose.



Balinese dancers strike an attitude.



Artists Martinez, Gronk and Gamboas.

TO HEALTH AND BACK

Once the scariest thing about living was growing old. Then came the threat of nuclear war and now something just as scary — AIDS. This weekend, AIDS and a variety of issues surrounding the disease will be the main topic of discussion at the National Lesbian & Gay Health Conference. This event is expected to draw more than a thousand gay/lesbian health-care workers, people with AIDS, AIDS researchers and clinicians, and community leaders for four days of workshops, speeches, receptions and a Grand Banquet featuring entertainment by comedian Kate Clinton, the Los Angeles Women's Community Chorus and the Great American Yankee Swing Band. Mayor Bradley will make an appearance, as will actress Zeldia Rubenstein of the "Mother CARES" campaign, and more than 200 workshops, presentations and panels will be part of the event, emphasizing the old wisdom that if you have your health, you have just about everything.

—Lisa Shames

National Lesbian & Gay Health Conference, Sheraton Universal Hotel, Grand Ballroom, Thurs.-Sun., March 26-29; banquet Sat., March 28, 8:30 p.m.; \$45. (213) 464-7400, ext. 209.

VIEW WITH A ROOM

Imagine how young artists feel when they schlep their slides and portfolios around to establishment art galleries week after week. Humiliated, yes; degraded and depressed, certainly. That's why it's so refreshing to find artists taking matters into their own hands, so to speak. Cindy Bernard, Martha Godfrey and Liz Lerner make serious art and share a serious problem: getting it exhibited. They've solved it in a novel and entertaining way: installing their art in Room 9 of the legendary Tropicana Motel for one night only and throwing an opening (and closing) party/reception. Godfrey and Lerner make site-specific work — Godfrey does something unpleasant with towels, aluminum chips and photo emulsions; Lerner grows and shows "unusual" organic cultures in Petri dishes; and Bernard takes black-and-white photos of abstract-patterned fabric (like upholstery), which should be right at home in the Tropicana.

—Robbie Conal

Art by Cindy Bernard, Martha Godfrey and Liz Lerner, Tropicana Motel, Room 9, 8585 Santa Monica Blvd., W. Hlywd.; Sat., March 28, 5-11 p.m.

APRIL BRIDES

Heck, fellas, it's a self-described fun and exciting theatrical event! The Brides, a wacky bunch of gal-pal actors and such, stage their second annual April Fool's Day benefit bash, traipsing down the aisles to the ever-so-bottom-heavy beat of an R&B revue starring Motown vet Billie Million, Delfonics bassist Gerald Heith and more horns than you can shake a bootie at; forming a dainty receiving line to greet guests, and dancing with all comers for a mere buck a shot; also heavily groovin' livin' art that's just the livin' end. And juggling, too! We don't know about you, but we're dusting off our grosgrain pumps for a good cause.

—Hubert Mensch

April Fools at Myron's, 1024 S. Grand Ave., dwtwn.; Wed., April 1, 9 p.m.; \$8. (213) 876-7075.

CALENDAR CONTENTS

Film.....	65
Neighborhood Movie Guide.....	74
Theater.....	80
Rock.....	86
Concerts.....	99
Rhythm & Blues.....	99

Art.....	108
Dance.....	111
TV Highlights.....	111
Radio Highlights.....	113
Readings.....	114

Dance Clubs.....	101
African, Rhythm & Reggae.....	102
Nightlife.....	102
Jazz.....	104
Comedy.....	107
Classical Music.....	108

edited by steven mikulan