

Weekend **Pass**

express

HIGHLIGHTING THE BEST IN WASHINGTON-AREA ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT | MAY 31-JUNE 3, 2007

Weekend Pass

[on the]spot*

* **NAME:** Max Alvarez
GIG: Film historian and lecturer

he did than he is given credit for. Could he have done classical the-



“It’s amazing how often [Wayne’s]

Global Graduations

Step Afrika! takes the college-derived dance on a world tour

DANCE | All explosive beats and military precision, the sound and style of stepping are unmistakable. Since the 1920s, the dance form has been a staple of African-American campus life. "The body is used as an instrument," explained founder Brian Williams. "It's a combination of hand claps, foot stomps, body percussion, where you're slapping different parts of your chest, your arms, your thighs — whatever part of the body can make some good sounds, really."

In 1994, the Howard University grad envisioned that the moves he learned as an Alpha Phi Alpha member could also provide a platform for cultural outreach. His Step Afrika! troupe, "the first professional company in the world dedicated to this tradition of stepping," grew out of the Step Afrika International Cultural Festival, still held each



NO SMALL STEPS HERE: The dancers of D.C.-based Step Afrika! incorporate other stomp-based dance forms into their work.

December in Soweto.

Williams and his dancers tour heavily, traveling to 50 cities a year.

This week, as they hit the boards at the Atlas Performing Arts Center, they're glad to be back in front of

audience that knows them best.

"It's like our homecoming," Williams, said, "where, after a year of

touring all around the world, we come back to our home base, Washington, D.C., and put on our biggest production of the year. So we do things in this performance that we never do when we're on the road."

"This show is going to feature some of the best steppers from all around the country," Williams promised. The work is similarly fresh. (One piece hasn't been titled yet.) The company will also be performing "a new work called 'Next Step.' It's almost like a step ballet. It's a 25-minute exploration into the tradition of stepping and its merging with electronic music and multimedia."

Stepping's future spans the globe. "We've made tremendous strides in connecting stepping with not just African dance forms, but body percussion and styles all around the world, from Appalachian clogging to Irish step dancing to Romanian folk dance to Brazilian drum corps," Williams noted.

"And then, when we head to Vietnam for an historic tour of Asia, about a week after our Sunday performance, who knows what we'll find there?" **GLENN DIXON**

→ Atlas Performing Arts Center, 1333 H St. NE; through Sun., \$15-\$30; 202-399-7993. (Union Station)

Strength in Adversity

Diecast isn't No. 1, so these cult metal stars rock harder

MUSIC | Diecast isn't where it wants to be.

The New England-based metal band has watched sonic peers Killswitch Engage and Shadows Fall break into the metal mainstream without enjoying such success. But despite this frustration, the band opts to play its heart out with every note.

Diecast continues to power out triumphant, Iron Maiden-esque twin guitar harmonies, brutal thrash riffs, hardcore and death-metal screaming, and catchy, melodic choruses.

Its latest album, "Internal Revolution," is a wickedly intense aural heavy metal experience from start



This is Diecast's guitar. We can't show you your brain on Diecast's guitar.

to finish, a solid showcase for the band's disciplined songwriting, which rejects use of the most pernicious evidence of metal self-indulgence — the breakdown.

"Internal Revolution" is further strengthened by Diecast's new rhythm section, which is both technically and creatively inclined. The production is stylish — at times verging on electronica — but raw enough to allow the listener to get a taste of the band's live energy.

Which will undoubtedly come in handy on Saturday night at Jaxx in Springfield as Diecast plays alongside Drowning Pool, the Dallas-based atmospheric metal band. Although the billing is somewhat odd, Diecast's catchy hooks and sheer talent should be more than enough to win over a diverse metal audience. **GREG RE**

→ Jaxx, 6355 Rolling Road, Springfield; with Drowning Pool, Diecast, Bullistic, Cab Ride Home, Day of Descent, Sat., 7 p.m., \$16 in advance, \$18 day of show; 800-551-7328.

GALLERIES | WATCH OUT; IT MIGHT BE A PLANT



ROOTS ROCK: In "Industrials" at Randall Scott Gallery, Jackson Martin uses manufactured materials and natural ones to comment on the uneasy relationship between what we make and what we're given. The other half of "Industrials" is given over to the work of Michael Sandstrom, who slyly explores the control of information in a petroleum-driven economy.

NIGHTCLUB

9:30

815 V ST NW DC

JUNE

The Pietasters w/ Spitfires United • The Five Maseratis •
All Night Drug Prowling Wolves • The Pressure Sounds
Free new 3-song PIETASTERS CD at the door! F 1

PAGE McCONNELL w/ Neil Cleary Tu 5

US Air Guitar Championships Only \$10! W 6

EL-P featuring DJ Mr. Dibbs and the Mighty Quin
w/ Slow Suicide Stimulus • Yak Ballz • Hangar 18 F 8

BLOWOFF feat. the DJ SOUNDS of
BOB MOULD & RICHARD MOREL 9:30pm Doors. 21+ to enter Sa 9

Architecture in Helsinki Su 10

Skinny Puppy w/ White Mice & Otto Von Schirach M 11

BUZZLIFE PRESENTS

Paul Van Dyk w/ Will Delphi Th 14

The Speaks w/ Bob • Revel • Of Broken F 15

Washington Social Club
BIGGER THAN YOUR BOYFRIEND CD Release Show
w/ The Dance Party Sa 16

The National w/ Shapes and Sizes & Talkdemonic W 20

An Evening with The Richard Thompson Band F 22

Rooney w/ The Rewinds Sa 23

Emergenza Finals Su 24

The Polyphonic Spree Early Show! 7pm Doors. Sa 30

BUZZLIFE PRESENTS

Steve Lawler w/ Ed Bailey Late Show! 11pm Doors. Sa 30

JULY

MN8 PRESENTS

Los Amigos Invisibles w/ Pacha Massive Sa 7

Built to Spill w/ The Stay Lowz Su 8

Mickey Avalon w/ Andre Legacy & Dirt Nasty M 9

MN8 PRESENTS

Calle 13 W 11

Dolores O'Riordan w/ Jesse Baylin Th 12

TICKETS.COM: 800-955-5566 • www.930.com

I.M.P. PRESENTS AT

Merriweather Post Pavilion • Columbia, MD

THIS WEEK!

CAPITAL JAZZ FEST featuring
ANITA BAKER • DAVE KOZ • GEORGE BENSON • AL JARREAU •
HERBIE HANCOCK • THE JAZZMASTERS and more! May 30 - June 3
Go to www.capitaljazz.com for full lineup

THIS MONDAY!

HONDA CIVIC TOUR PRESENTS

FALL OUT BOY w/ +44 • The Academy Is... • Paul Wall • Cobra Starship June 4

TRUE COLORS featuring **CYNDI LAUPER • ERASURE •
DEBBIE HARRY • THE DRESDEN DOLLS • THE GOSSIP •**
with special guest **RUFUS WAINWRIGHT •**
hosted by **MARGARET CHO** June 17

WILCO w/ **LOW** June 21

THIEVERY CORPORATION AND ESL MUSIC PRESENT: A DAY IN THE WORLD

MANU CHAO Radio Bemba Sound System
THIEVERY CORPORATION Live
w/ **BEBEL GILBERTO** and DJ sets from **URSULA 1000 •
NICKODEMUS • THUNDERBALL** Sat. June 23

THE FRAY w/ **OK GO & Mae** June 28

NICKELBACK w/ **STAIN'D & DAUGHTRY** July 11

THE DECEMBERISTS
w/ **THE BALTIMORE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA** Sat. July 14

VANS WARPED TOUR '07 LIVE NATION July 25
Go to www.warpedtour.com for complete lineup!

JOSE CUERVO PRESENTS

WPOC SUNDAY IN THE COUNTRY featuring
**TRACE ADKINS • SARA EVANS • PHIL VASSAR •
TERRI CLARK • MARK WILLS • JAKE OWEN** July 29

ALISON KRAUSS AND UNION STATION
featuring **JERRY DOUGLAS** Sat. August 11

O.A.R. w/ **AUGUSTANA** Fri. August 17

CRUZAN RUM PRESENTS

KENNY CHESNEY w/ **SUGARLAND & Pat Green** August 26

www.MERRIWEATHERMUSIC.COM

D.A.R. Constitution Hall • Washington, D.C.

THIS SUNDAY!

BLOC PARTY w/ **Noisettes & Annuals** June 3

G.M.U. Patriot Center • Fairfax, VA

THE WHITE STRIPES Sat. July 28

TICKETMASTER: 202-397-SEAT • 410-547-SEAT • 703-573-SEAT • 800-551-SEAT
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SPIN

THE POLICE **AUGUST 4**
BEASTIE BOYS

Amy Winehouse • Ben Harper & The Innocent Criminals
Booka Shade • Cheap Trick • Danny Tenaglia
Felix Da Housecat • Fiction Plane • Fountains Of Wayne

The Fratellis • Incubus • LCD Soundsystem
Miguel Migs (Petapusher) • Modest Mouse • Paolo Nutini
Peter Bjorn And John • Sander Van Doorn

Sasha & John Digweed • Shout Out Out Out Out • TV On The Radio

THE SMASHING PUMPKINS **AUGUST 5**
311

Bad Brains • CSS • The Crystal Method (DJ Set)
Deep Dish (Dubfire + Sharam)

Dieselboy & Andy C With MC GQ And MC Messinian

Girl Talk • Infected Mushroom • Interpol • James Zabiela

M.I.A. • Matisyahu • Regina Spektor • Spoon

Velvet Revolver • Wu-Tang Clan

Yeah Yeah Yeahs

www.ticketmaster.com
800.551.SEAT

TheScene

Moments in Time ..., Verna Hart's paintings depicting images of three decades, stylistically influenced by jazz, through June 30. 2629 Connecticut Ave., NW; 202-234-5112, www.inter-visions.com.

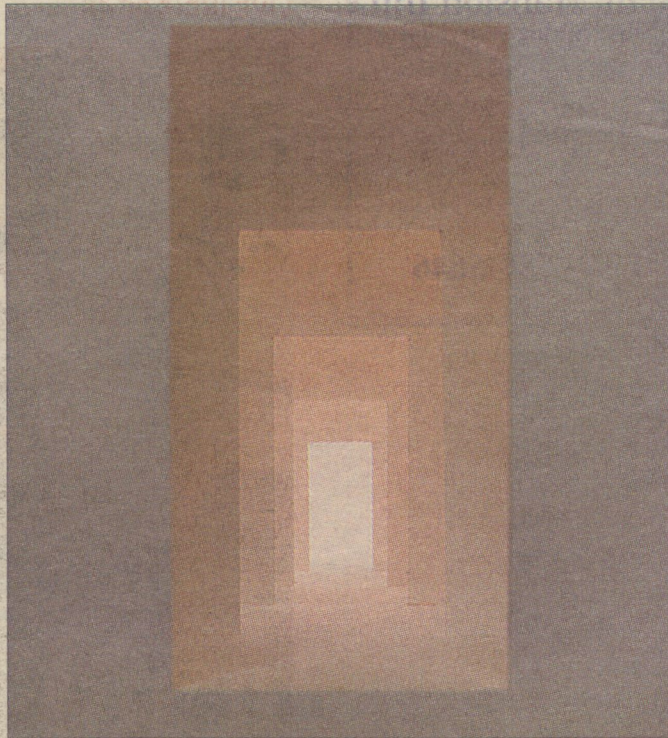
Irvine Contemporary: "Rober Mellor: New Scenarios," the artist uses naturalistic elements juxtaposed with one another in deadpan, surrealist, almost pure-design configurations, through June 30. 1412 14th St. NW; 202-332-8767, irvinecontemporary.com.

The Japanese Information and Culture Center: "To Life and the Future: Japanese Heart From Edo to Today," contemporary ukiyo-e artist Mari Mihashi's delicate work, through June 8. Lafayette Center, 1155 21st St. NW; 202-238-6949.

The Jerusalem Fund Gallery: "Handala and the Cartoons of Najju Al-Ali," the slain Palestinian cartoonist's scathing critiques, through Aug. 31. 2425 Virginia Ave. NW; 202-338-1958, thejerusalemfund.org/gallery.

Library of Congress: "On the Cutting Edge: Contemporary Japanese Prints," the latest prints, including a diverse collection of woodcuts and calligraphy, through June 30. "A Century of Creativity: The MacDowell Colony 1907-2007," music manuscripts and first editions from residents of this early American artists' colony, through Aug. 18. 101 1st St. SE; 202-707-8000, loc.gov/exhibits.

LAST CHANCE Long View Gallery: "Suspended Animation," Alan Rubin's paintings of people caught in moments fraught with tension and ambiguity, through Sat. 1302 9th St. NW; 202-232-4788. www.longviewgallery.com.

GALLERIES | THE SHINING

BIG IN JAPAN: Currently on display at the Shigeko Bork Mu Project, "Meditation Rooms" features the works of Japanese artists Yumi Kori and Shinji Turner-Yamamoto, who both meld Japanese tradition with contemporary culture. Kori's work, above, is seemingly otherworldly and uses clean, simple materials including Japanese paper and acrylic panels.

Marsha Mateyka Gallery: "Sam Gilliam: New Work," the Washington artist's ongoing studies in abstract dimensional painting, through July 21. 2012 R St. NW; 202-328-0088, marshamateykgallery.com.

Meridian International Center: "Spirit Into Shape: Contemporary Italian Sculpture," featuring works by Giuseppe Bergomi, Pietro Coletta, Wolfgang Alexander Kossuth, Oliviero Rainaldi and Luca Zan-

chi, through Oct. 28. 1630 Crescent Place NW; 202-667-6800, meridian.org.

National Air and Space Museum: "Treasures of American History," many of the National Museum of American History's choicest items — from Dorothy's ruby slippers to Jacqueline Kennedy's inaugural ball gown — find a temporary home, ongoing. 6th Street and Independence Avenue, 202-633-1000,

www.nasm.si.edu.

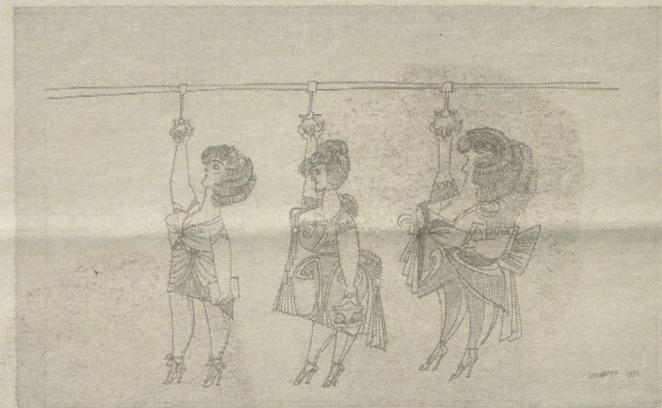
LAST CHANCE National Archives: A special exhibit of photographs relating to Queen Elizabeth II's visit includes Annie Leibowitz's portrait of the queen, through May 31. The Archives will also exhibit photographs in conjunction with the Shakespeare in Washington festival, through May 31. "School House to White House," a family-friendly collection of photos and documents from the childhoods of U.S. presidents, through Jan. 1, 2008. "The Charters of Freedom," "A New World Is at Hand," "The Public Vaults," the Magna Carta and other treasures, ongoing. Constitution Avenue between 7th & 9th streets NW; 202-357-5300, www.archives.gov.

National Building Museum: "The Green House: New Directions in Sustainable

Architecture and Design," through June 30. "Reinventing the Globe: A Shakespearean Theater for the 21st Century," through Aug. 27. "Washington: Symbol and City," ongoing. "Cityscapes Revealed," highlights from the museum's permanent collection, ongoing. 401 F St. NW; 202-272-2448, nbm.org.

National Gallery of Art: "Claude Lorrain — The Painter as Draftsman: Drawings From the British Museum," through Aug. 12. "States and Variations: Prints by Jasper Johns," through Oct. 28. "Fabulous Journeys and Faraway Places: Travels on Paper, 1450-1700," through Sept. 16. "Private Treasures: Four Centuries of European Master Drawings," opens Sun., through Sept. 16. 600 Constitution Ave. NW; 202-289-3360, www.nga.gov.

Continued on E26

Smithsonian American Art Museum

Saul Steinberg, *Three Liberties*, 1949-51. Ink and watercolor on paper. The Saul Steinberg Foundation, New York. © The Saul Steinberg Foundation/Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York

Saul Steinberg ILLUMINATIONS

Through June 24, 2007

FREE PUBLIC PROGRAM

The New Yorker Cartoon Editor
Bob Mankoff

Sunday, June 3 at 3 PM.

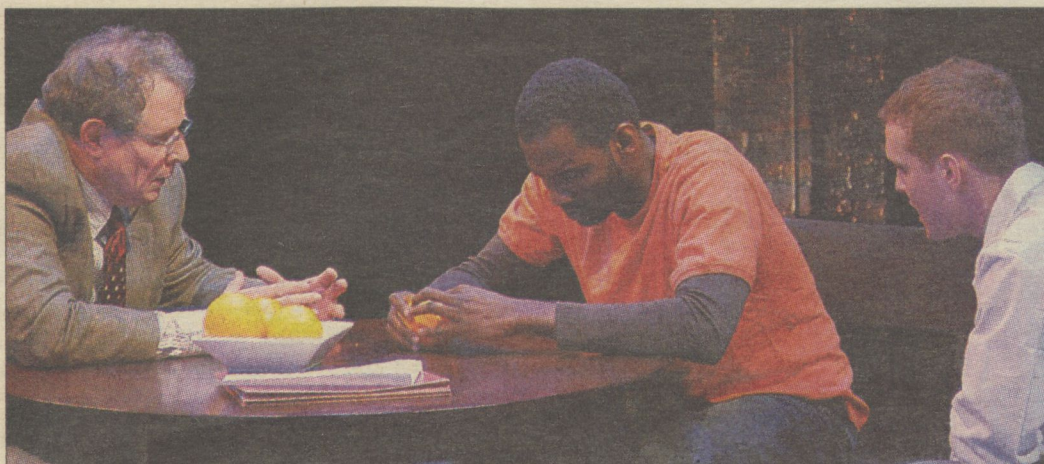


Smithsonian American Art Museum

AmericanArt.si.edu

8th & F Streets, NW; open 11:30 AM to 7 PM daily; (202) 633-1000

Saul Steinberg: Illuminations was organized by the Frances Loebman Loeb Art Center, Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, N.Y. Mike Wilkins, Sheila Duignan, and Rita J. Pynoos support the presentation at the Smithsonian American Art Museum.

STAGE | THE UNBELIEVABLE TRUTH

FICTION COMES IN THREES: Joe Penhall's drama "Blue/Orange," now playing at the H Street Playhouse, is a tense three-character work in which the motivations and desires of a psychiatric doctor, his trainee and a patient who may or may not be the son of an African dictator come to light in surprising ways over the course of two taut acts.

FREE PERFORMANCES DAILY AT 6 P.M.!

The Kennedy Center Millennium Stage

Brought to you by  and  Fannie Mae Foundation

UPCOMING PERFORMANCES

Thu., May 31: KANTARA
Ensemble fuses Appalachian bluegrass with traditional Tunisian music.

Fri., June 1: VTDANCE
The Grandmother Project includes spoken text, movement, music, video, and projected images.

Sat., June 2: NATIONAL SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA PRELUDE
NSO members perform classical works by Bach, Brahms, Stravinsky, and more.

Sun., June 3: JOHN LITHGOW: A Lithgow Palooza!—Songs for Kids

The two-time Tony Award® winner performs "vaudeville for kids" with a backing band.

Mon., June 4: PHOENIX DANCE (film)/LISA BUFANO (dance)
Film documentary follows dancer Homer Avila after a leg amputation, then Lisa Bufano performs *Five Open Mouths*.
Presented in cooperation with VSA arts

Tue., June 5: MELODY GARDOT
23-year-old award-winning singer and guitarist performs with her quartet. ♦
Presented in cooperation with VSA arts

Wed., June 6: DUO46
Violinist Beth Ilana Schneider-Gould and guitarist Matt Gould are advocates of contemporary art music.
Presented in cooperation with the Washington Jewish Music Festival

Thu., June 7: NATIONAL SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA YOUTH FELLOWS
High school musicians studying with NSO members perform classical works.

Fri., June 8: GIRL SCOUTS 95th ANNIVERSARY SING-ALONG
Troops perform a choral concert the day before the Girl Scouts' National Mall gathering.

Sat., June 9: NATIONAL SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA PRELUDE
NSO members perform classical works.

Sun., June 10: AQUILES BÁEZ
Venezuelan guitarist, arranger, and composer.
Presented in cooperation with the Embassy of Venezuela

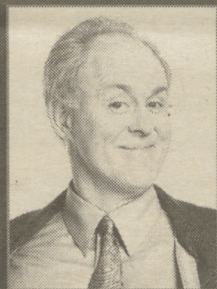
Mon., June 11—Thu., June 14: TINY NINJA THEATER: Hamlet (6/11 & 12) and Romeo and Juliet (6/13 & 14)
New York City-based company uses small dime-store figurines to tell two Shakespearean dramas. ♦

ALL PERFORMERS AND PROGRAMS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE.

♦ Part of the VSA arts 2007 Start with the Arts Family Festival
♦ Shakespeare in Washington at the Kennedy Center has been generously underwritten by The Morris and Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation and Alice and David Rubenstein.



KANTARA ■ THURSDAY 05.31



JOHN LITHGOW ■ SUNDAY 06.03



DUO46 ■ WEDNESDAY 06.06



AQUILES BÁEZ ■ SUNDAY 06.10

HALF-PRICE FOOD & DRINKS
GRAND FOYER BARS 5–6 P.M. NIGHTLY



Take Metro to the Foggy Bottom/GWU station and ride the free Kennedy Center shuttle departing every 15 minutes until midnight.

The Millennium Stage was created and underwritten by James A. Johnson and Maxine Isaacs to make the performing arts accessible to everyone in fulfillment of the Kennedy Center's mission to its community and the nation.


Live Internet broadcast, video archive, artist information, and more at:
kennedy-center.org/millennium

FREE TOURS are given daily by the Friends of the Kennedy Center tour guides. Tour hours: Monday thru Friday, 10 a.m.–5 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m.–1 p.m. For information, call (202) 416-8340.

The Millennium Stage, underwritten by James A. Johnson and Maxine Isaacs, is brought to the public by Target Stores and Fannie Mae Foundation, with additional funding provided by the U.S. Department of Education, Ameriprise Financial, Inc., The Meredith Foundation, Dr. Deborah Rose and Dr. Jan A.J. Stolwijk, Temple-Inland, Inc., DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities, the Millennium Stage Endowment Fund, and the Kennedy Center Washington Committee on the Arts.

For more information call:
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PLEASE NOTE: There is no free parking for free performances.

 The Kennedy Center welcomes persons with disabilities.

The Kennedy Center

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express

Weekend | Entertainment

LIVE NU-FOLK | EVOLUTION



COURTESY BLACKCAT

ROUGH IS THE NEW SLICK: Calvin Johnson has been feverishly championing lo-fi indie-folk for so long, he's earned himself a nice, relaxing tour. The founder of the now-legendary K Records and Pacific Northwest starfinder general brings his own faux-naive songs to the Black Cat on Sunday.

The Scene

Continued from E25

National Geographic Museum:

"National Geographic MAPS: Tools for Adventure," a kid-friendly interactive exhibit about maps, charts and navigation, July 29. "Photo Camp 2006: Uganda," a powerful and moving series of photographs taken by young people, ages 12-20, of life in a Ugandan refugee camp, through Sept. 3. "Zakouma, Elephant Crisis in Chad," photographs by Michael Nichols show the extremes conservationists must go to in order to protect the last surviving Central African elephants from poachers. The exhibit is accompanied by eyewitness text from National Geographic Explorer-in-Residence J. Michael Fay, through Sept. 3. 17th and M streets NW; 202-857-7588.

National Library of Medicine: Selections from permanent collections, ongoing. 8600 Rockville Pike, Bethesda; 301-496-6308, www.nlm.nih.gov.

National Museum of African Art: "African Vision: The Walt Disney-Tishman African Art Collection," through Sept. 7, 2008. "Resonance From the Past," African sculpture from the New Orleans Museum of Art, ongoing. "Body of Evidence," contemporary African artists use the body, ongoing. 950 Independence Ave. SW; 202-633-1000, www.nmfa.si.edu.

National Museum of the Ameri-

can Indian: "Identity by Design: Tradition, Change, and Celebration in Native Women's Dresses," explores the cultural expressions and artistic identity woven into a collection of traditional dresses and accessories from various tribes of the American Indian, through Jan. 2, 2008. 4th Street & Independence Avenue SW; 202-633-6985.

National Museum of Health and Medicine: Selections from permanent collections, ongoing. 6900 Georgia Ave. NW, AFIP, Building 54; 202-782-220, nmhm.washingtondc.museum.

LAST CHANCE National Museum of Natural History: "Shore to Ship: The Enduring Plant Discoveries of the U.S. Exploring Expedition," the annual Charles Wilkes exhibit will examine thousands of artifacts collected from the world's coastlines, through June 3. "Orchids: Take a Walk on the Wild Side," a fount of information about orchids and a large number of "naturalistic" displays of the plants. "Transitions: Photographs by Robert Creamer," through June 24. 10th Street & Constitution Avenue NW; 202-633-1000, www.mnh.si.edu.

National Museum of Women in the Arts: "Italian Women Artists from Renaissance to Baroque," a collection of paintings, drawings and sculpture by such artists as Artemisia Gentileschi, Lavinia Fontana and Elisabetta Sirani, through July 15. "The National Museum of Women in the Arts at 20: Selections From the Archives," photographs, original posters and historical objects as well