

Freedom Tower bash Friday celebrates MDC cultural programs



George Schiavone

Sheaun McKinney plays an accident-prone, self-destructive guy in Ground Up & Rising's 'Gruesome Playground Injuries.'

Miami Dade College will unveil its 2013 Miami Book Fair International poster and celebrate the rebranding of its Cultural Affairs Department as MDCulture from 5 to 9 p.m. Friday at the Freedom Tower, 600 Biscayne Blvd., Miami.

Held in conjunction with DWNTWN Arts Days, the event will include:

- Live jazz by Brazilian pianist André Mehmani in the Skylight Gallery at the MDC Museum of Art + Design.
- An opening reception for the museum's exhibition series of works by MDC and New World School of the Arts graduates.
- Screenings of the short films Shift by Juan Carlos Zaldivar and Anja Marias and Catharsis by Cédric Prévost.
- An 8:30 p.m. performance of *Cyrano mío* by Teatro Prometeo (at MDC Building 1, 300 NE Second Ave.; in Spanish with English supertitles; tickets \$20).

The book fair poster has been designed by Spanish artist Francisco Capdevila, known as "Max." For more information about the event, call 305-237-3940.

Kathy Martin

Symphony season

Symphony of the Americas and its artistic director, James Brooks-Bruzzese, have announced a six-concert season at the Broward Center for the Performing Arts.

The Oct. 14 opener will explore "The Mystery of Tango" with composer and violinist Alejandro Drago. On Nov. 12, pianist Alexander Kobrin will perform Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 20 in D minor, K. 466.

On Dec. 10, the Cathedral Choir of First Presbyterian Church of Fort Lauderdale will join the orchestra for a holiday program.

The Feb. 11 concert will feature two soloists, Ciro Fodere in Rachmaninov's Piano Concerto No. 2 and cellist Iris van Eck in Elgar's Concerto in E minor, Op. 85.

Dominican-born violinist Aisha Syed will perform with the orchestra on March 11. The April 8 season finale will feature "Classical Favorites and the Best of Broadway."

Tickets begin at \$50 at browardcenter.org or 954-462-0222. Matinee concerts, priced at \$15, are scheduled for Dec. 8, Feb. 9 and March 9; sota.org.

Kathy Martin

'Gruesome' play

Miami's Ground Up & Rising is opening Pulitzer Prize finalist Rajiv Joseph's sizzling Gruesome Playground Injuries at two venues.

At 5 and 7 p.m. Sunday, the play about two accident-prone kids who grow up to be self-destructive adults will be performed at the Miami Beach Botanical Garden, 2000 Convention Center Dr., Miami Beach, with free admission.

At 8 p.m. Sept. 20-21 and Sept. 27-28, the action shifts to a black-box theater space at 12986 SW 89th Ave., across from The Falls shopping center, where tickets are \$15 (\$10 students; cash only). The Sept. 28 performance will feature an ASL interpreter.

Sheaun McKinney, seen as henchman Eddie on TV's Graceland, plays Doug opposite Valentina Izarra as Kayleen. Company co-founder Arturo Rossi, who plays the drug-dealing Quinn on Graceland, is staging the play; groundupandrising.org.

Christine Dolen

Visual arts

- Miami artist Ramon Aular will present Circle of Life at Katsuya at the SLS Hotel, 1701 Collins Ave., Miami Beach, on Monday in a special edition of Starck Gallery Nights honoring Hispanic Heritage Month. Complimentary cocktails and appetizers will be served from 6 to 8 p.m. in the Dragon Lounge. At 9 p.m., Aular will present a signature sake bottle to retired New York Yankees catcher Jorge Posada. RSVP to katsuyasb@sbe.com or 305-455-2995.

Perez Art Museum Miami hosts a free family art-making event, "A New Perspective: Dream, Draw, Build," from noon to 3 p.m. Saturday at the Arsht Center's Ziff Ballet Opera House, 1300 Biscayne Blvd., Miami. PAMM teaching artists will lead projects inspired by the new museum's architecture. Parking will be available in Lot C (fees apply); pamm.org, 786-345-5643.

Galena Mosovich

Villella on ice

Edward Villella is putting his career on ice. The founding artistic director of Miami City Ballet has choreographed a romantic pas de deux for the Ice Theatre of New York, a troupe that combines dance and figure skating. Set to Tchaikovsky's Orchestral Suite 3 in G Major, Op. 55:1, the work, Reveries, will premiere Oct. 24-26 at the Sky Rink at Chelsea Piers in Manhattan; icetheatre.org, 212-929 5811.

Jordan Levin

Briefly noted

- Miami's City Theatre is seeking 10-minute plays for its 2014 Summer Shorts festival, which will run June 12-29 at the Arsht Center's Carnival Studio Theater. Submission guidelines are at citytheatre.com. The deadline is Sept. 30.
- Miami International University of Art & Design shows off work by recent graduates in design, media arts and fashion from 9 a.m. to noon Wednesday in Portfolio Show at DoubleTree by Hilton, 1717 N. Bayshore Dr., Miami. RSVP at aiportfolioshow.com/miami or 866-330-8856.

Compiled by Miami Herald staff. Send news about theater to cdolen@MiamiHerald.com; dance, pop and Latin music to jlevin@MiamiHerald.com; visual arts to jwooldridge@MiamiHerald.com and classical music and jazz to kmartin@MiamiHerald.com. Add events to our calendar at MiamiHerald.com/events.