

NIGHTMARE



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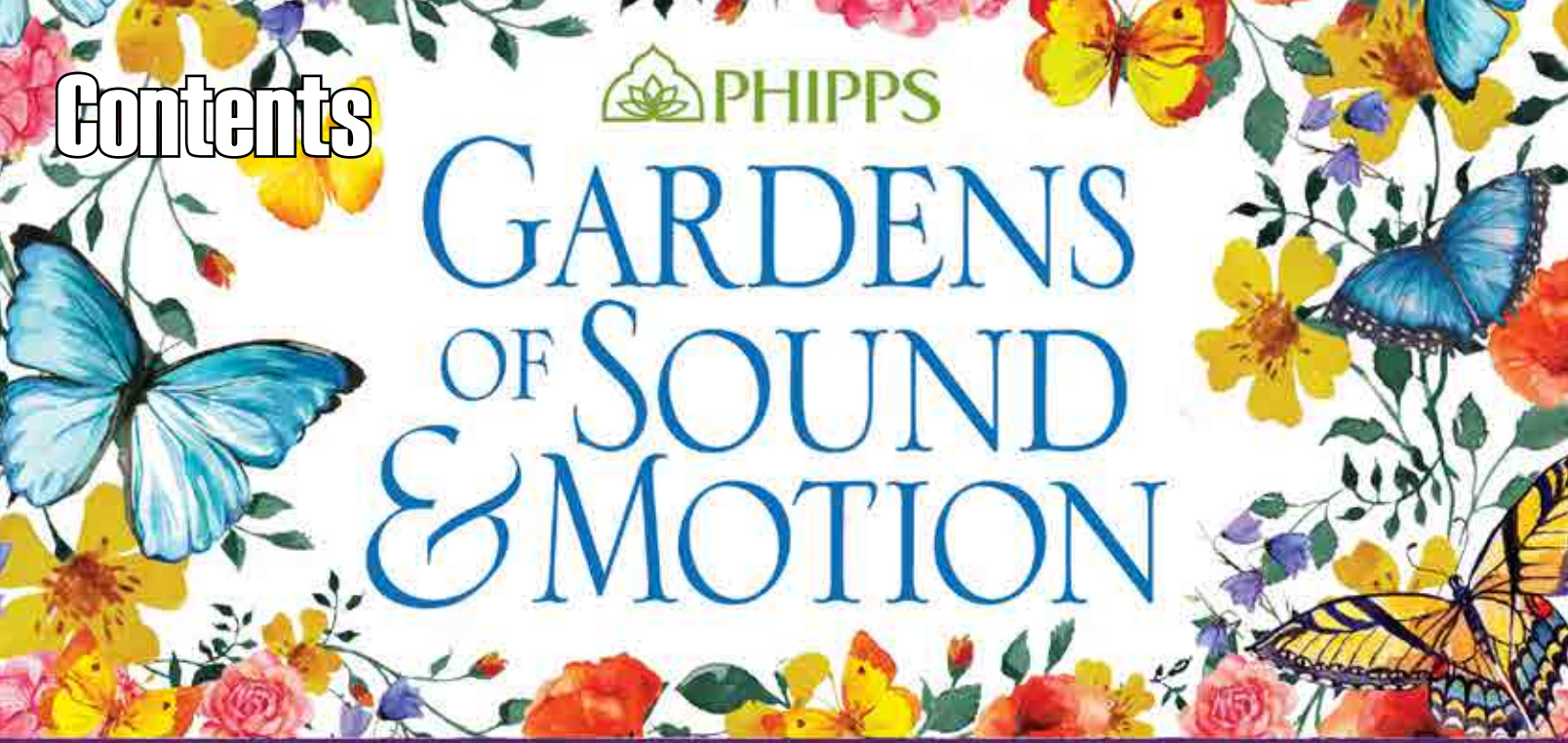
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Contents



GARDENS OF SOUND & MOTION



Summer Flower Show | phipps.conservatory.org

Pages 3-9.....Sports
 Pages 10-13.....Movies
 Pages 14-17.....Beer
 Pages 18-22.....Phipps
 Pages 24-25.....Wine
 Pages 26-29.....Theater
 Pages 30-43.....Humor
 Page 44.....Classifieds

Publisher: Joyce Campisi
Editor-in-Chief: Joyce Campisi
Executive Editor: Joseph P. Campisi, III
Assignment Editor: Jennifer L. Campisi
Sports Editor: Stacy Kauffman
Travel Journalist: Suzanne Ferrara
Director of Marketing: Lori Czekaj
Graphic Designer: Anna Buzzelli, Casey King, Tami Haslett
Layout/Production Management: 77 Design Co.
Feature Writers: Brian Meyer, Suz Pisano, Lori Czekaj
Contributing Writers: Dottie Wilhelm, Gerry Pekol,
 Lori Hon, Boris Pekol,
 Suzanne Ferrara
Movie Critic: F.D. Mastracci
Distribution Manager: Jeff Engbarth

Nightwire Magazine/
 SX Publications
 157 Rossmor Court
 Pgh, PA 15229
 Phone: 412-755-1055
 Fax: 412-755-1056
www.nightwire.net

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SPORTS:

Marching Towards History

by Stacy Kauffman, Sports Editor, Nightwire Magazine
Photos ©2018 Pittsburgh Penguins, Justin Aller and Joe Sargent

We're spoiled. As sports fans in Pittsburgh, there are always postseasons to look forward to and most of the time we get two playoff runs a year. Sometimes three. The city has seen five championship parades since 2005. And yet, here we are, marveling at the opportunity to see something historical. Something hockey hasn't witnessed in over 35 years. Something that's happened just 14 times across North America's four major sports the last 80 years. But despite the rarity, the journey to a three-peat is a familiar one for these Penguins.

Having already dispatched the hated Philadelphia Flyers, the Washington Capitals once again stand in the middle of the road to title town. The Pens have run over the Caps in all but one of their previous ten postseason meetings. In

case you haven't heard, every Stanley Cup won by the black and gold has included a series win over Washington. In the Sidney Crosby era, that takes place in the second round. And it's déjà vu all over again.

At the time of this writing, the Penguins already have the series lead after stealing game one at the Verizon Center. Considering the Caps' torturous playoff history at the sticks of the Pens, blowing a two-goal third period lead at home can't be encouraging for Alex Ovechkin and his squad. Goalie Braden Holtby said the three goals he allowed in less than five minutes were "weird." Okay, so the puck luck wasn't on your side. You didn't get the bounces. But isn't that just the thing that happens when your team gets owned by another? A seemingly safe lead dissolves and you





find yourselves thinking “not again” or “is this really happening?” or possibly some other choice words to describe the demons that haunt you every spring.

The Penguins have given the former Vezina Trophy winner fits in the playoffs, especially last year when Holtby stopped just 88.7 percent of their shots. With the Pens averaging 4.43 goals per game during the postseason, will he

be able to keep them out of his head? Can head coach Barry Trotz maneuver the team mentality to believe that the two-time Stanley Cup champs got lucky? That proven postseason performers like Crosby and Jake Guentzel dropped five combined points on them by accident? That their nemesis pulled the ice out from under them without Evgeni Malkin and Carl Hagelin in the lineup, but not to worry, it'll be







Stacy Kauffman, Sports Feature Writer for Nightwire Magazine can be heard weekends on CBS Sports Radio 93.7 The Fan, and has appeared on numerous sports media outlets including Fox Sports Pittsburgh, CBS and ESPN Radio. She can be reached on Twitter @SportsnWhatnot or at sportsnwhatnot@gmail.com

different this time?

That's a lot of confidence building to do. And while the Capitals focus on stopping Crosby and, once he returns, Malkin, Guentzel will just keep producing. After tying the rookie playoff points record last year with 21 points in 25 games, the sophomore skater already has 16 points in just seven tilts. In his first 32 playoff games, he has seven game-winning goals. Linemate Sidney Crosby, one of the all-time greats, has nine game winners in 155 playoff games. Guentzel is turning into one heck of a postseason star.

You don't last long in the NHL's second season without a dependable goaltender and that's exactly what Matt Murray continues to be. Sure, he can allow a soft goal here and

there, but when you need him to stonewall someone, he does that too. The Penguins are allowing the least amount of shots against in the playoffs at 26 per game, but more than a comfortable amount have come on breakaways and odd man rushes. Murray will be asked to stay calm in the crease, keep his guys in the game and let this potent offense take over.

With three of the top six point per game scorers in the postseason, the Penguins have the firepower. Their "stay the course" and "play our game" championship pedigree will serve them well as Mike Sullivan leads his group to the cusp of history.

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Movie Reviews

NIGHTWIRE - FILM REVIEWS by FIORE

READY PLAYER ONE

I don't like the title, but READY PLAYER ONE is a great, fun film begging for a bucket of Parmesan popcorn and a fine red wine. I entered the press screening with much trepidation; the film appeared in trailers to be limited in scope and audience to gamers. While most of the film is like watching a videogame, the story and interaction with live components is enthralling enough to make this one of the better Steven Spielberg films in years.

In typical Spielberg fashion, the deck is stacked. Michael Kahn is editor, Alan Silvestri wrote the score, Janusz Kaminski serves as cinematographer and Roger Guyett is SFX supervisor. This is an all-star ensemble. Spielberg utilizes the New England Patriots of crews. The story is penned by Zak Penn and Ernest Cline, based on Cline's novel.

The set up on READY PLAYER ONE is quick and the blending of real world action with game action is seamless. While not entirely plausible, I found myself absorbed in the plight of the protagonists and reveled at the stunning visuals READY PLAYER ONE offers. It is a visual extravaganza that provides an overwhelming movie experience, even in normal 2D.

The futuristic tale occurs in Columbus, which apparently supplants Cleveland as the Ohio joke. It is well past the time of President Trump and apparently the progressives are once again running the world, for most of the population lives in poverty and is forced to abide in non-OSHA approved stacks of doublewides. Rather than resorting to a life of drugs and crime, the unwashed masses resort to a global videogame in a virtual reality world known as the Oasis. Everyone lives there, to escape the corporeality of life.

The film stars Tye Sheridan, Olivia Cooke, Ben Mendelsohn, Lena Waithe, T.J. Miller, Simon Pegg, Mark Rylance, Philip Zhao, Win Morisaki and Hanna John-Kamen (hyphenated, but still a dreaded three name). It also stars a plethora of movie and videogame characters including: Batman; Super Mario; the players from Street Fighter; the players from Mortal Kombat; the Iron Giant; the cast of Halo; MechaGodzilla; and a host of others Spielberg and WB had to pay a small fortune to use. Fear not, though, dear viewer; even I who abandoned



videogames after Missile Command was still able to recognize the majority of these characters, even though many appear in quick sequences.

Spielberg sold his rebel soul decades ago, so READY PLAYER ONE is filled with Tinseltown's favorite tunes and agendas. In typical Hollywood fashion, the antagonists are the evil, greedy business owners who want to control Oasis to make more money. Making money is evil; this must be a reflection of Spielberg being so destitute. The conflict occurs on two realms with strikingly similar results. And there is the favorite underlying Hollywood socialist theme of everyone recognizing their place in society and remaining content within it. There is also a progressive deathcount, with the absence of true violence. READY PLAYER ONE piles up more bodies than THE SANDS OF IWO JIMA, but no one really dies. Everyone who is laser blasted, dismembered, crushed or beheaded is in the Oasis. Once dead, they simply leave the game, go to a new pod and try all over again. This must be orgasmic for those currently seeking to destroy the second amendment.

While I poke fun at the absurd political and cultural undertones of the film, READY PLAYER ONE is a lot of fun. It is one of the most visually stunning films I've seen and is paced at break neck speed. It mixes well known video game and movie segments into the story, and that creativity aides the template

aspects of the film. The sequence from Stanley Kubrick's THE SHINING is not to be missed. READY PLAYER ONE is best viewed on the big screen. It's great fun, and I think you'll enjoy it. I know I did.

RAMPAGE

Grab a jumbo tub of popcorn and get ready for a celluloid thrill ride. RAMPAGE is a chock full of fun, action, laughs, thrills and prodigious special effects.

Once again, this is a film based on an arcade game I never played. Apparently, it doesn't matter because the film version is so divergent from the game, it is an entirely new concept. Primatologist, and former spec ops vet Davis Okoye (Dwayne Johnson) is pressed into action when a space station implodes sending its cargo of genetic mutation hurling toward Earth. The wayward canisters affect several creatures, turning them into giant monsters, including George, an albino silverback gorilla who is Okoye's friend. The monsters trek to Chicago, and the fate of the city rests with Davis and George.

Helping The Rock are Pittsburgh native Joe Manganiello, who has a brief, but effective role, Jeffrey Dean Morgan, who steals every scene he is in, and the alluring Naomie Harris.

The SFX in RAMPAGE are exceptional. The final battle of the monsters is worth the price of admission alone. Director of Photography Jaron Presant, Editors Jim May and Bob Ducsay and Production Designer Barry Chusid combine for a visual sci-fi extravaganza. I saw RAMPAGE in standard definition, but

second time around, I may spend the extra nickel and catch it in IMAX 3D. It lends itself to the technology.

As good as the SFX are, that's how absurd the action sequences are; everything in RAMPAGE is over the top. Impossible stunts and skirmish scenes are the norm. Scope out the Rock flying half of a helicopter on the top of a building as it collapses for proof.

No agendas, no social aphorism, no propaganda, no holier-than-thou sermons; just solid escapism with battles and big monsters. So, what's not to like?



BAJA

I have found that, as a general rule, Independent comedy films tend to be funnier than the big studio efforts. The Indies cater more to comedy, than agendas and are often more ribald. Unfortunately, that is not the case with BAJA, a romantic comedy from Producer, Writer and Director Tony Vidal. His third film feature, Vidal attempts to cram so many comedy templates into his plot line, that none is ever exploited to its true humorous potential.

For example: There is the comedy set up of driving with friends to Mexico in the family RV; connecting with a girl who is a hooker; running afoul of sketchy business/crime lords; discovering your own voice and not being ruled by others; having your best BFF attempt to break up your new romance; misunderstanding of a romantic situation; a young girl with dreams of singer stardom; a peasant who is actually a princess; a



Movie Reviews

NIGHTWIRE - FILM REVIEWS by FIORE

poor town that needs a spark to remain vital; a father trying to reconnect with his daughter; a bizarre wise man who is seeking an apprentice. Any one, or two of these have the potential to create a funny caper. Vidal incorporates all of them, creating a rushed and frantic film that never has time for laughs.

BAJA stars: Jake Thomas; Chirs Brochu; Adrienne Mandi; Michelle DeShon; Zoe Corraface; Mark Margolis; Kurt Fuller; and Cynthia Stevenson.

Full disclosure; I watched this film while battling a severe head cold and was heavily medicated at the time. For a comedy, this should have been an advantage. But even my drug induced state could not elicit more than a few chuckles. The funniest part of the film was the lyrics for the song "I Love You More Than Tacos" played during the movie credits.

BAJA had possibilities. I wish Vidal success on his future endeavors. Comedy is the most difficult genre to script. If I may, allow the professor to suggest narrowing the theme, not making every character the main character, and following the KISS method of scriptwriting.

AVENGERS INFINITY WAR

I've not seen a film so non-stop action like AVENGERS INFINITY WAR since JOHN WICK 2. The film starts in mid-battle between a portion of the Avengers and Thanos on Asgard, homeland of Thor. The battle is devastating and launches a series of attacks throughout the universe as Thanos continues his quest for ownership of the six infinity stones, a subplot that inhabited most of the other Marvel films. There are possibly two scenes, where strategy is delineated, when the action stops, but every other frame of AVENGERS INFINITY WAR involves someone fighting, blasting, webbing, or teleporting through dimensions.

The movie is chock full of superheroes and villains, all by the stars who first brought them to life. One of the best is a cameo by Hugo Weaving, as the Red Skull. For my money, the best of the superhero actors in Benedict Cumberbatch. As Dr. Strange, he has enough thespian moxy to portray his character with believability, yet still with a wink to a very firm tongue in cheek.

The standout in AVENGERS INFINITY WAR is, without doubt, Josh Brolin as Thanos. Until this point in the Marvel Film Universe, he has been a snarling antagonist; but here he is revealed as an ideologue, someone who seeks to balance the universe through a well-conceived, if demented, plan. Thanos is Al Gore on steroids; a tree-hugging, green-weenie who wishes to conserve the universe's resources and provide a life of luxury for every being by eliminated half of its population. Brolin actually sounds sincere in his dialogue, and you'll find yourself at times, rooting for the bad guy.

Christopher Marcus and Stephen McFeeley write a script incorporating elements from almost all the previous Marvel films. This could place viewers not familiar with the movies at a disadvantage. AVENGERS INFINITY WAR is the first of two films surrounding Thanos, his universal plan and the infinity stones. It also provides a means for Marvel to eliminate some of the secondary characters, who frankly, should not have their own franchise. The script will satisfy all comic fans who like the dark side of superhero stories.

Despite spectacular special effects, non-stop action and snarky one-liners, AVENGERS INFINITY WAR has several glaring errors. The most notable involves Mark Ruffalo's performance as Bruce Banner/The Hulk. For an unexplained reason, Banner is a complete nincompoop. Arguably the greatest scientific mind in the Avengers is suddenly mentally retarded. He cannot grasp occurrences and can find no solutions to situations, being bested by an African villager. Prior to work on this film, Ruffalo was on the tour circuit, spouting liberal progressive mantras, especially for gun control and violence. The transformation of The Hulk could be the actor's doing, in which case it's time to bring back Ed Norton. Finally, the SFX techs were fighting a tight deadline on the release date, which was moved up more than a month, causing several scenes to suffer from poor, noticeable matting issues. They are glaring, and distracting,

AVENGERS INFINITY WAR is a lot of fun. It is really nothing more than an SFX extravaganza of action and comic puns to help you down your popcorn. It is too long, closing in on the three-hour meter. Luckily, I had my usual seat in the last row,

and was able to stand and stretch my knees a few times. The movie is not as well written as CIVIL WARS, which continues to set the bar for superhero films. If you can forgive the lapses in SFX, the destruction of Bruce Banner's character and a rather lame manner for some heroes to exit, AVENGERS INFINITY WAR will be a tasty dessert in your Marvel menu.

20 WEEKS

When women complain about the disrespect they experience in Hollywood for their contributions to filmmaking, they can use 20 WEEKS as an example for this impertinence. It's not that the film is bad, it's just not entertaining, as it is mired in a feminist philosophy which belittles the family unit and disregards men in society. Helmed primarily by women, it postulates an ideology of gender superiority, male superficiality and the sanctimonious virtues of single parenthood, all in a pop culture envelope.

Anna Margaret Hollyman (one of the dreaded three name people) plays Maya. Maya is a woman who is cavalier about children and family. She falls in love with Ronan, played by Amir Arison. Ronan is Maya's antithesis as he loves children and the concept of family. Arison is best known for his role of Aram, on TV's THE BLACKLIST.

The couple's mad love affair encounters a hurdle with an unwanted pregnancy. They have what passes for a meaningful discussion whether to have the child, based on each character's ideologies. The script here is filled with platitudes and not thought-provoking rhetoric. Those ideologies shift dramatically when a sonogram reveals a possible genetic problem with the baby.

Leena Pendharker directs and scripts 20 WEEKS. It's apparent she is too anxious to wave the Helen Reddy banner to rally her sisters globally. While Maya is a strong and intelligent character, Ronan is a stereotype of the 90's girlie man. He is constantly apologizing for everything and kowtowing to the superior woman. I like Arison as an actor, so I continued to watch 20 WEEKS through all the feminist propaganda hoping his Ronan would eventually grow a pair. He never did.

This film was an affront on many levels. The couple is comfortable with marrying after the pregnancy. See, this isn't how



society effectively works. Marriage comes first, then the family. This concept is ignored by Pendharker's feminist bent. She makes the proposal of marriage similar to a leveraged buyout for the child.

The argument whether to abort the child is laden with feminist mantras. For those with a strong religious foundation, or even a sense of a stable society, this dilemma is moot. The film could only occur in California, where abortion is permitted up to the final week of gestation. Maya dominates the arguments and is bullish on getting her way. Ronan is too busy acquiescing to give any credence to his viewpoints.

The film's conclusion is ludicrous. Faced with a reconciliation, Maya raises the flag of women superiority, supported by her friends, that raising a child is much better if done by a single mother rather than a cohesive family unit. This is socialist garbage at its zenith. The first concept to destroy a civilization is to demean the family unit. 20 WEEKS does it with aplomb.

This film is strictly for the women who are men-haters and spend most of their time confused over why Hillary isn't president. 20 WEEKS is not thought-provoking, nor controversial. It is the feminist religion on full display, promoting a female dominated society where men are utilized solely for recreative purposes only. Skip this one, unless you have already taken the Kool-Aid.

The Beers of Summer

by Brian Meyer

Summer. Just the thought of the word brings back thoughts of warm weather, vacations, and kicking back on the porch with a few beers. Good beer is a crucial part to summer, so picking the right one is as important as choosing the best beach to visit on vacation.

As the wise sage and eminent musician Don Henley put it, I can tell you that my love for beer will still be strong even after the beers of summer have gone, but thankfully these beers are just arriving.

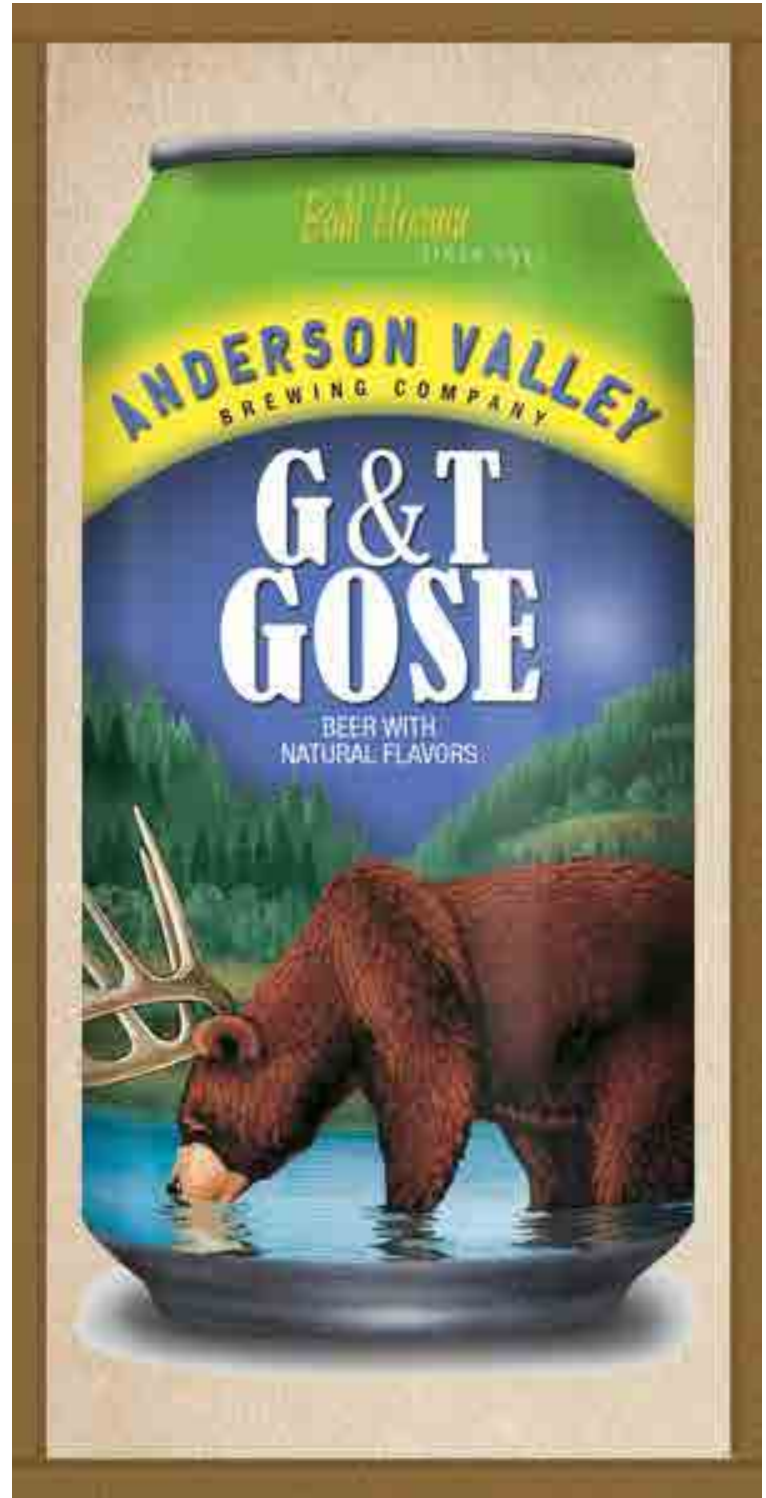
From shandys to pale ales to wheat beers and beyond...summer beers are all about refreshing you and beating the heat. There's a special bond that exists between warm weather and cold beer. While beer is pretty great all year; there's just something about a hot day that makes a beer taste better than normal.

Dogfish Head Craft Brewery

Dragons & YumYums – If there's one thing the folks at Dogfish Head know, it's how to pair music and beer up in a way that is never gimmicky or forced. Their most recent entry into their beer and music lineup comes by way of the weird and wonderful band The Flaming Lips. Together with the brewers at Dogfish Head, the band came up with a beer that fits their personality while fitting perfectly into DFH's unique beer lineup. Dragons & YumYums is a 6.5% ABV "Lip-smacking" tart pale ale that's brewed with dragonfruit, yumberry, passionfruit, pear juice, and black carrot. All ingredients you'd expect to find in a beer from Dogfish Head, and lineup just eclectic enough to do the Flaming Lips justice.

Anderson Valley Brewing Company

Briney Melon – Back in the early 16th century, the people of Golsar, Germany created a beer that was brewed with salt water and spiced with coriander and hops. Allowed to ferment with lactic bacteria, this tart beverage was a loved by the masses. As with all things, history has a way of repeating itself and Anderson Valley is here to help with their Melon Gose (pronounced go-zuh). This 4.2% ABV beer is light yet tart with a slightly salty taste. Perfect for warmer months, this beer is only around during the summer so make sure to try it before it's history again.



G&T Gose – When it comes to classic cocktails, it's hard to beat a gin and tonic. Simple, straightforward, and full of bright botanical flavors, it's a real go-to drink. The brewers at Anderson Valley Brewing Company felt the same way, which is why they decided to translate this classic drink into beer form. Using a tart sour Gose beer as the base for the concoction, you'll also find lemon peel, juniper, lemongrass, and grains of paradise

along for the trip to give this bright, tart beer a truly refreshing edge that's perfect for warmer months. Like many Gose-style beers, G&T Gose comes in at 4.2% ABV.

Summer Solstice - Unlike winter and fall beers, summer beers



fall into quite a few categories and run the gamut of flavors. Take for example Anderson Valley's Summer Solstice. This beer is slightly sweet with a malty backbone and a clean finish. Summer Solstice is considered a session beer, coming in at 5% ABV, making it perfect for having a few beers while barbecuing or cutting the grass. Bravo hops give this beer a slight hop flavor and the light spice addition gives the beer a hint of caramel and spice, making it a "cream soda for adults" without being too sweet.

Bell's Brewery

Oberon - Few things taste more like summer than a cold can of Bell's Oberon. This 5.8% ABV wheat beer features a spicy hop character with mild fruity aromas. The malt gives this beer a smooth mouthfeel and pleasant lightness that makes it nearly perfect for the warm summer months. Oberon is available in 12-oz cans as well as the 16-oz pint cans, giving you the exact right amount of beer to make the porch-sitting months hopefully last forever.

Heavy Seas Beer

Smooth Sail - Wheat ales seem to make the best summer beers, but sometimes they can get a little bit overused and, dare I say, boring. The folks at Heavy Seas Beer agree on both counts, which is how their Smooth Sail Summer Ale was born. This 4.5% ABV wheat ale is brewed with lemon and orange



peel, giving the finish on this beer a great citrus kick. Since cans are the best beer vessel for the summer, this beer will only be available in cans and on draft. So, grab a can, kick back, and enjoy the tastes of summer without worrying about broken bottles or boring beers.

North Country Brewing Company

Bucco Blonde - Blonde ales are typically light and refreshing, making them a perfect match for warm weather, and North Country Brewing's Bucco Blonde just that. This 4.9% blonde ale has a great malty body with just a hint of bitterness to balance things out. Best of all, this beer is brewed specifically for our very own Pittsburgh Pirates, and more specifically for Bucco's pitching coach Ray Searage, also known as Uncle Ray. To sweeten the deal even more, proceeds from Bucco Blonde

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Victory Brewing Company

Summer Love - Returning this summer again in a can, Victory's seasonal Summer Love comes to us in the go-anywhere 12-oz can. While there are many reasons to love summer, Summer Love is possibly the best. This golden ale comes in at 5.2% ABV and features tastes of fresh, clean German malts with earthy, spicy noble European hops, and finishes up with a slight lemon aftertaste thanks to some whole flower American hops used in the brewing process.

Troegs Brewing Company

Crimson Pistil - What do you think of when you think of summer? Pools, grass cutting, and the beach are all good candidates, but one thing that's probably present in every image is bright, colorful flowers. Summer is when the beautiful hibiscus flower blows, and Troegs Brewing decided to take full advantage of it this year for their new Crimson Pistil Hibiscus IPA. This 6.2% ABV beer features a mix of berry-like tanginess, tropical hop notes, and a hearty dose of bitterness to give you your new favorite summertime beer.

Erie Brewing Company

Soleil Shandy - Shandys are perfect for the summer. They're light, refreshing, and exactly what you need for a day spent in

the sun. Erie Brewing's Soleil Summer Shandy is a great example of what a shandy should be. The beer comes in at 3.5% ABV and features bright raspberry and lemon flavors with a backbone that's all beer. Unlike flavored beers, shandys are a blend of fruit juice and lager, done so that you can enjoy beer in the warmer weather without having to resort to anything less flavorful.

Oskar Blues Brewery

Fugli IPA - Not all IPAs are meant to be high in alcohol and super bitter, far from it. Take for example Fugli from Oskar Blues Brewing. Along with the bright hop flavors you'd expect from an IPA you'll find hints of blueberry, tangerine, and citrus thanks to the Yuzu, Ugli fruit, and Mosaic hops. Best of all, Fugli comes in at 5.8% ABV so you're not overdoing it when the days get long, and the nights get warm.



Otter Creek Brewing Co.

Orange Dream Cream Ale - There was a time when cream ales ruled the beer world. They were low in bitterness, easy to drink, and cheap to make. As with many things, everything old is new again, and with that is a resurgence of the beloved cream ale. Returning for 2018 is Otter Creek Brewing's take on the cream ale, their 5.25% ABV Orange Dream that features

flavors of orange peel, citrus, and malty goodness. Inspired by the orange-flavored ice cream that we've all loved at one time or another, this beer is meant for the hot summer months and like most beers in this list, is available in a can so it can go where you go, too.

Saugatuck Brewing Company

Blueberry Lemonade Shandy - Lemonade stands are all nice and fine, but if more of them upgraded from lemonade mix to Blueberry Lemonade Shandy from Saugatuck Brewing Company, they'd probably make a little more money. This 5% ABV shandy has the bright lemon flavor you'd expect in a solid shandy with the added tartness of blueberries to give it a truly unique flavor profile that's just perfect for summer.



Phipps' Summer Flower Show:

Gardens of Sound and Motion Invites Guests on a Spectacular Sensory Adventure. Look and listen as interactive soundscapes, visual art and kinetic motion installations bring this stunning show to life.



Delight your senses at Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens' Summer Flower Show: Gardens of Sound and Motion. Featuring contemporary installations by artists from Pittsburgh and beyond, this unique new show immerses you in a colorful world of eye-catching, interactive art, music and sounds. The whole family will enjoy this thrilling sensory adventure, surrounded by summer blooms, surprises and special effects!

"Continuing the sensory themes of our shows this year, Summer Flower Show offers colorful summer flowers paired with unique sensory experiences in each of our display rooms," says Associate Director of Exhibits and show designer, Jordyn Melino.

In each seasonal display room, guests can experience the work of artists like Lyman Whitaker, Jakob Marsico and Jesse Stiles through sight, sound and touch. Each unique display is complemented by beautiful horticultural displays.

"Surreal' is the word that inspired and informed my planting designs for the rooms, and the reason why I sought out artists who

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could bring different perspectives and talents to the show,” says Melino. “We wanted these installations to feel immersive, and the addition of soundscapes or art in motion really transforms each space.”

A dynamic audiovisual installation will enchant guests in the South Conservatory. A network of lights entwines around the branches in the canopy of trees overhead, reacting to an evolving soundscape created by Jesse Stiles. Six umbrella flower sculptures stand below surrounded by actual umbrella plants (*Schefflera* ‘Amate’) and plantings in pinks, purples, peaches and yellows.

Wind sculptures created by renowned artist Lyman Whitaker will mesmerize guests in the Sunken Garden. The supersized copper creations make beautiful, complex patterns with each gentle breeze, enhanced by blue, green and white plantings.

Guests can create their own fountain show complete with a musical soundtrack in the Victoria Room, making water dance in an interactive installation by artist Jakob Marsico of Ultra Low Res Studio. With a simple touch of the hand, guests can control



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the height of the fountain jets in the center pond.

Opening Sat., April 28, Summer Flower Show: Gardens of Sound and Motion was designed by Associate Director of Exhibits Jordyn Melino and features the work of Lyman Whitaker presented by Leopold Gallery, Jesse Stiles, Jakob Marsico of Ultra Low Res Studio and the Experimental Sound Synthesis students of Carnegie Mellon University. Hours are 9:30 a.m. – 5 p.m. daily and until 10 p.m. on Fridays. Admission is \$17.95 for adults, \$16.95 for seniors and students, and \$11.95 for children 2 – 18. Members and kids under 2 enter free.

About Phipps: Founded in 1893, Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens in Pittsburgh, Pa. is a green leader among public gardens with a mission to inspire and educate all with the beauty and importance of plants; to advance sustainability and promote human and environmental well-being through action and research; and to celebrate its historic glasshouse. Phipps commemorates its 125th anniversary throughout 2018, celebrating its historic past, vibrant present and exciting future ahead — including inspiring seasonal flower shows, community events, public programs and groundbreaking green innovation. Learn more at phipps.conservatory.org.





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WINE GLASSES: A GUIDE FOR THE PERPLEXED

Royal wine explains why different wines call for different types of glassware – and why you don't need them all



"A good universal wine glass is perfectly suitable for anything, from your summer afternoon Roman Cardova Rosado to a vintage Bordeaux such as Baron de Rothchild Haut-Medoc," says Gabe Geller, top sommelier and Director of PR at Royal Wine Corp.

That awkward moment when the server brings an extra-tall wine glass for you, a tulip-shaped one for your dining partner, and narrow ones to the next table. It makes you wonder if you've been doing it wrong all along.

Why do wine glasses come in so many styles? How do you know which kind to use? Does it really make a difference?

"The world of wine glasses can seem intimidating," acknowledges Gabe Geller, a top sommelier and Director of Public Relations for Royal Wine. "The varieties are endless. The truth is, it can be as simple or as complex as you want it to be."

Royal Wine, a leading producer, importer and exporter of wines and spirits, wants to demystify the wine glass so people can spend more time enjoying their wine – and less time

worrying about the vessel.

Red, white, rosé, sparkling, or dessert wine?

It's all about physics, says Geller. "The bowl of the glass is designed with surface area in mind. Red wines generally need to breathe, so a fuller, rounder bowl with a wide opening suits them best. Whites stay cooler in bowls that are straighter on the sides."

Rosés can be served in white wine glasses because the two are produced similarly. But, says Geller, there are glasses made specifically for rosés. They have shorter bowls that are slightly tapered and sometimes have a flared rim. "The rim affects the way you sip," he explains. "The flair helps direct the wine directly to the tip of the tongue."

Tall, narrow glasses, sometimes called flutes, capture the carbon dioxide in sparkling wines, keeping the bubbly bubblier. The smallest of them all is the dessert/fortified wine glass, designed to send the sweet sip directly to the back of the mouth.

Differences within the differences



Serious oenophiles may insist on subtle variations within the basic categories above. A pinot noir, for example, would be served in a balloon-shaped glass, while its more rarified red cousin, the grand cru, is best featured when sipped over a flared rim. A wider mouth helps release the bold, acidic qualities of full-bodied whites like Herzog Lineage Chardonnay, whereas a smaller mouth holds the delicate aromas of light whites like Teal Lake Sauvignon Blanc.

Glass or crystal?

In theory, crystal is preferable to glass. Geller says the biggest advantage to crystal is its mineral content, which makes it durable enough to produce very thin stemware. This allows for a smoother flow into the mouth, not to mention a clearer view of the wine's color and viscosity.

But does it affect the taste? Some insist it does. According to the website Wine Tasting Reviews, "The best explanation offered so far is that crystal is rougher than regular glass and this roughness creates turbulence in the wine which, in turn, causes more of the aromatic compounds in the wine to be released."

But for most people, the main difference between crystal and glass is cost. Geller assures us it's perfectly acceptable to serve wine in a regular glass made of glass – preferably one that's clear, un-etched, and uncut to better see what's inside. Again, it's easier to enjoy your wine when you're not worried about breaking your valuable crystal.

If you had to choose just one type of glass...

Many in the industry share a healthy skepticism when it comes to amassing a collection of "perfect" glasses for every type of wine on the market. Some even suspect it's all a marketing ploy by upscale stemware manufacturers.

Geller agrees. "There's no reason to think you'll ever be judged by your stemware," he says, "and you don't have to be a professional sommelier to choose the right glass."

In fact, you can get by with one set (or two if you like to serve bubbly). Geller recommends a thin glass with a large bowl that narrows at the top, ideally holding about 13 oz. of wine. "A good universal wine glass is perfectly suitable for anything, from your summer afternoon Ramon Cardova Rosado to a vintage Bordeaux such as Baron de Rothchild Haut-Medoc," he says.

Royal Wine offers libations to fill every type of wine glass, with wines and spirits from the best wine producing regions of the world, available in almost every price range. Today their Bartenura Moscato in its iconic blue bottle is a top seller among all Moscatos.

About Royal Wine/Kedem

Founded in 1848, Royal Wine Corp. has been owned and operated in the United States by the Herzog family, whose winemaking roots go back eight generations to its origin in Czechoslovakia.

Today, Royal Wine's portfolio of domestic and international wines range from traditional wine producing regions of France, Italy and Spain, as well as Israel, New Zealand and Argentina. Additionally, Royal Wine Corp.'s spirit and liqueur portfolio offer some of the most sought-after scotches, bourbons, tequilas and vodkas as well as hard to find specialty items such as flavored brandies and liqueurs.

The company owns and operates the Kedem Winery in upstate New York, as well as Herzog Wine Cellars in Oxnard, California, a state-of-the-art-facility featuring guided wine tours, a fully staffed modern tasting room, gift shop and catering facilities. Additionally, the winery houses the award-winning restaurant Tierra Sur, serving the finest, Mediterranean-inspired, contemporary Californian Cuisine.



PITTSBURGH CULTURAL TRUST ANNOUNCES 32ND ANNUAL EQT CHILDREN'S THEATER FESTIVAL

FEATURING INTERNATIONAL AND AWARD-WINNING THEATER PERFORMANCES, FAMILY-FRIENDLY ACTIVITIES, AND MORE FOR ALL AGES! MAY 17-20, 2018

The Pittsburgh Cultural Trust announces that the EQT Children's Theater Festival will be held May 17-20, 2018 in the Cultural District in Downtown Pittsburgh. Fostering imagination through high-quality professional theater performances from around the world, attendees can enjoy six featured performances, hands-on activities, and a variety of family-friendly art and music at various indoor and outdoor venues. The cultural experiences offered throughout festival performances can be enjoyed by all ages. Single tickets for the featured performances are on sale now!

"Every year, the EQT Children's Theater Festival provides the setting for new and exciting featured artists from around the world to inspire creativity through the arts," shared Pamela Komar, Director of Theater, Music and Youth Programming and Executive Director of the Citizens Bank Children's Theater Series and EQT Children's Theater Festival at the Pittsburgh Cultural Trust. "The heart and soul of the festival is to encourage discussion and create an opportunity for families to have meaningful conversations. The entire line-up of ticketed performances is interactive—audiences will be delighted to have opportunities to participate during the shows like never before. Everyone's senses will be delighted as they feel like they are a direct part of the festival magic. Rain or shine, with both indoor and outdoor events, the festival is an easily accessible and rewarding way to spend your time."

The 32nd EQT Children's Theater Festival features performances from Italy, Scotland, Canada, the United States, and Australia. The festival offers shows and activities for the youngest theatergoers from six months of age to special shows and activities for kids and teens ages 7 and up. In the festival performance of *The Young King*, five local performers will be selected to act alongside the internationally acclaimed



Slingsby Theatre Company from Australia. Audiences will go on journeys of exploration, taking part in interactive performances that showcase authentic music and traditions from around the world.

For the fifth year, the EQT Foundation will serve as the lead and title underwriter of the Children's Theater Festival. As the charitable affiliation of EQT Corporation, the nation's largest producer of natural gas, the EQT Foundation provides educational opportunities for children, as well as adults, values the development of livable communities, and is committed to the preservation of natural resources. Established in 2003, the EQT Foundation prides itself on being a responsible corporate citizen and invests in programs that promote an understanding of culture and heritage. www.eqt.com/our-communities/eqt-foundation

"The EQT Foundation is honored to return as underwriter of the EQT Children's Theater Festival, an exceptional event that brings international performing and visual artists to the region for our children to experience first-hand," said Charlene Petrelli, President, EQT Foundation. "We are proud to share these outstanding arts and educational programs with our region's youth and provide opportunities to promote awareness of global cultures, as well as local heritage. The EQT Children's Theater Festival never disappoints with its array of extraordinary events for the enrichment of all attendees."

For 32 years, the EQT Children's Theater Festival has brought the community the diversity and culture of international arts and entertainment without having to leave the Pittsburgh area. The festival has featured performing artists from around the world, spanning six continents, and is known for presenting unique, globally-inspired arts, music, one-of-a-kind installations, premiers and free hands-on activities for all ages. The festival serves as a gateway for children of all ages



to experience professional performing arts programming that inspires, challenges, educates, and stimulates respect for and an understanding of other cultures in an entertaining and enlightening way. The festival is presented by the Pittsburgh Cultural Trust.

Featured Ticked Performances

All ticketed performances will take place in the Cultural District. Single tickets for the featured performances are on sale now. For tickets and information, please visit www.TrustArts.org/PGHKids, call 412-456-6666, or visit the Theater Square Box Office at 655 Penn Avenue. Groups of 10 or more, please call 412-471-6930 or visit: <https://pghkids.trustarts.org/kids/groups>.

For a full description of each featured ticketed performance, including performance times, please visit www.TrustArts.org/PGHKids

PANDA'S HOME by Compagnia TPO

Italy

Ages 4+ | 50 Minutes

Venue: Trust Arts Education Center, 805-807 Liberty Avenue

This enchanting and interactive performance allows young audience members to take a journey to ancient China, following the footprints left by a panda. The panda's "house" is in a forest as large as all of China. In this imaginary journey, audience members will explore China's stories, tradition, and culture. Along with the panda, children discover and interact with the five elements of nature: wood, fire, earth, metal, and water. They'll encounter bamboo forests, fireworks, kites, and more. In this sensory and interactive experience, the stage comes to life with innovative projection, colorful images, and playful sound. The performers and audience members will come together in this unique and immersive journey of imagination that extends beyond language and cultural barriers.



POGGLE by Barrowland Ballet

Scotland

Ages 6 months - 4 | 40 minutes

Venue: August Wilson Center, 980 Liberty Avenue

Vince is a boy who wants to explore the forest but is too scared to go on his own. One day, Vince meets Poggle, a friendly woodland creature, and together they go on an adventure through the forest where they discover the magical, musical tree. This warm-hearted, sensory performance uses live music, clapping rhythms, and comedy to engage the youngest audience members in an imaginative and adventurous exploration.

THE RAINBOW FISH by Mermaid Theatre of Nova Scotia

Nova Scotia, Canada

Part of the Citizens Bank Children's Theater Series

Ages 3-8 | 50 minutes

Venue: Byham Theater, 101 Sixth Street

The Rainbow Fish will delight even the youngest child with his silver scales and heart of gold in this show based on the award-winning book about the beautiful fish who learned to share his most prized possession. From the same company who brought The Very Hungry Caterpillar and Goodnight Moon and the Runaway Bunny to Pittsburgh, Mermaid Theatre of Nova Scotia brings The Rainbow Fish to life with their enchanting and magical puppetry. * A sensory-friendly performance, which will include reduced sound levels and gentle lighting, is scheduled at 2:45 p.m. on Saturday, May 19, 2018.

THE YOUNG KING by Slingsby Theatre Company

Australia

Part of the EQT Bridge Theater Series

Ages 7+ | 70 minutes

Venue: Trust Arts Education Center, 805-807 Liberty Avenue

What kind of King would you be? A naïve boy raised in the countryside is discovered to be heir to the kingdom. Treasures and privileges are laid at his feet, but at what cost to others? The achingly beautiful and tender language of Oscar Wilde joins the intimate and magical world of the internationally



acclaimed Slingsby Theatre Company from Adelaide, Australia. Journey in wonder to a land of challenging choices and rich rewards.

TERRANCE SIMIEN & THE ZYDECO EXPERIENCE by Terrance Simien

United States

All Ages | 50 minutes

Venue: August Wilson Center, 980 Liberty Avenue

Join two-time GRAMMY® award-winner Terrance Simien and his accomplished band for a unique and powerful musical experience informed by traditional and contemporary influences that has become the signature sound of Louisiana. Zydeco, the indigenous music of the black and multiracial French-speaking Creoles of South Louisiana, is infectious, inviting and smile-inducing. In Terrance Simien & the Zydeco Experience, audiences will take a multicultural tour of the world with this blend of zydeco, roots, rock, New Orleans, funk, soul, world, and reggae-flavored sound. Audience members will feel the spirit of Creole country and the joy of zydeco with this engaging and inspiring performance. Plus, don't miss your chance to sing along to Terrance Simien's song "Gonna Take You There" from Disney's *The Princess and the Frog*!

SUNJATA KAMALENYA: THE STORY OF THE TRUE LION KING OF AFRICA by Experiential Theater Company

United States

All Ages | 60 minutes

Venue: August Wilson Center, 980 Liberty Avenue

Sunjata Kamalenya is a completely interactive show celebrating the greatest hero of West African legend, Sunjata Keita, the first mansa (king) of the ancient Empire of Mali. This 13th century epic tale takes place in a magical world filled with sorcery and enchantment. A wandering hunter comes to the village of Farrakoro and makes an unbelievable prediction that a boy who is crippled and his outcast mother will overcome all odds to deliver their nation from an evil sorcerer. This beautiful tale follows their struggles and the strength they discover from their faith in each other. Authentic music, costumes, and scenery invite you into this modern Mandé village where the jelimuso (storyteller) guides your journey as you sing, dance, and act

alongside professional actors and musicians in a truly unique and immersive experience.

Sensory-Friendly Performances Schedule

The *Rainbow Fish* will be the featured sensory-friendly performance during this year's festival. This performance will take place at the Byham Theater on Saturday, May 19th at 2:45 PM.

Accessibility

The festival grounds and featured performance venues are fully handicap accessible. ASL interpreters are provided for featured performances upon request when requests are made at least 10 business days in advance. For information and questions, please call (412) 456-6666.

Other accessibility offerings include:

ADA-compliant cable covers are used throughout the outdoor pop-up spaces, where applicable.

Guide animals are welcome in all festival locations.

Large-print programs are available at information booths.

Sensory-friendly performances.

For more on accessibility, please visit <https://trustarts.org/accessibility>

Festival Logistics

The festival grounds will include a variety of food options and vendors, visual art programming at local galleries, free hands-on activities, and free outdoor performances. Festival hours are 10:00 AM-2:00 PM on Thursday, May 17 and 10:00AM-5:00 PM on Friday, May 18 – Sunday, May 20, 2018.

Information booths will be open during festival hours providing information, tickets and merchandise. Each featured performance venue will have staff on-site 60 minutes prior to show times.

Tickets and Information

Tickets are \$9 for featured performances. Multi-show packs are available and offered for as low as \$6 per show! Flex Vouchers from the Citizens Bank Children's Theater Series and EQT Bridge Theater Series are honored for all ticketed events taking place during the festival, but must be redeemed in advance of the





performance. Visit www.TrustArts.org/PGHKids, call (416) 456-6666, or pick up tickets in person at Theater Square Box Office, 655 Penn Avenue. For groups of 10+ call (412) 471-6930, or visit GroupSales@TrustArts.org.

Parking and Transportation

Reserve parking vouchers in the heart of the Cultural District at Theater Square Parking Garage. A limited number of vouchers will be held for festival visitors each day. To reserve your parking voucher, call 412-456-6666 or visit the Box Office at Theater Square.

There are plenty of ways to make travel to the festival as convenient and comfortable as possible. For information about parking lots and garages in the Cultural District, visit www.ParkPGH.org. This site shows real-time parking availability in over 20 downtown parking lots with parking inventory updates every 30 seconds.

The Cultural District is serviced by public transportation options through the Port Authority of Allegheny County.

For more information, visit https://trustarts.org/pct_home/visit/public-transportation.

The Pittsburgh Cultural Trust gratefully acknowledges the following organizations for their participation and support of the 2017 EQT Children's Theater Festival.



Special Thanks To

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Membership

Families and Pittsburgh Cultural Trust Partners help the Pittsburgh Cultural Trust to continually present affordable, high quality theater productions. Giving at the \$100 membership level grants access to reserved seating at the Citizens Bank Children's Theater Series, EQT Bridge Theater Series and EQT Children's Theater Festival. As a Partner, you'll also receive many other terrific benefits for a full year! Visit TrustArts.org/SupportKids or call 412-471-3518 for more details.

Pittsburgh Cultural Trust

The Pittsburgh Cultural Trust has overseen one of Pittsburgh's most historic transformations: turning a seedy red-light district into a magnet destination for arts lovers, residents, visitors, and business owners. Founded in 1984, the Pittsburgh Cultural Trust is a non-profit arts organization whose mission is the cultural and economic revitalization of a 14-block arts and entertainment/residential neighborhood called the Cultural District. The District is one of the country's largest land masses "curated" by a single nonprofit arts organization. A major catalytic force in the city, the Pittsburgh Cultural Trust is a unique model of how public-private partnerships can reinvent a city with authenticity, innovation and creativity. Using the arts as an economic catalyst, the Pittsburgh Cultural Trust has holistically created a world-renowned Cultural District that is revitalizing the city, improving the regional economy and enhancing Pittsburgh's quality of life. Thanks to the support of foundations, corporations, government agencies and thousands of private citizens, the Cultural Trust stands as a national model of urban redevelopment through the arts. For more information, visit TrustArts.org. Follow us on Twitter @CulturalTrust, and like us on Facebook.

NIGHTWIRE

INVITES YOU TO JOIN US AT SHENANIGANS.....

Nightwire has teamed up with Straub and ArtFX Tattoo for a great promotion. Join us every Friday beginning May 11 thru June 29 from 6pm-8pm as we sample Straub beers. Nightwire will be onsite registering guests to win great weekly prizes and for our Grand Prize drawing of a \$200 Tattoo Gift Card to ArtFX Tattoo along with giveaways and surprises.

Stop in all month long order any Straub beer, it's Straub Beer Month at Shenanigan's and receive entries into the weekly drawings plus you will also be entered into our Grand Prize Drawing on June 29. Join Nightwire every Friday from 6pm-8pm beginning May 11 for Straub samplings, prizes and surprises all courtesy of your friends from Nightwire. Save these dates and be sure and join us on 5/11, 5/2, 6/8, 6/22, 6/29. Straub Brewery of the month at Shenanigan's with all day everyday \$4.00 – 22 oz Drafts, \$3.00 Adventure Series Bottles (Tight Lanes, Wild Boy, Vienna and Boulder) plus Special pricing on 12 packs to go beginning May 11 thru June 29. Straub Brewery Month!!

ArtFX Tattoo will also be on site weekly to answer any of your questions and to show off their award winning work. Grand Prize is transferrable; a new tattoo would make a great gift for someone or use it for yourself for any tattoo or service at ArtFX Tattoo.

Art FX Tattoo - Skinart & Piercing has been serving the skin art needs of the Pittsburgh area for over 22 years. They pride themselves on maintaining a safe environment – using new and sterile equipment for every tattoo. They can meet your tattoo needs with six talented artists

in working tattoo stations – combine their experience and the total number of 50 years' experience. Located at 3450 Babcock Blvd in the North Hills.. check out some of their work and reviews on their website.



2 Beers & A Mayonnaise Jar

When things in your life seem almost too much to handle, when 24 hours in a day are not enough, remember the mayonnaise jar and the 2 Beers. A professor stood before his philosophy class and had some items in front of him. When the class began, he wordlessly picked up a very large and empty mayonnaise jar and proceeded to fill it with golf balls..He then asked the students if the jar was full.. They agreed that it was. The professor then picked up a box of pebbles and poured them into the jar He shook the jar lightly. The pebbles rolled into the open areas between the golf balls. He then asked the students again if the jar was full. They agreed it was. The professor next picked up a box of sand and poured it into the jar. Of course, the sand filled up everything else. He asked once more if the jar was full. The students responded with a unanimous 'yes.' The professor then produced two Beers from under the table and poured the entire contents into the jar effectively filling the empty space between the sand. The students laughed.. 'Now,' said the professor as the laughter subsided, 'I want you to recognize that this jar represents your life.. The golf balls are the important things---your family, your children, your health, your friends and your favorite passions---and if everything else was lost and only they remained, your life would still be full. The pebbles are

the other things that matter like your job, your house and your car. The sand is everything else---the small stuff. 'If you put the sand into the jar first,' he continued, 'there is no room for the pebbles or the golf balls. The same goes for life. If you spend all your time and energy on the small stuff you will never have room for the things that are important to you. Pay attention to the things that are critical to your happiness. Spend time with your children. Spend time with your parents. Visit with grandparents. Take time to get medical checkups. Take your spouse out to dinner. Play another 18. There will always be time to clean the house and fix the disposal. Take care of the golf balls first---the things that really matter. Set your priorities. The rest is just sand. One of the students raised her hand and inquired what the Beer represented. The professor smiled and said, 'I'm glad you asked..! The Beer just shows you that no matter how full your life may seem, there's always room for a couple of Beers with a friend.

Golf Wisdom

1. These greens are so fast I have to hold my putter over the ball and hit it with the shadow. - Sam Snead
2. I was three over today: One over a house, one over a patio and one over a swimming pool.. ~ George Brett



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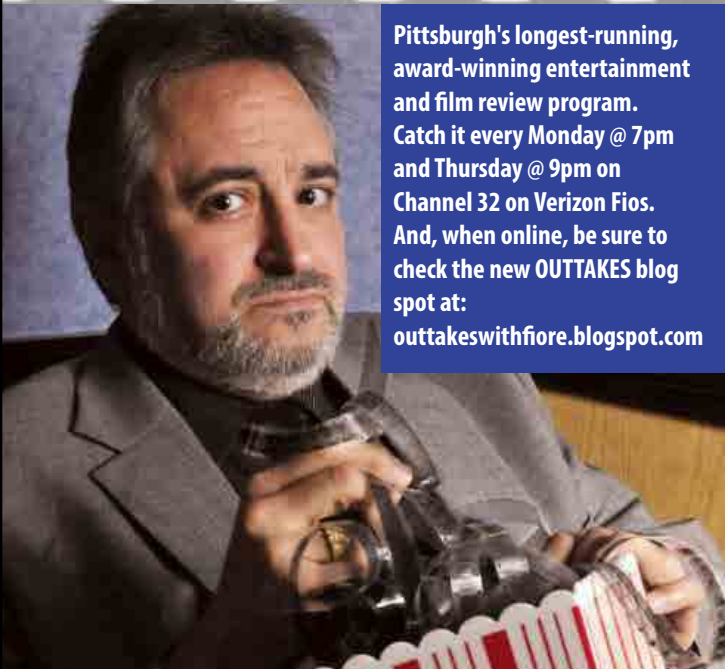

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 The Limited Basic Service subscription required to receive other levels of service. Internet: Wi-Fi claim based on the March 2015 study by AT&T Intel Labs. Actual speeds vary and are not guaranteed. XFINITY supports are included with Performance Internet and above only. Available in select areas. Requires compatible Wi-Fi hardware enabled laptop or mobile device. 30-Day No-Hang-Back Guarantee applies to one month's recurring service charge and standard installation up to \$75. Call for restrictions and complete details. ©2017 Comcast.

3. Actually, the only time I ever took out a one-iron was to kill a tarantula. And I took a 7 to do that.~ Jim Murray
4. The only sure rule in golf is - he who has the fastest cart never has to play the bad lie.~ Mickey Mantle
5. Sex and golf are the two things you can enjoy even if you're not good at them.~ Kevin Costner
6. I don't fear death, but I sure don't like those three-footers for par.~ Chi Chi Rodriguez
7. After all these years, it's still embarrassing for me to play on the American golf tour. Like the time I asked my caddie for a sand wedge and he came back ten minutes later with a ham on rye. ~ Chi Chi Rodriguez
8. The ball retriever is not long enough to get my putter out of the tree.~ Brian Weis
9. Swing hard in case you hit it.~ Dan Marino
10. My favorite shots are the practice swing and the conceded putt. The rest can never be mastered.~ Lord Robertson
11. Give me golf clubs, fresh air and a beautiful partner, and you can keep the clubs and the fresh air.~ Jack Benny
12. There is no similarity between golf and putting; they are two different games, one played in the air, and the other on the ground. ~ Ben Hogan
13. Professional golf is the only sport where, if you win 20% of the time, you're the best. ~ Jack Nicklaus
14. The uglier a man's legs are, the better he plays golf. It's almost a law. ~ H. G. Wells
15. I never pray on a golf course. Actually, the Lord answers my prayers everywhere except on the course. ~ Billy Graham
16. 16. If you watch a game, it's fun. If you play at it, it's recreation. If you work at it, it's golf. ~ Bob Hope
17. While playing golf today, I hit two good balls. I stepped on a rake. ~ Henny Youngman
18. If you think it's hard to meet new people, try picking up the wrong golf ball.~ Jack Lemmon
19. You can make a lot of money in this game. Just ask my ex-wives. Both of them are so rich that neither of their husbands work. ~ Lee Trevino
20. I'm not saying my golf game went bad, but if I grew tomatoes, they'd come up sliced. ~ Lee Trevino

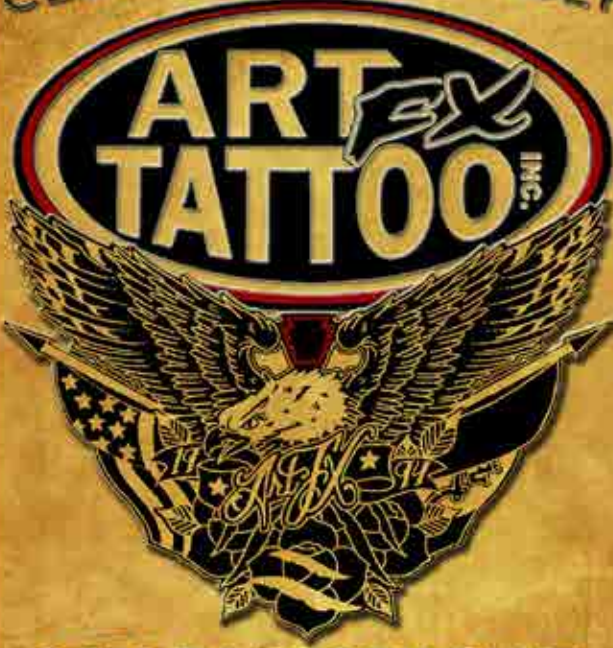
Help from a Brother:

As I came out of the supermarket that sunny day, pushing my cart of groceries towards my car, I saw an old man with the hood of his car up and a lady sitting inside the car, with the door open. The old man was looking at the engine. I put my groceries away in my car, and continued to watch the old gentleman from about twenty five feet away.

I saw a young man in his early twenties with a grocery bag in his arm walking towards the old man. The old gentleman saw him coming too, and took a few steps towards him. I saw the old gentleman point to his open hood and say something. The young man put his grocery bag into what looked like a brand new Cadillac Escalade. He then turned back to the old man. I heard him yell at the old gentleman saying: 'You shouldn't even be allowed to drive a car at your age.' And then with a wave of his hand, he got in his car and peeled rubber out of the parking lot. I saw the old gentleman pull out his handkerchief, and mop his brow as he went back to his car and again looked at the engine. He then went to his wife and spoke with her; he appeared to tell her it would be okay. I had seen enough, and I approached the old man. He saw me coming and stood straight, and as I got near him I said, 'Looks like you're having a problem.' He smiled sheepishly, and quietly nodded his head. I looked under the hood myself, and knew that whatever the problem was, it was beyond me. Looking around, I saw a gas station up the road, and I told the old man that I would be right back. I drove to the station and went inside. I saw three attendants working on cars. I approached one of them, and related the problem the old man had with his car. I offered to pay them if they could follow me back down and help him. The old man had pushed the heavy car under the shade of a tree and appeared to be comforting his wife when he saw us he straightened up and thanked me for my help. As the mechanics diagnosed the problem (overheated engine), I spoke with the old gentleman. When I shook hands with him earlier, he had noticed my Marine Corps ring and had commented about it, telling me that he had been a Marine too. I nodded and asked the usual question, 'What outfit did you serve with?' He had mentioned that he served with the first Marine Division at Tarawa, Saipan, Iwo Jima and Guadalcanal He had hit all the big ones and retired from the Corps after the war was over. As we talked we heard the car engine come on and saw the mechanics lower the hood. They came over to us as the old man reached for his wallet, but was stopped by me. I told him I would just put the bill on my AAA card. He still reached for the wallet and handed me a card that I assumed had his name and address on it and I stuck it in my pocket. We all shook hands all around again, and I said my goodbyes to his wife. I then told the two mechanics that I would follow them back up to the station. Once at the station, I told them that they had interrupted their own jobs to come along with me and help the old man. I said I wanted to pay for the help, but they refused to charge me. One of them pulled out a card from his pocket, looking exactly like the card the old man had given to me. Both of the men told me then that they were Marine Corps Reserves. Once again we shook hands all around



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and as I was leaving, one of them told me I should look at the card the old man had given to me. I said I would and drove off. For some reason I had gone about two blocks, when I pulled over and took the card out of my pocket and looked at it for a long, long time. The name of the old gentleman was on the card in golden leaf and under his name was written: 'Congressional Medal of Honor Society.' I sat there motionless, looking at the card and reading it over and over. I looked up from the card and smiled to no one but myself and marveled that on this day, four Marines had all come together because one of us needed help.. He was an old man all right, but it felt good to have stood next to greatness and courage, and an honor to have been in his presence. Remember, OLD men like him gave you FREEDOM for America . Thanks to those who served and still serve and to all of those who supported them, and who continue to support them. America is not at war. The U.S. Military is at war. America is at the Mall. Remember, Freedom isn't Free. Thousands have paid the price, so that you can enjoy what you have today. Once a Marine... Always a Marine...
A very special Nightwire "Thank you" to ALL our military men and woman who have served and are currently serving to keep us safe. God bless you and your families and God Bless America!

Summer Humor GARDENING GIGGLES

A NEW IDEA OF DIY

"The best way to garden is to put on a wide-brimmed straw hat and some old clothes. And with a hoe in one hand and a cold drink in the other, tell somebody else where to dig."

EYE SEE YOU

Why do potatoes make good detectives?
Because they keep their eyes peeled.

DARN WEEDS!

A weed is a plant that has mastered every survival skill except for learning how to grow in rows

FLOWER FACE

What flower does everyone have on their face?
Tulips

GARDEN CLOTHES

What kind of socks does a gardener wear?
Garden hose.



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SLIMY SNACKS

A toddler who was found chewing on a slug. After the initial surge of disgust the parent said, "Well, what does it taste like?" "Worms," was the reply.

HONEY-DON'T

Why are husbands like lawn mowers?
They are difficult to get started, emit foul smells, and don't work half the time.

GARDEN GOD

How do you know you are a Master Gardener?
There is a decorative compost container on your kitchen counter. You would rather go to a nursery to shop than a clothing store. You prefer gardening to watching television. You plan vacation trips to arboretums and public parks. Dirt under your fingernails and calloused palms are matters of pride.

SILLY SPIDERS

What do you call two young married spiders?
Newly webs.

CLEVER B'S


"What does the letter "A" have in common with a flower?
They both have bees coming after them."

UNWORKED, UNHARMED

Hard work doesn't harm anyone, but I do not want to take any chances.

GARDENER'S TROUBLES

"Annuals" mean disappointment once a year. Your lawn is always slightly bigger than your desire to mow it. Whichever garden tool you want is always at the back of the shed. The only way to ensure rain, is to give the garden a good soaking. Weeds grow at precisely the rate you pull them out. Nothing ever looks like it does on the seed packet. Autumn follows summer, winter follows autumn, drought follows planting. The only way to guarantee some color all year round is to buy a garden gnome. However bare the lawn, grass will appear in the cracks between the patio paving stones. Evergreens go a funny shade of brown in the winter.



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HONEYMOON SALAD

What is a Honeymoon Salad? Lettuce alone, with no dressing.

MORE CELERY, PLEASE!

Why did the gardener quit? Because his celery wasn't high enough.

ROAD PLANTERS

A fellow stopped at a rural gas station and, after filling his tank, he paid the bill and bought a soft drink. He stood by his car to drink his cola and he watched a couple of men working along the roadside. One man would dig a hole two or three feet deep and then move on. The other man came along behind and filled in the hole. While one was digging a new hole, the other was about 25 feet behind filling in the old. The men worked right past the fellow with the soft drink and went on down the road. "I can't stand this," said the man tossing the can in a trash container and heading down the road toward the men. "Hold it, hold it," he said to the men. "Can you tell me what's going on here with this digging?" "Well, we work for the county government," one of the men said. "But one of you is digging a hole and the other is filling it up. You're not accomplishing anything. Aren't you wasting the county's money?" "You don't understand, mister," one of the men said, leaning on his shovel and wiping his brow. "Normally there's three of us--me, Rodney and Mike. I dig the hole, Rodney sticks in the tree and Mike here puts the dirt back." "Yea," piped up Mike. "Now just because Rodney's sick, that don't mean we can't work, does it?"

DINNER FROM MOM

"My mother's menu consisted of two choices: Take it or leave it."
- Buddy Hackett

TRAVEL AND DRIVING LAUGHS THE VERY BAD ACCIDENT

Two men got out of their cars after they collided at an intersection. One took a flask from his pocket and said to the other, "Here, maybe you'd like a nip to calm your nerves." "Thanks," he said, and took a long pull from the container. "Here, you have one, too," he added, handing back the whiskey. "Well, I'd rather not," said the first. "At least not until after the police have been here."

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SAVE THE DEAD RABBIT

A man was driving along the highway, and saw a rabbit hopping across the middle of the road. He swerved to avoid hitting the rabbit, but unfortunately the rabbit jumped in front of the car and was hit. The driver, being a sensitive man as well as an animal lover, pulled over to the side of the road and got out to see what had become of the rabbit. Much to his dismay, the rabbit was dead. The driver felt so awful he began to cry. A woman driving down the highway saw the man crying on the side of the road and pulled over. She stepped out of her car and asked the man what was wrong. "I feel terrible," he explained. "I accidently hit this rabbit and killed it." The woman told the man not to worry. She knew what to do. She went to her car trunk and pulled out a spray can. She walked over to the limp, dead rabbit, and sprayed the contents of the can onto the rabbit. Miraculously, the rabbit came to life, jumped up, waved its paw at the two humans and hopped down the road. 50 feet away the rabbit stopped, turned around, waved at the two again, hopped down the road another 50 feet, turned, waved, and hopped another 50 feet. The man was astonished. He couldn't figure out what substance could be in the woman's spray can! He ran over to the woman and demanded, "What was in your spray can? What did you spray onto that rabbit?" The woman turned the can around so that the man could read the label. It said: "'Hare Spray' Restores Life to Dead Hare. Adds Permanent Wave."

FUNNY DRIVERS

Strange and silly things to do while driving. We do not advise doing any of the below "things to do while driving", as all driving should be taken seriously. The below "things to do while driving" are simply here for entertainment purposes.

- Vary your vehicle's speed inversely with the speed limit.
- Roll down your windows and blast talk radio. Attempt to head bang.
- At stop lights, eye the person in the next car suspiciously. With a look of fear, lock your doors.
- Two words: Chicken suit.
- Have conversations, looking periodically at the passenger seat, when driving alone.
- Laugh a lot. Laugh a whole lot.
- Occasionally wave a stuffed animal/troll doll/Barbie out your window or sunroof. Feel free to make it dance.
- Eat food that requires silverware.
- Pass cars, then drive very slowly.
- Sing without having the radio on.
- Honk frequently without motivation.
- Wave at people often. If they wave back, offer an angry look and an obscene gesture.
- Ask people for Grey Poupon
- Look behind you frequently, with a very paranoid look.
- Restart your car at every stop light.
- Hang numerous car-fresheners in the rear-view mirror. Talk to them, stroking them lovingly.
- Lob burning things in the windows of smokers who throw their butts out the window.
- Keep at least five cats in the car.
- Stop and collect road kill.

ARGUING ABOUT THE SIGN

A man was driving down a local street one day and approached a stop sign. He barely slowed down and ran right through the stop sign after glancing for traffic. What the driver didn't know was that a policeman was watching the intersection. The policeman pulled out after him and stopped the car two blocks away. Policeman: "License, registration and proof of insurance please." Driver: "Before I give it to you, tell me what the

heck you stopped me for, man." Policeman: "Watch your tone sir; you ran the stop sign back there!!" Driver: "Man, I slowed down, what the heck is the difference?!". The police officer pulled out his night stick and began smashing it over the man's head and shoulders. Policeman: "Now, do you want me to just slow down or stop!!!?"

CROSSING THE BORDER

While crossing the US-Mexican border on his bicycle, the man was stopped by a guard who pointed to two sacks the man had on his shoulders. "What's in the bags?", asked the guard. "Sand," said the cyclist. "Get them off - we'll take a look," said the guard. The Cyclist did as he was told, emptied the bags, and proving they contained nothing but sand, reloaded the bags, put them on his shoulders and continued across the border. Two weeks later, the same thing happened. Again the guard demanded to see the two bags, which again contained nothing but sand. This went on every week for six months, until one day the cyclist with the sand bags failed to appear. A few days later, the guard happened to meet the cyclist downtown. "Say friend, you sure had us crazy", said the guard. "We knew you were smuggling something across the border. I won't say a word - but what is it you were smuggling?" "Bicycles!"

GOOD EXCUSE

A man was driving home late one afternoon, and he was driving above the speed limit. He notices a police car with its red lights on in his rear view mirror. He thinks "I can outrun this guy," so he floors it and the race is on. The cars are racing down the highway -- 60, 70, 80, 90 miles an hour. Finally, as his speedometer passes 100, the guy figures "what the heck," and gives up. He pulls over to the curb. The police officer gets out of his cruiser and approaches the car. He leans down and says "Listen mister, I've had a really lousy day, and I just want to go home. Give me a good excuse and I'll let you go." The man thought for a moment and said... "Three weeks ago, my wife ran off with a police officer. When I saw your cruiser in my rear view mirror, I thought that you were the officer and that you were trying to give her back to me!"

HIGHWAY LIMIT

A cop pulls over a carload of nuns.

Cop: "Sister, this is a 65 MPH highway -- why are you going so slow?"

Sister: "Sir, I saw a lot of signs that said 22, not 65."

Cop: "Oh sister, that's not the speed limit, that's the name of the highway you're on!"

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Sister: Oh! Silly me! Thanks for letting me know. I'll be more careful.

At this point the cop looks in the backseat where the other nuns are shaking and trembling.

Cop: Excuse me, Sister, what's wrong with your friends back there? They're shaking something terrible.

Sister: Oh, we just got off of highway 119.

WHERE IS THIS PLACE?

A man and his wife were driving their Recreational Vehicle across the country and were nearing a town spelled Kissimee. They noted the strange spelling and tried to figure how to pronounce it - KISS-a-me; kis-A-me; kis-a-ME. They grew more perplexed as they drove into the town. Since they were hungry, they pulled into a place to get something to eat. At the counter, the man said to the waitress: "My wife and I can't seem to be able to figure out how to pronounce this place. Will you tell me where we are and say it very slowly so that I can understand." The waitress looked at him and said: "Buuurrrgerrr Kiiiinnng."

DRUNK OR DOUGHNUTS?

A policeman pulls a man over for speeding and asks him to get out of the car. After looking the man over he says, "Sir, I couldn't help but notice your eyes are bloodshot. Have you been drinking?" The man gets really indignant and says, "Officer, I couldn't help but notice your eyes are glazed. Have you been eating doughnuts?"

TAX EVASION

Driving to work, a gentleman had to swerve to avoid a box that fell out of a truck in front of him. Seconds later, a policeman pulled him over for reckless driving. Fortunately, another officer had seen the carton in the road. The policemen stopped traffic and recovered the box. It was found to contain large upholstery tacks. "I'm sorry sir," the first trooper told the driver, "but I am still going to have to write you a ticket." Amazed, the driver asked for what. The trooper replied, "Tacks evasion."

SAID TOO MUCH

A police officer had just pulled a car over. When he walked up to the car a man rolled down the window and said, "what's the problem officer?" To which the policeman responded, "I stopped you for running that red light behind you." Just then the man's wife leaned forward from the driver's seat and said with a very loud voice, "I told him to stop at that light. But did he listen? No. He just kept right on going." The man then turned to his wife and yelled "Shut up stupid!" The policeman continued, "And just before the light I clocked you doing 50 m.p.h. and the speed limit

is only 30." His wife then leaned forward again and squawked "I told him to slow down. But did he listen to me. No! He never listens to me." And again the man shouted at his wife "Listen stupid, I told you to SHUT UP!" The policeman then looked at the woman and said "does he always talk to you this way?" To which the woman responded, "Only when he has been drinking."

HORSE HELP

An out-of-towner drove his car into a ditch in a desolated area. Luckily, a local farmer came to help with his big strong horse named Buddy. He hitched Buddy up to the car and yelled, "Pull, Nellie, pull!" Buddy didn't move. Then the farmer hollered, "Pull, Buster, pull!" Buddy didn't respond. Once more the farmer commanded, "Pull, Coco, pull!" Nothing. Then the farmer nonchalantly said, "Pull, Buddy, pull!" And the horse easily dragged the car out of the ditch. The motorist was most appreciative and very curious. He asked the farmer why he called his horse by the wrong name three times. "Well... Buddy is blind and if he thought he was the only one pulling, he wouldn't even try!"

GET ME OFF THIS TRAIN!

One day a man took the train from Paris to Frankfurt. When he got in he said to the ticket man: "Sir. I really need you to do me a favor, I have to get down this train in Mannheim, but I'm very tired and it is for sure that I will fall asleep. So what I want you to do is that you wake me up in Mannheim because I have to close a business there and it is very important for me. Here you have 100 francs for the favor. But I warn you sometimes when people wake me up I get really violent, but no matters what I do or say you got to get me out of this train in Mannheim. Is that clear?" So the ticket man agreed and took the 100 francs. Later as the man had said he fall asleep, and when he woke up he realized that he was in Frankfurt. He was so mad at the ticket man that he ran over and started yelling at the ticket man. "Are you stupid or something??? I paid you 100 francs so that you wake me up in Mannheim. And you didn't, so I want my money back!" While the man was yelling at the ticket guy, two other guys that were also in the train were looking at them, so one turns to the other and says to him:

Man 1: "Look at this guy! He is mad!"

Man 2: "Yeah! He's almost as mad as the guy they made get out of the train in Mannheim."

FISHING FUNNIES

GATOR FREE? GOOD FOR ME!

While sports fishing off the Florida coast, a tourist capsized his boat. He could swim, but his fear of alligators kept him clinging



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to the overturned craft. Spotting an old beachcomber standing on the shore, the tourist shouted, "Are there any gators around here?!" "Naw," the man hollered back, "they ain't been around for years!" "Feeling safe, the tourist started swimming leisurely toward the shore. About halfway there he asked the guy, "How'd you get rid of the gators?" "We didn't do nothin'," the beachcomber said. "The sharks got 'em."

PESSIMIST AND A DOG

An avid duck hunter was in the market for a new bird dog. His search ended when he found a dog that could actually walk on water to retrieve a duck. Shocked by his find, he was sure none of his friends would ever believe him. He decided to try to break the news to a friend of his, the eternal pessimist who refused to be impressed with anything. This, surely, would impress him. He invited him to hunt with him and his new dog. As they waited by the shore, a flock of ducks flew by, they fired, and a duck fell. The dog responded and jumped into the water. The dog, however, did not sink but instead walked across the water to retrieve the bird, never getting more than his paws wet. This continued all day long; each time a duck fell, the dog walked across the surface of the water to retrieve it. The pessimist watched carefully, saw everything, but did not say a single word. On the drive home the hunter asked his friend, "Did

you notice anything unusual about my new dog?" "I sure did," responded the pessimist. "He can't swim."

TOUCHED BY AN ANGEL

Three guys were fishing in a lake one day, when an angel appeared in the boat. When the three astonished men had settled down enough to speak, the first guy asked the angel humbly, "I've suffered from back pain ever since I took shrapnel in the Vietnam War ... Could you help me?" "Of course," the angel said, and when he touched the man's back, the man felt relief for the first time in years. The second guy who wore very thick glasses and had a hard time reading and driving. He asked if the angel could do anything about his poor eyesight. The angel smiled, removed the man's glasses and tossed them into the lake. When they hit the water, the man's eyes cleared and he could see everything distinctly. When the angel turned to the third guy, the guy put his hands out defensively -- "Don't touch me!" he cried, "I'm on a disability pension."

DID YOU SEE THAT?

Two guys are out hunting deer. The first guy says, "Did you see that?" "No," the second guy says. "Well, a bald eagle just flew overhead," the first guy says. "Oh," says the second guy. A couple of minutes later, The first guy says, "Did you see that?"

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"See what?" the second guy asks. "Are you blind? There was a big, black bear walking on that hill, over there." "Oh." A few minutes later the first guy says: "Did you see that?" By now, the second guy is getting aggravated, so he says, "Yes, I did!" And the first guy says: "Then why did you step in it?"

MINNOWS FOR MARLIN

A fisherman returned to shore with a giant marlin that was bigger and heavier than he. On the way to the cleaning shed, he ran into a second fisherman who had a stringer with a dozen baby minnows. The second fisherman looked at the marlin, turned to the first fisherman and said, "Only caught one, eh?"
END

CATCHING THE FISH

Jim had an awful day fishing on the lake, sitting in the blazing sun all day without catching a single one. On his way home, he stopped at the supermarket and ordered four catfish. He told the fish salesman, "Pick four large ones out and throw them at me, will you?" "Why do you want me to throw them at you?" "Because I want to tell my wife that I caught them." "Okay, but I suggest that you take the orange roughy." "But why?" "Because your wife came in earlier today and said that if you came by, I should tell you to take orange roughy. She prefers that for supper tonight."

SUMMER RETREAT

A very wealthy lawyer retreated for several weeks each year to his summer home in the backwoods of Maine. Every summer, he would invite one friend or another to stay with him there for a week or two. One summer he invited a Czechoslovakian friend to visit him. The friend, happy to get anything free from a lawyer, eagerly agreed. When the time came, they spent a wonderful time, getting up early every morning and enjoying the great outdoors. One morning, as the lawyer and his Czechoslovakian friend were picking raspberries and blueberries for their breakfast, they were approached by two huge bears a male and a female. The lawyer noticed them in time to run for cover. His friend, however, was not so lucky. The male bear reached him and swallowed him whole. Seeing this, the lawyer ran back to his Mercedes and raced for the nearest town to get the local sheriff. The sheriff grabbed his high powered rifle and raced back to the berry area with the lawyer. All the while, he was plagued by visions of lawsuit from his friend's family. He just had to save his friend. Luckily, the bears were still there. "He's in THAT one!" cried the lawyer, pointing to the male. The sheriff looked at the bears, leveled his gun, took careful aim, and shot the female. "What did you do that for?!" exclaimed the lawyer, "I said he was in the other bear!" "Exactly," replied the sheriff. "Would you believe a lawyer who told you that the Czech was in the male?"

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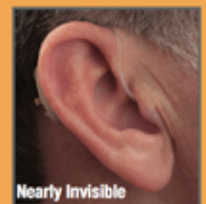
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