

Real Detroit Weekly

ARTS & CULTURE » STAGE & CANVAS

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Stage & Canvas

by [Robert del Valle](#)[click to enlarge](#)

Still An Oasis of Delights, Still a Talented Woman

Lindsey Harnish was one of several artists spotlighted in 2013 by the Emerging Artist Series at the Scarab Club, and naturally we put her name on the roster. But two things you should know: Harnish also has an impressive exhibit in Hamtramck right now and we've never really forgiven ourselves that her big night at the Scarab went unmentioned during the summer. So let's make amends with a sincere directive that you should investigate Interiors, a collection of new works nicely located in the interior of Cafe 1923. Colorful, charming and insightful, the pieces are a collective delight. 2287 Holbrook. Oh, and make sure you get the info about the twelve artists who will comprise the 2014 Emerging Artist Series. VATO and Adam Owen Layne promised us

the list this week. Check scarabclub.org

Addendum

We've been notified that graphic artist and Motor City legend Gary Grimshaw will be signing one of the beams at the Scarab Club in January. Stay tuned for more details as they come in.

Another Early Bit of Good News
(translation: buy tickets now!)

We informed you about an upcoming event at the Redford Theatre, and to our surprise (and relief!) no one complained about a surprise being spoiled, people bought seats and the Redford itself was happy with the advance word. Well, take note of something else that will be marvelous in February. Cirque du Soleil is bringing Varekai to Detroit's Joe Louis Arena and yes, if you're a devoted fan of this celebrated troupe, it would probably be a wise move to grab a ticket now. There will be a more in-depth look at this production in a future column. Go to cirquedusoleil.com



Ex Cathedra

An entire art symposium built around a royal throne that is very much a work of art in its own right? Sounds like a plan. It also sounds like something that only our innovative, irreplaceable and (for the time being) well-stocked Detroit Institute of Arts could do with finesse and skill. Balance of Power: A Throne for An African Prince centers on a royal throne carved by renowned Yoruba artist Olówè of Isè. The exhibit itself, however, strives to show how a throne encompasses and illustrates the complexity of those power relationships that existed during the early decades of European colonial rule over Africa. Olówè "employed a fascinating visual vocabulary to decorate the throne. Various symbols and placements of decoration imparted different meanings to Yoruba and Western viewers. For example, the armrests show a European being carried by Africans. A European visitor would have seen this as commemorating the 1910 visit of a British district commissioner to the palace of a nearby king." This remarkable exhibit runs thru March. More: dia.org

Steed of Valor

You've seen the movie? Good! You've read the book? We're delighted ... and a little shocked. But have you ever seen the play based on War Horse? A theatrical triumph by Nick Stafford, it not only captured the tragic sense of life that illuminated every page of Michael Morpurgo's novel, it was an unprecedented technical triumph involving equine puppets and imaginative set design. The plot is epic, so in a nutshell: A young farmboy named Albert raises a spirited foal and then sees it requisitioned by the British army when the First World War begins. Unwilling to be separated from the animal, he enlists and the two begin an odyssey across the killing fields of the western front. Much more to War Horse than that all-too brief synopsis and there are other characters to command your attention and sympathies as well, but we trust it's good enough to prompt you to buy a ticket for The Fisher Theatre production going on right now. Check broadwayindetroit.com.

Welcome to the Neighborhood

We get quite a few invitations to visit new galleries, but it isn't everyday that the invitation is hand-delivered by people who moved into a room downstairs from our very own desk. Well, that's Royal Oak for you - and that's The Gallery of Royal Oak keeping company with us at 617 S. Washington. They're still setting up shop, receiving deliveries, greeting customers, soliciting artists - but we assure you that they ARE open for business and very eager to see people come through the door. For the record, we were more than impressed by the stuff brought in by Jesse Green and Jamie "Beach Girl" Hilliard. Drop by yourself before the New Year. Everyone forgets someone at X-mas time. | RDW

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