



'LAMBS' SCREENING

Andrew Rush/Post-Gazette

A reconstruction of the cage featured in the film "The Silence of the Lambs" at Soldiers & Sailors Memorial Hall & Museum in Oakland. The movie will be screened there on Friday.

Soldiers & Sailors to show 'Silence' on film's 30th anniversary

By Joshua Axelrod
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

It's somehow been 30 years since movie audiences met Clarice Starling, Dr. Hannibal Lecter and Buffalo Bill.

"The Silence of the Lambs" came out on Feb. 14, 1991, and quickly proved to be both a commercial success and critical darling. It was that year's fourth-highest-grossing movie and earned seven nominations and five wins at the 64th Academy Awards. The film was mostly shot in Western Pennsylvania, and its cultural ubiquity was an early feather in the cap for the region's burgeoning film industry.

Fans who want to commemorate 30 years of "The Silence of the Lambs" can do so Friday at Oakland's Soldiers & Sailors Memorial Hall & Museum, the set for scenes in which Lecter escapes his barred cage. It will be the first time the hall will hold a public screening of director Jonathan Demme's horror-thriller.

Tickets are \$10 each at www.soldiersandsailorshall.org. Masks will be required to be worn at all times while inside Soldiers & Sailors, and

the venue will only be allowing about 400 guests into its auditorium that seats about 2,300 to help maintain social distancing, according to Soldiers & Sailors president and CEO John McCabe.

"It's very exciting for us, and we're grateful that things are somewhat back to normal that we're able to at least invite in a handful of the public," McCabe told the Post-Gazette. "Hopefully, it's a success, and next year we can open it up to everyone."

Doors open at 5:30 p.m. and the screening will start at 7 p.m. The evening will also include a replica of Lecter's cage created by Hundreds Acre Manor, along with a slew of vendors prior to the movie. One of those will be Buffalo Bill's House, a Perryopolis residence that the film used as the home of Jame Gumb — aka serial killer Buffalo Bill — which in September opened for overnight stays.

The 2,400-square-foot house and 2 acres of surrounding property were purchased about a year ago for just under \$300,000 by Chris Rowan, a 39-year-old art director and prop stylist who lives in New Jersey. He'll be at Soldiers & Sailors Friday alongside his venture's booth that will feature a life-size Buffalo Bill replica.

As a horror buff who first saw "The Silence of the Lambs" when he was 11, Rowan isn't

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PBT returns to Benedum with strong, eclectic program

By Sara Bauknecht
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Review

Sometimes a performance is more than just a show.

That was the mood in the air on Friday for the opening night of Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre's "Season Premiere" with the PBT Orchestra. The three-day engagement at Downtown's Benedum Center marked the first time the company has mounted a production in a theater since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic.

PBT played on a big screen, with additional images on display in the lobby. Patrons had to wear masks and provide proof of vaccination or a recent negative COVID test.

The main event could be summed up in three words: something for everyone. For her first Benedum Center program since arriving in Pittsburgh last summer, Jaffe delivered an eclectic mix of innovative works and classics. She



Rosalie O'Connor Photography

Jessica McCann, Corey Bourbonniere and Yoshiaki Nakano in Helen Pickett's "Petal" during Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre's "Season Premiere" with the PBT Orchestra at Benedum Center, Downtown, on Friday.

Seeing the seats filled with patrons and the dancers back on stage felt so familiar, like a year and a half hadn't passed since the last time we'd all been here. But as the evening unfolded, it was clear things had changed, which made the occasion bittersweet.

The program opened with a touching tribute to late artistic director Patricia Wilde, who died in July at age 93. Current artistic director Susan Jaffe shared stories about Wilde from past and present PBT artists and staff. Photos from Wilde's New York City Ballet career and her 15-year tenure with

picked Helen Pickett's vibrant "Petal" to start, a premiere for PBT. Its radiant lighting looked like a sunburst after a long, dark winter — or, in this case, a glimmer of hope in a difficult pandemic. There was an airiness about the dancers, too, that complemented Pickett's playful choreography.

Jaffe's picks for the mixed repertory program showcased her dancers' versatility. Yoshiaki Nakano and Gabrielle Thurlow dazzled in Victor Gsovsky's bold "Grand Pas Classique" — a technical tightrope

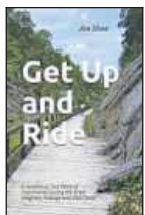
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Local books on trail riding, teaching, Irish music

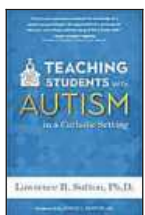
By Thandi Weaver
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Western Pennsylvania has many authors who have recently published books. Here is a sampling of them, along with information on the authors and where the books can be purchased. This feature appears occasionally in the Magazine section of the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette.

"Get Up and Ride: A Humorous True Story of Two Friends Cycling the Great Allegheny Passage and C&O Canal" is an adventurous tale that documents author Jim Shea's five-day cycling journey with his brother-in-law, Marty, through Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia and Washington, D.C. On the way, the two men encounter memorable people and historic places while learning about each other and themselves. Shea, who lives in the South Hills, is a marketing executive in tech sales and a Stanford Business School graduate. (Jim Shea, \$13 at citybookspgh.com and lovepittsburghshop.com)



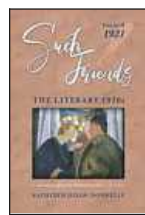
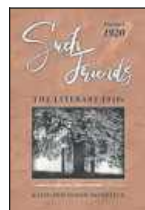
Lawrence Sutton, an ordained Catholic deacon and licensed psychologist, utilizes his experiences and other case studies in "Teaching Students with Autism in a Catholic Setting." The author specializes in autism spectrum disorders and offers guidance in educating young adults. He has a doctor-



ate in education from the University of Pittsburgh and a postdoctorate in school psychology from Duquesne

University. He is also the director of the Pre-Theologian Formation program and has a blog. (Loyola Press, \$13.95 at bookshop.org)

Become reacquainted with Gertrude Stein, T.S. Eliot, Dorothy Parker and their literary friends in the Roaring '20s in Kathleen Dixon Donnelly's "Such Friends: The Literary 1920s, Volumes I & II." The author, of Highland Park, grew up in the South Hills and teaches communication at Point Park University. (K. Donnelly Communications, \$12.99 each at tinybookspgh.com)

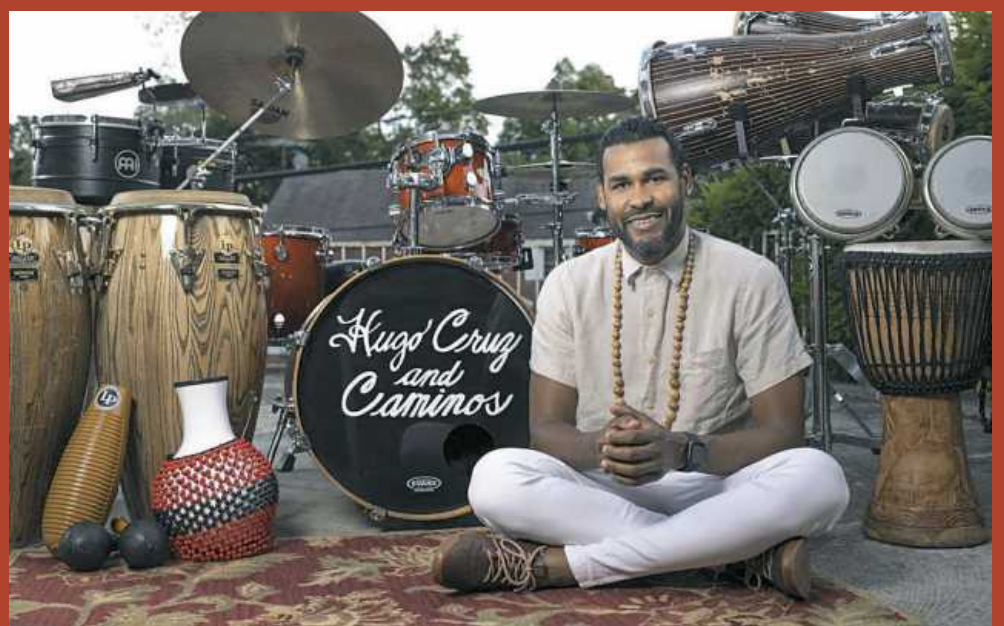


Tin whistle players new to Irish folk music will want to have "First 50 Irish Songs You Should Play on the Tin Whistle" by L.E. McCullough. The author, a Mount Washington resident and local Irish music performer, says these tunes are perfect for St. Patrick's Day parties, Irish céilís, or any place Ireland lovers gather and dance. (Hal Leonard, \$14.99 at sheetmusicplus.com)



Thandi Weaver is this fall's City Charter High School intern at the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette: tweaver@post-gazette.com.

Life in tune NATE GUIDRY



©Nate Guidry

Cuban percussionist Hugo Cruz, shown at his home in Beechview, performs in various groups around town as well his own band, Hugo Cruz and Caminos.

Hugo Cruz

Long road brought Cuban percussionist here

Cuban percussionist Hugo Cruz has only been in Pittsburgh a couple of years, but he has already forged a firm musical path.

"I come from a family of musicians. My father played the violin," said Cruz, who lives in Beechview.

He grew up in Santa Clara, Cuba, and graduated from the famed Instituto Superior de Arte in Havana.

"I studied classical percussion in school, but when I moved to Havana, I started playing jazz, salsa and Afro-Cuban music."

Cruz remained in Havana after graduation, performing in various bands and touring the United States, Sweden, Colombia and other countries.

In 2019, he was invited to Pittsburgh by a friend in graduate school at the University of Pittsburgh. Cruz said he has fallen in love with the city and its vibrant music scene. When he isn't performing with local jazz musicians, he can be found leading his own band, Hugo Cruz and Caminos, which means roads in Spanish.

"If I wasn't a musician, I would be the most miserable person in the world," he said.