

ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

Best Bets

By The Denver Post

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Flights of Philadelphia fancy

Today and Sunday. Modern dance. Founded in 1970 and firmly rooted in this country's rich African-American tradition, the Philadelphia Dance Company, better known as Philadanco, has become one of the city's premier cultural ambassadors.



The Philadelphia Dance Company's Tommie Waheed Evans takes to the air; the troupe performs Friday and Sunday. (Photo by Lois Greenfield)

Daniel Richter show at DAM

Saturday. Art. The next round



of exhibitions at the Denver Art Museum, West 13th Avenue between Broadway and Bannock Street, begins Saturday with a solo show devoted to Daniel Richter. It will include 25 paintings and a selection of small-format works by the well-regarded artist, who was born in Germany in 1962 and got his start designing posters and record sleeves for punk bands.

Classical Music

Tuesday. Piano recital. Although he might lack the star power of some of his peers, Richard Goode is one of the great pianists of our time. A Friends of Chamber Music regular, he returns at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday for an appearance as part of the organization's piano series, which is beginning its second season.



Pianist Richard Goode. (Craig F. Walker, The Denver Post)

(Special to The Denver Post)

Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Symphonic music. Czech-born pianist Lukas Vondracek

is among the latest young talents trying to carve a niche in the keyboard world. He made his debut with the Czech Philharmonic in 2002 and has gone on to performances worldwide. He will join conductor laureate Marin Alsop, above, and the Colorado Symphony in Tchaikovsky's Piano Concerto No. 1 during performances at 7:30 p.m. today and Saturday and 2:30 p.m. Sunday in Boettcher Concert Hall.

Pop music

Tonight. Rock. One listen to "Moon is the New Earth" and it's obvious. Rose Hill Drive, as young as they may be, love the classic rock of the '70s. Listen to those unruly guitars in "Sneak Out" — and what about the freewheeling, Robert Plant-styled vox in "Altar Junkie."



Marin Alsop. (Grant Leighton)

Witness it live when Rose Hill Drive plays the Bluebird Theater tonight. Tickets, \$15, are available through Ticketmaster.com, or 303-830-8497. Ricardo Baca

Tonight. Rock. The Pink Spiders made a big splash when they broke out of Nashville a couple of years ago with their brazen, polished . . . rock 'n' roll? Yep, Nashville is known for its country prowess. But now the city is home to a burgeoning rock scene, as evidenced by the Pink Spiders' new full-length "Sweat it Out." To properly confuse things, listen to their single "Gimme Chemicals" and you might just hear a little country attitude in that rock approach. Tonight, the Pink Spiders play the Marquis Theatre, 2009 Larimer St. Tickets, \$10, are available through sodajerkpresents.com. Ricardo Baca

Saturday. Variety. Most band bios on MySpace are worthless. But variety troupe the Yard Dogs Road Show have a way with the written word, so we'll let them tell you about their excursion: "Yard Dogs lead the modern hobohemian on a visual and sonic journey through part of history that may or may not have existed — followed by an ambitious return to the emotional challenges of this punch-drunk contemporary world. It's a true story on stage: sword swallows, dancing dolls, fire eaters and sunset hobo poetry — all animated by the live sounds of the Yard Dogs cartoon heavy band. Pure visual and sonic voodoo . . . and corn bread." Nice. The Yard Dogs Road Show play Saturday at the Bluebird Theater. Tickets, \$25, are available through Ticketmaster.com, or 303-830-8497. Ricardo Baca

Theater

Tonight-Sunday. Theological drama. One of the great mysteries of the Bible concerns the true relationship between Jesus and Mary Magdalene. Now comes the premiere of a new Colorado-grown musical, "Magdalene, Woman of Light," that weaves the story of Mary's life from her birth in Egypt and early training as a high priestess, to Jesus' elevation of her as the first of his apostles, the subsequent conflict with the apostle Peter. Stars Marika Reisberg as Magdalene, Natalie Oliver-Atherton, above, (Broadway's "Once On This Island") as Mother Wisdom and Steven J. Burge ("Dog Sees God") as Peter. 7:30 p.m. Thursdays-Fridays, 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Saturdays, 5 p.m. Sundays through Oct. 19 at the New Denver Civic Theatre, 721 Santa Fe Drive. \$34.50-\$39.50 (303-309-3773, denvercivic.com, TicketsWest or King Soopers stores. John Moore

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