The Sounds of Jazz
Berklee Beantown Jazz Festival

BY MICHELE D. MANISCALCO

On Saturday, September 29, Columbus Avenue was packed with music lovers who bared in the sunny, mild weather, strolling between the Mass. Ave. and Berkeley Street stages to revel in the sounds.

Continued on page 3

A Fine Fabric
Vicuna, Zeitgeist Stage Company, Black Box Theatre, Boston Center for the Arts, through October 7. 617-933-5500

BY JULIUS BECKER

Donald Trump is never mentioned by name in the 2016 satire “Vicuna,” but talented playwright Jim Robins Baitz (“Our Desert Cities”) clearly meant for theatregoers to call him to mind when he wrote it.

At the start of the play, presidential candidate Kurt Seaman—his last name surely alludes to the sexual adventures of the new President—is preparing for the last of three debates with a female opponent—herself never identified but unquestionably Hillary Clinton.

Quite simply Seaman is fitted for a suit made from the very expensive title fabric, one he hopes will make his candidacy magical. Ultimately, Baitz’s play may need some tailoring of its own, but Zeitgeist Stage Company’s area premiere at the Boston Center for the Arts proves custom-made.

Continued on page 2

Fall Fest at Hayes Park

BY MICHELE D. MANISCALCO

Bright, mild seasonal weather helped draw approximately 100 people to the Hayes Park Fall Fest, which offered music and drinks, food, kids’ activities and a visit from a Boston fire department truck. City councilor Ed Flynn dropped in to mingle with residents.

Continued on page 4

East Berkeley Neighborhood Association

F ormerly “Old Dover,” Our Name has changed...all the remains the same. Our monthly meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 16 at 6:30 pm at Project Place, 1145 Washington Street.

Please join us as we renew monthly meetings. Catch up with neighbors and all that is going on in our neighborhood and beyond.

Tentative Agenda:
- Safety and Security Update
- Development Updates
- Presentation and update from The Abbey Group, the proponents of Exchange South End (former Boston Flower Exchange, on Albany Street).

In addition, hear updates from Related Real, currently developing the former Quantum’s Bakery parcel at 370-380 Harrison Ave.

Continued on page 5

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Fabric

Continued from page 1

and Henny Kintner for $50,000. For this lower job he charges $150,000 — an amount Seaman readily accepts. The veteran tailor observes that such a suit provides "a look into the soul of a man."

There is a subtle moment when Bats—both out and Jewish himself—refers to Ansell in gay and therefore all the more way of Seaman's self.

Seaman's verbal attacks on the likes of women, immigrants and Muslims and his self-centered life as a Trump suggest that he may lack a real soul. By contrast, Ansell's Italian/Muslim employee, Amir Masoud, comes across as both soulful about life and passionate about the tailoring Ansell is mastering.

Waddington sees Seaman's suit with a skill Ansell once possessed, Amir struggles to contain his anger about Seaman's anti-immigrant and racist views—an anger that could jeopardize the completion of the job and the safety of his parents as immigrants.

Complicating things even further is the entrance of Seaman's lookalike daughter, Sri Lankan. Like Trump's daughter, Sri Lanka is married to the Orthodox Jewish son of a notorious real estate agent—here, too, a la unamed Jared Kushner.

Bats's character appears to have a more consistent moral imperative than her real counterpart as she pushes back against her father's arrogance and bigoted views in an effort "to prevent a catastrophe." In a different way, Beirut's David Plouffe, the senior campaign manager for the Clinton campaign, tried to avert a disaster by offering Seaman billions of dollars to drop out of the 2016 elections.

Will Sri Lanka and/or Finch-Olbon succeed? Will Seaman find his suit as magical as he hopes? Bats supplies a surprise regarding the suit itself that audience members should enjoy. Equally satisfying is a kind of Srirh's epiphanic dialogue that doubles as an wake-up call for the millions of Americans concerned about the dangers of the current administration.

"Veilina" may take its time arriving at that epiphany—judicious trimming is called for, but Bats has written a prescient play that should prove timely many years from now.

Zeitgeist artistic director David J. Miller has assembled a cast as skillful as Amir's work on Seaman's suit. Steve Auger displays terrific authority as Seaman—properly cagey and egotistical in both speech and body language. Robert Benotto—always a riveting Zeitgeist regular—smarter-than-smart Ansell in general reserve and fires up his combustible libration. Jaime Hernandez, a standout as Amir, captures his escalating anger and enduring respect for Ansell.

Bats Chakravorty's, newly resembling Sri Lanka, wisely avoids impersonation and turns in a finely realized portrayal of Sri Lanka. Evelyn Holley has the right desperation as Finch-Olbon.

Miller's always design-minded transforming the Black Box Theatre, lines up handsome suit options on one side of the set and authentic-looking fitting room on the other. Elizabeth Cole Aker's costumes for the

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of the 12th annual Berklee Boston Jazz Festival.

This year’s festival was down the venue, as the Center Stage stage was not available due to recently-completed renovations, but music lovers still had a huge variety of talent to choose from. The 12th annual Berklee Boston Jazz Festival was held at the Center Stage Stage. The festival featured a variety of artists, including jazz, blues, and funk performers. Some of the notable performers included...
Fall Fest
Continued from page 1

The festival was cultivated by hands-on activities as well as face painting and entertainment. Volunteer Bill Perkins staffed the apple cider press, enabling children to press the apples and suck the press.

Apple cider was also available at the snack table, along with potato chips, cookies and carrots. On the Warren Avenue side of the park, a BPFD fire truck welcomed children to sit in the front seat and the interior, with firefighters explaining the workings of the truck and posing for pictures with the little visitors.

In the corner of the park, the Stovey Peasley Band had parents and kids dancing to pop favorites including “The Temptations’ My Girl”, Ben E. King’s “Stand By Me”, The Band’s “The Weight” and Johnny Cash’s “Folsom Prison Blues”.

On a park bench, a talented face painter in a pink tutu deftly decorated children’s faces, copying the flowers from dress all over her face for a little girl named Charlotte and painting a tiger mask for her younger brother.

The park is named for James Hayes, who came to the South End from Ireland in 1927 and whose descendents still live on West Dexter Street, and accordingly, two generations of the family were in attendance.

Claire Hayes reflected on the park that bears her family name. “It makes me feel very proud. My grandchildren are fifth generation South Enders.” She continued, “This is a real neighborhood and people still help each other, so something went wrong with a neighbor. They don’t need food or help. One of our neighborhood residents contacted me and attempted to check on him.

Getting no response, they searched and asked around and learned he had fallen in his home and was unconscious in the hospital.

The Friends group’s next event is a benefit at the Mills Gallery, 599 Tremont Street on Thursday October 18 from 6:00 PM-8:30 PM, which will feature wine, appetizers and the Friends group’s annual auction. Tickets cost $40. For more information, please visit www.hayepark.org.
It’s Back: Haley House Annual Pie Drive

The bakers at HHBC are already hard at work preparing for our Annual Thanksgiving Pie Drive, a fundraiser benefiting all of Haley House’s programs. Each $14 pie is $10 and handmade by our bakers using locally sourced ingredients; the proceeds go toward your Thanksgiving feast. Choose from five varieties: Apple Crumb, Blueberry Crumb, Pecan, Pumpkin, and Sweet Potato. Thyme, our pie guru, promises her pies will be more limited than usual so make sure to order your pies in advance. We encourage you to order by Tuesday, November 11th (unless we sell out sooner) in advance to prevent a group of orders. Become a Pie Champion for more info, http://haleyhouse.org.

RESIDENCY: Home-Grown Artists at HHBC

RESIDENCY, a two artist show currently displayed at HHBC, features the work of artists John Paul Bednar and Tom King in a testament to the positive impact of individuals coming together as community.

Bednar’s abstract works are vibrant and complex, much like the artist himself. Bednar, a long-time resident of All Haley House and former soup kitchen chef, passed away last month. Tom King’s detailed and delicate sculptures reflect his time when he was in transition from homelessness to a more independent life. He is a current resident and former chef of the soup kitchen, as well.

Time into Art Take It All (All Live) on view 11/15 at 10:30 AM is a live performance by artist Tom King and stop by the bakery café if you haven’t seen the world. They will be on display through the fall.

Flatbread Brighton Pizza Party!

How many pizza slices can you eat in one night? Join us at Flatbread Company in Brighton’s Brighton Bowl (76 Queen Street, Brighton) on Tuesday, October 16 for a night of fun, community, bowling, and PIZZA, all in the name of Haley House.

A portion of each of each pie sold will directly support Haley House’s mission (including take-out from Gran Hub and Uber Eats). The last will be open for beer and wine. We recommend coming early to grab a table for your friends.

Fall at the Farm: Slow and Steady

The days are getting shorter, temperatures are dropping, and plant growth is slowing down for the season. The Haley House farm team is currently transitioning out of summer crops, so say goodbye to tomatoes, eggplants, squash, and sunflowers—they’ll be back next year! In their place, fall cabbage, collards, kale, spinach, and lettuce are growing.

The farm team has also started building greenhouses over a handful of crops to keep them warm—hopefully all the way until December! They are also focusing on clearing crops (a type of planting that returns nutrients to the soil) and mulching for fall. Meanwhile, a lot of great produce is still being sent to the Bakery Café and Take Back the Kitchen channel.

Want to get in on all of the farm fun? We continue to welcome volunteers.

REPORT: Homelessness Among Those Formally Incarcerated

A compelling report written by Lulucia Couto for the Poverty Policy Initiative highlights the challenges that people face transitioning out of incarceration into permanent housing. Couto found that formerly incarcerated individuals are ten times more likely to be homeless than the general population due to a "revolving door" of incarceration and policies that criminalize homelessness.

The report also outlines the continued trauma within gender and racially, highlighting that rates of homelessness are especially high among people of color and women. Alas, there is one fact that while 20% of every 10,000 formerly incarcerated people...
Haley House
Continued from page 5

were homeless, nearly three times as many were housing insecure”, illuminating a true sense of the problem.

All of these issues are perpetuated by discrimination by public housing authorities and private property owners, lack of affordable housing, use of credit checks, professional references and incredibly costly security deposits are also major issues that bar formerly incarcerated people from transitioning out of homelessness.

Haley House uses food, with purpose and the power of community to break down barriers between people, empower individuals, and strengthen neighborhoods. We believe in radical solutions, solving problems at their root by challenging attitudes that perpetuate suffering and building alternative models.

haleyhouse.org

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