

Show Biz

COLLECTIVE SOUL SHOW

Tickets go on sale Friday for Collective Soul, playing a cabaret on Friday, Feb. 8 at TCU Place, Centennial Hall. The band behind such hits as Gel and Shine is supporting its latest album *Afterwords*. Tickets cost \$39.50 plus service charges, available at Ticketmaster locations or www.ticketmaster.ca. Call 938-7800.

O.J. TO STAND TRIAL

A Las Vegas judge on Wednesday ordered O.J. Simpson and two co-defendants to stand trial in April in what prosecutors call the armed robbery of his own memorabilia from two collectors. Clark County District Court Judge Jackie Glass set an April 7 trial date for Simpson, Clarence Stewart and Charles Ehrlich on 12 counts of conspiracy, kidnapping, robbery and burglary stemming from the Sept. 13 incident.

Drama

- **Kitchen Witches.** Off Broadway Dinner Theatre. Doors 6:15 p.m.
- **The Laramie Project.** Greystone Theatre. Emrys Jones Theatre. 8 p.m.
- **Christmas Belles.** The Barn Playhouse. Dinner theatre. 7 p.m.

Movies

CAPITOL THEATRE (653-4737):

- **Saw IV,** 7:15, 9:15 p.m.
- **August Rush,** 7:10, 9:30 p.m.
- **Across the Universe,** 7, 9:25 p.m.
- **Superbad,** 7:05, 9:20 p.m.

CENTRE CINEMAS (955-1938):

- **Fred Claus,** 6:50, 9:40 p.m.
- **Lions For Lambs,** 7:30, 9:55 p.m.
- **The Game Plan,** 7:10 p.m.
- **Enchanted,** 7, 9:35 p.m.
- **30 Days of Night,** 6:55, 10 p.m.
- **3:10 to Yuma,** 9:50 p.m.
- **Bee Movie,** 7:20, 9:30 p.m.
- **Into the Wild,** 6:40, 9:45 p.m.

GALAXY CINEMAS (664-5060):

- **The Mist,** 6:45, 9:50 p.m.
- **This Christmas,** 6:35, 9:30 p.m.
- **No Country For Old Men,** 6:40, 10 p.m.
- **Mr. Magorium's Wonder Emporium,** 6:55, 9:25 p.m.
- **Beowulf,** 6:30, 7:20, 9:20, 10:10 p.m.
- **Fred Claus,** 6:50, 9:40 p.m.
- **American Gangster,** 8 p.m.
- **Bee Movie,** 7, 9:35 p.m.
- **Dan in Real Life,** 7:05, 9:55 p.m.
- **Hit Man,** 7:15, 10:05 p.m.
- **Enchanted,** 7:10, 9:45 p.m.

RAINBOW CINEMAS (955-8642):

- **Ratatouille,** 1:35, 4:20 p.m.
- **The Bourne Ultimatum,** 7:05, 9:35 p.m.
- **Stardust,** 1, 3:50 p.m.
- **Good Luck Chuck,** 7:10, 9:40 p.m.
- **We Own The Night,** 1:15, 4, 6:50, 9:25 p.m.
- **Hairspray,** 1:25, 4:10, 6:40, 9:20 p.m.
- **Michael Clayton,** 1:10, 9:20 p.m.
- **Sure Shot Dombrowski,** 4:30, 7 p.m.
- **Shrek the Third,** 1:45, 4:35 p.m.
- **Mr. Woodcock,** 7:15, 9:45 p.m.
- **Mr. Bean's Holiday,** 1:55, 4:45, 6:35 p.m.
- **The Assassination of Jesse James by the Coward Robert Ford,** 8:25 p.m.
- **Sydney White,** 1:40, 4:25 p.m.
- **The Heartbreak Kid,** 6:55, 9:30 p.m.

ROXY THEATRE (955-8642):

- **The Darjeeling Limited,** 6:45, 8:45 p.m.
- **Gone Baby Gone,** 8:40 p.m.
- **Martian Child,** 6:30 p.m.

BROADWAY THEATRE (652-6556):

- **EcoFilm Fest**
- **In the Shadow of the Moon,** 7 p.m.
- **We Feed the World,** 9 p.m.

Tonight

6.00 Evening News

6.30 Entertainment Tonight

7.00 Survivor: China

8.00 The Office

8.30 My Name Is Earl

9.00 Shark

10.00 Prime News

Global

Daily TV listings are available at: www.canada.com/findit/tvlistings/results.aspx?mode=change

A Prairie soul

By Cam Fuller
of The StarPhoenix

Green Eyed Soul has given Carrie Catherine's career a new focus.

The Saskatoon singer-songwriter has introduced theatrical elements to her live show and has written songs specifically for the stage in her latest CD. In essence, she's exploring her own contradictions as a musician in cold, forbidding Saskatchewan: "What it means to write from a prairie perspective and as a prairie girl, and yet I'm trying to write soul music, for crying out loud," she laughs.

Thanks to a Saskatchewan Arts Board grant, Catherine was able to grow as an artist as she developed the concept. She's studied performance and created a set featuring a large farmhouse-type window that frames a projection screen showing slides of the Prairies to go with her original songs. Putting her own perfectionist tendencies aside, Catherine gave the idea its first try in front of a live audience at a recent show in Swift Current.

"It works," she enthused. "It all came together and everybody loved it."

Artistically, the project brings various disciplines together, like music and theatre. Catherine collaborated with several other creative people to make it happen. On the business side, she's done the same thing. Proving that an independent musician doesn't have to be isolated, she's formed partnerships with private companies like Festival Distribution, which will give Green Eyed Soul and her previous album *Venus Envy* national distribution. She's backed by Turner Coben Event Management to give her promo more zing. Meyers Norris Penny is sponsoring the release party, as is Deja Vu Salon. She's even landed a clothing endorsement with Dace out of Vancouver.

"First of all, it makes it way more fun. And second, it introduces my music to their community and their fashion to my community," she says.

Catherine's CD release show will be like no other. In the first place, she's booked not just one but two nights at the Refinery. Fans can enjoy a green martini before the show sponsored by Flint, the proceeds of which will support *The Songs of Prairie Kids*, a series of song creation workshops Catherine plans to do with children and youth.

On stage, Catherine is joined by percussionist Charles Dumont and back-up singers.

It's a long way from simply playing a collection of random songs.

"It's not so restricted as, say, a rock opera where the storyline drives everything," Catherine says. "But definitely, I've paid more attention to the dynamic flow of the entire set and the theme is consistent."

The direction is based on Catherine's own experience of leaving the Prairies but being drawn back.

"I never felt more like a Prairie person than when I was away."

As it happens, the sentiment couldn't be more timely. Saskatchewan is welcoming back more than a few expatriots. Three young women at the Swift Current show, for instance, had recently moved back home from Australia, Vancouver and Eastern Canada.

"They'd grown up together and here they were returning to Swift Current, and they were just so excited," says Catherine.

"We see that happening with a lot of people

now and it's not just because it's cheap to live. That used to be a big part of it. But it's because something about the Prairies really resonates with people."

Catherine plans to tour the show nationally, a chance to expose others to the wonders of the Prairies. She knows from being in Prince Edward Island that there's a kinship.

"The idea of growing up in a certain geography and feeling restricted by it and yet feeling that it's part of you, that translates to a lot of people across Canada."

—Supplied Photo
Carrie Catherine



Carrie Catherine
CD release party for Green Eyed Soul
Tonight and Friday at the Refinery
Doors 8 p.m., show at 8:30 p.m.
Tickets \$15 advance, \$20 at the door
Box office: 653-3549; www.picatic.com

New Persephone building strives for intimacy

By Cam Fuller
of The StarPhoenix

Out of the *sturm und drang* of construction noise and dust, an elegant theatre is being born.

Persephone Theatre's \$11 million, 3,251-square-metre building will be a quantum leap for those who work in it and a delight for those who will attend, a sneak peek on Wednesday revealed.

"I think they're going to be thrilled," general manager Sheldon Born said of the audiences that will soon see the result of months of furious labour.

The theatre, at 100 Spadina Cres. East, opens with *Beauty and the Beast* on Dec. 12 — a fitting title, since the mess of construction will give way to a glassed-in lobby with a priceless view of the riverbank, auditorium seating for 421 and technical elements such as a seven-storey fly tower that could only be dreamed of before.

Like some plays, however, the ending will be drawn out; the building won't be completely finished until March, although a gala is set for January.

The builders are going to "take the uncut diamond and make it sparkle," said Born. The theatre and its builder had hoped

to be further along, but realized in September that it wasn't possible to finish it completely. Even so, it has taken a heroic effort by the workers to get as far as they have. By opening night in December, the lobby area will be completed, as will the auditorium and washrooms as well as all the safety elements like fire alarms and sprinklers.

"That's because of their commitment," Born said of the workers. There are 70 to 80 men and women on site at any given time, representing a dozen trades. They know they're not just working on a building but a legacy, said Born.

"They have completely bought into it."

Although some areas of the building will be basic, no corners were cut in the playing space itself. Intimacy and acoustics were the biggest priorities, said Born. The semi-circular shape of the auditorium lends a cozy, classic feel, especially on the 78-seat balcony flanked by boxes. The stage is actually six metres closer to the back row in the new theatre than it was in the old. Artistic director Tibor Fehereghazi, who died in July, fought to maintain a size that would suit the human voice.

"This is Tibor's legacy, the intimacy that couldn't be lost," Born said on the main floor, which will have 324 wine-coloured



—SP Photo by Richard Marjan

The main foyer area of Persephone Theatre's new location

seats. The previous building had 300. Perhaps the building's most beguiling feature is a small lobby on the second floor off the balcony. The view overlooks

River Landing and the downtown bridges. A feature wall is reserved for artwork.

■ CONT'D: Please see Theatre/C4