

26 things to do around Portland

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By [Amy Wang](#) | [The Oregonian/OregonLive](#)

THE ARTS

Arts editor Amy Wang compiles theater, classical music and visual arts events. Email submissions to fineartsbestbets@oregonian.com.



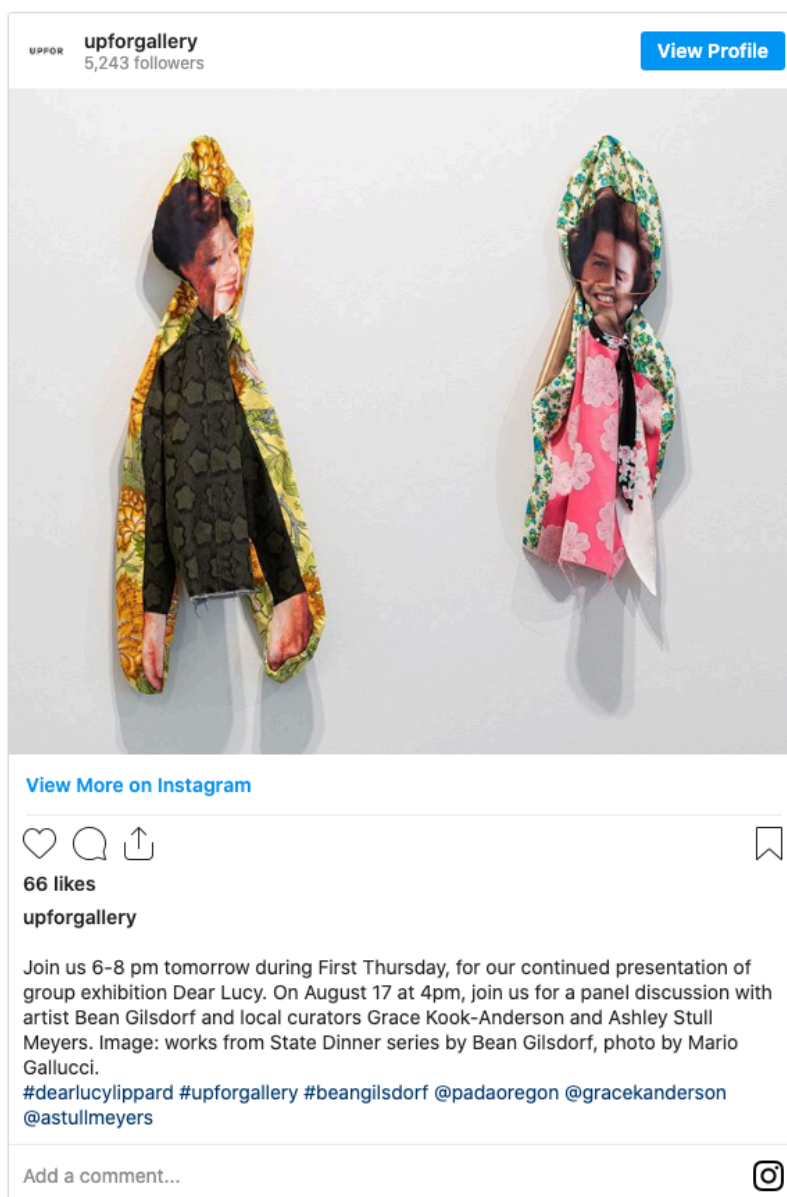
"Persephone" will be presented in Leach Botanical Garden, which spans 17 acres along Johnson Creek in Southeast Portland. (Stephanie Yao Long/Oregonian file photo)

"Persephone"

The classic Greek myth about a young goddess torn between Hades, lord of the underworld, and her mother, Demeter, goddess of agriculture, gets a new telling in an apt setting: Southeast Portland's Leach Botanical Garden. Audience members will be expected to move with the Bedrock Theatre production along a hiking trail.

7 p.m. Friday and Sunday, Aug. 16, 18, 23 and 25; low-impact/accessible performance, 7 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 22, Leach Botanical Garden, 6704 S.E. 122nd Ave. Pay what you will; reservations required, bedrocktheatre@gmail.com.

<https://www.oregonlive.com/life-and-culture/g66l-2019/08/8a7c190d594969/26-things-to-do-around-portland-adult-soap-box-derby-persephone-and-lionel-richie.html>



Works from "State Dinner" series by Bean Gilsdorf. She's among the artists participating in the "Dear Lucy" group show at Upfor. (Mario Gallucci).

The title of this group exhibit comes from [a letter from artist Nancy Spero to critic Lucy Lippard](#) that reads, in its entirety, "Dear Lucy/The enemies of women's liberation in the arts will be crushed/Love Nancy." Artists Faith Wilding, Wendy Red Star, Michelle Grabner, Bean Gilsdorf and April Bey present works that explore feminism, gender and the "domestic arts."

Panel discussion with Bean Gilsdorf and curators Grace Kook-Anderson (Portland Art Museum) and Ashley Stull Meyers (2019 Portland Biennial), 4 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 17; on view, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday through Aug. 31, Upfor Gallery, 929 N.W. Flanders St. Free.

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The Tao of Tea's Tower of Cosmic Reflections teahouse in Portland's Lan Su Chinese Garden, which will host a Chinese opera performance. (Erin E. Williams/For The Washington Post)

Chinese opera

Portland's Lan Su Chinese Garden hosts a special performance of a story about a medieval Chinese general who is captured by an enemy princess, marries her and then finds himself accused of treason and his parents imprisoned. A three-member cast performs a scene from the opera in which the general and the princess discuss his unhappiness.

7:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 17, Lan Su Chinese Garden, 239 N.W. Everett St. Free with garden admission, \$7.95-\$10.95, lansugarden.org or 503-228-8131.



Joe Rudko, Rising Tide, 2019, found photographs on paper, 30" x 22." The work is part of the group exhibit "It's Summer!" at PDX Contemporary Art. (Courtesy of PDX Contemporary Art)

PDX Contemporary Art

The group exhibit "It's Summer!" features new works by artists either represented by PDX Contemporary Art or invited to participate. "The show is quite diverse with 28 different artists all showing work fresh from their studios," says Jordan Pieper, gallery manager.

11 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, through Aug. 31, PDX Contemporary Art, 925 N.W. Flanders St. Free.