



LEAH

The only twinge of pain I felt at Friday's opening concert of the First International Body Music Festival, at Theater Artaud, was the ache of wanting to join in. Body music is made by chanting, slapping, blowing, clicking together and pounding parts of the body. The old American version of this is hambone, slapping one's arms, legs and trunk to make music. Hambone whiz **Derique McGee** performed it Friday.

The show included an international variety of forms: the Slammin All-Body Band of Oakland, which includes festival founder **Keith Terry** and opened the show with vocal harmonies and clapping symphonies; **Dewa Putu Berata** of Bali's monkey-like ululations; and **Barbatuques** of Brazil, a troupe that has been traveling for 12 years but was making its North American premiere here (after complex visa negotiations).

Performances included a variety of claps, including these two styles: The hands brush each other, as though kneading dough or making mud pies, or they create a booming sound by clapping with fingers curled, palms cupped. The performers use complex patterns of movement, but each individual "note" is a simple movement, usually a clap or a slap. At intermission, I noticed a few audience members in the lobby trying to use their hands as percussion, attempting to duplicate the sounds.

At the symphony, I'm always watching the timpani, wondering what it would be like to pick up that stick and hit a drum. The sensation of listening and watching these body musicians was similar, and I'm thinking that was pretty much universal.

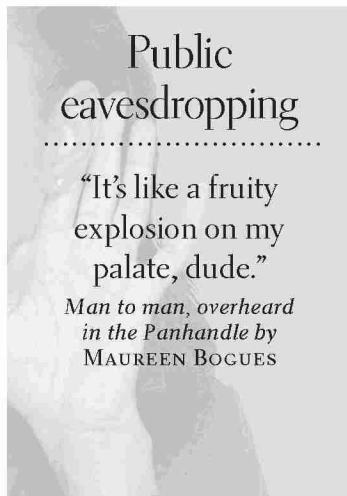
Because when **Barbatuques** — the last act — finished playing, the

audience gave in to the impulse and applauded not only with their hands, their vocal yahoos and leaps out of their seats but also with their feet.

The risers shook as the crowd stomped euphoric approval.

Lesson for the **Obamas**: **Jon Provost**, who used to play Timmy on the "Lassie" TV series and lives

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in Santa Rosa nowadays, adopted a dog from the Humane Society & SPCA of Sonoma County last week. Oh, Lassie was fine, but Lassie wasn't real life. "Timmy's" new dog is Grant, a dachshund/terrier mix.

"Harvey Milk: Out of the Bars and Into the Streets" is soon to be joined by "George Moscone's City Hall." They're both audio tours available free at www.insidestories.info, created by **Paul Van DeCarr**, who got a \$5,000 grant from the Arts Commission to cre-

ate the **Harvey Milk** tour and was so turned on by the project that he's planning more.

The Milk tour, 71 minutes long, includes interviews and archival material and is meant to be listened to while walking. It starts at Milk's old camera store. A 20-minute version starts at City Hall.

► Lawyer **John Martel** e-mails that a screenplay he wrote for his novel "Billy Strobe" has been optioned by **Jonathan Krane** for production next year. Martel is a trial lawyer who describes himself on his Web site (johnmartel.com) as "a modern renaissance man."

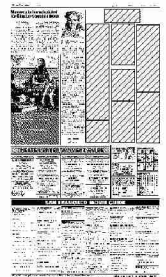
► **Glenn Lovell** of San Jose, an admirer of director **John Sturges** ("The Magnificent Seven," "The Great Escape"), says he decided to write a book about him after hearing **Frank Sinatra Jr.**'s comment on the DVD for Sturges' "Sergeants 3": "Like his father before him, **Preston Sturges**, John just had a way with the movie camera." Don't believe everything on a DVD; John was not the son of Preston. Lovell's book, which sets that record — and many others — straight, is "Escape Artist: The Life and Films of John Sturges."

► Given up on your face? **Stephen Vincent** says the Yzinn Nail Club in Noe Valley offers an "Age Defying Collagen Pedicure."

► **Paul Halvonik** noticed the name of the new mayor of Silverton, Ore., a tranny who calls herself "**Carla Fong**." That's a reference to **W.C. Fields'** "It's a Gift," wherein a character is Carl LaFong. A **Carl LaFong** ran for supervisor in San Francisco years ago and lost.

► Playing croquet at Meadowood over the weekend, **Charles Althouse** found himself alongside **Courteney Cox Arquette** and **David Arquette**. (The formal term is sharing "courtag," he says.) The Arquettes were part of a pal's birthday celebration.

► MSNBC's **Rachel Maddow**,



and a party that included her partner, artist **Susan Mikula**, had dinner Thursday night at Marche in Menlo Park. Maddow had been guest of honor at a Microsoft event.

► The official opening of Ozumo Oakland was Friday, but a Thursday celebration featured personages — Attorney General **Jerry Brown**, developer **Phil Tagami**, long-ago Giants pitcher **Masanori Murakami** — the blessings of a Shinto priest and a sumo wrestling demonstration. The press release about this stressed their accomplishments (“doing leg splits, with chests and faces on the ground at the same time; shaking together so hard that it echoes”), but I think their combined weight (1,450 pounds) speaks well for a restaurant.

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