

# ASI Presents Documentary on South Africa 'Soldiers' Ranks High

By Kwesi Wilson  
Staff Writer

Associated Students Inc. presented a documentary on life in contemporary South Africa, "Death of Tarzan," Feb. 17 in the University Union.

The documentary was shot and produced by Shaka Redmond and Adimu Madyun, from Oakland and Los Angeles, respectively, who met in South Africa.

"Death of Tarzan" sought to enlighten Americans on the contemporary music and culture of South Africans as well as issues surrounding male circumcision.

"We shot the documentary because we wanted to kill the Tarzan image of Africa," said Madyun. "Africa is usually painted as a terrible place, and we wanted to show a different side of it, which includes both the rural and urban areas."

ASI chair Darrell McKinney said the presentation was part of ASI's goal to "broaden the cultural awareness on campus."

ASI handpicked the video for



**On The Record:** Shaka Redmond (left) and Adimu Madyun (right) introduce the documentary they shot in South Africa. Redmond and Madyun were invited to the university by ASI in honor of Black History Month.

Photo/ Marie Reyes

the event after Madyun and Redmond contacted McKinney.

"It was very important to show something authentic as opposed to a diluted version," said McKinney.

"Death of Tarzan" was broken into two parts. The first showed

music videos that highlighted the plight of black South Africans in South Western Township (Soweto) after the fall of apartheid. The second was about two adolescent boys who had to go through circumcision as a rite of passage.

While the first part of the documentary addressed post-apartheid oppression, the second part sought to express the significance of circumcision, its importance in that culture.

Juliana Adesugba, 19, a psychology student at Cal State East Bay, thought the documentary was informative and thought provoking.

"It helped me, personally, to think about a lot of stuff," said Adesugba. "Especially being an American-born Nigerian who has never visited Africa."

Madyun and Redmond also shared their personal experiences in South Africa and how it affected them.

"Being there helped me to erase a lot of self-doubt," said Madyun. "It gave me a lot of time for reflection."

They said they were happy with the audience's reception of their work and are hopeful of future productions.

For more information, visit [www.rebelsoul.com](http://www.rebelsoul.com).

By Jimmy Murakami  
Staff Writer

Produced by Codemasters, the PC game "Soldiers: Heroes of World War II" is a new real-time strategy game that puts the player in command of a squad trying to complete a wide variety of missions against overwhelming odds.

There are two ways to control the troops, via a standard RTS style, where the player simply clicks on actions for the troops to complete, and "direct control," a mode where the arrow keys control movement and the mouse is used to aim.

The strength of "Soldiers" lies in the game environment. Walls crumble under the treads of a German Panzer tank, structures collapse in a cloud of dust and debris under artillery fire and trees topple as Russian T-34s rumble through a forest. Players can alter or destroy almost everything in this game.

That also means that "Soldiers" has a high learning curve,

with many different tasks to complete.

This game isn't without flaws. Multi-play is incomplete with a promised death-match mode missing, but Codemasters assures players that it will be included in the next patch. A minor issue with "Soldiers" is that the soldiers' voices often repeat and overlap each other.

Overall, the game is thoroughly enjoyable. The graphics are solid and interesting, and players can interact with everything. The missions are tough, but a genuine feeling of accomplishment is gained once the level is completed.

"Soldiers: Heroes of World War 2" has a MSRP of \$29.99 and requires a Pentium 800MHz or equivalent with 256 MB of RAM, a Geforce 2 32MB or equivalent DirectX 9 compatible video card and 1.25 GB of free hard drive space. The recommended system specifications are a Pentium 2.4 GHz or equivalent, 512 MB RAM and a GeForce FX 5600 or equivalent.

## Jazz Artist To Perform with Students at Yoshi's

By Mark Noland  
Staff Writer

Prominent trumpeter Warren Gale will perform the music of legendary jazz saxophonist Joe Henderson with the Jazz Ensembles of Cal State East Bay at Yoshi's in Jack London Square on Monday.

Proceeds from the sixth annual Night of Jazz, with shows at 8 and 10 p.m., will provide scholarships for students in CSUEB's music department.

A longtime contributor to the jazz scenes of San Francisco and Los Angeles, Gale has worked with such greats as Buddy Rich, Ella Fitzgerald, Sammy Davis, Jr. and Sara Vaughan.

According to Dave Eshelman, director of jazz studies at CSUEB, Gale is known for his musicianship, his technical skill as a trumpet player and for his ability to play chorus after chorus of great improvisation. Gale was Joe Henderson's right-hand man and did the contracting for the Joe Henderson Big Band.

"Joe Henderson will be remembered for being one of the most innovative and creative

jazz musicians of the entire 20th Century," Gale said. "His impact on jazz is amazing when you consider he had to follow Charlie Parker and John Coltrane, but he did things differently and new, while carrying on their tradition of jazz excellence."

"He innovated ways of using chord changes and rhythms in jazz in ways that had not been explored previous to him."

During his own distinguished career, Gale has enjoyed many memorable moments, including one with the legendary Stan Kenton Band.

"We were opening a new club in Chicago, and Duke Ellington and his band happened to be in town for a night off," Gale said.

"We walked in to set up the bandstand, and there was Duke and a few of his guys sitting in the audience. Later Stan had to get up and asked Duke to sit in with the band."

"Stan was also a pianist, remember, so we were having a ball playing with the great Duke Ellington. 'Take The 'A' Train' was played, and then Duke went to the mike and said, 'I've always wanted to play with this band,

but they won't fire the piano player.' Needless to say, we're all cracking up until we hurt, and Stan laughed even longer than us."

The concert will involve almost the entire CSUEB jazz program.

"Going to Yoshi's is always a great time," Eshelman said. "It's the nation's premier jazz club. Every jazz group in the world wants to play there."

Tickets purchased in advance are \$25 for the 8 p.m. show and \$15 for the 10 p.m. show. Students purchasing tickets in advance for the 10 p.m. show will be charged \$10.

There is an additional \$5 charge for all tickets purchased at the door.

A \$75 "VIP Reception" at 6:30 p.m. will give guests the opportunity to meet Gale and the other musicians while dining on gourmet hors d'oeuvres and beverages before the first show.

Reception guests are guaranteed preferred seating for the 8 p.m. show.

Reservations and additional information about the event are available at 885-4110.

## Othello Gets Sex Change for New Production

By Ifeoma Achike  
Staff Writer

Melissa Hillman, Cal State East Bay theatre arts professor, adds a twist to Shakespeare's "Othello," which debuted Feb. 11 at La Val's Subterranean Theatre in Berkeley and runs through March 19.

Hillman, a CSUEB alumna, is also the artistic director of Impact Theatre, a nonprofit Bay Area theater group that entertains audiences ages 18 to 35.

Hillman put a new spin on her latest project when she decided to make the lead character Othello a lesbian. Traditionally, Othello is a black man.

"Skyler, an actress from 'Macbeth,' really wanted to play Othello. She was going to play a man, but I decided to make Othello a lesbian woman to create more controversy," said Hillman.

The play has other CSUEB ties. Marissa Keltie, a CSUEB alumna, plays Desdemona, Othello's white wife.

"In the world we have created for Othello, gay marriage is legal and accepted, but of course, every character has their own views on

gay marriage such as they would of an interracial relationship," said Keltie.

According to Hillman, incorporating gender and sexuality added a "feminist perspective," in which she could speak with more authority than the oppression of a black man.

Hillman also added that Othello's position as a lesbian in the army played on the U.S. Army's past and current dealings with homosexuals.

The play also introduced the issue of skin color and the effect it seems to have on assimilation.

Hillman said that the perception of Iago as an innocent, well-intentioned being is facilitated by the fact that he is light skinned.

"When looking for Iago, I had an actor ... he was an African-American, but I figured why not pick the perfect actor for that part," she said.

"It introduced a new layer of meaning with the light skinned, dark skinned ... It's easier for a light skinned African-American to assimilate and be accepted."

"Othello believed the worst ... as an African-American

lesbian she believed that her new wife would leave for a white man because she was already marginalized — so why wouldn't she?" said Hillman.

Hillman said that creating controversy is not necessarily her goal as a director; rather, she says, it's to tell interesting stories to the audience. In her previous play, "Macbeth," Hillman's witches were normal-looking men in business suits instead of the typical old women with large noses. Her characters were inspired by the power of capitalism, she said.

"I had no intention of using older women trying to be ooky-spooky, which never works in my opinion and isn't scary in the least," she said. "Their mysterious knowledge, power, and unaccountability reflected for me the power big business has on our accountability. Now that's scary."

La Val's Subterranean Theatre is at 1834 Euclid in Berkeley. Show times are Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights at 8.

For more information call 464-4468 ore-mail info@impacttheatre.com.

Bring in this ad for  
**\$100 OFF**  
the price of a new membership

\$100 off the price of a 36-month Passport or higher membership (excluding Passport Plus).  
Must present ad to receive discount.  
Expires 2/28/05. Discount Code: FEB100  
©2005 Bally Total Fitness



Every Body Needs Something.

HAYWARD • 771 Jackson St. • 510-727-6778

SAN LEANDRO  
567 Floresta Blvd.  
510-351-7579

FREMONT  
35630 Fremont Blvd.  
510-608-6230

PLEASANT HILL  
2316 Monument Ave.  
925-687-6931

SAN JOSE  
1570 Hamilton Ave.  
408-267-1900

SAN JOSE  
Capitol Expressway  
2920 Aborn Square  
408-223-4411

SAN FRANCISCO  
Oceanview Village  
3951 Alemany Blvd, Ste. 4001  
650-985-2400

**NOW OPEN!**  
SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO  
180 El Camino Real  
650-583-4247