

ATLANTA SYMPHONY

Upcoming highlights at Symphony Hall include Robert Spano conducting **Mozart and Bruckner** (Jan. 27-29); **All You Need Is Love: The Music of Paul McCartney** (Feb. 11-12); **Wynton Marsalis and The Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra** (Feb. 22). atlantasymphony.org.



HIGH MUSEUM OF ART

Henri Cartier-Bresson: The Modern Century gets you up close to one of the greatest photographers of the 20th century. Cartier-Bresson's photographs captured people and events that changed the world and this retrospective spans more than 30 years of his career. The exhibition includes early surrealist work, crowd psychology, famous portraits of icons like Coco Chanel, pictured, and events like Mahatma Gandhi's funeral. Feb. 19 to May 29. high.org

FERST CENTER

The Georgia Tech-based performance space has a busy calendar for early 2011 with performances from **State Ballet Theatre of Russia: Swan Lake** (Jan. 13), **Step Afrika** (Jan. 29), **Jon Faddis Jazz Orchestra** (Feb. 12), **Cirque Mechanics Boom Town** (Feb. 18) and comedy from **Margaret Cho** (Feb. 19). ferstcenter.gatech.edu



NICOLE JONES Editor-in-Chief, AtlantaPlanIt.com

Within State Lines II, the exhibition at the Museum of Contemporary Art of Georgia (moca.org), closes Jan. 8, so I encourage everyone to see it. Supporting local artists is important and the curation of this show allows you to see work from across the state. Plus, MOCA GA is a beautiful gallery and I always end up wandering down Bennett Street to see what the other galleries in that area are exhibiting.

The premiere of **Broadsword** at Actors Express (actors-express.com) from Jan. 13 to Feb. 12 about a heavy metal band reuniting for a funeral sounds fantastic. Plot twists? Yes, please. One of my favorite local actors, Chris Kayser? Yes, please. Wry humor? Yes, please. Air guitar on the drive home? Yes, please.

If you haven't been on a second Friday **Art Stroll in Castleberry Hill** (castleberryhill.org), there's no time like the present. I try and hit this walk up once a year and I like to go when the weather is still chilly – I warm up with wine, see a variety of work and peruse one of Atlanta's most interesting and diverse neighborhoods. Margaritas at No Mas Cantina are always a great way to start! 

Juggling! Fire-Eating! Good Times!

Atlanta's Thimblorig Circus Performs



By Tina Chadwick

Thimblorig is the old fancy name for the cup and ball magic trick that's disguised as a game of skill. It's also the name of one of the most interesting stage acts in Atlanta.

Started as a comedy show two years ago by Jason Munger, Adam Lowe and Jenifer Doran, Thimblorig has perfected classic sideshow acts such as juggling, fire eating and putting nails where nails shouldn't go.

The trio portrays the last three surviving members of the famed Moldavia circus in Russia. When on stage, their names change to Zolopht (Jason), Molotov (Adam) and Kizka (Jenifer). They adopt these identities to add to the lore and, admittedly, to hide their vaguely Russian accents.

Asked for the motivation for this less traveled path of performance, Jenifer says, "We were looking for a creative outlet and an excuse to perform. Also, we have a thing for moustaches and jaunty hats."

She continues, "We've been very lucky to have had an overwhelmingly positive reaction. We love a playful crowd! The crazier they get, the crazier we feel we're allowed to be."

A unique trait of Thimblorig is its originality. Not only in the performance itself, but also from show to show.

"We tailor each of our shows to fit the audience, sometimes re-writing parts of the show seconds before we go on stage," Jenifer says.

Thimblorig has become a favorite at regional renaissance fairs and as openers for theatre, including shows at the Academy Theatre in Avondale Estates, and music productions.

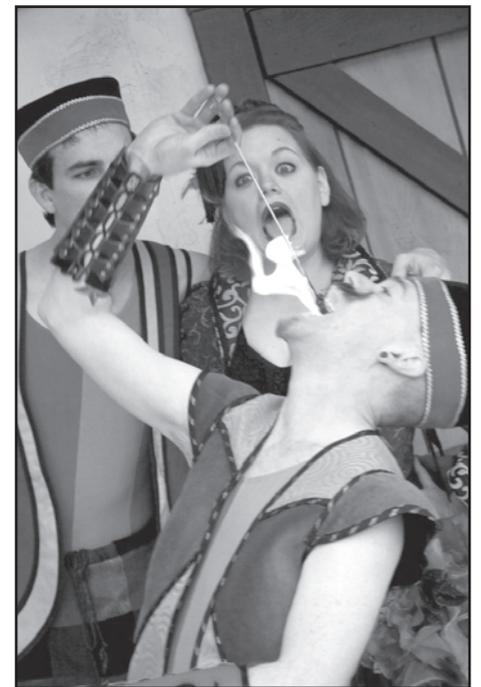
So, what is the motivation that would make three adults don feathers, fake moustaches and silly hats to perform in front of an audience?

"In a world that often believes big budgets and outrageous effects are the only thing that constitutes real entertainment, we know that entertainment can be a much more personal and intimate experience," Jenifer says. "We want to involve those that have come out to see us, to tell stories and show that going to a festival or to local theatre is worth the effort. No explosions and back up dancers necessary." 

To find out more about Thimblorig and its upcoming performances, thimblorig.com.



ALL PHOTOS COUTESY OF THIMBLERIG CIRCUS



120 SYCAMORE PLACE GALLERY

& Studios is pleased to host a new show of work by Blake Osier and Karen Phillips called **Abstract Whisperings** opening Sunday, January 10 from 7-9pm.

We offer monthly art classes for children and adults in handbuilding, painting, drawing and multimedia. Sam Mitchell and his magical group offer sculptures, prints & surprises in February. We will offer a late night bathrobe breakfast a la Atomic Cafe & FILM screenings in February.

ARTIST STUDIO SPACE AVAILABLE!

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