

★ RUBYRICO PRODUCTIONS ★

BROKEN CLOCK CABARET PRESS



October 31, 2005
Inside a Broken Clock



For the love of all that helps us avoid responsibility in life, **THIS SHOW IS GOOD.**

Our girlfriend picked up tickets to Inside a Broken Clock: A Tom Waits Peepshow for this past weekend's showing at Victory Grill. We were skeptical about the whole thing, because we have a really unhealthy respect (read: disturbing and borderline criminal fascination) for the work of Waits. And we have a nagging suspicion that the world is hell-bent on ruining all interpretations of the things we hold dear. But this time... this time was different.

The title of this cabaret show is a reference to the opening line of "Rain Dogs", off the album of the same name. We love this song. In fact, if we were born fifty years earlier, we would probably have been a New Orleans Rain Dog. That, or in politics. But that's just a question of locational semantics.

You do not have to be a Tom Waits fan to enjoy this show. At least three of the Kitty Kitty Bang Bang girls are part of the act (we recognized them from our Extravagasm experience). The show is divided up like an old fashioned *Revue* (many thanks, Odam, for the typo correction!), or (as they put it) Peep Show (which is just the slutty cousin of the *Revue*). Each act is transitioned by the narrator, who sometimes takes the stage as the main performer. **There are shit-talking puppets, dancing skeletons, a drunken narrator, chicks shaking their bloomed moneymakers (cabaret style, word), and some dude who sounds EXACTLY like Tom Waits singing live. If that is not enough to stir your interest, then you are a cold-souled communist robot, and there is no reasoning with the likes of you.**

Our experience occurred at Victory Grill, which has a certain personality of its own. A very different personality than Arts on Real does, to be sure. But the more polished atmosphere at AoR might give the show an element of irony that would make even Tom Waits proud.

There are three shows playing at Arts on Real theatre ([map](#)): one on November 4th (7:30pm) and two on November 5th (7:30pm and 10pm). [Get those tix here.](#)
Posted by [truecraig](#) in [Recommendations](#)

★ RUBYRICO PRODUCTIONS ★

BROKEN CLOCK CABARET PRESS

austin360.com

Austin American-Statesman

Music, Arts and Culture

Thursday, June 14, 2007

'Inside a Broken Clock: Tom Waits Peepshow'



Austin American-Statesman Best Bet

You don't have to like Tom Waits — or even know one song from his extensive body of work — to enjoy the hobo-cabaret styling of "Inside a Broken Clock: A Tom Waits Peepshow." The peepshow is not an actual peepshow, of course, but instead a blend of burlesque and vaudevillian humor, naughty puppetry, narration, and live music and inventive dance under the direction of Rick McNulty and with choreography by Ellen Stader. A revival of the show's popular small-scale 2005 and 2006 runs, "Inside a Broken Clock" is backed by the music of Waits as performed by the local No Salvation Army Band. The show presents a cross-section of Austin artists, dancers, musicians, puppeteers and actors. This performance plays twice nightly tonight and Friday before heading off to the San Francisco Bay Area for a five-day run.

— Shannon McGarvey

Music, Arts and Culture

Thursday, June 14, 2007

'Inside a Broken Clock: Tom Waits Peepshow'

XL Recommended

'Inside A Broken Clock: A Tom Waits Peepshow' : RubyRico Peepshows presents an encore engagement and tour kick-off of the live show that combines dance, puppetry, a little risqué vaudeville, silly jokes, even sillier costumes and live music into a very Austin-style rough-and-campy tribute to the music of Tom Waits. Musical director Rick McNulty and choreographer Ellen Stader crafted what turned out to be a surprise hit in 2005 when they first staged 'Inside a Broken Clock,' selling out shows at Victory Grill and Arts on Real theater. And a reprise staging in 2006 at the Elks Lodge also packed in the crowds. Now, they get ready to take the third incarnation of their raucous show on the road and tour the San Francisco Bay area.

— Jeanne Claire van Ryzin

www.rubyrico.com

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BROKEN CLOCK CABARET PRESS

CHRONICLE
austinchronicle.com

AUGUST 17, 2007

Off the Record Music news

By **AUSTIN POWELL**



Inside the Broken Clock Cabaret
Photo by Javier Garza

Broken Clock Cabaret's Inside a Broken Clock: A Tom Waits Peepshow, which brings to life the beautiful and bizarre maladies of Waits and wife **Kathleen Brennan's** grave-diggers and showgirls through vaudevillian numbers and puppetry to the tune of the **No Salvation Army Band**, recently returned from a 16-member, five-date tour of the Bay Area.

"It was off the charts in terms of ticket sales and response," says producer **Rick McNulty**. "It made me realize that this could actually be viable entertainment." **The Peepshow was so successful, in fact, its storied subject, who is only mentioned once by name in the production, was inundated with phone calls from local press seeking comment.** "He's an especially private man," says McNulty, who was forced to cancel part of the tour due to the press frenzy. "I don't think he was too amused with the idea."

While the local production company has been granted permission from Waits' publishers to perform the songs, in order to continue doing so, they must send a copy of the production to both the publishers and the owners (Waits and Brennan) for approval. The Broken Clock Cabaret has since changed a few lines that could possibly be misconstrued and has been practicing around the clock for a private performance at the **Off Center** (2211 Hidalgo) Thursday, Aug. 23, which will be filmed by a professional sound and camera crew.

www.rubyrigo.com

★ RUBYRICO PRODUCTIONS ★

BROKEN CLOCK CABARET PRESS

San Francisco Chronicle

CROAKS AND QUIRKS

'Broken Clock Cabaret: A Peepshow'

The tunes of gravel-voiced Tom Waits get fleshed out

Reyhan Harmanci

Thursday, June 28, 2007

The Broken Clock Cabaret of Austin, Texas, has decided to take its Tom Waits-inspired production, "Inside a Broken Clock: A Peepshow," on the road, which is entirely fitting, because that's where it began.

"Every road trip in Texas is, like, a minimum six hours long, since everything's so damn far apart," says Rick McNulty, who put together the show with his partner, Ellen Stader. "Ellen and I were listening to (Waits' classic album) 'Rain Dogs' and we had this epiphany that it would be fun to do it as a kids' show. It lends itself to a cartoony vibe, but a few minutes later we were like, 'No way, there's no way we could do this for children. The humor's too black.' "

McNulty, a self-described "lapsed musician," and Stader, a choreographer, pursued their idea. They put on the first "Peepshow" -- it was a hit -- with 30 cast members (it's been trimmed to about 16). In its third incarnation, "Inside a Broken Clock" is "a cross between traditional cabaret and vaudeville," with two acts, a minimal story line and characters familiar to Waits' fans: ringmasters, dancing bears, dancing girls, potty-mouthed puppets and, of course, rain dogs.

The music is Waits tunes written after "Swordfishtrombones," when the gravel-voiced singer started writing with his wife, Kathleen Brennan, in the early '80s. "His music became less self-referential, more bizarre, esoteric, arcane, not so much about bad livers and broken hearts," McNulty says. "That's our line of demarcation, what we focus on. It's a grand sort of beggar's opera -- it lends itself very easily to stage shows and theatrical performances. And the lyrics are just brilliant. Those who are uninitiated to Tom Waits' music can relate on the sheer melody or the lyrics alone."

As the choreographer, Stader says Waits' songs are malleable. "The characters just pop in his songs -- living eyeball guys and dwarves -- crazy stuff. It's so cartoony that it's easy to translate into movement." She echoes McNulty's sentiment that arranging the songs for a full band reveals the structural beauty of work that has been recorded in a minimalist style. "It's really surprising when Rick tells me that we're going to put a klezmer ending on a song," she says, "and it works."

Fans can bask in the knowledge that Waits has signed off on the production, sight unseen, enabling the "Peepshow" to happen on a limited budget.

McNulty says San Francisco is a natural place for the "Peepshow" ("We share a lot of weird citizens and a willingness to accept filthy humor and arcane references"), but he's a little nervous about performing in Waits' backyard. (Waits lives in Sonoma.) "Nothing would be more upsetting than to distress one of our biggest heroes," McNulty says.

9 p.m. today, Fri. \$15. 12 Galaxies, 2565 Mission St., S.F. (415) 970-9777. www.12galaxies.com.

www.rubyrigo.com

★ RUBYRICO PRODUCTIONS ★

BROKEN CLOCK CABARET PRESS

SF weekly.com

Night & Day

THURSDAY 6/28/07

Waits for No Man

It takes guts to perform the work of geniuses. To do so, you must first answer the questions “What gives you the right?” and “Who the hell do you think you are?” For the performers and puppets of *Inside A Broken Clock: Tom Waits’ Music, Cabaret-Style*, the answer seems to be something like “pure chutzpah.” They just up and decided to put Waits’ grimy-rhinestone world on stage, with a shake-butt here and a dirty joke there. Dancing, singing, live music by the No Salvation Army Band, and NSFW puppeteering bring the Reeperbahn, some Rain Dogs, and Table Top Joe to life. The show was born in Austin and packed houses there; something tells us the Waits lunatics around here won’t mind it too much, either.

Inside a Broken Clock starts at 9 p.m. (also Friday) at 12 Galaxies, 2562 Mission (at 22nd St.), S.F. Admission is \$15; call 970-9777 or visit www.12galaxies.com.

—HIYA SWANHUYSER

www.rubyrigo.com

★ RUBYRICO PRODUCTIONS ★

STAX NITE PRESS

austin360.com

Austin American-Statesman



May 9, 2008

Austin American-Statesman Best Bet:

'Stax, Wax & Live Trax'

By Shannon McGarvey



Get down and work it out with more than 20 musicians, dancers, DJs and scholars at "Stax, Wax, and Live Trax," a tribute to one of the greatest soul record labels of all time.

Founded in 1957, Stax Records was home to legendary recording artists such as Otis Redding ("(Sittin' on) the Dock of the Bay"), Booker T & the MGs (the Stax "house band" that also backed John Belushi and Dan Aykroyd as the Blues Brothers), the Staples Singers and Isaac Hayes ("Shaft"), among many others.

Tonight's tribute includes such Stax-themed activities as the "Fabulous Funk Peepshow Dancers," Memphis soul food plates, "Can't Be Still" dance contest, "Mr. & Miz Fly Style" costume contest, "Stax Fax" game show and prizes from the Stax Museum of American Soul Music.

Proceeds from tonight benefit KOOP Radio and the Stax Music Academy in Memphis.

www.rubyrigo.com

★ RUBYRICO PRODUCTIONS ★

STAX NITE PRESS



Stax Wax & Live Trax - Tonight!

Friday, May 9, 2008

Written by Dante

Lovers of that timeless Stax Records sound, get your funky, soulful butt over to the historic Victory Grill tonight. Austin's Eastside transforms into 1950s Memphis for a spell with live music, DJs, dancers and food celebrating the undisputed greatest soul label of all time.

Co-produced by KOOP's Excavation Nation and RubyRico Productions, Stax Wax & Live Trax features the live music of T-Bird & The Breaks. Gutbucket funky horns, thick riffs, and soulicious vocals abound as they rip through sets of recordings from Stax artists (Booker T. & the MGs, Otis Redding, Sam & Dave...). You can never have enough Stax though, so DJs will be spinning Stax vinyl between sets. Visual stimulus will be provided by the Fabulous Funk Peepshow Dancers.

Speaking of which, one can't imagine a night of timeless soul without the Funky Chicken. Fret not, danceless-ones. Funky Chicken dance lessons are on the docket for the night. So are Stax Fax gameshow trivia, prizes, and a special Memphis-inspired menu for the night.

A portion of the ticket sales will benefit the educational outreach programs of the Stax Music Academy in Memphis. So get your funky butt over to the Victory Grill as East 11th becomes Soulsville U.S.A. for a night.



www.rubyrigo.com

★ RUBYRICO PRODUCTIONS ★

STAX NITE PRESS



May 9, 2008

Green Onions & A Little Tenderness: Stax Night At Victory Grill



Stax Nite: Stax, Wax & Live Trax
Friday, May 9, 2008
Victory Grill (1104 East 11th Street)
\$12 9pm-2am

Tonight, Austin's **Victory Grill** will be metaphorically moving to Beale Street. **KOOP's** "Excavation Nation" show is sponsoring a **STAX NITE**, which will be packed with live and DJ-spun tunes celebrating the likes of Booker T, Isaac Hayes, Carla Thomas, Albert King, Sam & Dave, and the incomparable Otis Redding.

Doors open at 9 pm, and organizers have quite a litany of Stax-related activities for all partygoers. There will be Funky Chicken dance lessons, a "Stax Fax" trivia contest, Memphis soul food available for purchase, funky peepshow dancers (whatever that means), and Stax prizes for funkily dressed attendees. A fly soul wardrobe is encouraged, and to share the love of the evening, a portion of ticket sales goes to The Soulsville Foundation, which mentors Memphis youth and provides them with music education.

As for the tunes, headliners **T-Bird and The Breaks** are up-and-comers on the Austin Soul scene, and they've promised a set of Stax-only material for the entire night. T-Bird's material will include songs from Otis Redding, Sam & Dave, Isaac Hayes, Booker T. & The MG's, Rufus Thomas, Jean Knight, The Sweet Inspirations, and Eddie Floyd.

We can't imagine a better way to dance away your Friday night. Tickets will be available at the door, so hop in your pimped out 1972 Cadillac and head on over to the Victory tonight.

www.rubyrico.com

★ RUBYRICO PRODUCTIONS ★

PRINCE NITE PRESS



Prince Nite @ Scoot Inn on New Year's Eve!



Prince Nite
Wednesday, December 31
Scoot Inn (1308 E. Fourth)
9 p.m. | \$15 advance, \$20 at door

Our favorite funk outfit in town, **Foot Patrol** has been keeping busy in the latter half of 2008. The band lit up September's *Prince Nite*, turned in an amazing performance at *Local Music Is Sexy VI*, and in late November, celebrated the release of its new record *No Small Feat*.

On New Year's Eve, RubyRico Productions offers up the latest edition of *Prince Nite* at **Scoot Inn**, featuring once again, **Foot Patrol**, along with **The Funk Peepshow Dancers**, **DJ maHEALani**, and emcee **Rick Daddy**. The usual *Prince Nite* shenanigans ("Spin the Purple Wheel of Sensuality, Dance in the Cage, Writhe on the Love Sexy Bed, Take a Bite of the Purple Rock") is also a part of the scheduled entertainment; proceeds from the event go to **The SIMS Foundation**.

Enter (further) below for a chance to win two free tickets to the show!

"The SIMS Foundation was founded in 1995 by the friends and family of Sims Ellison, a young Austin musician who died that summer from suicide after battling depression. Their aim was to provide low-cost counseling and other mental health services that would be tailored specifically to the needs of musicians and their families. Today SIMS continues to support the local music community by providing such services." (Per the SIMS Foundation website.)

By [adi anand](#) in [Arts and Entertainment](#) on December 29, 2008

★ RUBYRICO PRODUCTIONS ★

PRINCE NITE PRESS



RubyRico Productions' Prince Nite: New Year's Eve 2008

**Scout Inn & Bier Garten
1308 E. 4th St**

The **austin.com** pick for the best party to ring in the New Year. The night mashes the local foot-fetish funkmasters Foot Patrol playing their live take on Prince's catalog. Music will be accompanied by the Funk Peepshow Dancers. DJ Mahealani will be mixing turntable madness between sets. Those that attended Prince Nite at the Scout in September will tell you there's plenty of chances to become part of the entertainment yourself, with the "LoveSexy Bed," a purple dancers' cage, a spinning wheel, a "Finish the Line" trivia contest, and more. A portion of all ticket proceeds will benefit the SIMS Foundation. Tickets are \$15 in advance or \$20 at the door, and are available at rubyrico.com.

www.rubyrico.com

★ RUBYRICO PRODUCTIONS ★

PEEPSHOW MAGNIFICO!

PRESS



April 3, 2009

RubyRico: Fur Underpants are Fun!

Okay people, it's hard times, that's not earth-shattering news. And neither is the fact that, if you're going to be roughing it, Austin, TX is the best place in the world to be. Remember, if you get laid off, you're not unemployed, you're that word that rhymes with snacker (you know, that word RL made a little too famous for us to ever want to use again). Which makes you an artist after all, since you can get by without one of those ridiculous job things. Because Austin is that kind of place that takes care of its own. Austin doesn't care if you aren't making it financially. And when they legalize marrying geographical locations, we'll be the first to drop to our collective knee and beg Austin to be ours til death do we part because this city, she loves you in sickness and in health, for richer or for poorer.

Case in point? The folks at RubyRico Productions (who previously presented "A Tom Waits Peepshow") have brewed up a little something to help you take your mind off that pit of hell known as the EEK-onomy. This new show, "RubyRico's Peepshow Magnifico" channels Vaudeville of old, breathes avant-garde life into it, and lets the good times roll, sometimes in fur underpants even. Or, as they put it in their press release, the focus here is "on the transformative power of pleasure." Sounds orgasmic to us.

And, not that you need anything besides provocative dance numbers, magic, acrobatics, juggling, and The No Salvation Army Band (riffing on Cole Porter, Prince, Queen, and the White Stripes to name but a few) to entice you to attend BUT...oh joy!...here's another big nudge: Chia Guillory, one of Austin's best known, best loved, most talented designers (if you don't have one of her bags, you really should), created costumes for the opening number.

Last but by no means least, putting your lack-of-money where their mouth is, RubyRico is holding ten free tickets per night for "those who have recently been laid-off or fallen victim to the lousy economy." To qualify for these tickets, call (512) 480-0799 and reserve your seat today.

By spikegillespie in Arts and Entertainment on April 3, 2009

www.rubyrigo.com

THE DAILY TEXAN online
Serving the University of Texas at Austin since 1900

Tuesday, April 7, 2009

Colorful cabaret diverts during dark times



Amy Cone, a burlesque dancer in "RubyRico's Peepshow Magnifico!" arranges her hair for the Bollywood number in a chaotic upstairs dressing room during a performance at the Independent at 501 Studios.

May-Ling Lam/The Daily Texan

After Shameless McFatty and Miss Songbird discussed the merit of such words as “masturbational,” six burlesque dancers strutted onstage with high kicks, cheeky grins and, beneath those ruffled frocks, matching underwear, which they flashed often. So began “RubyRico’s Peepshow Magnifico!,” a colorful cabaret that plays like the fantasy adventures of a hedonist. This pleasure-seeking romp aims, with hits and misses, for cheesy laughs in what co-producer Ellen Stader describes as “an evening of impolite entertainment.” The show maintains running commentary on the country’s economic turmoil. “Things are in jeopardy,” Stader said. “When things are bad, that’s when people need to enjoy life’s pleasures the most.”

Between acts, during the few times McFatty is not busy making sexual puns, he tries to convince the dubious Stella Starlight to spin the Wheel of Pleasure and give in to self-indulgence. The 6-foot wheel has panels that display the themes for different acts of the show, such as “liquor,” “stoned” and “ponies.”

Absurd? Just a tad. Serious moments run few and far between and each act is more outrageous than the one before. Full of corny jokes, sexy fun, bared breasts and embarrassed audience members dragged on stage, the cabaret gives a good-natured performance about finding enjoyment during tough times.

-- Priscilla Totiyapungprasert, Daily Texan Staff