



## Culture Pirate

By OMER AHMED  
News editor

## Mo' support for Mozart

250 years ago, a man was born who changed the way we listen to music. That man was Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and his effect on our culture and art can be seen in the simple fact that he is a household name. People who can't name the first five presidents of the United States know and can identify him. Unfortunately, these same people are unlikely to actually know the title of any of his operas or anything about him.

Last semester, I went to see Mozart's "The Marriage of Figaro" in San Francisco. Before I went, I checked the SF Opera website to see what I should wear. Surprisingly, the dress code was very lax and almost seemed to encourage people to come in jeans.

Given free reign, I dressed up in a punkish parody of formal dress and was expecting to see a wide variety of people. I was to be sadly disappointed.

In the hallway before the opera started, almost all people I saw were old men in suits and women in conservative evening dresses. Except for a small group of Asians and the Hispanic man serving \$5 drinks, everyone in attendance was Caucasian.

When I finally got to my seat, I made a concerted effort to try and find someone who looked to be college-aged or younger. Upon failing, I was perplexed as the SF Opera website seemed to be at least somewhat youth-oriented. It even had a young opera-goers' organization and cited a sourceless statistic that youth 21 and under attendance had risen by 18 percent in the last few years.

What the website did not cite was the New York Metropolitan Opera House's report that the average opera attendee is 60 years old with the average expected to rise in the coming years. This is not too surprising. The last time I mentioned Mozart's "Requiem," which is coincidentally being performed this Saturday at the Smith Center, the person I spoke to thought I was talking about a United Nations referendum.

College students as a whole simply aren't as interested in or knowledgeable about classical music and opera. We recognize Bach, Beethoven, Mozart and the other greats as masters of the musical arts because we have been taught to, not due to any real appreciation. This is unfortunate, as these guys deserve real respect.

Despite the depressing age and ethnic homogeneity of the SF Opera crowd, Mozart's composition was enough to make the experience worthwhile and recommendable. An experience worth saving for future generations.

So go the opera in San Francisco or, if you are too lazy to make the trip to support a dying art, listen to the Ohlone choir this weekend. At the very least, download some classical music online.



Photo by Enily Burkett

**The Subtle Way rocks out at a recent show.**



Photo by Emily Burkett

**Jamie Tahirkheli salutes crowd of fans at show.**

# Ohlone students are preparing to take band on interstate tour

By EMILY BURKETT  
Staff writer

I thought my right eardrum had died. That's what I got for turning down the earplugs Jamie Tahirkheli, vocals and guitar for local band The Subtle Way, had offered me. It took the band a grand total of three minutes to turn a local café into a readymade stage and go from the freezing air outside to being warmed up, ready to go, and blasting away the last vestige of hearing my right ear had to offer. But rendering unsuspecting journalists partially deaf in record time with incredible music is all in a day's work for a band ready to break out of the local scene.

"We work together a couple hours a week, practice on our own, any time we have, basically," Tony Rego (bass) said. "When we all work and go to school, it's hard to set down a practice. It takes a lot of work." The Subtle Way has been working diligently to increase their notoriety through tours, local shows, and even using modern media features (a.k.a. MySpace) to get the word out about their band and what it has to offer.

The Subtle Way is a post-hardcore, screamo, metal fusion band that's managed to duck the expected mainstream barrage while still ap-

pealing to a large audience. They have a total of 80,000 plays on their MySpace page with an average of about 300 to 400 plays a day and draw a better than decent crowd to all their local shows.

The Subtle Way has been around for about a year with the current lineup and sound but during their substantive stint in Fremont, the band has undergone numerous changes. Rego has been in and out of the band, first as a drummer and now playing the bass. Jason Miller, guitar, vocals and keyboard, and Tahirkheli are the only two remaining original band members and with the addition of Marcelo Sedano, The Subtle Way now boasts three guitars, a bass, keyboard and drums.

"The Subtle Way's different because there's not a lot of fighting," Mike Vu (drums) explained. "We stay away from drinking and things like that that'll mess us up."

Basically, for members of The Subtle Way, the band is the number one, all-important priority that takes precedence over everything else. Tahirkheli, Rego, Vu, Sedano and Miller have dedicated themselves to making music that leads in quality and edge.

At their latest show in Elk Grove, however, they were short one guitarist/keyboardist as Miller

attends classes at the University of California Riverside while the other band members attend Ohlone and other local colleges. The band coped well, using some prerecorded material and adapting quickly when Sedano's guitar string snapped. It's a high energy band with Tahirkheli, Sedano and Rego jumping and headbanging across the makeshift stage; the crowd fed off of The Subtle Way's innate dynamic. The Subtle Way also brings their own light show, controlled by Rego during the performance itself.

The set seemed to end almost before it began, the band dissembling quickly while simultaneously greeting fans and loading up their trailer for another two-hour drive back to Fremont. But why would such an amazing band pack up and drive a total of four hours to play a set that lasts about half an hour?

"We try to get out of Fremont as much as we can," said Rego. "We feel pretty established here so we try to expand and branch out. We've actually traveled a little bit so it's become easier now that we have the trailer and everything."

The Subtle Way really does travel far for a show. They had their first tour in August and this December, they're planning a second interstate tour through most of California,

Arizona and possibly Washington and Oregon. The band will spend approximately six hours a day in their van while on tour and even sleep in the vehicle some nights.

"We'd rather have the cold than [the] heat. The heat would just be gross," joked Sedano.

Four guys in one car for several weeks in an Arizona summer? Gross? No way! However, it's a small price to pay for the chance to headline a show at a major venue.

"This comes before everything else. We'd essentially give up everything to make this work," said Tahirkheli.

The band still has fun, though. "We're all each other's best friends. We hang out, go see stupid movies. We're really boring," Rego laughed.

The band came out with a CD "Against Our Own Retreat" in September of this year that hardly qualifies as boring.

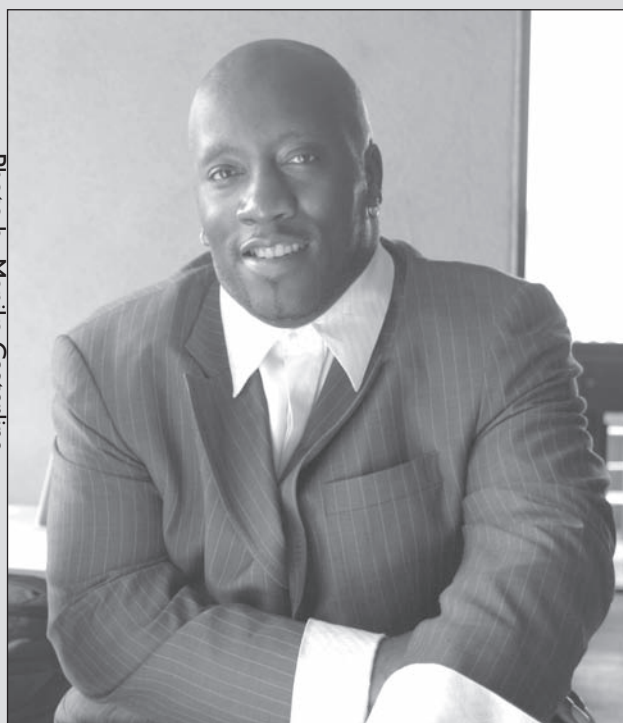
The 11-track CD features "Skies," "No Use for Needles," "The Perfect Lens" and "Love Notes In the Infrared." It's available at any of their shows or online for \$10.

For more information about The Subtle Way, including show locations, tour dates and to listen to tracks off of their new CD, visit [www.myspace.com/thesubtleway](http://www.myspace.com/thesubtleway).

## Auditions for rap video

**Ivy Brawner will hold auditions Friday, 1 to 3 p.m. at the Smith Center for up to 150 people needed to make a rap video. Brawner said he needs 11 main characters and 100 to 150 extras for a video with a positive message. For more information, contact Brawner at (510) 938-8400 or [mrvivbrawner@yahoo.com](mailto:mrvivbrawner@yahoo.com).**

Photo by Manika Casterline



## Support group

By MANIKA CASTERLINE  
Staff writer

Everyone has some problems. For many, the quandary is relationships and for others it's feeling overwhelmed by course work.

Tristan Tilma, former ASOC president, has started a peer support group in order to help out his fellow Ohlone students. He first presented the idea to ASOC Adviser Renee Gonzales and she referred him to Rosemary O'Neill, the Ohlone Health Center counselor.

According to O'Neill, the goal of the group is to create a place where students can come to discuss any issues they may have. Meetings are Thursday from noon to 1 p.m. in Room 7102.



Photo by Eric Dorman

## Steven Barnhill conducts the Ohlone Community Band during their Tuesday night performance. Folk theme for Community Band

By ERIC DORMAN  
Staff writer

The Ohlone Community Band performed a series of folk songs before a sparse but appreciative audience Tuesday night.

Though the band's performances usually do not have themes, as this performance did, Conductor Steven Barnhill thought it worked out well.

"Folk songs work well because they are by nature melodic," said Barnhill, who has conducted the Band for nine years. "They have simple harmonies, but those har-

monies can be greatly expanded upon."

Attendance at the concert, entitled "A Celebration of the Folk-song Suite," was slim - no more than 40 showed up to watch the performance which took place at the Jackson Theater in the Smith Center. Despite the small crowd, the band showed plenty of vitality throughout the performance.

The concert began with "Symphonic Fanfare #2," composed by Richard Strauss, a trumpet-heavy piece that started out a bit off-key. From that, the band broke into three English Folk Songs composed by

Ralph Vaughn Williams, starting off with a bright song "Seventeen Come Sunday" with plenty of flute and clarinet, moving to the more somber and Scottish-sounding "My Bonnie Boy" and finally culminating in "Folk Songs from Somerset," a rousing country tune.

Subsequently, the band moved into four French melodies, composed by Darius Milhaud. The songs all employed quite simple harmonies, with the third in particular crescendoing to a rousing percussion finish.

After a brief intermission, the band moved to American

songs, playing "Down the River," "Shenandoah" and "Glendy Burk." Each song led into the next, starting briskly, then slowing to the melancholy "Shenandoah," finally turning into "Glendy Burk," a dance-like song with an infectious beat.

After two Cajun songs, the second of which Barnhill described as a "rip-off" of Appalachian Spring, the band concluded with a Korean Folk Song, which started out slow but built into a tumultuous finish.

The band's next performance will be Dec. 5 at the Smith Center, featuring Evergreen Valley High School Wind Ensemble.



Devil's  
Advocate

By ANNA  
NEMCHUK  
Editor-in-chief

## Let's not get HPV

If you could reduce your daughter's chances of developing the second most lethal cancer worldwide by about two-thirds, would you?

Or would you let your ideology stand in the way?

Four strains of the Human Papilloma Virus now have a vaccine - Gardasil, developed by Merck. HPV is the cause of about 70 percent of cervical cancer cases and more than 80 percent of sexually active individuals will contract it in their lifetimes.

Four out of five people. Why? Don't condoms help? Somewhat, but the virus is transmitted by genital skin contact and unless you generally get busy under industrial strength sheets of plastic, there's simply too much exposed skin. Once infected, you become a carrier and can pass it on whenever the virus count is high on your skin surface - something you really have no way of distinguishing. In addition, HPV is more often than not asymptomatic, the physical manifestations when present in the form of genital warts are generally small and may disappear on their own and any outward signs may not occur for years, if ever.

In other words, this is a sucker that's damn hard to avoid.

STDs are not a topic many parents think of in relation to their third-graders. However, as the newly licensed Gardasil is approved by the FDA for use in women between 9 and 26 years of age and considered most effective before the onset of any sexual activity, parents are suddenly slapped with a decision about reproductive health before they get to make one about what backpack to buy for fourth grade.

The vaccine has been tested and found safe. So what's the problem - this is great! Get a couple of extra shots now, almost eliminate HPV in a generation.

Will the Christian right please stand up?

"Giving the HPV vaccine to young women could be potentially harmful, because they may see it as a license to engage in premarital sex," said Bridget Maher of the Family Research Council, a Christian lobby group, in an interview with the British New Scientist magazine.

This, of course, is what's keeping girls virginal - the threat of cervical cancer. The possibility of staying a "good girl" for a couple of decades, waiting for the sanctity of marriage, only to contract HPV from your husband is so ironic as to be hilarious, if it weren't so sad.

The debate of religion versus science is a healthy one and everyone is entitled to their opinion. But to refuse to protect your child's life because of an idealistic and completely unrealistic dogma - that's going too far.



Photo by Frankie Addiogo

The BOCF hosted a wheelchair basketball game.

## Full week of disability awareness

By FRANKIE ADDIEGO  
Staff writer

In an effort to raise appreciation for people with handicaps, Ohlone College has been hosting events and vendors this week, which are meant to give insight and perspective into the world of disabilities through a number of activities and events.

Perhaps the most significant contribution Disabilities Awareness Week gave to the campus was its impressive roster of guest speakers. The speeches had high school and junior high students attending.

Monday's guest speaker was Tim Piccirillo, a magician and author who has become a motivational speaker. Piccirillo told the audience that he owes his career to reading

and he encouraged people to read. He decided that he wanted to be a magician at age 15.

To his audience he said "laser focus on what you want to do." He also discussed his own battle with Tourette's Syndrome.

The following day, Ohlone hosted a speaker named Gary Karp, a man who was injured in a tree-climbing accident when he was 18 and has since been using a wheelchair. Karp's major focus was on how people with disabilities can live normal lives just like everybody else.

"People say, 'you're so inspirational, I could never do what you do,'" he said, "but that's not inspirational, that's the opposite of inspirational." He also discussed

his marriage and said that it's also important for the disabled and the people who love them not to base their relationship on pity, and that it has to be about love like any other marriage.

The final speaker was Michael Muir, grandson of famed pioneer John Muir, who made a presentation on his Access Adventure program, which seeks to take the handicapped on cross-country journeys. He showed a documentary about the program's first major trip, which was called The Journey Across America. "We had so much fun doing that," he said, "we thought it would be a one-time thing."

Stephanie Pintello, an interpreter who did most of the sign language translation for the speakers, said

of Disabilities Awareness Week, "I was actually very happy to see that there were so many high school and junior high students...it helps them see that...disability does not mean inability."

Meanwhile, the campus held a number of other functions in honor of Disabilities Awareness Week. Movies such as *Rain Man* and *FAT City* were shown in Room 7204. In the gym on Wednesday, Ohlone joined the Bay Area Outreach and Creation Program - an organization that provides people with wheelchairs and bicycles - for a game of wheelchair basketball.

Throughout the week, a number of booths were set up in the Quad, to educate students about various disabilities.

## New exhibit



Photo by Michael Aburas

On display Oct. 23 through Dec. 4 at the Louie-Meager art gallery will be the Meager Retrospective a 40-year look at artist Tony May's career. Depicted is May preparing to mount a case of 10 paintings called the "Home Improvement Paintings."