

AMHERST BULLETIN

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ARTS & LEISURE

The Culture Vulture

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A feast of multi-cultural arts

BY BRUCE LATSON

When it comes to celebrating multi-culturalism, Mark Fox wants to go multi-multi, both multi-media and multi-sensory stimulation. Fox, a performance artist from Brooklyn, thinks multi-culturalism should involve all the senses.

Next Friday, sight, sound, and some pretty good cooking will fill Hampden Theater at UMass as Fox and his friends present

"Historical Disintegration: A Cutting Edge Music, Visual, and Culinary Vision of Multi-Culturalism in America." The sensory palette will be served up at 8 p.m.

Musically, the 90-minute performance piece will include some of the Pioneer Valley's best-known jazz musicians. Performing with Fox (on saxophone and flute) will be Tony Vacca on the

African balafon, John Medeski on piano, David Arenius on bass, Herman LeBeaux on drums, Kevin Bryan on trumpet, Ed Byrne on trombone. But that only takes care of the ears.

While the musicians play Fox's original jazz, local painters Nelson Stevens, Edgar Sabogal, and Richard Heller will be painting on stage. The three will each paint an oil drum, then stack the drums into a totem pole and finish the work together. That takes care of the eyes, but what about smell and taste?

Even as musicians play and painters paint, a team of chefs will be cooking ethnic food, including Latin American, African-American, and Jewish cuisine. The food will be available for sampling after the show. And to top off the five senses, there will be space for dancing beside the stage.

"The idea is to evoke all the senses," said Fox, 23. "I want to engage every sense in everybody."

The performance is free and open to the public.

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FRIDAY 9

PERFORMANCE: "Historical Disintegration: American Individualism and the Absence of Historical-Cultural Understanding," a performance art piece incorporating music, painting and cooking will be presented in Hampden Theater at UMass tonight at 8.



Jazz musician Mark Fox and various artists and chefs will perform "Historical Disintegration: American Individualism and the Absence of Historical-Cultural Understanding," a performance art piece incorporating music, painting and cooking in Hampden Theater at UMass tonight, Oct. 9, at 8.