



Mrs. Dexter and Her Daily

Mrs. Edith Dexter's life is filled with troubles: her husband, who recently ran off with her best friend; her home, which is about to be sold; and her difficult children. Peggy Randall, Mrs. Dexter's maid, is about to retire with a small pension and the wrong man. This **new play by Joanna McClelland Glass** explores the intertwined lives of two very different women. At the Stanley Industrial Alliance Stage (to Feb. 7; page 191).



MONKEY KING

What do you get when you take an epic narrative about a monk's quest to recover a sacred relic and add an original rock score and mesmerizing dance sequences, then throw in kung fu battles? The end result is this **high-energy, action-filled musical**, which delighted audiences during the Beijing 2008 Summer Games. With a huge cast of singers, dancers, acrobats, musicians and martial artists, the show is sure to entertain all ages. At The Centre in Vancouver for Performing Arts (Feb. 6 to 27; page 190).

PHOTO (ABOVE) BY DAVID COOPER

ANVIL

They're the greatest heavy metal rockers you've never heard of. After decades of relative obscurity, the **influential Canadian group** was reintroduced to the world thanks to the candid documentary film *Anvil! The Story of Anvil*. Catch both the movie and the band at Venue (Feb. 13; page 199).



Tim McGraw

Husband of country-singer Faith Hill and son of former baseball player Tug McGraw, **the country-music superstar seems to lead a charmed existence**, racking up a string of number-one hits and effortlessly winning countless Grammy Awards and People's Choice Awards. See Tim McGraw and the Dancehall Doctors at GM Place (Mar. 25; page 188).

VANCOUVER INTERNATIONAL DANCE FESTIVAL

Now celebrating its 10th anniversary, this annual fest (Mar. 12 to 21; page 189) **truly is an international affair**. Artists from all around the world come here to dance on local stages. This year, featured troupes include Los Angeles' Michael Sakamoto, Denmark's Kitt Johnson, Taiwan's LAFA & Artists, New Zealand's Black Grace and New York's Evidence. But we're not short on home-grown talent: Vancouver dancers include Flamenco Rosario, Kickstart, Out Innerspace and Mascall Dance.

PHOTO (R) OF KICKSTART BY CHRIS RANDLE

