



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

