

"There are no warlike people,
just warlike leaders." — Ralph Bunche

Philadelphia WEEKLY

PHILADELPHIA'S LARGEST WEEKLY

VOLUME XXXII, NO. 12 > MARCH 19, 2003

A-List

["WHEN THE POWER OF LOVE OVERCOMES THE
LOVE OF POWER THE WORLD WILL KNOW
PEACE"—JIMI HENDRIX. MARCH 20-26]

[THURSDAY, MARCH 20]



SOUL

Macy Gray

Good Lord, could it really be five years since Macy Gray up and split the left coast ganja coffeehouse scene, scoring a Grammy with the funky *On How Life Is?* Yep, it has been that long—and since that time, Gray's output has been modest at best; her follow-up release, 2001's *The Id*, wowed critics, but sold unexceptionally in record stores. And that's been it. And yet—and yet—Macy Gray's fan base continues to grow, likely because of her measured appearances and musical contributions. Recently, Gray—whose ethos is increasingly being compared to George Clinton and other funk stars of his ilk—scored big kudos for her appearance at a blues tribute presented by Martin Scorsese at Radio City Music Hall. Brought up on old-school soul and blues in Canton, Ohio, the girl can reach back and flip sides, as she did on that night, and so often does. Next up, *The Trouble With Being Myself*, her third album, due in May. (Tim Whitaker)

9pm. \$25. Theater of Living Arts, 334 South St. 215.922.1011. www.electricfactory.net

[FRIDAY, MARCH 21]

layered, heartfelt nuggets. The scattered nostalgia can be forgiven upon hearing a tune like "Be Like Normal," which balances Shins prettiness with Stripes riffs. The Sights now stand teetering on the verge of the big time, followed not far behind by their New Zealand tourmates the Datsuns, who recently picked up an NME award for best live band. (Doug Wallen)

10pm. \$12. With the Datsuns + the Casanovas. Khyber, 56 S. Second St. 215.238.5888

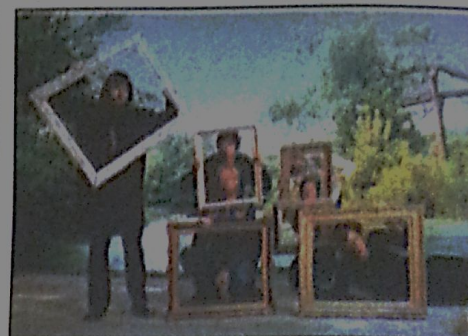


THEATER

Barriers

The play *Barriers*, inspired by the events of Sept. 11, opens this weekend at the Asian Arts Initiative. It tracks the lives of the Abbas, a Muslim Asian-American family living in New Jersey, as they suffer the aftereffects of the tragedy—including a haunting by the spirit of a son killed in the attacks. Director Ashok Sinha says he was attracted to the story because "Over the many insane months that followed Sept. 11, we were subjected to many images of the white victims of the bombing, while little attention was paid to the people of other ethnicities who worked in the buildings. As a South Asian, it felt empowering to me to help depict the story of a Muslim family that suffered in the same way that other victims of that horrible day did." Still, he says, "*Barriers* is not a 'Sept. 11 play.' We chose to focus on the humanity of the family—people that were grieving, fighting and loving." (Jessica Pressler)

8pm. \$7. Asian Arts Initiative, 1315 Cherry St., second fl. 215.557.0455. www.asianartinitiative.org



remedies with live performance. The Soundtrack's stop at the Khyber last November was a jaw-dropping collage of high kicks and twirled sticks, a performance of such bravura and gusto it rendered the group's three records completely irrelevant. It's no wonder the Soundtrack has already outgrown small venues. Their blistering, obscenely melodic pop songs bridge the gap between the Kinks and T. Rex, and their bottomless showmanship is a welcome oasis in a grim, grueling rock 'n' roll landscape. (J. Edward Keyes)

9pm. \$15. With Sam Roberts + Caesars. Theater of Living Arts, 334 South St. 215.922.1011. www.electricfactory.net

[SUNDAY, MARCH 23]

