

metroguide

Calendar choices by Mike Censer (MC), Paul Davis (PD), Steve Palepoli (SP) and Claire Young (CY)

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DragonForce

The Warfield
982 Market St., San Francisco
408.998.TIXS
Wed - 7pm; \$22.50-\$28

If there could be only one soundtrack for questing around in *World of Warcraft*, it shall be exclusively comprised of songs by DragonForce. The British band describes its music as "extreme power metal," which is true in a sense, but it doesn't capture the other two notable features of its music: the crazy dual-guitar solos with high-pitched melodies that sound oddly similar to the music in, say, *Castlevania* and other video games from the '80s; and then there's the Iron Maiden-esque vocals, pitched higher than the flights of fantastical adventures that their songs are all about. A couple of choice titles: "Lost Souls in Endless Time," "Down Over a New World," and my personal favorite, "Strike of the Ninja." (MC)



Defying Gravity

San Mateo Performing Arts Center
600 N. Delaware Ave., San Mateo
650.579.5565
Thu-Sun, \$25-\$45

In anticipation of the San Francisco appearance of the smash hit musical *Wicked* coming early next year, composer and lyricist Stephen Schwartz gives six performances for Broadway by the Bay in San Mateo. The Tony-nominated and Grammy- and Oscar-winning songwriter also wrote *Godspell* and *Pippin*, and will be joined by Broadway stars Liz Callaway, Debbie Gravitte and Scott Coulter. (MC)



South First Fridays

South First Street
Between San Carlos and East Reed streets, San Jose
408.271.5155
Fri - 8pm until late; free

This month's installment of South First Fridays includes an opening reception at MACLA for the new exhibit "Urban Veritas," a showcase of photography, digital art and videos created by local youth during MACLA's recent youth photography and video workshops. Up the street at Anno Domini, Maxwell Holyoke Hirsch visits at this reception for his debut solo exhibit of paintings and sketches, "The Season in Hell," and the reception also features music from DJ Basura. Participating events continue along South First Street, including exhibits at Caffe Trieste and South First Billiards, as well as at Kaleid Gallery on South Fourth Street. (CY)

Laurel and Hardy

Montalvo's Carriage House Theatre
15400 Montalvo Road, Saratoga
408.961.5858
Fri - 8pm; \$16-25

Ever wonder what laughter would sound like in musical form? Steven Bernstein's Millennial Territory Orchestra West demonstrates its interpretation of that concept in this performance of original compositions set to Laurel and Hardy's side-splitting antics. Three black-and-white classics from the duo will be shown tonight with musical accompaniment: *Sugar Daddies* (1927), *Double Whoopee* (1929) and *Wrong Again* (1929). (CY)



Maxwell Holyoke Hirsch unveils 'The Season in Hell' at Anno Domini during the South First Friday event.