

Event Previews:

Dave Coulier

Uncle Joey Hits Hilarities

Dave Coulier doesn't rely on "shits" for giggles: Vulgarity isn't his game. It's his impersonations that get the laughs. Besides playing Uncle Joey Gladstone in a houseful of Olsen twins, Coulier has been the voice of Scooby Doo, *The Real Ghostbusters'* Dr. Peter Venkman, Felix the Cat, and Baby Animal (the red furball from the Muppets). The Michigan native first found his niche by imitating his high-school principal over the PA system; he hasn't looked back since. "I moved to L.A. when I was 19," says Coulier. "I was doing braces jokes at the time." But you won't hear any of those tonight when he takes the stage. "I'm not sucking up when I say this: I love Hilarities. It's one of the best venues in the country." Coulier is in town for four performances tonight through Friday. Tonight's fun starts at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$23. Expect a full house. —

Barnes

<http://www.clevescene.com/cleveland/get-out/Content?oid=2780644>

Schooled!

The Globetrotters Are Back

You know their style: high-flying, net-blazing, and eternally silly. But this year, the Harlem Globetrotters are sporting a rookie lineup filled with firsts — giving you all the more reason to be at the Q today to see them. Paul "Tiny" Sturgess is the tallest basketball player in the world at 7 foot 8 (he dunks without jumping). And at just 5 foot 2, Jonte "Too Tall" Hall is the shortest Globetrotter ever. Who names these guys anyway? Fatima "TNT" Maddox rounds out the rookie class — the first Globetrotter girl since 1993. They'll be teaming up with other fan favorites to bring you two full games of ankle-breakin,' pump-fakin' entertainment. Cavs: Take notes. Tickets start at \$19, and today's games begin at 2 and 7 p.m. — *Barnes*

<http://www.clevescene.com/cleveland/get-out/Content?oid=2780644>

Cultivation Nation

Food & Farm Speak at SPACES

Urban capitals are going country, and Cleveland seems poised to jump on the hay, er, band wagon. Inner-city activist and worm wrangler Maurice Small is leading the charge to pave plots

with produce rather than asphalt. "Locally grown food in the city is a peace bringer," says the self-proclaimed master composter. "And peace brings people together as a community." Sounds like a recipe for success in our book. Small will join forces with Oberlin professor Johnny Coleman at SPACES tonight for a free dinner discussion about the importance of bringing agriculture into the city. Enjoy a modest meal of locally grown collard greens and learn how Small's favorite dirt dwellers turn our trash into treasured humus. Get your fill of food and farm-speak from 5 to 7:30 p.m. at 2220 Superior Viaduct. Check out spacesgallery.org for more info, or call 216-621-2314. — *Phil Barnes*

<http://www.clevescene.com/cleveland/get-out/Content?oid=2668471>

Arab Winter

An Expert Talks Politics

The U.S. helped clobber Gaddafi, but whiffed on Bashar al-Assad. Mubarak has been stomped, but the monarchies in Bahrain and Yemen are still standing tall. Middle East expert and advisor to two decades' worth of State Department heads, Aaron D. Miller, describes our Middle East strategy as "a giant game of Whack-a-Mole." From "Arab Spring" to a possible "Arab Winter," Miller reveals how the U.S. is likely to fare with a changing Middle East. He'll be taking the Ohio Theatre stage at 6 p.m. tonight. Tickets are \$45. Miller won't be delivering all good news, for sure, but he is certainly worth hearing — especially if we lost you at "Arab Spring." —

Barnes

<http://www.clevescene.com/cleveland/get-out/Content?oid=2788347>

Bier Hier!

It's Oktoberfest in Berea

Bier gartens, celebrity keg tapping, microbrew competitions, and the 5K bier run all contribute to the sense-altering bliss of everyone's favorite German tradition: Oktoberfest! (Don't let the name fool you: After all that alcohol, you'd get your months and spelling messed up too; and don't even get us started on glockenspiel.) In any case, words hardly do justice to this traditional Bavarian folk rave happening this weekend at the Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds in Berea — complete with polka, puppets, and a performance by the Cleveland Pops. For more sober souls, there are wiener dog races and a display of sand-castle sculptures, neither of which have

anything to do with beer. You can also enter the massive cornhole competition for the chance to square off against a mystery pair of radio personalities from WKNR. Suitable suds sops to be served include wienerschnitzel, bratwurst, hot dogs, and pizza. The festival kicks off tonight at 5. Hours on Saturday and Sunday are noon to midnight, and Monday's hours are noon to 9 p.m. Tickets are \$8 online and \$10 at the gate. Visit the website for a complete lineup of activities. — *Barnes*

<http://www.clevescene.com/cleveland/get-out/Content?oid=2719985>

The Cleveland Air Show

The Sky's the Limit!

With more "bangs" and "booms" than the Fourth of July, the Cleveland Air Show at Burke Lakefront Airport is undeniably our loudest Labor Day tradition. And now a flame-emblazoned, jet-powered school bus is bumping up the volume. Reaching speeds of 367 miles per hour (move over, Bugatti), the School Time Jet Bus will be roaring along the runways beneath a sextet of Air Force Thunderbirds, a World War II P-51 Mustang, and a Vietnam-era F-4 Phantom. There's also a "Jelly Belly" stunt plane that lands on either the bed of a pick-up truck or the top of an RV — totally awesome either way. On the ground, get a lesson on green-powered airplane engines from NASA or see if you can conquer the Army's rock wall. Then take the kids over to one of the 50 static planes on display and snap a pic of them in the cockpit. "The air show is half the price of Cedar Point for a whole day of remarkable aviation," says spokeswoman Ann Gynn. Besides, those stunts put roller coasters to shame. Advance sale tix are \$19 for adults and \$12 for kids at area Discount Drug Marts; at the gate they'll cost an additional two bucks. The show runs from 9 a.m. to 5 today through Monday. — *Barnes*

<http://www.clevescene.com/cleveland/get-out/Content?oid=2719985>

Concert Events and Band Profiles:

Kamelot

When you've been handed the surname Youngblood, chances are pretty good that someday you'll start a kick-ass metal band. Thomas Youngblood got around to forming Kamelot 20 years ago. After two shrug-worthy cathedral romps, the Tampa group enlisted a new singer in 1997, and the change was pivotal. Roy Kahn's three years of opera training added emotional flair to

Youngblood's blistering guitar shreds, and by 2005's *Black Halo*, the band was thrust into the symphonic metal spotlight. But Kahn left Kamelot last year, saying he was burned out (which is totally understandable after 13 years of singing about ghosts and black halos). Rhapsody of Fire's Fabio Lione has stepped up to the mic for the band's current tour as the search continues for a permanent new singer. So the Kamelot you'll see onstage at Peabody's this week may not sound exactly like the Kamelot you're familiar with. But be assured they'll still rock your ass off. —

Barnes

<http://www.clevescene.com/cleveland/concert-calendar/Content?oid=2719884>

The Lawrence Arms

After one week on 2004's Warped Tour, Chicago shit-slingers the Lawrence Arms got slashed from the lineup for publicly condemning the annual fest for taking a dump on punk. It was for the best. After all, Lawrence Arms' second-stream, pissed-off angst didn't jibe well with bands like Bowling for Soup. Besides, they got a hell of a song out of the experience: "Warped Summer Extravaganza (Major Excellent)," a bonus track on their 2006 album *Oh! Calcutta!* In addition to being cleverly sarcastic, the trio has mixed social, cultural, political, and even religious doctrine on their five albums. Even though they haven't released a record since 2009's *Buttsweat and Tears* EP, like any true-school punks lost in a world of Gagas and Biebers, Lawrence Arms still have a dedicated patch of fans. If your ears crave some good old-fashioned hard-hitting, head-banging punk, you might think about joining them when the band comes to town this weekend. — *Barnes*

<http://www.clevescene.com/cleveland/concert-calendar/Content?oid=2792658>

Jah Messengers

The Jamaica-born Aiken brothers (drummer "King David," singer Wayne, and bassist Paul Aiken) brought the word of Jah from Kingston to Cleveland more than a quarter-century ago. Jah Messengers' message is a simple one involving roots, rock, and reggae. Even with Bob Marley as a major influence, these rastas aren't pot preachers. The group emphasizes smoking struggles by other means, mainly through faith in the Rastafarian prophet Jah. And their reggae emphasizes beat over all else. Even though they've been making music since the '80s, Jah Messengers didn't get around to releasing their debut album — the tightly played *Long, Long Way* — until two

years ago. It features simmering sax solos (courtesy of Lloyd Pearson) flanked by choppy reggae rhythms. "Sista Tee" Dean tickles the ivories, while the Aikens fill in almost everything else. It's a great combo that pulsates with power onstage. — *Barnes*

<http://www.clevescene.com/cleveland/concert-calendar/Content?oid=2788340>

CD Reviews

Midnight Syndicate

Carnival Arcane (Linfaldia)

From haunted-house switchbacks to Halloween galas at Hefner's place, Midnight Syndicate's slasher soundtracks get some serious playtime when fall comes around. And somehow, after 14 years and just as many albums, the Chardon duo still manages to give us nightmares every time. Batches of blood-curdling organ huffs and gong clashes cast a familiar shadow on *Carnival Arcane*, with "Carousel Ride" as the main attraction (you finally get to hear what happens when evil spirits corrupt plastic horses). If you're looking for a Halloween mood-maker, give it a listen. Just make sure you turn the lights on first. — *Barnes*

<http://www.clevescene.com/cleveland/cd-review-midnight-syndicate/Content?oid=2737299>

CD Review: Cereal Banter

Lights Lights Lights

You'll most likely have questions after listening to the new album by Cereal Banter: questions like *How much pot is left?* and *Where am I?* Imagine 30 minutes with a strobe light taped to your face. *Lights Lights Lights* starts with an assembly of pitchy murmurs and jarring synthetic harmonies calling you into the sun. But unless you dig contemporary ambiance and minimalism, the sun may be the last place you want to go. If you're in it for the long haul, brace yourself for the six-minute track of cymbal crashes accompanied by the same three keyboard notes. Repetition is rampant here, but Cereal Banter aren't about hooks; they're about taking you to crazy, distorted dimensions. — *Barnes*

<http://www.clevescene.com/cleveland/cd-review-cereal-banter/Content?oid=2752074>

CD Review: Taka Blak

Pure Imagination: The Prelude (Interscope Digital Dist.)

What's on a rapper's mind besides fortune, fame, and balling bitches? Taka Black's seven-track EP never gets around to answering this question, but he puts a hysterical spin on themes we've heard over and over again. Rhyming "constipation," "masturbation," and "lactation" (as he does in "Green Goblin") in a way that makes sense takes some serious creativity, and this guy's flow is as nasty as his lyrics. It's a shame that DJ Flaco, who has a bad habit of interrupting Taka with creepy, synthesized laughter, mixed the whole thing to make it sound as if it's been run over by a pimped-out ride. Take them out, and *Pure Imagination: The Prelude* sounds about like the Next Big Thing. — *Barnes*

<http://www.clevescene.com/cleveland/cd-review-taka-blak/Content?oid=2703803>