

## Lennon tunes

Post-Beatles 'Acoustic' is far superior to his other new release, 'Rock 'n' Roll'  
PAGE 11G

## Coming Thursday

Personal appearance on job interviews is an undeniable part of what goes into hiring decisions

## Lecherous 'Alfie' back to old tricks

Remake of 1966 film has Jude Law in the role Michael Caine made famous.

BY LARRY RATLIFF  
EXPRESS-NEWS FILM CRITIC

Considering the continuing horrors of AIDS, the feminist movement and the phrase "No means no," you might not expect to see a free-wheeling, "bird shagging" womanizer like Alfie back on the big screen.

The lecherous, yet engaging, lothario who propelled Michael Caine to stardom in 1966 is back nonetheless. "Alfie," circa 2004, opens Friday.

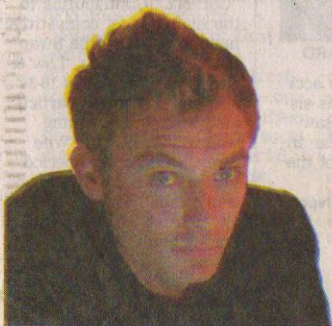
This time it's hot Brit Jude Law wooing the ladies. Don't waste time wondering if any political correctness has been injected.

"No, they haven't tried at all. He's still a jerk, but likable," said Law, a two-time Oscar nominee at the age of 31. "To be honest, that was the side of him I liked the most."

Law, speaking during a New York press appearance for "Sky Captain and the World of Tomorrow," did have some concerns

See LAW/4G

Actor Jude Law portrays Alfie Elkins, a womanizing cad, in a remake of 'Alfie.'  
PARAMOUNT PICTURES



## Animal shelter design shines

BY MIKE GREENBERG  
EXPRESS-NEWS SENIOR CRITIC

From a business standpoint, an animal shelter isn't very different from an upscale department store or shopping mall.

If you want to move the merchandise, you have to create an inviting environment for the customers. The more often they visit, the longer they stay, the more positive their frame of mind, the more likely they are to buy — especially if the products are appealingly displayed and come equipped with big brown eyes.

When the Humane Society/SPCA of San Antonio and Bexar County decided to build a new shelter to replace its cramped and depressing facility on Jones Avenue, the organization thought like a savvy retailer.

It recruited Alamo Architects, one of the city's strongest design firms, to create an environment that not only worked well operationally and technically but would also advance its mission of finding permanent homes for orphaned animals.

The project's success recently earned the firm and its client a 2004 Business Week/Architectural Record award, sponsored by the American Institute of Archi-

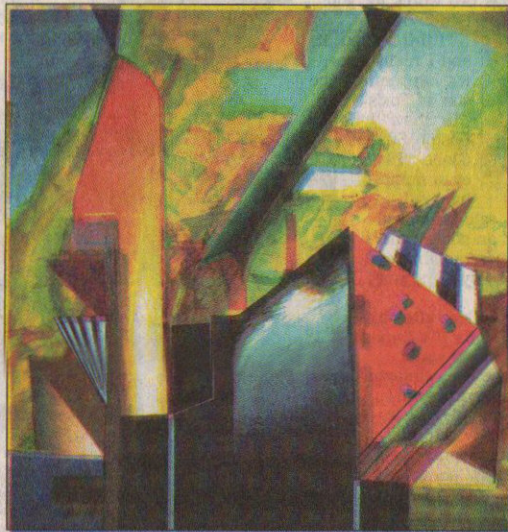
needed that strength. Her life has been threatened more than once, tions take place. Already she's struck two major

See ROOFLINES/10G



COURTESY ANGELIKA JANSEN

Barbara Metselaar-Berthold's photograph 'Girl in Subway (Maedchen in U-Bahn)' is among the works that will be shown in 'Fifteen Years After the Fall of the Wall,' a centerpiece of the Art in Berlin festival.



COURTESY ANGELIKA JANSEN-BROWN

'Havelland,' a silkscreen on paper by Peter Foeller, is another work that will be part of the 'Fifteen Years After the Fall of the Wall' exhibit. Films, stage performances, videos and student works also are scheduled.

# FALL FESTIVAL

## November events mark end of the Berlin Wall

BY DAN R. GODDARD  
EXPRESS-NEWS STAFF WRITER

Fifteen years after the fall of the Berlin Wall and the end of the Cold War, Germany has developed a vibrant contemporary art scene that will be celebrated in San Antonio with a festival of theater, art, film and music during November.

Organized by freelance curator Angelika Jansen-Brown for the San Antonio Public Library Foundation, Art in Berlin: Fifteen Years After the Fall of the Wall begins Friday with a theater performance by Uwe Mengel of Berlin, "Three Times Germany," at the Jump Start Performance Co.

San Antonio students are working on a "video wall" for San Antonio Central Library, which has an exhibit by five well-known German artists opening Tuesday. Panel discussions and exhibits by UTSA students who have traveled to Berlin with Ron Binks of the UT art faculty are scheduled for Nov. 11.

German films will be shown Nov. 13-14 at the Blue Star Contemporary Art Center and Nov. 17 at the Bijou at Crossroads. On Nov. 19, the Palast Orchestra with vocalist Max Raabe will give a concert at the Empire Theater.

"I have been working on an artists' exchange with the Blue Star, and the festival just grew from there," Jansen-

See EXHIBITS/10G

## Iraqi physician and politician knows war, works for peace

One very different political candidate — one whose very life may lit-

needed that strength. Her life has been threatened more than once,

tions take place. Already she's struck two major

San Antonio College Outstanding Alumni last week, at a ceremony

ing Center in the venerable Side Prospect Hill neighbor-

to build and maintain a single large building. Through careful allocation of resources and smart choices of materials, the architects held the construction budget to about \$200 per square foot, the norm for new animal shelters in Texas.

As with most of the winning projects in this competition, transparency and natural light are key aspects of the design.

The lobby includes a children's play area defined by movable storage units — they can

place. From a dog's point of view, the shelter must seem like a

lobby includes a large room and adjoining terrace that can be used for training classes, for meetings of various animal-oriented clubs and for revenue-producing social functions — an increasingly essential part of nearly any new building project for nonprofit organizations.

Though the pitched metal roof relate to regional tradition, it is fully contemporary, fully highest architecture.

Do the dogs and cats appreciate it? You'll have to go ask them.

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# Exhibits, films celebrate German art

CONTINUED FROM 1G

Brown said. "Fifteen years after the fall of the wall seemed like a good time to celebrate because so much is going on in the arts in Germany now. I wanted to find artists from both East and West Germany, who have experienced all the changes that have taken place and can provide different perspectives.

"Regardless of the media they work in, they are unified in their ardent focus on the social and political development of both Germanys into one unified country played out in the old/new capital of Berlin."

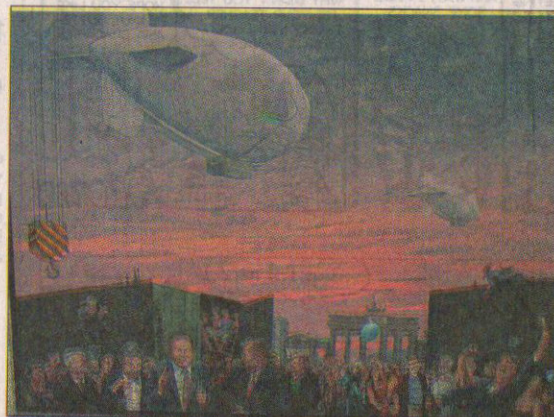
In his one-man show "Three Times Germany," Mengel, who lives in Berlin and New York City, traces his own life journey from Ruegen Island in the Baltic region of the former East Germany, through Berlin and on to New York. He's developed a series of monologues about his adventures based on the people he encountered on his journey, both Germans and non-Germans.

"His stuff is very conceptual and should provide a good introduction to the rest of the festival," Jansen-Brown said. "The comments by the people he encountered are poignant and sometimes merciless."

Mengel previously created a work for the International Theater Festival in San Antonio in 1999.

Filmmaker Anjali Gupta is working with San Antonio students on the "video wall," which will run on a continuous loop at the entrance to Central Library. Art representing the Berlin Wall will be incorporated into the video installation, which will have a public unveiling at 3 p.m. Sunday.

Five of Germany's best-known visual artists are featured in the centerpiece of the festival, "Fifteen Years After the Fall of the Wall," an exhibit that will run through Dec. 15 in Central Library gallery. A free, public opening reception will be held



'Start of the Firm Noah 2000' is by Matthias Koepfel. Historical images and contemporary figures are among his trademarks.

from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, marking 15 years to the day since the Berlin Wall began to come down.

"The exhibit celebrates the extraordinary visual-art scene in Berlin that developed after the fall of the wall," Jansen-Brown said. "All of the artists are ardently involved in a dialogue with Berlin. They experienced the city before and after the wall. They are all well-known in Germany and have shown extensively in Europe and the United States, so they have some critical distance from what's happening in Germany."

Painter Matthias Koepfel combines historical images and contemporary figures into lushly painted scenes such as "Start of the Firm Noah 2000," which has airships floating over a crowd of politicians and other Germans at the famed Checkpoint Charlie. Koepfel, a professor emeritus at the Technische Universitaet in Berlin, is co-founder of the movement known as "Neue Praeichtigkeit" or "New Splendidness."

Wolfgang Petrick, a founding member of the artist group "Grossgoerschen 35," combines realism and expressionism in

metaphorical images concerning German life. Klaus Killisch is a musician who incorporates vinyl records into his portraits of contemporary Germans mixed with elements of pop culture. Peter Foeller is known for his abstract architectural/geometric, somewhat surrealistic, paintings and prints.

Barbara Metselaar-Berthold is a noted documentary filmmaker whose black-and-white photographs record day-to-day life in East Germany. Her film "Frozen Margaritas," about the psychological and physical odyssey of German women, will be shown Nov. 13 at the Blue Star.

Binks' photomontage "Hausvogteiplatz" also will be included in the Central Library exhibit. Taken on a Berlin sidewalk, involving pedestrians and mirrored panels, the sequence was shown as part of Binks' Fotoseptiembre exhibit at the Blue Star. Binks teaches a class at UTSA for graduate students about the German art scene that includes a field trip to Berlin.

Works by Binks' students based on their experiences in Berlin will go on view with a reception from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Nov.

11 at the UTSA Satellite Space in the Blue Star Arts Complex. Some of the German artists will join the students for a panel discussion on "The Allure of Berlin" at 6:30 p.m. Also opening that evening will be an exhibit of prints and works on paper by Foeller at the Joan Grona Gallery.

Three films, beginning with Metselaar-Berthold's "Frozen Margaritas," will be shown at 6 p.m. Nov. 13 at the Blue Star. The other two short films are Thomas Wendrich's "Dead at the Moment" and Sabine Michel's "Life Goes On."

"The Burning Wall," a documentary about the struggle between dissidents and the East German government, will be shown at 4 p.m. Nov. 14 at Blue Star.

Gregor Schnitzler's "What to Do in Case of Fire," a feature-length farce about middle-aged burglars trying to recapture their revolutionary past, will be shown at 6 p.m. Nov. 17 at the Bijou at Crossroads as a fundraiser for the San Antonio Library Foundation. Tickets cost \$6 at the door.

Max Raabe and the Palast Orchestra will close the festival on Nov. 19 with a tribute to film composer Walter Jurmann, perhaps best known for his songs composed for MGM musicals in the 1930s and 1940s. The San Antonio concert is one of three scheduled performances the 13-member swing orchestra is giving on its tour of the United States. They also plan to perform the official city song of San Antonio that Jurmann wrote after a 1967 visit to the city.

Raabe, in tux and tails, sings in the high falsetto of '30s vocalists, and he's backed by a chorus of female singers in evening gowns. The Palast Orchestra formed in 1987 and has become popular in Europe with many concerts, films and CDs to its credit.

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## Art in Berlin calendar

■ "Three Times Germany," 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday: Uwe Mengel of Berlin and New York presents a series of monologues based on people he met during his life journey beginning on Ruegen Island in East Germany. Tickets are \$12. Jump-Star Performance Co., Building B, Blue Star Arts Complex, 1400 S. Alamo St., (210) 227-5867.

■ "Fifteen Years After the Fall of the Wall," 5:30-7:30 p.m. Tuesday: Exhibit features five of Germany's leading artists — Peter Foeller, Klaus Killisch, Matthias Koepfel, Barbara Metselaar-Berthold and Wolfgang Petrick. Gallery at the San Antonio Central Library, 600 Soledad. Through Dec. 15.

■ "Berlin Plus Art," 5:30-7 p.m. Nov. 11: Exhibit by UTSA graduate students and Ron Binks concerning their experiences in Berlin. Panel discussion on "The Allure of Berlin" at 6:30 p.m. at UTSA Satellite Space. Prints and works on paper by Foeller open at the Joan Grona Gallery. Blue Star Arts Complex.

■ Film festival; 6 p.m. Nov. 13: "Fro-

zen Margaritas" by Metselaar-Berthold and at 8 p.m. Thomas Wendrich's "Dead at the Moment" and Sabine Michel's "Life Goes On." p.m. Nov. 14: "The Burning Wall" Hava Kohav Beller. Admission cost \$6 per screening, including popcorn and nonalcoholic beverage. Blue Star Contemporary Art Center, 116 Blue Star, (210) 227-6960.

■ "What to Do in Case of Fire," 6 p.m. Nov. 17: A feature film farce about middle-aged burglars. Fundraiser for San Antonio Library Foundation. Admission costs \$6 at the door. Bijou at Crossroads.

■ Max Raabe and the Palast Orchestra, 6 p.m. Nov. 19: The 13-member swing orchestra with singer Raabe and chorus performs tunes from the 1930s and 1940s, paying homage to film composer Walter Jurmann, who wrote songs for MGM musicals of the era. Special Berlin Feier (Celebration) tickets with food and entertainment after the concert at \$75 per person. General admission costs \$10 mezzanine, \$5 balcony. Empire Theater, 226 N. St. Mary's St., (210) 226-3333. Tickets also available through Ticketmaster.



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