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Social Calendar

By: Aroundphilly.com Staff

Cutting-edge dance theater brings to life topics like the phenomenon of "screens" (chat rooms and video games), the exploration of time, and the struggle of being a gay African-American in performance art for the first **New Festival**, taking place from May 31 to June 12 at the Arts Bank. The event features eight artistic programs from Philadelphia to New York that express views told through movement, music, and lighting. Visit www.newfestival.net

Trade your "thirsty Thursdays" for weekly Wednesdays when **Center City Sips** begins June 1 through August 31. The "hump day" happy hour features \$4 cocktails, \$3 wines, and \$2 beers with free appetizers at participating restaurants and bars. A few of our favorites are Blisstinis at Bliss, Bacardi mojitos at Tragos, and a half-of-a-dozen munchies to chose from at Las Vegas Lounge. Visit www.centercityphila.org

Browse professional and student art and then try to decide who's who during the Rittenhouse Row Fine Arts Festival June 2 – June 5. The 74th annual event is the oldest outdoor art show of only original artwork in the U.S. and has more than 140 participants showcasing paintings, prints, and sculptures. Wander through the square and feel Parisian, if only for the weekend. Visit www.rittenhouserow.org

When it comes to the classics, there's little that rivals "Romeo and Juliet" as one of the greatest love stories ever told. Passionate choreography and sparkling costumes bring the Pennsylvania Ballet's new production to life June 2 – 12. After all, something has to make up for the lack of dialogue. Visit www.paballet.com

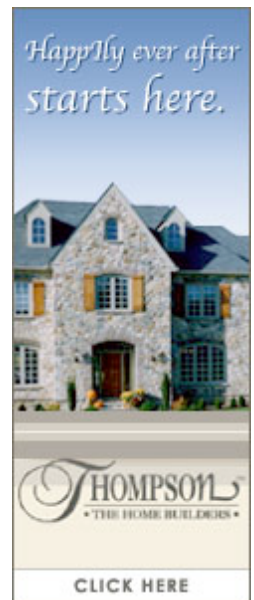
Yesterday's turntables are today's computers in the music world; and nowhere is this technological trend more evident than in electronic music, a genre so new that it's still being defined. **Electro-Music 2005**, a three-day conference and music festival from June 2 – 4 at the Chikara Art Center, celebrates

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and music festival from June 3 - 5 at the Cneitennam Art Center, celebrates what's new and what's to come with seminars, music sessions and performances by internationally acclaimed artists like Amy X Neuburg, Wave World, Mark Jenkins, and Xeroid Entity. Visit www.electro-music.com



Free outdoor events are a summer highlight and this year is no exception; the Foundation Community Arts Initiative, University City District, and the University of Pennsylvania present the 2nd annual "40th Street Summer Series" from June 4 to August 6. Jazz, poetry, puppet theatre, and dance highlight the multicultural mix of events happening Saturdays from 2pm - 5pm on the front plaza of the Rotunda. Visit www.ucityphila.org

If Kenny Chesney's sold-out summer concert is any indication, then country music is alive and kicking in Philadelphia. Local station XTU 92.5 celebrates its 21st anniversary with a free (yes- free) all-day concert at the Tweeter Center on June 4 featuring special guests Montgomery Gentry, Jo Dee Messina, Phil Vassar and Erika Jo. The only catch is you have to get your tickets during station-sponsored events at local businesses. Visit www.925xtu.com

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