



FRIDAY
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"So, how many enemies you got?"



MONDAY
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A little taste of everything from SATE.



TUESDAY
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His powers of forgiveness are what makes him a superstar.

NIGHT + DAY

WEEK OF DECEMBER 17-23

THURSDAY | 12.17

[CONCERT]

OH, BABY, DON'T HOLD OUT

While there is a seemingly finite number of holiday tunes, there are endless interpretations of these timeless songs. For instance "Carol of the Bells" can be as light and quiet as falling snow or as thunderous as any showstopper. And "Baby, It's Cold Outside"? Well, depending upon who's singing it, this song can be a tale of innocent young love or a saucy story of adult, um, holiday celebrations. So which version of the latter will be performed at Three-Legged Productions' holiday cabaret dubbed **'Baby, It's Cold Outside'**? You'll just have to grab a seat inside the (warm) Kranzberg Arts Center (501 North Grand Boulevard) to find out. The concerts, scheduled for 8 p.m. Thursday through Saturday, and 2 and 7 p.m. Sunday (December 17 through 20), feature Anna Blair and Bob Becherer

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along with guest performers Deborah Sharn (on Thursday and Sunday) and Tim Schall (on Friday). Tickets to the show cost \$25 and are available through 800-838-3006 or www.threelegged.org; 10 percent of ticket sales and 100 percent of raffle-ticket purchases benefit the Ronald McDonald House Charities of Metro Saint Louis. — ALISON SIELOFF



COURTESY JIMMY KUEHNLE

[ART OF WAR]

NUCLEAR FAMILY CHRISTMAS

The extended lead-in to the Christmas season seems to make as many people melancholy and introspective as it makes others joyous and peaceful. But there's melancholy, and then there's "let's talk about the potential for the total devastation of an atomic war to reset our concept of time"; **Daniel Grausam** would like to discuss this deeper melancholy with you tonight at 6 p.m. at White Flag Projects (4568 Manchester Avenue; 314-531-3442 or www.whiteflagprojects.org). *Prethunderdome*, the current exhibition at White Flag, examines theories of societal collapse, so you can see why Grausam, author of the forthcoming book *On Endings: Postmodern American Fiction and the Cold War*, would be thinking along apocalyptic lines already. Also on tap is a per-

formance by artist Ronnie Bass and a screening of recently declassified nuclear weapons test films — the ultimate light show! All joking aside, if the choice is another screening of *The Christmas Shoes* or intellectual discourse on artistic representations and real outcomes of nuclear Armageddon, who wouldn't opt for the blinding white light of infinity? Tonight's program is free. — PAUL FRISWOLD

FRIDAY | 12.18

[MOBILE ART]

BIG FAT FANCY

It's not all that unusual this time of year to see a big fat guy walk by wearing a red suit. But rarely do you see just a big fat red suit walk by — so take advantage of **Jimmy Kuehnle's** appearance.

The performance artist (and St. Louis native) is currently wrapping up his **Inflatable Suit Performance Tour**, and he visits the Gateway Arch (707 North First Street; www.jimmykuehnle.com) today at noon (unless the weather's bad; then he'll visit on Saturday, December 19), and yes, "inflatable suit" means pretty much what you think it does. Kuehnle creates soft sculpture suits powered by twelve-volt blowers (similar to those yard inflatables you see in finer neighborhoods) with names such as *Big Red* and *You Wear What I Wear*, steps inside them and then strolls through the city. Why? Because Kuehnle believes that art should exist outside the gallery setting, and he wants people to talk with him or with each other. And also, Kuehnle freely admits, because the spectacle is absurd. Admission is free, and if you can't make it to the Arch at noon, keep an eye out for a bouncing

Jimmy Kuehnle's blowing up all over.

thing somewhere downtown throughout the afternoon. — PAUL FRISWOLD

[NUTCRACKER CHRISTMAS!]

SWEETEN UP!

Perhaps you, dear friend, are having trouble getting into the holiday spirit. You've baked a few cookies, done a bit of shopping and listened to some carols, but you're still not feeling it. Ms. Day understands. She had the same problem until very recently when she celebrated what can only be described as *Nutcracker Christmas Saturday*. During this full day of *Nutcrackers* — she attended two lovely versions: one onstage and one on ice — she not only felt the hustle-bustle inherent to the holidays as she was rushing from show to show, **continued on page 20**