

BESTBETS

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Local film times are available 24/7 on Inside Line. Call 416-5700 and enter category 3456 (FILM) or visit austin360.com/movies for reviews and showtimes.

Nothing comical about rise of Corto Maltese

Corto Maltese

When: 10 p.m.

Where: Mohawk, 912 Red River St.

Cost: \$5-\$8
Information: 482-8404, mohawk.austin.com

From scoring a coveted spot on 101X DJ Andy Langer's "Next Big Thing" play-list in early 2007 to receiving local and national acclaim from publications such as the Onion to Losing Today magazine, local five-piece the Corto Maltese has emerged with a distinctly singular sound in a town where individuality is worth its weight in gold. Since 2006, Corto Maltese, which carries no association with the 1960s comic book series of the same name, has slowly emerged with vocalist-guitarist Ben Maddox's finger-picking metal arpeggios leading the way over a driving Arcade Fire-esque pop. Fellow Austinites Moses & the Burning Bush, who are celebrating the release of their newest CD, and Pillow Queens open.

— Shannon McGarvey



MISSION CREEK PRODUCTIONS

Eric Loftis, left, Tyler Thompson, Ben Maddox and Wes Turner make up Corto Maltese, which will play Mohawk tonight.

THE NEXT BEST



YOON CHO

Yoon Cho's video 'Haircut' is part of her latest exhibit.

ART TAKES LOOK AT CHANGING LOOKS

No matter the medium, an artist's work is always based on perception and examination. In the case of the Austin-based artist Yoon Cho's latest exhibit, "Nothing Lasts Forever," these elements are of particular importance. Cho employs the technology of video and digital photography to examine questions of self-perception and how, in this digital age, we are able to alter and consistently re-create our identities.

Recently featured at the forefront of the Austin Museum of Art's "20 to Watch" exhibit, which runs through May 11, Cho debuts "Nothing Lasts Forever" in an opening reception tonight, 6 to 8 p.m. Women and Their Work, 1710 Lavaca St. Free. 477-1064, www.womenandtheirwork.org.

IT'S WEST END GALLERY ALLEY NIGHT

On First Thursdays, the Fifth and Sixth street area west of Lamar Boulevard turns into an art walk, with the help of galleries such as ART on 5th, Haven and Lotus. This month's featured space for the monthly rotating "West End Gallery Night" is the F8 Fine Art Gallery, which mostly focuses on showcasing traditional darkroom black and white photography. Other participating West End-area galleries on the walking tour are: Russell Collection, Stephen L. Clark Gallery, Sterling Images and the Wally Workman Gallery. Open until 8 p.m. F8 Fine Art Gallery, 1202-A W. Sixth St. Free. 480-0242, www.f8fineart.com, www.artaustin.org/westend.htm.

BEST OF THE REST

'American Tapestry' — Austin Vocal Arts Ensemble, conducted by Kenny Sheppard, performs a collection of American choral music from composers such as William Billings, Randall Thompson, Samuel Barber and Morten Lauridsen. 8 p.m. Hope Presbyterian Church, 11512 Olson Drive. Children 12 and younger: \$5; seniors (older than 55) and students: \$15; general admission: \$20. 719-3300, www.chorusaustin.org.



Edward Albee

3001 S. Congress Ave., behind the Recreation and Convocation Center. Free, though donations are appreciated. 499-6896.

'Zoo Story' — Edward Albee's

first play, presented by the Transit Theatre Troupe. Benefits the Austin Humane Society. 5:30 p.m., through Saturday. St. Edward's University pond,