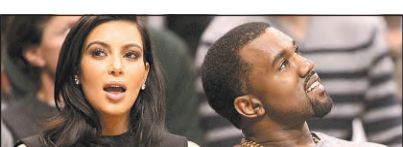


Magazine



Kanye reportedly wants no wedding, just baby. **SideShow, C2**



Maria Semple here to talk about her barbed, funny novel. **C3**

Inquirer.com

Craig LaBan checks out what's new on Philadelphia's food-truck scene. **Food**



"Lauren," a drama from YouTube's WIGS channel, stars Troian Bellisario as a soldier who has been raped. **wigsc0**

Online shows target women

By Tirdad Derakhshani
INQUIRER STAFF WRITER

When it comes to online video, men aren't the boss anymore. Rapidly growing in numbers and influence, female viewers are reshaping original programming at major platforms such as AOL, Hulu, and YouTube. WIGS, YouTube's popular women's channel, marks its first anniversary with the pre-

miere Friday of the second season of *Lauren*, a powerful drama about rape in the military starring Troian Bellisario, Jennifer Beals, Bradley Whitford, and Raymond Cruz. Founded by filmmakers Jon Avnet (*Fried Green Tomatoes*) and Rodrigo Garcia (*Alfred Nobbs*), WIGS has consistently delivered some of the most engaging programs online. Avnet, whose TV work includes the innovative cop show *Boomtown*, began talking to Garcia about online video five years ago.

See **ONLINE** on C3



Anna Paquin stars in "Susanna," another WIGS drama. **wigsc0**



The cast of "Un Ballo in Maschera" at the Academy of Vocal Arts was consistently fine. **PAUL SIROCHMAN**

Review Opera

A 'Masked Ball' too big for its room

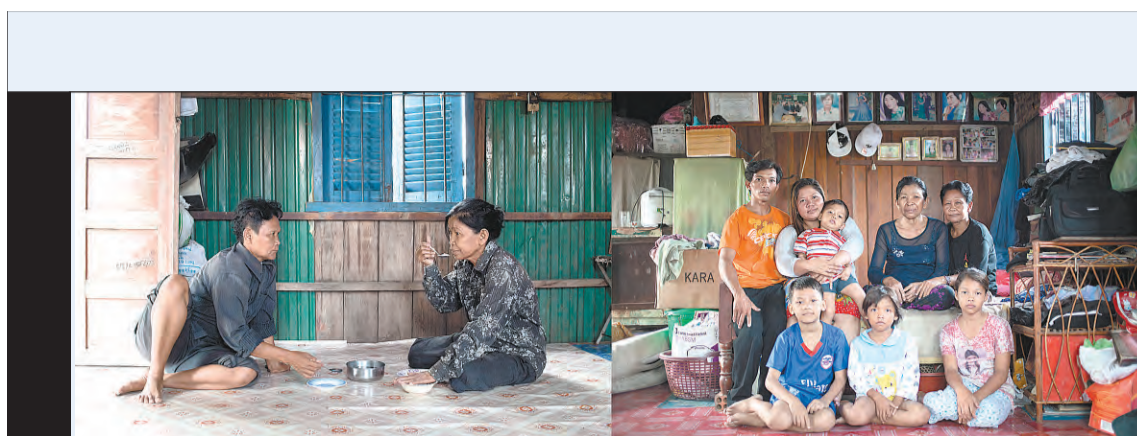
Academy of the Vocal Arts performers gave Verdi's opera the full treatment, spellbinding listeners.

By David Patrick Stearns
INQUIRER MUSIC CRITIC

The full fury of a great Verdi opera is not often felt, and when it is, you'd rather be in a larger room than the Helen Corning Warden Theater at the Academy of Vocal Arts' Spruce Street headquarters. Nonetheless, there we all were on Tuesday at *Un Ballo in Maschera*, shoehorned into those airplane-size seats, so spellbound that we might as well have been hostages, with

conductor Christofer Macatoris zapping a consistently fine cast with what seemed like electric shocks in a tale of revenge that stops at nothing. You know it's working when somebody sings "Night of horror!" without sounding melodramatic. Because you agree. The opera's ingredients include a less-than-beloved monarch, an assassination, a den of witches, and small children used as bargaining chips, with

See **OPERA** on C3



An exhibition of Cambodian artist Vuth Lyno's photographs, above, is at the William Way center. "Shakespeare's R&J," below, will be staged by Mauckingbird Theatre Company.

LGBT COMMUNITY MEMBERS ARE GATHERED IN PHILADELPHIA FOR THE EQUALITY SUMMIT - IN A STATE THAT LARGELY ESCHEWS THEIR CONCERNS.



ISN'T IT IRONIC?

By John Timpane
INQUIRER STAFF WRITER

At the 21st annual Equality Forum Summit, you'll hear talk of how much is changing nationwide for the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) community — and how little is changing in Pennsylvania state law. That's the irony surrounding the summit, one of the nation's foremost LGBT gatherings. It started Wednesday and runs through Sunday at locations throughout the city, with 18 panels, an art exhibition, special guests, a four-man pro-

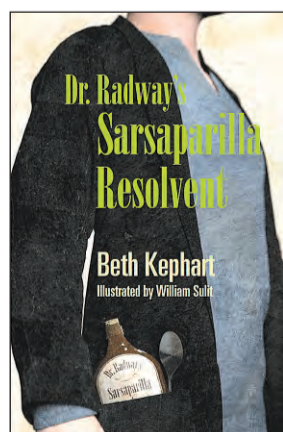
duction of *Romeo and Juliet*, and some great parties. "The advances of the last two years would have been all but unthinkable a decade ago," says Malcolm Lazin, executive director of the Philly-based Equality Forum, the nonprofit he founded in 1993 (originally PrideFest Philadelphia) to advocate for LGBT rights. "You have so many states now providing same-sex marriage, and the Supreme Court about to decide on the Defense of Marriage Act and California's Proposition 8," which outlawed same-sex marriage. See **FORUM** on C4



Part of Lyno's show looks at gay men "who use face paints ... to explore their identities."

Book Review

Bright, engaging novel set in 1870



Dr. Radway's Sarsaparilla Resolvent
By Beth Kephart
Temple University Press
198 pp. \$15.95

Reviewed by Katie Haegele

In Philadelphia, a boy of about 14 is struggling. Never rich, his family has found it hard to get by since his father went to jail. His dear older brother was killed not long after that, by a vicious cop who beat him when he found him sleeping off a night of drink-

ing in a neighbor's yard. Walking the streets, amid the dirt and noise of the city, William looks for his chance to get revenge, to set things right. The bare bones of Beth Kephart's new story sound modern, but this bright, burning novel — intended for a young adult audience but powerful enough to engage any adult — is set in the Philadelphia of 1870. Using surprising period details and a gorgeous turn of phrase, Kephart has called forth an interesting time in

See **'DR. RADWAY'** on C2

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