

MEDIA ADVISORY

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For Immediate Release

Event: Friday Rally and March kick off outreach for Portland visit by senior analyst with *Institute for Policy Studies*, Phyllis Bennis; welcome local artistic director to Friday rally.

Date: Friday, October 14, 2005

Time 5:00 p.m.

Place: Pioneer Courthouse Square, SW Broadway & SW Yamhill, downtown Portland

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Friday Rally and March kick off outreach for Portland visit by *Institute for Policy Studies* senior analyst, Phyllis Bennis; welcomes local artistic director guest speaker.

The *Portland Peaceful Response Coalition*'s Friday rally and march begins a six-day campaign of outreach to the local community for a last-minute additional stop in Portland by *Institute for Policy Studies* senior analyst, Phyllis Bennis. "Portland is very fortunate to have been added to a speaking tour that Ms. Bennis is doing here in the Pacific Northwest, and we're simply hoping to get the word out so as many people as possible will have the opportunity to hear an important critical perspective on US foreign policy in the Middle East," said William Seaman, a volunteer with the PPRC. "Ms. Bennis is a renowned authority on the United Nations and more generally a highly respected scholar of US foreign policy." Ms. Bennis is author of *Challenging Empire: How People, Governments, and the UN Defy US Power*, recently published by Olive Branch Press.

Phyllis Bennis will be speaking in Portland at 7:00 PM on Thursday, October 20th, at the *St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church* at SE 12th & Pine. The title of her lecture is "Dual Occupations: Iraq and Palestine in Bush's Empire." Her lecture in Portland is sponsored by the *American Friends Service Committee*, *Portland Peaceful Response Coalition*, *Friends of Sabeel* and *St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church (Portland Oregon)*. Admission is free. For more information, please call (503) 230-9427.

Bennis will also be speaking in Corvallis on Monday, October 17th, at 7:00 PM (Odd Fellows Hall, 223 S.W. Second Street), and in Salem on Wednesday, October 19th, at 7:30 PM (Hudson Hall, Mary Stuart Rogers Music Center, Willamette University).

The PPRC will also be welcoming as a speaker for this Friday rally, Ms. Olga Sanchez, artistic director for *Miracle Theater Mainstage*. She will be speaking about their current play, "Elliot: a Soldier's Fugue". "Elliot: the Soldier's Fugue" is a new play about the

experiences of three generations of military service, based on the unique dramatic structure inspired by Bach’s fugues,” explains Sanchez. “The play explores the silences that reflect the wounded soul of the soldiers, and the fierce battle to conquer the silences.” Post-play discussions featuring a panel of community veterans and veterans’ families will be presented following each performance. For more information about the play, please visit the website at:

<http://www.milagro.org/english/Performance/MiracleMainstage/elliott.htm>

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