

ARTSWEEK

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BEST BETS

big beat peter simpson

There's a new rock 'n' roll venue and it's offering a triple serving of music on Saturday. The House of Targ is at 1077 Bank St. Saturday's show includes **solids**, from Montreal, **Big Dick**, from Ottawa, and **Life in Vacuum**, from Toronto. The House of Targ's slogan is "Pinball and Perogies," both of which are available — The club is named for one of the classic game machines. Doors 9 p.m., tickets \$8, at spectrasonic.com and at Vertigo Records on Rideau St. See videos at ottawacitizen.com/bigbeat.

food laura robin

Get a taste of Africa and help its farmers at an event May 1 at Saint Brigid's Centre for the Arts. **African Harvest** is a culinary fundraiser, with cooking demonstrations and small plates that showcase African flavours by Ottawa chef **Andrée Riffou** of C'est Bon Cooking and **Jeff Crump**, author of *Earth to Table*. Tickets are \$75; proceeds go to Farm Radio International, a Canadian charity that helps provide information to millions of small-scale African farmers. See www.farmradio.org.



Chef Andrée Riffou
C'est Bon Cooks

jazz peter hum

The **Nepean All-City Jazz Band** is gearing up for its performance at the MusicFest Nationals competition in Burnaby, B.C., with a fundraising concert Friday. Joining the group, which since 1987 has featured Ottawa's best young jazz instrumentalists, will be the Toronto saxophonist **Kirk MacDonald**. The concert takes place at Longfields-Davidson Heights Secondary School in Barrhaven. The music begins at 7:30 p.m. Admission: \$10 for students, \$15 for adults. Info: nacjb.com or 613-222-6491.

classical steven mazy

Opera Lyra Ottawa presents the final performance of its production of *Madama Butterfly* Saturday, April 26. The production includes soprano **Shuying Li** as Butterfly, tenor **Antoine Belanger** as Pinkerton and baritone **James Westman** as Sharpless. It's staged by **Francois Racine** and conducted by **Tyrone Paterson**. NAC Southam Hall. Tickets start at \$25, at the NAC box office or through TicketMaster (1-888-991-2787). Information: operalyra.ca