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THINGS TO  
DO TODAY,  
TOMORROW  
AND THIS  
Weekend

### TODAY

**The Bet:** Film by South Floridian Adam Gillon and inspired by Anton Chekhov's short story; showing daily; Wometco Florida Quad, 30 N. Park Rd., HOLLYWOOD; for show times and ticket prices, call 987-9350.

**Barbara Gillman Gallery:** 939 Lincoln Rd., MIAMI BEACH; 534-7872: *Icons of Jazz: Herman Leonard—Black and White Photographs*; includes treats such

# Grand Opera moving its digs next to arts complex

In case you thought the hoopla about the performing arts center is over (now that architect **Cesar Pelli** has been selected to design the complex), think again. . . .

Expected to close this week on property adjacent to the center is the Florida Grand Opera, which plans to sell its headquarters at 1200 Coral Way and build anew at Northeast 14th Street and Second Avenue. The new digs would afford a view of the opera house's stage door.

Among the key players in the move: **Roberta Rymer Balfe**, longtime opera doyenne, whose share of the Magic Chef appliance fortune has made many opera ventures possible.

### Always involved . . .

**Adolfo Henriquez**, senior executive for NationsBank in Dade, was among five bank officers who committed more than \$2 million to the performing arts complex March 6. NationsBank

pledged \$250,000, Citibank \$300,000; Sun Bank, First Union and Barnett \$500,000 each.

"Anyone who has spent any time in Miami knows you can be almost overwhelmed by the number of things to do," Henriquez said last week. "But [new] people arrive with a preconception [about a dearth of cultural activities, a lack of security everywhere]; we're always fighting that preconception."



**GAIL MEADOWS**  
STREET TALK

### For the record

The official vote for Pelli from Metro's Design Selection Committee March 5 was this:

■ For Holland's **Rem Koolhaas**, Metro Planning Director **Guillermo Olmedillo**.

■ For Miami Beach's Architectonica, lawyer **Juan Loumiet**; Assistant County Manager **Cynthia Curry** and arts patron **Judy Weiser**.

■ For Pelli, **Stuart Blumberg**, president of the Greater Miami and the Beaches Hotel Association; lawyers **James Herron** and **Laura de Ona**; choreographer **Florence Nichols** and Metro execs **Guillermo Cutie**, **Sheila Rushton** and **Marcia Saunders**.

### Healing well

Due back at the New World School of the Arts today is dancer



**BILL CULLOM:** USA Today criticism of Pavarotti concert got his goat.

**Stephanie Bastos**, 17, who lost her foot in a car accident late last month.

More than \$4,000 has been donated to help offset her medical expenses. "She's gung-ho to beat this," said dance dean **Danny Lewis**, who thinks Bastos might dance again, given technological advances in prostheses.

(On April 14, West Palm Beach's Kravis Center is giving Bastos free tickets to see one of her idols, **Mikhail Baryshnikov**, dance with the White Oak Dance Project. Misha said: "Of course

I'll meet her.")

### In the Big Apple

From Key Biscayne art collector **Rosa de la Cruz**, hear this: The paintings of Miami artist **Felix Gonzalez Torres** are occupying four floors at New York's Guggenheim Museum till May 10.

At the exhibition's opening March 2, "New Yorkers were thrilled," said de la Cruz.

### On a jet plane

Off to the Seattle Theater Fest over the weekend were **Joy Alschuler**, chairman of the Beach Chamber of Commerce and senior VP of Jefferson National Bank, and ex-hubby **Al Alschuler**. . . . Their son, **Mark Van Wye**, an '86 grad of Beach High, was directing *The Escape Artist*, a three-act play he wrote about dreams and fears that stick with you even when you think you've found safe haven.

### Lofty perspective

When you're **Bill Cullom**, 14-year president of the Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce, you train yourself to be enthusiastic, no matter what the strife.

Interestingly, despite riots, hurricanes, immigration crises and terrorism on tourists, Cullom's "biggest single disappoint-

ment" during his tenure, he said last week, came in January "when USA Today said [Luciano Pavarotti had been sloppy in his concert]" on the Beach in January.

Harrumphed Cullom: "I had had chill bumps all day during that event; 80 people must have said to me that it could happen

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**Peggy Hurst**, public affairs director at Burdines, returned last Wednesday from Tallahassee, where she chaired her first meeting as newly elected chairwoman of the Florida Retail Federation. (The organization has 9,000 corporate members; Hurst is the first woman chief in its 37 years.) "They're so conditioned, they say, 'Yes, sir,'" she laughed.