

our picks

BY HEATHER BOUZAN

<TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26 – SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22>

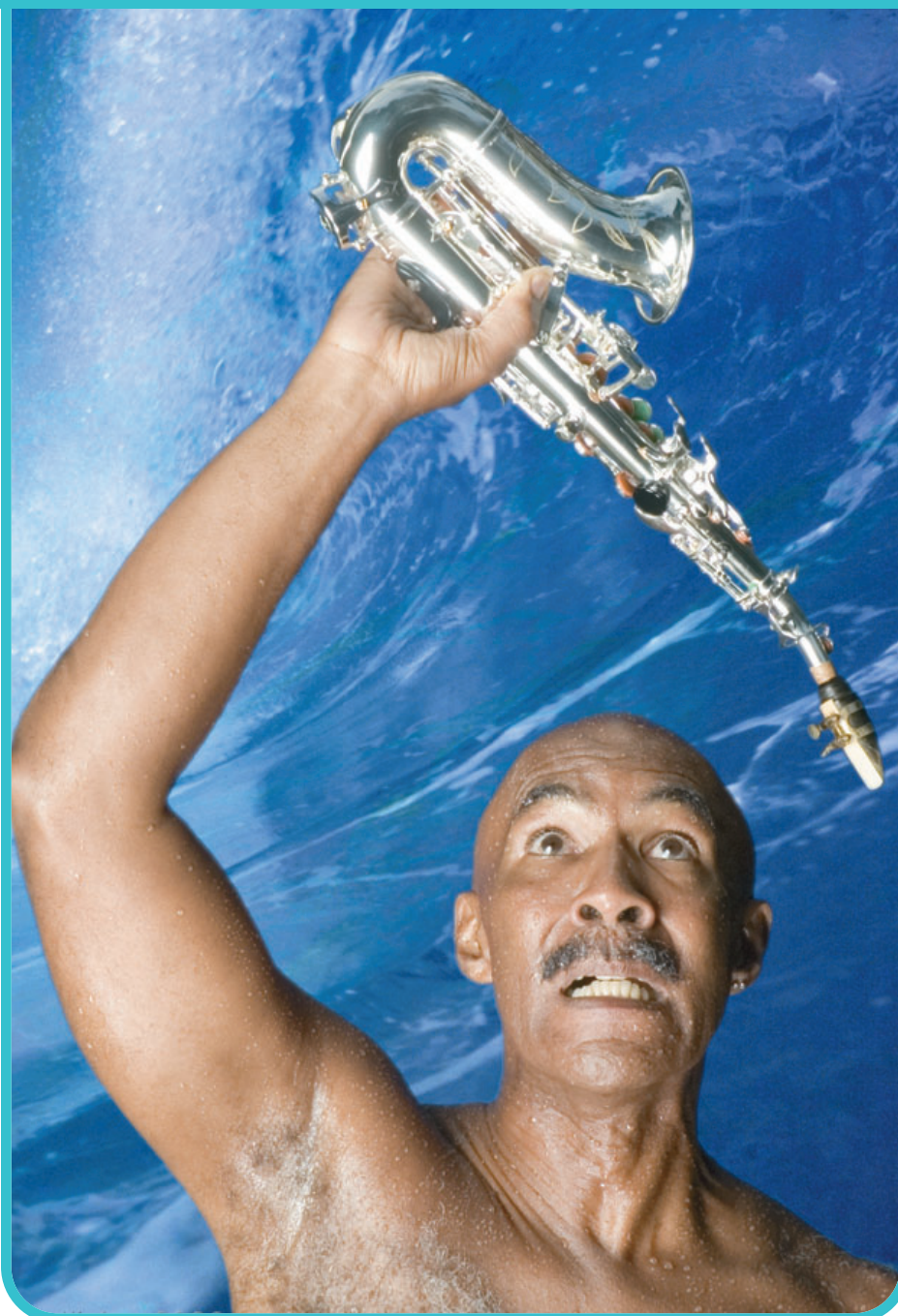
We love it when our city gets theatrical productions before Yankees-loving Broadway does. So we're psyched that the stage version of Nick Hornby's nouveau classic *High Fidelity* is having its world premiere in Boston. (Makes sense, considering that *Fever Pitch* was a Bostonian adaptation of another Hornby novel.) The show tells the story of unlucky-in-love music-store owner Rob Gordon, dumped yet again, who decides to revisit his failed romances to figure out what's going wrong. A few top-10 lists and pop-music references later, you can't help but hope this poor schmuck gets the girl. Keeping things in the neighborhood, a guy from Southie wrote the adaptation. The curtain goes up tonight at the **Colonial Theatre** (106 Boylston Street, Boston, 617.880.2400). Tickets are \$40 to \$112.50; get yours at all Ticketmaster outlets, online at www.broadwayacrossamerica.com, or by calling 617.931.2787.

<FRIDAY & SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 29 & 30>

You can pick your friends, you can pick your nose, but you can't pick . . . oh, never mind. Did you know that only at MIT, you can pick glass pumpkins? For the sixth year, the school's Glass Lab is hosting its **Great Glass Pumpkin Patch**. On September 29, from 5 to 7 p.m., peruse students' and teachers' hand-blown glass creations on MIT's Kresge Oval (48 Mass Ave, Cambridge) — there'll be more than 1000 pumpkins and gourds, and no two are alike. The next day, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. (rain date: Sunday, same time), buy your own for between \$20 and \$200. Proceeds benefit the Lab, an artistic affiliate of the MIT Department of Materials Science and Engineering. For more information, or to find out how the pumpkins take shape, visit web.mit.edu/glasslab/sales_pumpkin.html, or call 617.253.5309.

<MONDAY, OCTOBER 2 & 9>

If, between your villainous boss, the damsel in distress the next cubicle over, and the always-plotting-something mail guy, your Monday morning doesn't provide you with enough drama, check out **Melodrama Mondays** at the **Harvard Film Archive** (24 Quincy Street, Cambridge, 617.495.4700) for some real entertainment. On October 2, they're showing *The Jazz Singer* at 7 p.m. and *The Threepenny Opera*, in German with English subtitles, at 9 p.m. The following week, check out two versions of *Stella Dallas* — the 1925 silent film, accompanied by live piano music, at 7 p.m., and the 1937 remake (with sound) starring Barbara Stanwyck at 9 p.m. Tickets are \$8 for the general public and \$6 for students and seniors; go to both of the evening's screenings and your 9 p.m. ticket is half-off. Visit hcl.harvard.edu/hfa/ for a complete schedule. @



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<WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27 – SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14>

When local jazz musician **Stan Strickland** was taken down by a rogue wave while swimming in Hawaii, he thought he was going to die. When he woke up in the hospital with broken sinuses and a severely bitten tongue, he thought he'd never play again — which was probably worse. Luckily, he's made a full recovery and has turned his life-flashing-in-front-of-his-eyes experience and its aftermath into *Coming Up For Air — an AutoJAZZography*, debuting at the **BCA Plaza Black Box Theatre** at the **Boston Center for the Arts** (539 Tremont Street, Boston). Written and directed by Jon Lipsky and conceptualized and performed by Strickland himself, the one-man show is dominated, not just underscored, by music. Movement, song, and narrative blend seamlessly together, and Strickland plays sax, flute, drums, and keyboard with the grace and skill we've come to expect of him. Call 617.933.8600 or visit www.bostontheatrescene.com for tickets, which are \$25.