

WashingtonWeekend

Top Picks



"Meditation: Fruit," an oil on paper, is part of the exhibit of works by Rose Folsom at Strathmore Hall.

ART

Writing has been used expressively as well as communicatively from time immemorial — especially in the Far and Middle East — and now calligrapher Rose Folsom creates sinuous, abstract forms that seem to jump and skip in Strathmore Hall's **Rose Folsom:**

Written Paintings. The moving lines and the shapes they leave in their wake work together to speak a new language. "Today we are surrounded by words that state facts; that demand something from us. I paint words that allow for wonder and mystery," the artist says. Visit the exhibit to see a new take on the ancient art of calligraphy, the art of fine handwriting. Strathmore Hall, 10701 Rockville Pike, North Bethesda. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays; 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Wednesdays; 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturdays. Closed Sundays through Dec. 30. Free. 301/581-5146.

— Joanna Shaw-Eagle

MOVIES

The American Film Institute Silver Theatre anticipates Christmas with a trio of revivals. **The Muppet Christmas Carol**, a 1992 revamp of the Charles Dickens prototype, continues daily through Sunday. Frank Capra's 1946 classic **It's a Wonderful Life**, starring James Stewart as the small-town family man whose morale needs a rescue effort on a desperate Christmas Eve, begins daily screenings Saturday and continues through Christmas Day. **A Christmas Story**, a 1983 domestic comedy derived from one of Jean Shepherd's radio memoirs, also begins an eight-day engagement on Saturday. Tickets are \$7.50 to \$9.25. 8633 Colesville Road, Silver Spring. 301/495-6720 or www.afi.com/silver.

— Gary Arnold

CHRISTMAS EVENTS

2005 Christmas Pageant of Peace

■ Nightly concerts along with the National Christmas tree. 6-8 p.m. Monday-Friday; 5-8 p.m. Saturday-Sunday. Through Dec. 23. Free. The Ellipse, 15th and E streets NW. 202/208-1631.

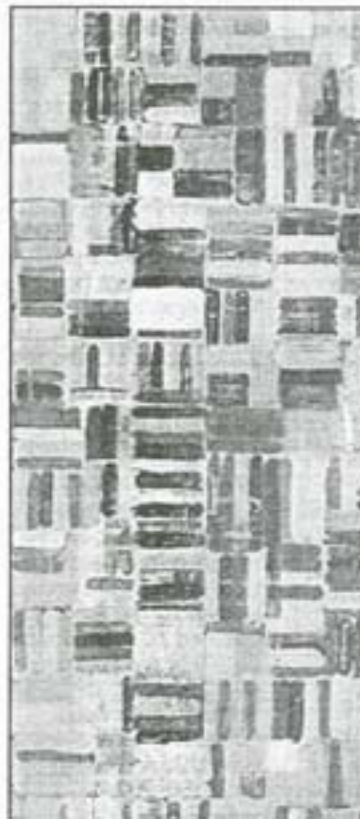
Norwegian Christmas

■ Ninth annual Christmas celebration at Union Station featuring a Christmas tree, a model train display and many more holiday attractions. Times vary. Through Jan. 8. Free. 50 Massachusetts Ave. NE. 202/289-1908.

CHRISTMAS CONCERTS

Christ Episcopal Church of Rockville

107 S. Washington St., Rockville. 301/493-9283.



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