



## STANDING ROOM ONLY

« Break out the lighters and the Aquanet and party like it's 1987 again when Bret Michaels, **C.C. Deville and the rest of Poison** appear with their fellow hair-metal icons in Cinderella at 7 p.m. at Nissan Pavilion, 7800 Cellar Door Drive, Bristow, Va. Tickets are \$18 to \$38. Call 800-551-7328 or visit [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com).

## LISTENING POSTS

### Natasinh Dancers & Musicians, with Inpanh Thavonekham

Kennedy Center Millennium Stage, 2700 F St. NW, Washington; 6 p.m.; Free; 202-467-4600

✓ **Nickelback, with Chevelle**  
Merriweather Post Pavilion, 10475 Little Patuxent Pkwy., Columbia; 6:30 p.m.; \$29.50; 410-715-5550

### "Summer Sounds at Strathmore" — Trout Fishing in America

The Music Center at Strathmore, Gudelsky Concert Pavilion, 5301 Tuckerman Lane, North Bethesda; 7 p.m.; Free; Call 301-581-5200

**Jethro Tull's Ian Anderson**  
Wolf Trap, 1551 Trap Rd., Vienna; 8 p.m.; \$22 and \$40; Call 877-965-3872

**Naked Grace, with Honeychuck and Casey Stratton**  
Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E, Vienna; 8 p.m.; \$10; Call 703-255-1566

**From Monument to Masses, with Saxton Shore and Stamen & Pistils**  
Black Cat, 1811 14th St. NW, Washington; 9 p.m. \$8; Call 202-667-7960

## ON STAGE

"**Love's Labor's Lost**" — 7:30 p.m.  
Shakespeare Theatre Company, 450 7th St. N.W., Washington; \$14.25 to \$71.25; 202-547-1122

"**Assassins**" — 7:30 p.m.  
Signature Theatre, 3806 S. Four Mile Run Drive, Arlington; \$31 to \$55; 703-820-9771

"**The Complete History of America (abridged)**" by **The Reduced Shakespeare Company** — 7:30 p.m.  
Kennedy Center Terrace Theater, 2700 F St. N.W., Washington; \$40-\$45; 202-467-4600

"**Shear Madness**" — 8 p.m.  
Kennedy Center Theater Lab, 2700 F St. N.W., Washington; \$34-\$45; 202-467-4600

**Flip Orley (comic hypnotist)** — 8:30 p.m.  
DC Improv, 1140 Connecticut Ave. N.W., Washington; \$15; 202-296-7008

## DO SOMETHING DIFFERENT

### WALKING TOUR

"**The Most Haunted Houses**" — 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.  
Lafayette Square (meet outside Farragut West Metro, 17th St. exit), Washington; \$10; 202-484-1565

### LECTURE

"**Julius Shulman: Modernity and the Metropolis**" — 6:30 to 8 p.m.  
National Building Museum, 401 F St. N.W., Washington; \$17/\$12 members/\$10 students, Registration required; 202-272-2448

### FILM

"**Sisters in Cinema — Maya Angelou**" — "Down the Delta" — 7 to 9 p.m.  
National Museum of Women in the Arts, 1250 New York Ave. N.W., Washington; \$5/\$4 members, seniors, and students; 202-783-7370

**indieWIRE Undiscovered Gems — "Red Doors"** — 8 p.m.  
Avalon Theatre, 5612 Connecticut Ave. N.W., Washington; \$9.75/\$7 children, students, and seniors; 202-966-6000



E-mail us your faves: [btrutt@dceaminer.com](mailto:btrutt@dceaminer.com)

## ON STAGE » THE EDDIE LOUNGE SHOW

# D.C. hosts first Fringe Festival

'Lounge Show' not perfect, but part of festival charm

By **Doug Krentzlin**  
Special to The Examiner

Washington is currently hosting its inaugural Capital Fringe Festival. First initiated in Edinburgh, a fringe festival is basically a theatrical smorgasbord, consisting of a variety of short plays and stage acts. In this case, there are over 100 offerings presented in a variety of venues throughout the D.C. area.

One of these is "The Eddie Lounge Show," which is being performed at the Warehouse Next Door. Conceived by Ed Spitzberg, who plays the title role, this is an affectionate parody of Las Vegas lounge acts.

Eddie is a smarmy lounge lizard who performs with his band, The Cosmos: Mo Heeto (Alex Romain) on keyboard, Vern Mooth (Weymouth Spence II) on guitar and Davey Lounge (Dave Spitzberg) on drums. They are aided and abetted by bartender and sometimes singer, Gina Tonic (Melissa Romain), and club owner Rocco Ruppert (Josh Adler).

"The Eddie Lounge Show" even has something that vaguely resembles a story. Mo has a crush on Gina, which may or may not be reciprocal, while, in the meantime, Eddie is hoping to parlay his one-night appearance at Rocco's club into a permanent gig. (Okay, so it's not Shakespeare, but then "Love's Labor's Lost," which is playing at the Shakespeare Theatre, doesn't have much of a story, either.)

Mostly, the show consists of Eddie's music set. There are some legitimate night club numbers ("New York, New York," "Just a Gigolo"), but the funniest moments are when Eddie does some wonderfully cheesy lounge covers of rock standards like Elvis' "A Little Less Conversation" and Springsteen's "Coming to America." (Eddie is so clueless that he makes Bill Murray's lounge singer look like the Second Coming of Sinatra.)

Spitzberg has a fine singing voice, as does Romain and Adler,



Eddie and the Cosmos — Courtesy photo

who, in one of the show's highlights, channels the Walrus of Love himself, Barry White, and warbles "Can't Get Enough of Your Love, Baby." (Eddie even coerces members of the audience into participating in some of the numbers.)

Running at about 40 minutes, "The Eddie Lounge Show" is the stage equivalent of those comedy and musical shorts they used to show at the movies before TV came along. It may not be perfect, but it's entertaining and the rough edges are a major part of fringe's charm.

### IF YOU GO

"The Eddie Lounge Show" runs through July 29.

» **Venue:** The Warehouse Next Door, 1017 7th Street, Washington, D.C.

» **Times:** 10:15 p.m. Wednesday & Saturday

» **Tickets:** \$15

» **More info:** 866-811-4111 or [www.capfringe.com](http://www.capfringe.com)

## DINING OUT

# Café Mileto is 'go-to' place for soft-crust pizza

By **Alexandra Greeley**  
Special to The Examiner

Wood smoke aromas hang in the air, and passersby must think "barbecue." Actually, what they sniff is the smoke from Café Mileto's wood-burning pizza oven, and in Germantown, this trattoria is probably the "go-to" place for soft-crust pizzas with a good choice of toppings.

Several years and a change in ownership have altered this casual eatery, leaving it with a pasta- and pizza-heavy menu and a nonexistent Sunday brunch, one of the reasons two of us wanted to return for a reprise. We thought back to the brunch buffet of years ago, with its freshly baked sweet breads, Tuscan French toast, and eggs Benedict, and felt deprived to find just the regular menu. The menu hasn't changed, the waiter assured us, though, of course, the place looks different, as it is now minus the hanging plants and pale colors. Yes, it's been awhile since we've dropped in, and change happens, but sometime the good old times are, well, pretty darned good.

Since pizza is the star player here, we decided that two pies for sharing made sense. As a preamble, we ordered the fried mozzarella sticks (\$6.49) with a dipping sauce of homemade marinara, and we found that the heavily breaded cheese sticks were just that, heavy breading fried very crisp. Except for a few drops, the cheese had vanished, perhaps vaporized by the heat of the fryer, leaving behind empty shells of crust.

While the house-made bread may be warm, it did not have the dense texture of Italian bread. And where was the dark green olive oil for dunking, my companion asked, peeling off the lid from one of the handful of plastic butter tublets?

Our pizza orders were more on target, and note that all pies are 10-inches round, unless you pay extra for the 14-inch size. The quattro formaggi (\$9.49) definitely dripped with melted cheeses—Parmesan, Romano, fontina, and mozzarella—but if I'd had a choice, I'd have swapped out the Parmesan and Romano for the more potent Gorgonzola and provolone cheeses. And the other pie, the Puttanesca (\$9.45) with its scattering of quartered artichoke hearts would have benefited from more olives.

For dessert we opted for the obviously Italian tiramisu, the cake of one thousand variations, and found this one so heavily drenched in liquor that all other flavors were eclipsed, er, drowned. The cheesecake with its dual crust of crumbs and strawberry preserves drizzled on top, wins a thumbs up.

Café Mileto, 18056 Mateny Rd., Germantown, Md. 301-515-9370. Hours: Sun.-Thurs., 11:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Fri., Sat., until 10 p.m. Major credit cards.