



Feet First Presents:
Queen Salmon
 the third in the

H U M A N
N A T U R E

Series



Feet First's Human Nature Series was generated in 1978 with the first performance of *Deer People*. A wholly original and powerful brand of theater, expressive of a new relationship between humans and nature, emerged full-blown with Human Nature's 1985 tour in Northern California. A second tour, in the Pacific Northwest, was followed by *Oppre\$\$ion*, in 1989. Billed as a dance comedy, this latter production brought humor and political expression more directly into the forefront of the style of the series. *Queen Salmon* employs many of the same elements, adds several more, and takes Human Nature into a new territory, somewhere between *Oklahoma* and *Ecotopia*.

H U M A N



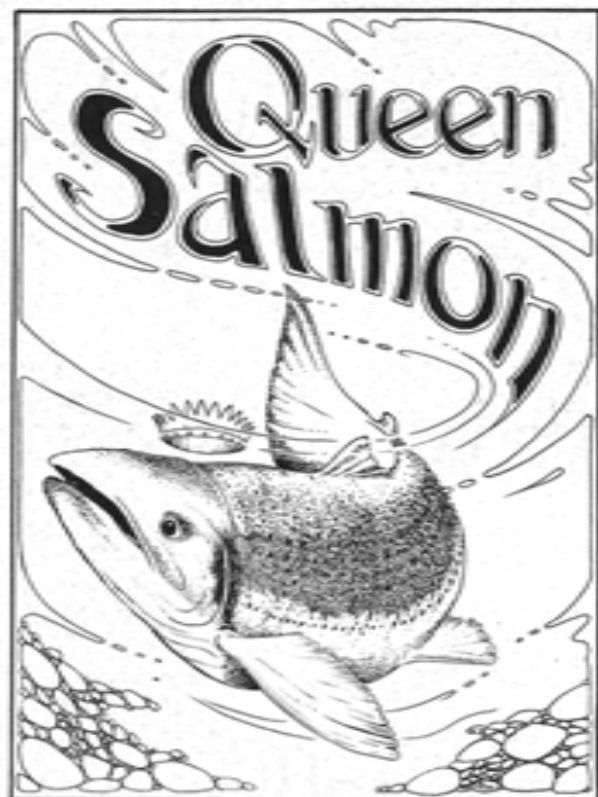
N A T U R E

FOR INFORMATION:

Human Nature

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**A Biologically Explicit
 Musical Comedy
 for People of
 Several Species**



Queen Salmon is the true-to-life story of the often heroic, equally comic efforts by people in a remote northwestern California river valley to save their once great salmon runs from extinction.

Salmon is a symbol throughout the Pacific Northwest of the power and majesty of nature. Their unerring instinct to return after an oceanic odyssey to their home streams to reproduce and die is a constant source of wonder and humility for humans. The decline of salmon due to misuse of the watersheds they depend on as well as overharvest far out to sea is a story being told, in different forms, all over North America and the planet. But the story of Queen Salmon adds another element—that of people, everywhere, who refuse to accept the decline as inevitable and are taking up the challenge of restoring the health of the places they live.

The excitement of this work as well as the obstacles to success are the heart of Queen Salmon. Perhaps never before has musical comedy served such purpose. Queen Salmon uses music, dance, and outrageous humor to point directly at the transformation of society. Through the portrayal of the trials and tribulations of a colorful panorama of characters in a small, rural community, we get

glimpses of a new human possibility. Here are loggers and hippies, backpackers and cowboys, biologists and businessmen, even the infamous spotted owl, all stirred together with salmon into a thick stew that magically and hilariously adds up to a community.

The performers themselves are members of communities like the one they portray. Many are drawn from the ranks of people directly involved in the hands-on work of restoration. Their spirit lends the strength of authenticity.

Queen Salmon is, in the end, a love story — of female to male, human for salmon and of people for the place they live. It reveals a new possibility for human interaction with the natural world. It is inspirational, funny and fun.

Queen Salmon is the third in Feet First's Human Nature series. Here are a few comments about the first two productions, *Opres\$ion* and *Human Nature*.



These dancers command your laughter and wrench your heart.
— Leslie Craig
Redwood Record



Dance events aimed directly at the Gods...
— David Gere, Dance Critic
East Bay Express



Human Nature is Ecotopia in action.
— Earnest Callenbach
Author, *Ecotopia*



These folks can dance. And with an exuberance and spirit palpably shared... (they) thrive on soul, on that ancient cellular connection to dance as a communal celebration.

— Jim Dodge
(Autho, *Flap*)
for the
Northcoast View

This group is a shining example of the power of art to impact a community while entertaining and inspiring a wider audience. Watching (them) is almost like watching a tribal event.

— Joan Schirle, Dell'Arte Players
for the Eureka Times-Standard