

THEATER

Cinnabar Theater Presents Mark Twain's "Is He Dead?"



Stanford University Professor Shelley Fishkin will be on Sunday, April 11.

Tickets are \$20 to \$28. Order tickets by telephone at 707.763.8920 from 10 AM to 4 PM Monday through Friday or purchase online at cinnabartheater.org or at the door. Cinnabar Theater is at 3333 Petaluma Boulevard North.

This production of "Is He Dead?" is a project of The Big Read, an initiative of the National Endowment for the Arts in partnership with the Institute of Museum and Library Services and Arts Midwest. It is sponsored by Bergin Glass. This year, The Big Read focuses on the works of Mark Twain. Other local Big Read-related events include building a recreation of Huck-leberry Finn's raft by The Friends of the Petaluma River and painting a picket fence at the Petaluma Arts Center.

Set in Paris in 1846, a talented, but struggling landscape painter, is convinced by his bohemian friends that faking his own death will inflate the value of his art. The artist disappears, only to reappear as his imaginary twin sister.

Written in 1898, this Mark Twain comedy was rediscovered in 2002 by scholar Shelley Fisher Fishkin, who

found the manuscript at the University of California, Berkeley.

"Is He Dead?" had its Broadway debut in 2007. It was adapted by David Ives and is directed by Elizabeth Craven and Barton Smith. Performances will be March 26 through April 17 at 8 PM on Fridays, Saturdays, and Thursday, April 15, and at 2 PM on Sundays. A special post-show discussion with

Two Murder Mystery Comedies at Casa

Casa Grande High School's "The Attempted Murder of Peggy Sweetwater" and "Murder Me Once" spoof conventional murder mystery styles for an evening of fun.

Both of these hilarious comedy murder mysteries were written by John Rustan and

Frank Semerano. They will be performed at Casa Grande's New Multi-Use (NMU) auditorium beginning March 5. The plays premiered in Los Angeles to outstanding reviews and have since been published and produced nationally.

The evening of two one-act plays will be staged on Friday and Saturday evenings,

March 5, 6, 12, and 13 at 7 PM, with Sunday matinees March 7, 14, at 1 PM.

"The Attempted Murder of Peggy Sweetwater" recalls '30s British drawing room mysteries with convoluted plots and self-congratulatory deductive reasoning. Three bumbling amateur "detectives" on a Banana Plantation in South America struggle to find the culprit trying to kill the hapless Peggy Sweetwater, who shows up on their doorstep with a knife in her back muttering a laundry list of clues. "Murder Me Once" concerns the sudden suspicious death of radio minister and racketeer, Coins Fontaine. Is it murder or suicide? It's obviously a job for hard-boiled detective, Spuds Idaho, who encounters three slinking Femmes Fatales, an imposing housekeeper, a thug, an Irish Lieutenant named Brogue and



Peggy Sweetwater (Kim Kaiser), struggles to remove a man-eating anaconda from around her neck while Edward Llewellyn (Nate Hromalik) and Miss Priscilla Saunders (Cordelia Kritz) look on in the *The Attempted Murder of Peggy Sweetwater*, one of two comedy murder mysteries presented at Casa Grande High School.



Cinnabar Theater

The Dinosaurs of Improv
 Improv veterans promise mayhem, nonsense and hilarity.
 Mondays: Mar 1, Apr 5 at 7:30





Crazy For You
 With live music by PATSY CLINE and the BODACIOUS BOBCATS. Gourmet dinner, specialty drinks, live and silent auctions & more.
 March 12 at 6:00

Is He Dead?
 by Mark Twain; adapted by David Ives
 North Bay premiere!
 How do you become famous? Fake your death & become your sister!
 A project of the Big Read.
 March 26 - April 17





Not A Genuine Black Man
 Written and performed by Brian Copeland
 March 29 at 7:30

3333 Petaluma Blvd N, Petaluma
 707.763.8920
www.cinnabartheater.org



Private Eye, Spuds Idaho (Ian Runge) is surrounded by Saphron (Ashley Slack), Myra (Jennifer Biancalana), and Chantel (Samantha Roualdes), in MURDER ME ONCE, one of two comedy murder mysteries presented at Casa Grande High School.

his assistant Officer Proverbs. Nearly everyone had a motive to kill Coins Fontaine. Spuds Idaho is the prototypical hard-boiled gumshoe, à la Phillip Marlowe.

Drama Teacher, John Rustan, directs an ensemble cast which includes Casa Grande students Jennifer Biancalana, Neil Dizon, Nate Hromalik, Ian Runge, Kasie Pullan, Morgan McNeese, Ashley Slack, Kim Kaiser, Lindsay Knight, Jonathan Brookman,

Grace Welch, Cassidy Kamada, Cordelia Kritz, Macile Dietrick, Samantha Roualdes, Tyler Longenbaugh, and Katie Wigglesworth. Many other Casa Grande students are involved in the technical elements of the production.

Tickets are at the door: \$6 for adults, \$5 for students, faculty, seniors, and children.

For more information, call John at 707.763.7773 or 707.536.6276 or email jrustan@pet.k12.ca.us.