

Comedy Summer at Cinnabar

A full summer of comedy awaits you at Cinnabar. Begin with Rick Reynolds' one-person show "Only The Truth is Funny: Mid-Life at the Oasis" – a show *The San Francisco Chronicle* has called "belly laughs for the heart." "Only The Truth is Funny" runs June 19 through August 6 with all curtains at 8 PM. Tickets are \$22.

On July 20 at 7:30 PM, Dave Pokorny returns to host "Comics Stripped IV" – a hybrid between NPR's *This American Life* and Woody Allen's *Broadway Danny Rose*. In this show, prominent comics tell great stories about their lives and experiences. Tickets are \$30.

July 31 and August 1 at

8 PM, for two evenings only, Will Durst will premiere his one-person show called "Uncertain Times Call for Uncertain Leaders! Enter: The Lieutenant Governor from the State of Confusion". Fresh from the triumph of his acclaimed 2007 one-man, off-Broadway show, "The All American Sport of Bipartisan Bashing", Durst has his quiver full of fresh topical barbs. Tickets are \$30.

Finally, beginning in August, Cinnabar will host several evenings of improv comedy. Tickets will be just \$10. For dates, details and tickets, call 707.763.8920 or log on to cinnabartheater.org. Cinnabar Theater is at 3333 Petaluma Boulevard North in Petaluma.



Sonoma actresses Joan Felciano (left) and Liz Jahren appear in "WELL", an autobiographical, multi-character serio-comedy that explores issues of individual wellness and the sweet, tender and sometimes contentious relationship between a forward-thinking mother and her playwright daughter. The show runs through July 12 at the 6th Street Playhouse in Santa Rosa. Call 707.523.4185 or visit 6thstreetplayhouse.com. Photo by Eric Chazankin.

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THEATER



Theater Project Studies Our Habits

This month, the Walking Elephant Theatre Company will premiere its first theatrical production, "the HABILIT project", at six different venues in the Bay Area. Walking Elephant was founded by Bryan Glenn Bryson, whose "Petaluma River Anthology" production for Cinnabar Theater celebrated Petaluma's Sesquicentennial last year.

Like the "Petaluma River Anthology", "the HABILIT project" has been created from interviews conducted by actors 10 to 17 years old. The theme is that humanity is at a critical threshold where breakdown or breakthrough depends on our ability to change our habits.

Twenty-five young actors spoke with addicts, behavioral psychologists, environmentalists, and many "creatures of habit" about the habits that rule our lives. The script is taken, word for word, from the interviews. The actors portray the people they interviewed based on observation of their vocal rhythms and physical mannerisms.

The portrayals are interspersed with original songs and movement pieces. Songs were written by cast members, Brian Glenn Bryson, Mark Nichols, Mark Growden, and Flatt Lonesome mem-

bers Sheila Groves, Charlie Mooney and Layne Bowen. Choreographers include Richard Strozzi-Heckler, Elizabeth Stafford, Jean Grant-Sutton, Megan Watt, Jennifer Jaffe, and Hillary Bensky. Music Directors are Julie Lewis, Sheila Groves, Charlie Mooney, Layne Bowen and Mark Nichols. Assistant Director and Production Manager is Rebekah Rentzel.

A documentary of "the HABILIT project" will be entered into film festivals around the world. Student Cinematographers are Randall Brown, Molly Haas, Kian Crowley, and Jake Edwards.

Interviewees include recovering addict Vicki Justice, UC Berkeley brain scientist Dr. Lucia Jacobs, SSU Professor of Environmental Studies Alexandra von Meier, Martial Arts Master and author Richard Strozzi-Heckler, SSU Professor Georgia Leyden, COTS Executive Director John Records, couples therapists Corisa and Sid Aaronson, internationally-known playwright and director John O'Keefe, behavioral psychologist Dr. Linda Winter, homeless recovering addicts Gwen and Nick, tobacco addiction educator Lynn Zimmerman and dietitian Melanie Larson of Kaiser Permanente, business coach Audrey Seymour,

Singer/Musician/Composer and addict Mark Growden, Mind/Body/Spirit writer Pamela Bell, Healthy Habits coach Kathy Nichols, Yoga Master Jean Grant-Sutton, Petaluma Health Center Medical Director Dr. Nurit Licht, tri-athlete Mercedes Murolo, dancer Megan Watt, Lynda Beth Unkless' "Gifts of Aging" group, ex-convict and recovering addict Phil Parfitt, teen smoker Conor McCullaugh, and recovering smokers William Sleeth, Mark Nichols, and Sharlyn Klein (and her supportive boyfriend- Joe "The Dood" Elwick).

Performances begin at the Walking Elephant Theater - 25 Petaluma Blvd South, Space D, in Petaluma (707.778.6060) - on July 10, 11 and 12 at 8 PM. The production then moves to Aquas Café, The Phoenix Theater, Curtain Call Theatre in Monte Rio, Cinnabar Theater, and the San Francisco Theater Festival. Short outdoor teasers of the production will be presented in Petaluma's Theatre District on July 13, 16, and 22.

For more information and performance dates and times, call Brian Glenn Bryson at 707.795.7675, e-mail bbryson68@yahoo.com, or visit thehabitproject.blogspot.com.