

# THEATER

## Cinnabar Welcomes "The Clowns"

The moving opera "I Pagliacci" will run March 3rd through the 25th at the Cinnabar Theater in Petaluma. Set in Italy, the opera is the well-known and much-loved story of the brokenhearted clown, forced to hide his pain for the amusement of his audience. Canio, the leader of a troupe of commedia players and star clown, is married to the luscious and much younger Nedda, the company's leading lady. Discovering that his young wife has taken a lover from the town, Canio's heart is crushed, yet he must play the clown. Finally, in scene of great passion and desperation, Canio's pain breaks through the mask with tragic result.

The Cinnabar's "I Pagliacci" will be brought to life by guest stage director Michael Mohammed. Mohammed has worked throughout the Bay Area as a director, choreographer and performer. He is on

staff with the San Francisco Conservatory of Music Opera Department and Peninsula Teen Opera and has created productions for SF Fringe Festival, Oakland Opera Theater, Pocket Opera, BASOTI, Goat Hall Productions and the Lesbian/Gay Chorus of San Francisco. He studied dance at Dance Theater of Harlem, Alvin Ailey School and Evansville Dance Theater. He has choreographed for Broadway by the Bay's Youth Theater Conservatory, Berkeley Opera, Children's Center for Dance Education and SFCM. Michael holds degrees from Columbia University and SFCM.

The exquisite score is conducted under the baton of Cinnabar's resident Music Director, Nina Shuman. Delle Arte expert Benjamin Dziuba brings authenticity to Pagliacci's play-within-a-play.

The cast features tenor

George Arana, baritone Todd Donovan, baritone William Neely, soprano Erina Newkirk and tenor Kevin Courtemanche as Canio. The cast also includes 15 adult choristers and 11 young singers from the Cinnabar Young Rep program. The opera will be presented in English.

There are 8 PM performances on March 3rd, 4th, 10th, 18th, 24th and 25th. Performances on March 15th and 22nd begin at 7:30 PM. Matinees beginning at 2 PM are offered on the 12th and 19th. Some cabaret seating will be available.

Tickets are \$32 general admission and \$30 for seniors and students. To purchase tickets, call the Cinnabar box office at 707.763.8920 or log onto [cinnabartheater.org](http://cinnabartheater.org). The Cinnabar Theater is located at 3333 Petaluma Boulevard North.

## Dance Palace Presents "The Seagull"

The Dance Palace Theatre Group will present Thomas Kilroy's "The Seagull", an adaptation of Chekhov's play set in Ireland, on Friday and Saturday, March 24th and 25th, at 7:30 PM.

Chekhov described "The Seagull" as a comedy, although it deals with some quite tragic events. Thomas Kilroy's version is true to the original, threading a delightfully thin line between comedy and tragedy. His

script will be combined with the poetry of W.B Yeats. The performances will be directed by Tina Taylor, with musical direction by Laura Alderdice.

Tickets are \$5 and will be available at the door. The Dance Palace is located at the corner of 5th and B Streets in Point Reyes Station. For more information, call 415.663.1075, email [dance@horizoncable.com](mailto:dance@horizoncable.com), or visit [dancepalace.org](http://dancepalace.org) on the web.



**Pagliacci**  
March 3-25

**CINNABAR THEATER**

707.763.8920  
[www.cinnabartheater.org](http://www.cinnabartheater.org)  
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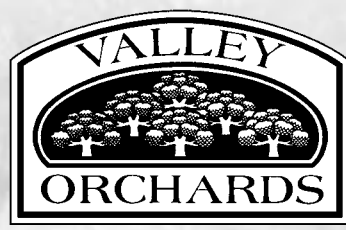
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