

Men's Group October Newsletter

We had a good meeting tonight. The dinner at Sweet Tomato was also good. Here it is - Hot Off the Press, so to speak:

September 30, 2006

Seeing that we moved our meeting to the 5th Saturday, I hope that didn't inconvenience anyone. We had a good meeting with a nice sized group attending. During the month most of us thought the NCT play, The War at Home, was great. During the meeting, we discussed possible future events and some are suggested below:

Upcoming Planned Events

Sunday, October 1 a day trip to Jack London Square in Oakland. We will be leaving by BART: N CNC 11:03; CONCD 11:07; PHILL 11:12; W CRK 11:15; LAFAY 11:19. This will give us plenty of time to find the nearest eating establishment when we arrive after a short bus trip.

Thursday, October 5 at 8 PM Onstage Theater in Pleasant Hill returns with its new season. The first play is Belles about six sisters who live all over the US. Phone calls connect them. One ends up in the hospital from eating bad tuna and from there the comedy unfolds. Tickets for Thursdays are \$7 (cheap) or a season ticket for 5 Thursday shows is \$25. Our group has really enjoyed attending these reasonably priced shows for the past few years. Helen Means runs the theater and always serves cookies, juice, coffee or wine at intermissions. You can't go wrong for the price. The plays are as follows:

- Belles Oct. 5
- Thanksmisgivings Nov. 16
- The Lucky O'Learys Feb. 8
- The Gingerbread Lady Mar. 22
- An unnamed final show May 31

Checks made payable to ONSTAGE THEATER, mail to: 2050 Oak Park Blvd., Pleasant Hill, CA 94523. Allow two weeks for processing. Phone: 925-944-9006. If ordering, be sure to include the dates above on your form.

Saturday, October 14 at 6 PM a benefit for the RCC, the annual Bachelor Party & Auction. For more information, go to www.RCCBachelorParty.com. There are many interesting items to be auctioned as well as a raffle.

Sunday, October 22 a trip to Sacramento on the train. The 748 Capitols train leaves Martinez at 9:44 and arrives in Sacramento at 10:55. From the station, we can go into the Old Town area easily. Some may want to visit the Railroad Museum. We will probably

take some sort of water trip on the river. Eating is a must! There are trains returning to Martinez at 4:40, 5:40, 7:10 & 9:10.

Sunday, November 5 at 2 PM Convenience, the third play of the season at the New Conservatory Theater in San Francisco. Those riding BART usually meet in the 3rd car from the front. If the train is a short one, we meet in the 2nd car. The schedule is as follows: Bay Pt 11:57, N Con 12:03, Concd 12:07, PHill 12:12, W Crk 12:15, Lafay 12:19. We arrive at Civic Center Station about 12:55. That gives us time to have a cup of coffee and a donut before the play begins. The season schedule is as follows:

- Kiss of the Spider Woman Aug 13 boring! or OK (depending)
- The War at Home Sep 24 EXCELLENT!
- Convenience Nov 5
- Farm Boys Jan 14
- The Dying Gaul Jan 28
- Terre Haute Apr 1
- Take Me Out May 13
- Legends Jun 3
- Extra: A Queer Carol Dec 9, Saturday 8 PM

(In this show, Scrooge is portrayed as a high-society interior designer. Bob Cratchit is his assistant who needs to buy AIDS meds for his lover, Tiny Tim.)

If you want to reach the NCT for information call 415-861-8972 (Wed - Sun afternoons) or www.nctcsf.org.

The San Francisco Conservatory of Music

If you are interested in fine music, the following is a schedule of performances. Most are at 50 Oak Street (near Market & Van Ness). The cost is nominal or free.

SAN FRANCISCO CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC 2006-07 PUBLIC PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE All concerts will be held in San Francisco at 50 Oak Street (between Van Ness and Franklin Streets, one block north of Market Street) unless otherwise noted. Costs are noted with a * when applicable. For complete detailed listings and information, please visit www.sfcm.edu or call (415) 503-6275.

SUMMARY OF PERFORMANCES BY DATE: October 9, 8:00 p.m. Conservatory Orchestra (@ Herbst Theater)* October 11, 7:30 p.m. Master Class - Stephen Hough, piano* October 12, 2:00-4:00 p.m. Blueprint: Master Class, Mario Boivin, percussion October 13, 3:00 p.m. Composers Talk Shop: Robert Cogan & François Rose October 14, 8:00 p.m. Blueprint: Fertility Rites* October 24, 8:00 p.m. Baroque Ensemble: music of Bach, Telemann and Vivaldi October 26, 7:30 p.m. Master Class - Midori, violin* November 6, 8:00 p.m. Scott Foglesong, piano* November 7, 8:00 p.m. Conservatory Orchestra (@ Herbst Theater)* November 8, 8:00 p.m. Baroque Ensemble: G. F. Handel Arias and Duets November 15, 3:30 p.m. Orchestral Workshop, Donald Runnicles, conductor November 17, 3:00 p.m. Composers Talk Shop: Bruce Mather & Jacques

Desjardins November 18, 8:00 p.m. BluePrint: Volupté (@Old First Church)* November 27, 8:00 p.m. Mario Guarneri, trumpet, with the Guarneri Jazz Quartet* November 28, 7:30 p.m. Master Class - Joel Krosnick, cello November 30, 8:00 p.m. Concert - Joel Krosnick, cello* December 3, 2:00 p.m. Jean-Michel Fonteneau, Dana Putnam Fonteneau, John Sackett* December 9, 8:00 p.m. Conservatory Orchestra - Alasdair Neale, guest conductor* December 11, 7:30 p.m. Master Class - Kim Kashkashian, viola December 12, 8:00 p.m. Concert - Kim Kashkashian, viola* December 15, 3:30 p.m. Orchestral Workshop, Carl St. Clair, conductor December 16, 1:00 p.m. & 4:00 p.m. Conservatory Opera - Hansel and Gretel December 17, 1:00 p.m. & 4:00 p.m. Conservatory Opera - Hansel and Gretel January 30, 7:30 p.m. Master Class - Seymour Lipkin, piano February 1, 8:00 p.m. Concert - Seymour Lipkin, piano* February 4, 2:00 p.m. Jack Van Geem, percussion* February 5, 8:00 p.m. Paul Hersh, piano* February 6, 7:30 p.m. Master Class - Kai Gleusteen, violin* (more on line)

Other Events in the Planning:

- A return to Sausalito
- A day trip to Half Moon Bay for lunch and window shopping
- Ghirardelli Square
- A ferry trip from Vallejo (the prices just went up)
- A ferry trip from Jack London Square to SF
- a casino trip
- a day trip to the Russian River
- a visit to the newly remodeled Cliff House

Our next meeting at the Center will be on Saturday, October 28 at 4 PM (just in time for Halloween). Following our next meeting, we plan to have dinner at the Claim Jumper, a place we haven't tried before. Be prepared for large helpings.

John Duley