

Premiere performance of "The Odyssey" to be presented; members to then depart to take part in Dubrovnik Theatre Festival in Yugoslavia

July 9, 1982

Two premiere performances of "The Odyssey," an adaptation of Homer's story, will be presented at 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, July 23 and 24, in the UCSD Theatre at the University of California, San Diego.

Tickets for the two performances are \$5 and will be sold at the door only. The UCSD Theatre is located on the Warren campus behind the bookstore and adjacent to Gilman Drive.

Following the UCSD performances, the five cast members, the assistant director and production designer will depart for Dubrovnik, Yugoslavia, to take part in the Dubrovnik Theatre Festival August 1 through 8. They are going as the invited guests of the festival and as the only American company participating in the international theatre festival .

"The Odyssey" was adapted from Homer's epic work by UCSD Professor of Drama Michael Addison and by San Diego playwright Sandy Edelman. According to Addison, the play is an "episodic and irreverent reenactment of Homer's story punctuated by arguments among the central characters about what parts of the story are really important."

The production will employ masks and puppets and will be enhanced by a musical score created by Peter Ward, a UCSD graduate student in music.

The cast and the crew of "The Odyssey" are all associated with UCSD. Addison is directing the production and plays the central role of Odysseus. Arthur Wagner, professor of drama, plays the part of the prophet Tiresias; Steven Pearson, assistant professor of drama, plays Telemachos, the son of Odysseus; Robyn Hunt, visiting lecturer in drama, plays Phellnophy, the wife of Odysseus, and Eva Weillgat, a graduate student in drama, plays Athena.

Rob Bundy, a graduate student in drama, is assistant director and Roger Costello, an undergraduate, is the production's designer in charge of costumes, props and masks.

"The Odyssey" is scheduled for several performances at the Dubrovnik Festival and will be performed in English. The UCSD performers were invited to Dubrovnik by Georgie Paro, director of the festival, who served as a guest director at UCSD last year. He directed "There are Crimes and Crimes" by August Strindberg while on the campus during the spring 1981 quarter.

In the summer of 1980, Addison led a student company of 16 people in a production of "Medea" at the Edinburgh Festival in Scotland. He has received a travel grant from the University of California for the trip to Dubrovnik. Once there, expenses will be assumed by the Festival management.

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