

UCSD Theatre Department stages "The Good Woman of Setzuan"

February 13, 1989

Contact: Mary Nelson, 534-3793, or Alixandra Williams, University Communications, 534-3120

UCSD THEATRE DEPARTMENT STAGES BERTOLT BRECHT PLAY, "THE GOOD WOMAN OF SETZUAN"

Undergraduate members of the University of California, San Diego Department of Theatre will be showcased in Bertolt Brecht's play "The Good Woman of Setzuan," from March 8-12, in the Warren Theatre.

The play addresses Brecht's strong feeling that it is virtually impossible for goodness to survive in a morally corrupt and economically exploitive society, says director Steven Adler.

"The 50-year-old play is as relevant today as it was when it was written," he said.

The main character, Shen Te, is a woman of the street who receives a gift from the gods. The gift enables her to leave her profession and begin to help others in need. She finds, however, that life is impossible for the good in a world where the rich get richer and the poor get poorer.

Adler says the work is one of Brecht's least didactic and most theatrically effective plays. The production will use humor, song and poetry to engage the audience, while at the same time confronting it with the author's feelings on labor and capitalism.

Adler says the play, even now, shows that however dark things may appear, humankind is capable of changing and being changed. The director is head of UCSD's theatre management program. Before teaching at UCSD, Adler had a successful theatre production career in New York City.

Tickets for "The Good Woman of Setzuan" are \$5, and are available from the UCSD Theatre Ticket Office, the UCSD Box Office, ArtsTix and from the UCSD Box Office (534-4559). Call 534-4574 for information.

(February 13, 1989)