

University Events presents the Pickle Family Circus on October 20 in Mandeville Auditorium

October 14, 1992

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UNIVERSITY EVENTS PRESENTS THE PICKLE FAMILY CIRCUS

The Pickle Family Circus' 1992-93 national tour includes "Tossing and Turning," a clown comedy, which will be performed in the ensemble's single-ring format at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 20, in the UCSD Mandeville Auditorium at the University of California, San Diego.

Tickets are \$14/16 general admission and \$10/12 for students, and may be purchased at the UCSD Box Office (534-6467) or from TicketMaster outlets.

The Pickle Family Circus' new work, "Tossing and Turning," is directed by choreographer/dancer Tandy Beal (who appeared in concert at UCSD a few years ago with Bobby McFerrin) and Lu Yi, who is the group's training director.

According to Beal, "Tossing and Turning" is a metaphor for the process of transformation--as clown "Raz" (Jeff Raz) tries to sleep, clown "Pino" (Diane Wasnak) slips into many guises to try to keep him from his dreams.

During sleep, "Raz" experiences dreams that are invaded by tumbling sheep, a marching band of trash cans and late night refrigerator raids with cheese, bread and dancing pickles.

Throughout the performance, ensemble acts such as Bicycle, Teeterboard, Hoop Diving and other acrobatics, are executed. The ensemble includes Charlotte Bachman, Denis Daviau ("Davio") from Montreal, Bill Forchion from the Big Apple Circus, Moscow Circus' Yuri Klepatsky, and contortionists Zhou Yue, Xu Qing Fa and Zhao Mei, from China.

San Francisco's Pickle Circus concentrates on the art of circus by integrating acrobatics, aerial work, balancing, juggling and wire walking with originally composed music, dance, themes and stories, to provide a more theatrical format. The circus was founded in 1974, and is renowned for its innovation, skilled ensemble work and live jazz.

Choreography for this event is by Beal. Music composition is by a group of California composers, Lou Harrison, Art Lande and Paul McCandless, plus Keith Terry, Richard Marriott, Jon Scoville and J. Raoul Brody, along with Pickle's own composer, arranger and musical director, Jeffrey Gaeto. The Pickle Family Circus Jazz Band performs the score.

Costumes are by Beaver Bauer, who has designed for American Conservatory Theatre (A.C.T.), the San Francisco Shakespeare Festival and the long-running Las Vegas show, "Splash!" Lighting is by Kurt Landisman and sets are by John Bonnard Wilson. All three designers have won Dramalogue and Critics' Circle Awards.

Actor/clown Bill Irwin, a MacArthur Award winner and frequent favorite at the La Jolla Playhouse and Geoff Hoyle, who also performs at the La Jolla Playhouse, and who last year toured with Cirque de Soleil as "Mr. Sniff," started their careers with the Pickle Family Circus.

This event is presented in San Diego by UCSD University Events. Parking permits are required on the UCSD campus. They may be purchased at the campus' entrances at Gilman and Northview drives. For more information call 534-4090.

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