

Comedian-dramatist Lane Nishikawa to perform at UCSD, April 21 in Mandeville Auditorium

April 4, 1995

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Lane Nishikawa's one-man show, "I'm on a Mission from Buddha," is a 90-minute tour-de-force performance that transforms the comedian-dramatist into 14 characters in a total of 18 multi-character vignettes. The event will take place at 8 p.m. Friday, April 21, in the Mandeville Auditorium at the University of California, San Diego.

Tickets for this event are \$16 for general admission, \$14 for seniors, and \$12 for students, and may be purchased at the UCSD Price Center Box Office or from TicketMaster outlets.

Nishikawa's performance blends humor and pathos in a mosaic of vignettes that examines the assimilation, prejudices and conflicts of Asian Americans.

The comic transforms into a slick stand-up comic, a sleazy barfly confronted by a racist thug, a forceful rapper, a corporate samurai, and others. In one skit, he journeys back to World War II, playing a soldier from the highly decorated all-Japanese American Army battalion.

Nishikawa also portrays himself, weaving in frank autobiographical monologues about the contradictions of growing up Japanese in the United States, and the frustrations of being an actor with an Asian face.

The performer says of the show, "I put it together in answer to all the nerdy clichs about what it means to be Asian American in this country. That's my mission."

This event is brought to San Diego by UCSD University Events Office. For information call 534-4090. Parking permits are required on the UCSD campus and may be purchased at the Gilman Drive and Northview Drive information pavilions.

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