

UCSD will present the National Theatre of the Deaf's production of "An Italian Straw Hat," a play by Eugene Labiche and Marc-Michel

October 13, 1994

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UCSD WILL PRESENT THE NATIONAL THEATRE OF THE DEAF'S PRODUCTION OF "AN ITALIAN STRAW HAT," A PLAY BY EUGENE LABICHE AND MARC-MICHEL

The Tony-Award winning National Theatre of the Deaf (NTD) will present the French farce, "An Italian Straw Hat," by Eugene Labiche and Marc-Michel, at 8 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 22, in the Mandeville Auditorium, at the University of California, San Diego.

Tickets are \$18 for general admission, \$16 for seniors, and \$14 for students, and may be purchased at the UCSD Price Center Box Office (534-6467), or from TicketMaster outlets.

The play is a satire in which the characters--a horse with an appetite, a lady in love, a jealous husband and members of a wedding party--embark on a wild romp through Paris. The result is a comedy full of close calls, sticky situations and mistaken identities that are, according to a theatre company spokesperson, "especially suited to the dynamic combination of sign and spoken language used in performance by the NTD."

"An Italian Straw Hat" is directed by Kenneth Albers, with translation from the French by Niki Wenger, set design by Victor A. Becker, costumes by Charles Berliner, lighting design by Frederick Geffken, and musical composition by Ira Mitchell.

NTD ensemble members are Adrienne Alitowski, Norma Bowers, Frank Dattolo, Robert DeMayo, Bruno Druchen, Sofya Gollan, Brian Jennings, Cheri Lundquist, Anthony Natale, Joe Sarpy, Iosif Schneiderman and Andy Vasnick. Company interpreter is Nikki Kilpatrick.

An "Italian Straw Hat" was written in 1851. The first English translation was premiered in London, in 1873, as "The Wedding March." Silent film director Rene Clair brought the story to the screen in 1927. In 1936, Orson Welles directed a staged version entitled, "As Horse Eats Hat," and in recent years, "An Italian Straw Hat" has been a popular comedic production nationwide.

Founded in 1967 by David Hays, the NTD has performed in theaters around the globe, receiving critical and popular acclaim for a wide range of dramatic literatures, and for original new works.

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

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