UCSD students to present "Into the Woods"

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UCSD STUDENTS TO PRESENT "INTO THE WOODS"

Little Red Riding Hood, Cinderella and Rapunzel will be among the characters to make their way across the stage as The Muir Musical Ensemble from John Muir College at the University of California, San Diego presents "Into the Woods" at 8 p.m. on March 31 and April 1 at the Mandeville Auditorium.

The musical by James Lapine and Stephen Sondheim follows the journey of a variety of popular fairy tale characters through the woods as they find one another on the way to fulfilling their wishes.

Unlike most fairy tales, which end with "And they live happily ever after," the play's second act goes on to explore what happens in the "ever after." Topics examined include the difficulties of growing up, the relationship between parent and child and man's interdependence.

Originally produced at the Old Globe Theater in 1987, "Into the Woods" has enjoyed much success on Broadway and in many regional theaters across the country. The play cleverly intertwines the characters' relationships in a way that leads one to believe they are all from the same fairy tale. Matched with Sondheim's intricate score and perplexing lyrics, the musical has equal appeal for both children and adults.

The director of the UCSD production is Orren Webber, who directed the group's production of "Pippin" last year.

The Muir Musical Ensemble is made up of a group of about 50 students from throughout UCSD's five undergraduate colleges. The majority of the students are majoring in subjects other than theater.

Tickets for "Into the Woods" are $4 and may be purchased at the College Center on the Muir campus. Tickets also will be sold at the theater box office the night of the performances based on availability. Special group rates are available by calling the Muir business office at 534-3586.

For more information, contact Webber at (619) 534-3587 or Louise Noodelman at (619) 534-3586.

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