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CLAIRE EDMUNDS PHOTOGRAPHY

Jacob Dresch and Brittany Egbert will perform in "The Dwarf" on Aug. 31 and Sept. 1 at UC Irvine's Claire Trevor Theatre.

## 'The horrible sin of love'

By ANNA ILIFF  
ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER

**D**elve into the inner psyche of an Italian Renaissance man in Counter-Balance Theater's production of "The Dwarf" at UC Irvine's Claire Trevor Theatre.

Based on Swedish novelist Par Lagerkvist's Nobel Prize-winning novel, "The Dwarf" takes on the antagonistic musings of a dwarf's diary in this minimalist, movement-based play.

Adapted and directed by Annie Loui, a professor of drama at UC Irvine, "The Dwarf" examines human nature and moral contradictions of the so-called "rebirth of civilization" in Italian Renaissance as observed through the eyes of Piccolino, a resident court dwarf who embodies evil and delights in war, violence, vengeance and brutality.

Peppered with love affairs, poisonings and chaos, this dark and twisted tale of

### 'The Dwarf'

**When:** 2 p.m. Aug. 31; 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sept. 1

**Where:** Claire Trevor Theatre, UC Irvine, 4002 Mesa Road

**Cost:** Free; \$15 suggested donation

**Information:** counter-balance.com

passion serves as a parable of human nature and "the horrible sin of love," Loui said.

"It has all of the political machinations of a corrupt palace," Loui said. "The Dwarf" is a wonderful story

for the literary crowd and those who are interested in a good action/adventure. The work intrigues all kinds of audiences. That's one of the pleasures of it."

Counter-Balance Theater is an independent theater company created by Loui. Its performers are UC Irvine alumni, faculty and students.

The six-person cast includes UC Irvine graduate drama student Jacob Dresch as Piccolino and alumna Brittany Egbert as the princess. Cast members take on a variety of roles ranging from people and animals to architecture and furniture.

"Everybody is constantly transforming into whatever is needed for the scene," Loui said. "I have six actors that play battle scenes of hundreds of people. There is a lot of imagery, and it's very active. It ends up being a really fun ride for the audience."



PHOTOS: KATIE DEES, ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER

UC Irvine student Tyler Freeman, 20, dances with a hula hoop during ReggaeFest. The end-of-term celebration drew more than 3,000 students.

## FIT TO BE TIE-DYED

Decked out in Rastafarian gear, hippie-chic attire, henna tattoos and tie-dyed T-shirts, more than 3,000 students celebrated the end of the academic term at the 26th annual ReggaeFest on June 7 in Aldrich Park on the UC Irvine campus.



ANNA ILIFF  
REGISTER WRITER

The reggae music festival, hosted by Associated Students of UC Irvine, provided students with an opportunity to let loose and rock out. The outdoor event featured local and national music artists, a

vendor fair, a beer garden, food and games.

"This year my team and I wanted to try a different direction," said Jessica Phan, outgoing vice president of student services for Associated Students. "Our ReggaeFest artist pool has been really exhausted, and we have a lot of the same artists come back. We are trying to move it towards more of a summer festival so we can get different types of artists."

Attendees received free giveaways, including sunglasses, color-changing mood cups, reusable water bottles, temporary tattoos, beach balls, hats, bottle openers and towels. Music headliners included Ballyhoo!, Soul Majestic, Natty Vibes, Kimie and Redak.

"It's been an ongoing tradition as the end-all, be-all send off," said Phan. "It's a very relaxed event to take a break from studying."



Kevin Nguyen, 22, paints a henna tattoo on fellow student Nicole Artiaga, 19.



Natural Vibrations lead vocalist Penidean Pua'auli, left, and bassist Jehua Evans perform at the festival.



Tie-dyed shirts were part of the fun, which included music, vendors and food.



Keny Cuellar, 22, front, and Allison Robertson, 21, enjoy the beer garden.

Sept. 6-22

**The Fantasticks:** New Swan Shakespeare Festival presents "The Fantasticks," about a boy and girl who fall in love but grow restless and stray. The show is at Gateway Commons near Langson Library. Admission: \$20-\$30. Information: 949-824-2787, arts.uci.edu.

Sept. 9

**Preparing for Surgery - Mind, Body and Spirit:** Help increase your understanding of anesthesia and surgery and learn relaxation techniques. The class is at 3 p.m. at UC Irvine Health Douglas Hospital, 101 The City Drive South, Family Room 3001, Orange. Free admission. Information: 877-824-3627 and ucihealth.org.

Oct. 3

**The Symbolic Landscape - Pictures Beyond Picturesque:** The art is by international artists working across the media of film, photography, painting and sculpture. The reception is from 6 to 9 p.m. at University Art Gallery and Contemporary Arts Center Gallery, 712 Arts Plaza, Irvine. Free admission. Information: 949-824-9854.

**A Twice Lived Fragment of Time:** Composed of images from deaccessioned library books, Will Rogan's artwork sheds new meaning on the forgotten. The opening reception is 6 to 9 p.m. at Contemporary Arts Center Gallery, 712 Arts Plaza, Irvine. Free admission. Information: 949-824-9854.

## Memorial service planned; show goes on without actor, a UC Irvine professor

By ANNA ILIFF  
ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER

Family and friends of UC Irvine professor emeritus Dudley Knight are planning a memorial service Saturday in his honor.

The 73-year-old award-winning actor, who was cast in the title role of the New Swan Theater's summer production of "King Lear," died of a heart attack June 27.

"King Lear," held at UC Irvine, will continue to run through Aug. 30 as a trib-

ute to Knight.

"We're a resilient company, and his loss is a test of our resilience," said Eli Simon, UC Irvine professor and artistic director of the New Swan's summer festival. "We're going to do what he would have wanted us to do: Carry on."

Knight received his master's of fine arts degree in acting from Yale University and went on to spend a 40-year career as a voice, speech and dialect teacher and a voice director for professional theater.

He was a certified master teacher of Fitzmaurice Voicework and a founding member of the Long Wharf Theater in New Haven, Conn., which went on to be-

come a Tony Award-winning company.

In 2012, Knight published his first book, "Speaking With Skill," deemed the gold standard for speech-training fundamentals and techniques, said Robert Cohen, UC Irvine drama professor. Cohen nominated the book for an award with the Association for Theatre in Higher Education.

"It's great not just because of its findings, but because of his extraordinary wit in dealing with some of the most technically complex information," Cohen said.

"Dudley was known for having 'the voice of God' and, in fact, often played God as an actor," said Annie

Loui, drama professor at UC Irvine. "He was the best voice and speech teacher I've ever worked with, and on top of that, he was a funny, erudite man whose extensive knowledge was shared with generosity and playfulness."

"He was very jolly, with a wonderful sense of humor," Cohen said. "Yet he was very intellectual. He wasn't show off how smart he was, but he was a brilliant guy."

Knight is survived by his wife, painter and sculptor Marta Whistler.

### Dudley Knight memorial service

11 a.m. Saturday at Claire Trevor School of the Arts, UC Irvine. Info: drama@uci.edu



Knight