

BUSCANDO CALIFORNIA



CHICANO/U.S. LATINO/INDIGENOUS/PACIFIC RIM THEATRE & ART
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RIGHT TO LEFT: Victor Ochoa with his Japanese assistant in Yokohama, Japan.

VICTOR OCHOA VISITS 日本

Victor Ochoa was in Yokohama for a month to paint a mural. The project was part of the San Diego-Yokohama Art Exchange (Sept. 30-Oct. 15) that celebrated the 35th anniversary of the Yokohama-San Diego sister city pact. Other Latino muralists who participated were Richard Martinez, Roberto Selas, and Ruben Seja. They were joined by Japanese muralists, among them Rocco Setoshi, Satoru Uehara, and Morinasa Sugaya.

Each artist painted one mural. The murals were painted on the walls beneath the railway tracks in Yokohama.

It was not all work for Ochoa who managed to do some sightseeing, including trips to Kamakura and a Soh theater. He also bumped into the ubiquitous Edward James Olmos, who was in Japan for a film conference.

Los Angeles-born Ochoa teaches classes at Univ. of Calif., San Diego, and Grossmont Community College. He is the artist-in-residence at the Centro Cultural de la Raza in Balboa Park.



Six artists, including Victor Ochoa, helped paint the outside wall of the Centro. Arturo Roman's work can be seen in the photograph.

PAZ EN LA TIERRA * PEACE ON EARTH * PAZ EN LA TIERRA * PEACE ON EARTH * PAZ EN LA TIERRA * PEACE ON EARTH

PAZ EN LA TIERRA * PEACE ON EARTH * PAZ EN LA TIERRA * PEACE ON EARTH * PAZ EN LA TIERRA * PEACE ON EARTH

TEATRO ALTO

Teatro ALTO (a Latino Theatrical Organization) did Maria Irene Fornes' The Conduit of Life at San Diego State's Experimental Theatre on Nov. 5-7 to appreciative audiences. Though the blackouts between scenes were too long (leaving some people nervously giggling in the darkness) and visibility at one point was diminished when the action played low and too close to the front row of the audience, the force of Fornes' writing minimized such problems.

The Conduit of Life centers around an increasingly sadistic, sex- and power-hungry Latin American lieutenant commander (played by Armando Mayar, a SDSU psychology major coincidentally) who terrorizes a teenaged girl (Lizbet Carrasco) and keeps her locked up in a warehouse as his personal sex slave. Changes in the lieutenant commander's behavior are noted by his wife (Lucy S. Nunez del Prado) and his best friend (Carlos Razo). Georgina Rodriguez playing a dismissed household servant ably delivered the play's few moments of comic relief.

Sam Valdez, a differently abled San Diego State graduate, directed the Teatro ALTO production. When asked why he selected Fornes' play to direct, Valdez said, "I'm a person who likes to be challenged. And if I do something very easy, like say Neil Simon, it bores me to death." Valdez has also directed Knockers and La comunista de Mexico for Teatro ALTO. During the week, he works as a theatre advisor for Teatro Lagrimer and Ricos, a teen theatre group he helped found with Rick Reed at Logan Heights Family Health Center.

Teatro ALTO started in 1990 when Valdez read Milcha Sanchez-Scott's play Knockers for a class at State and liked it so much he had to do it. He met Evelyn Cruz, another San Diego State student, who proposed that they start a group to produce the play. Since then, Teatro ALTO has produced a play every semester.

To reach Teatro ALTO, write to president Sylvia DiFede, San Diego State Univ., Drama Dept., San Diego, CA, 92182, or call publicity person Jose Luis Perez at (619) 596-2845.

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ABOVE: Brenda Wong Aoki chats with members of the audience after a Nov. 25 performance of Obake!.

Obake! (trans. "ghost") and The Queen's Garden were done in repertory at the San Diego Repertory Theatre (Oct. 30-Nov. 29). In Obake!, storyteller Brenda Wong Aoki is able to use her training in classical Noh theatre to great effect. This wondrous show opens with an old Japanese ghost story and ends with present-day recollections of a Chinese immigrant grandfather.

The Queen's Garden, which premiered in San Francisco in October, is gritty "urban guerrilla storytelling". The piece is partly autobiographical and is based on gang life on the "Westside" in Los Angeles among Asians and Pacific Islanders. (Aoki is Chinese, Japanese, Spanish, and Scottish.) No happy ending here. As she said in an interview (S.D. Rep's News, Nov.-Dec. 1992), what she wanted to do "was to show how things are really stacked against the kids. . . . If people can't really be immune anymore."

To book Aoki and her musician friends (Mark Izu and Joe Perez provide on-stage musical accompaniment for The Queen's Garden), contact general manager Cheryl Barth at (415) 367-8548, Fax (415) 367-1704.

Here and Now, an Asian-American theatre ensemble, was at MiraCosta College, Oceanside, on Nov. 7 (at Univ. of Calif. San Diego, Nov. 13), as part of that college's celebration of Asian-Pacific Awareness Month. The troupe formed about five years ago from director/primary writer John Miyasaki's vision, which is to bring to people a theatre that is not only entertaining but thought-provoking. Here and Now educates people in general to the Asian-American presence in the United States and provides a space where young Asian-Americans can develop and hone their creative skills.

The current troupe of Here and Now (auditions are held yearly) is composed of recent graduates and continuing students from local universities: Euijoon Kim (UCI graduate), Mako Jitodal (UCLA), Jason Kakimoto (UCLA graduate), Betty Hai (UCSD), Bobby Lee (UCR), Lani Masatsugu (UCR), Nancy Yee (Occidental College), and Christine Tan (Occidental College). They come from diverse disciplines, such as Film Studies, Political Science, Japanese Literature, and Biology.

Here and Now artfully presents skits, folktales, and slices of life from the experiences of young Asian-Americans. One of the highlights of Here and Now's show is Euijoon Kim as a samurai talk show host patterned after Arsenio Hall. His posse plays a bamboo flute and a taiko drum. During his monologue, he shares his thoughts with the audience about "things that make you go 'oi!'" and checks off his "Top 10 list" of reasons why Asian women should date Asian men.

Another interesting skit is the Asian-American Eyes Pageant. Girls with giant eye prop glasses representing Little Tokyo, Chinatown, Little Saigon, Koreatown, and Little Manila stroll on stage to answer the contest question as to why they had their eyes surgically altered. As Miss Little Tokyo perkily observes, "Big eyes are beautiful . . . and cute . . . and fun!"

A significant part of the show includes ancient and modern folktales. Miyasaki (who also does a one-man show of folktales) explained, "Folklore has always been a lot of people fought me on this--but folklore will always be in the show. I feel it has a place everywhere. One reason is because storytelling specifically is a dying art form. I think there is a lot, if not an infinite number of things to learn, from the stories that were told by our fathers' fathers, our ancestors."

On a more provocative level, Here and Now's material touches on such things as hate crimes against Asians that are committed by other Asians, the effect of the Los Angeles riots/rebellion on innocent young Korean-Americans as they witnessed the pillaging of Korean-owned stores while people chanted about "no justice, no peace," and "gaijins with THAT LOOK" when they meet an Asian-American.

Here and Now will be touring nationally next spring. To book this talented group, give John Miyasaki a call at (619) 441-9615.

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CALENDARIO



BFA, 421 W Ave. 19, L.A., CA
 BONES/tickets: (213) 225-4044
 9/22-12/8, W-TH 8 PM, SUN 3 PM,
 58-516, La Celestina, by Fernando
 de Rojas, dir. Maria Rivera
 Teatro Leido/Reader's Theatre:
 11/16--Coral Acuirre's La cruz en
 el aspen; 11/23--Carolyn Nur
 Wistrand's The Virgins of Guadalupe
 (etc); 11/30--Oscar Viale's Chumbale

1993 - BFA's 25th Anniversary!

CENTRO CULTURAL DE LA RAZA,
 2130-1 Pan American Plaza, #1
 S.D., CA 92101/(619) 235-5335
 (art) 10/8-11/22, Ambiancaciones
 1482-1992; 12/1, Day without Art;
 12/11/92-2/21/93, MEXICALIA;
Divide and Conquer/prison envelope
 cover art/artist Glen Melero
 1/22/93, 8 PM, \$5, teen theatre
 group Teatro Lagrimas and Risas

LA COMPANIA DE ALBUQUERQUE, 423
 Central NW, P.O. Box 854, Albu-
 querque, NM 87103/(502) 242-7928;
 12/11-12/20, La Virgen del Tenebrax,
 by C. Garcia-Camarillo & R. Flores

CULTURE CLASS, 11/26, UCSD, skits
 from A Bowl of Beans and B.O.B.

12/18-12/19, 8 PM, \$10, Cafe Cinema
 benefit, S.D., CA; Clips from
A Bowl of Beans ("Return of Che
 Guevara," "Stand & Deliver Pizza")
 & Ennio Man. Also, a "Rock the
 vote" spot and Lourdes Portillo's
 short experimental film Colombina
 on Trial with Culture Clash.

C.C. talked about their
 8-yr. history and going beyond
 Chicano Teatro 101. "the food
 chain" in Hollywood, and audience
 accountability. From Richard
 Montoya, "There still exists a
 frontier out there... where
 they don't know about Chicanismo."

EAST WEST PLAYERS, 4424 Santa
 Monica Blvd., L.A., CA 90029
 tickets: (213) 660-0366
 11/10-11/15, 12-1 A, by Makako
 Yamauchi, dir. Rodney Kaseyama
 1/8-2/14/93, TH-SAT 8 PM, SUN 2 PM,
 515-527, Fish Head Soup, by Philip
 Kan Gotanda, dir. Oskar Eastie

GUADALUPE CULTURAL ARTS CENTER
 1300 Guadalupe St., San Antonio,
 TX 78207/(512) 271-3151; 10/23-
 11/1, Heroes & Saints, by Cherrie
 Moraga, dir. Susana Tivert
 (11/10 TENAZ)

ISTAR, 420 W. 42nd St., NY, NY
 10108/(212) 693-6551; 11/11-12/13,
Words Divine: A Miracle Play, by
 L. Mena (adapted from Incan's
Divinas Palabras), dir. Max Farca

NEWPORT HARBOR ART MUSEUM, 850 San
 Clemente Dr., Newport Beach, CA;
 12/18/92-2/14/93, T-SUN 10 AM-5 PM,
 82-84, El Corazon Sonrrente/The
 Bleeding Heart (Latino artists)

PLANET EARTH, 525 E. Flower
 (theater @ 908 W. 3rd), Phoenix, AZ
 85012/(602) 241-1828, (800) 554-ASAP
 10/30-11/21, Men of the Flesh, by
 Octavio Solis, dir. Mollie Carino
 1/8-2/6/93, F & SAT 8 PM, SUN 4 PM,
 97-99, Bitter Homes and Gardens, by
 Luis Alfaro (L.A. Burbage Theatre
 perf. cancelled), dir. Peter Carino.

PURD TEATRO COMPANY (619) 463-8683
 w/Mex. Consulate & San Diego Rep
 (619) 235-8025 (play's @ 79 Horton
 Plaza); 12/22-12/27, T & W 8 PM,
 SAT 2 & 8 PM, SUN 2 & 7 PM, 86-815,
Ecologia, dir. Luis Turner

SOUTH COAST REP, 655 Town Ctr. Dr.,
 Costa Mesa, CA/(714) 957-4033;
 12/12-12/20, 58-510, Mariachi's
 Christmas, by Jose Cruz Gonzalez

EL TEATRO CAMPESINO, 705 Fourth St.,
 S.J.B., CA/(408) 623-2444/4995;
 11/27/92-1/3/93 (var. locations),
La Virgen del Tenebrax, adapt. by
 Luis Valdez, dir. Rosa Escalante

EL TEATRO DE LA ESPERANZA, 2868
 Mission St., S.F., CA/(415) 695-6070
 10/23-11/8, Dancing with the Missing,
 by Roy Conboy, dir. Roberto G. Vares
 (11/14 TENAZ)

EL TEATRO DEL VALLE, 3302 N. 7th St.,
 Phoenix, AZ 85014/(602) 253-1170
 10/16-11/8, Laura's House, by
 Terry Tafuya Esp. dir. Jose
 Guadalupe Saucedo (11/15 TENAZ)
 12/4-12/20, Chicano Christmas,
 by The Company

EL TEATRO INLAKKCH, 632 W. Guava St.,
 Oxnard, CA 93033/(805) 486-7488
 10/91-pres. (tour), The Trilogy,
Columbus Wash/Vietnam Blues/
Garbage Dogs, coll. creation
 12/8-12/11, Milagro de Rosas, by
 Arturo Gomez
 1/4/93, official opening of Oxnard
 cultural center



L. to R.: 1) Frank Espiritu's
 "The Harvest," 2) Canadian-born
 Carol Ljudon stands next to a
 hybrid Mexican-U.S. flag from her
 work "The Free Trade Project--Flags
 for a New Continent," designed to
 provoke disc. about the Free Trade
 agreement's long-term effects.
 3) Patssi Valdez's "The new BSW
 7401". Valdez is a former member
 of the late ASCO (trans. "bauses"),
 a Chicano avant-garde art collective.



ART/LA92 The LA Art Fair
 December 3-6, 1992
 Los Angeles Convention Center 1201 So. Figueroa, Downtown Los Angeles





TENAZ XVI
 coverage in
 the Jan. 1983
 issue!



Fine art photographer Jacalyn L. Garcia (on the left) and abstract expressionist Maya de Leon (above) exhibited some of their work at the Villanar Library in San Bernardino, 11/23-12/18. Eduardo Guiza's photos of alienation and Sergio Piña's paintings were also included.

Garcia is the wife of playwright Carlos Garcia and works in UCR's Chicano Student Programs. She has studied photography for eight years, fine art photography the past three years. To produce her striking images, she manipulates the negatives and carefully paints over them.

De Leon is the daughter of actress/jazz singer Veta Trussell. She speaks four languages (Italian, French, Spanish, English). De Leon will graduate with her B.A. this May from Pitzer College and plans on attending graduate school to continue her art studies.

JOBS: Tenure-track art position @ Pitzer College, Visual & Environ. Arts; need MFA or equiv.; send letters of application, vitae, & slides of recent work to: Thomas Igen, Dean of Faculty, Pitzer College, 1850 N. Mills Ave., Claremont, CA 91711. 2/1/83 deadline.

NEWSLETTER/MAG. EXCHANGES:
 ABA! HISPANIC ART NEWS, 173 E. 116th St., 2nd fl., NY, NY 10029
 LA NUEVA OLA, 250 W. 55th St., NY, NY 10023-6403/(212) 595-8286
 1983-84 Directory of Hisp. Talent QUE VIVA! (lesbian/gay Latino art) 4470-197 Sunset Blvd., #201 L.A., CA 90027/(213) 953-1870
 Winter '82 issue incl. Teatro VIVA info-skit excerpt on AIDS and M. Palacios' monologue
 EL TEATRO NOTES (Teatro Campesino) P.O. Box 1240, S.J.S., CA 95045

RECEIVED:
 ARTE PUBLICO is one of five pubs. in 1983 Open Competition (poetry). \$15 fee per book-length manuscript. Enter 1/1/83-2/15/83. Winners \$1K & pub. Info.: The National Poetry Series, P.O. Box G, Hopewell, NJ 08525.

8th ANNUAL HISPANIC PLAYWRIGHTS PROJECT--3 plays workshopped & read. Mail scripts w/synopsis, playwright bio, to Jose Cruz Gonzalez, SPY dir., South Coast Rep. P.O. B. 2197, Costa Mesa, CA 92626. 4/2/83 deadline.

19th ANNUAL CHICANO/LATINO LITERARY CONTEST (poetry). Min. 125 typed pages, 3 copies. One entry (Spanish or English) per author. Winners \$2K, \$1K, \$500, & pub. Info.: Chicano/Latino Literary Contest; Juan Bruce-Novoa, dir., Dept. of Spanish & Portuguese, Univ. of Calif., Irvine, CA 92712.

NOTICIAS DE ALMA/ALMA NEWS, Teatro de la Tierra, 414 N. Park Ave., Fresno, CA 93701/(209) 237-3016; Musical group Alma has bilingual newsletter.

OLLANTAY THEATER MAG., P.O. B. 469, Jackson Heights, NY 11372/(718) 565-6499; subs. \$18/yr.; New U.S. Latino theatre magazine; 1st yr. inaugural issues free.
 POCHO MAG., P.O. B. 40021, Berkeley, CA 94704; Uncensored Chicanoismo. Lalo Lopez of Chicano Secret Service is one of the editors.



Kat Avila
 RANCHO SANTIAGO COLLEGE
 c/o Centennial Education Center
 2900 W. Edinger
 Santa Ana, CA 92704



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