

Live Art in the Twin Cities

By Rachel Kuhnle



Theater

The Last Five Years

By Jason Robert Brown

April 17 - May 17 at the Yellow Tree Theatre

Tickets between \$10-20

A fresh and contemporary musical from Tony-Award winning composer Jason Robert Brown, *The Last Five Years* chronicles a young couple's romance from beginning to a heart-breaking end. She, telling her story backwards, and he beginning on the day they met, the show's unconventional structure coupled with its emotionally powerful music allows for a surprising and extraordinary theatre experience.

Courtesy of Yellow Tree Theatre.



Readings

Language for a New Century: Contemporary Poetry from the Middle East, Asia, and Beyond

Tina Chang; Ravi Shankar

Fri., April 17, 7:00pm at the Loft Literary Center in downtown Minneapolis

The editors commemorate the publication of *Language for a New Century: Contemporary Poetry from the Middle East, Asia, and Beyond* - a book celebrating the artistic and cultural forces flourishing today, bringing together an unprecedented selection of works by South Asian, East Asian, Middle Eastern, and Central Asian poets as well as poets living in the Diaspora.



Music

Rock the Garden featuring The Decemberists

Presented by 89.3 The Current and the Walker Art Center

Saturday, June 20 at the Walker Sculpture Garden in Minneapolis

Ticket on sale April 22. \$35 in advance

The Decemberists have carried their ambitious, theatrical pop to new heights with the critically acclaimed 17-song rock opera, *The Hazards of Love*. Onstage, Meloy's captivating story-songs are matched by the band's consummate showmanship. The concert will also feature Calexico, Yeasayer, and Solid Gold.

Senior Theatre Students Direct Original Plays

By Rachel Kuhnle



Earlier this month, senior theatre students Tammy Pearson and Michael Rokenbrodt each directed an original play: *@ First Site* by Pearson and *M. Berr's Light* by Rokenbrodt.

A theatre major with a writing minor, Pearson began writing *@ First Site* as part of a playwriting class offered last Spring and taught by Mark Rosenwinkel.

The play tells the story of a girl named Paisley who, after a run in with her now engaged ex, goes online to find a boyfriend. In the end, Paisley learns that Prince Charmings are only meant for fairy tales, and sometimes the person you're looking for is right in front of you.

"Writing a play and then seeing it produced is kind of funny," said Pearson. After seeing it in rehearsal there are a lot of things I would like to change. I realize that though, I've finished with the initial pages, the process is far from done. I feel like I could work on this play for the rest of my life and I would never really be 100 percent satisfied."

Rokenbrodt's play, described as "a Sci-Fi, Dark Comedy/Drama Ministry production," is about a bestselling Sci-Fi writer who struggles with his 6-year-old daughter ailing with a terminal disease. The writer turns to his intergalactic world to cope where he learns important lessons about God's plan.

"The more I reflect on the play writing experience, the less I find myself as being responsible for it," said Rokenbrodt. "The play's start came from my friend Brennan Blomgren and his invitation to produce it. The theology and the language

is from my dad, teachers, and professors, the final product is certainly owed to my cast and to God who carried it all the way. Only the inadequacies can I really fully take credit for."

Michael Rokenbrodt hopes to be a witness in a high school theatre department and Language Arts classroom. Rokenbrodt has also submitted his vitae to World Missions in order to go for a teaching position at the International Highland Lutheran School in Papua New Guinea. "I hope they like theatre there," Rokenbrodt laughingly commented.



Tammy Pearson



Michael Rokenbrodt

Upcoming Calendar

April 22, Wednesday - Academic Honors Convocation
 May 8, Friday - Classes End
 May 11-14, Monday-Thursday - Spring Semester Finals
 May 15, Friday - Residence Hall Move Out Day

April 30 & May 1-2 at 7:30 pm / May 3 at 2:00 - Dames at Sea, Pearson Theatre

April 17, Friday - Christus Chorus Home Concert in the Graebner Memorial Chapel
 April 23, Thursday - Instrumental Ensembles Concert in the Buetow Auditorium
 April 25, Saturday - Handbell Ensemble Concert in the Graebner Memorial Chapel
 May 6, Wednesday - Jazz Ensemble Concert in the Buetow Auditorium

April 16 - May 6 - CSP Student Juried Exhibition, opening Thursday, April 16, 5-7pm