

# NEWS

The Evergreen State College

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## EVERGREEN DRAMA GROUP

### PRESENTS "MARAT/SADE"

"Marat/Sade," Peter Weiss' spine-tingling musical play set against the tumultuous times of the French Revolution, will be presented at The Evergreen State College March 7, 8, and 9 in the main lobby of the Daniel J. Evans Library Building. All performances of the two-act drama begin at 8 p.m. and are open to the public at a cost of \$1 for adults and 50 cents for students.

Directed by Faculty Member Ainara Wilder, the Winter Quarter production features 32 student performers from Evergreen's Theater and Dance Studies Program, an Olympia minister, and a ten-piece college orchestra directed by Faculty Member Will Humphreys of Evergreen's America's Music Program. Choreography for the production is under the direction of another Evergreen instructor, Bud Johansen.

The plays tells the story of the persecution and assassination of John Paul Marat, a doctor and chief author of a newspaper which became one of the spearheads of the French Revolution.

The dramatic production centers around historical activities which occurred in the Asylum of Charenton and the assassination itself is part of a play within the play. Between 1797 and 1811, the director of the asylum, Monsieur Coulmier, established regular theatrical entertainments at his clinic as part of the therapeutic treatment of his patients. Marquis De Sade, an inmate, wrote and directed many of these entertainments and it became fashionable in Paris to visit the asylum to watch the inmates' antics in the performances.

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Dick Nichols, Director  
Information Services

Marat's assassination by Charlotte Corday, who became one of Marat's enemies during Revolutionary politics, is part of the play presented by inmates of the asylum.

Leading performers are Daniel Dootson, a Bremerton student cast as Marat; Brooke Newel, a Fresno, California student who plays Corday; and Craig Stewart, a student from Salem, Oregon, cast as Marquis De Sade. Reverend Herbert McLellan, Associate of the Rector at Olympia's St. John's Episcopal Church, portrays Monsieur Coulmier.

Sets for the play were designed by Ms. Wilder. Costumes were designed by student Emily Rogers of Olympia. A student crew assembled the costumes.

Since Evergreen has no auditorium, students, faculty and support staff will be busy from February 27 to March 1 converting the college's main library lobby into a 350-seat temporary theater. The stage and other constructions will be in place by March 1 and, starting the next day, the cast and orchestra will begin final evening rehearsals.

"This production is the largest and most ambitious theatrical effort yet undertaken at Evergreen," according to Ms. Wilder. "Receipts will be used to cover production costs which could not be fully met from other college sources contributing to the performance."

A 15-minute intermission will separate the two acts of the drama/musical.