

One-Man Show Adaptation of H.G. Wells' 'The Time Machine'

By Beree Grivois
Staff Writer

James Floss, actor, director and playwright of Humboldt State University, is making a special visit to Cal State Hayward to perform his latest work, "The Traveler," a one-man stage adaptation based upon H.G. Wells'

novel "The Time Machine." The two-hour drama will be staged in the Studio Theater on May 28 at 10 a.m. Floss is a lecturer at Humboldt State and College of the Redwoods in the areas of communication and drama and has received many honors and awards for his work in theater.

In "The Traveler," Floss turns Wells' well-known science fiction story into a play that seeks to capture both the late-Victorian flavor of Wells' language and the excitement of his story. The original work takes an 1890s inventor time traveling far into the future, where he finds a seeming utopia hiding a sinister secret. Written and performed by

Floss, the adventure tale has the time traveler telling his dinner guests of his adventures in the year 802,701. According to the Humboldt Beacon Review, "Floss has created a completely entertaining piece of theater and as an actor he delivers a personal tour de force performance that is capable of captivating an audience from start to finish."

"The Traveler" is a one-man performance that will intrigue your intellect and satisfy the thespian lover in anyone." The Times-Standard of Eureka said of Floss's original adaptation. As part of the CSUH Technology and Culture cluster, students have been required to read "The Traveler" and Lecturer Maren Anderson has invited Floss down for this one-time event.

"Floss is a dynamic, energetic performer and an entertaining story-teller," Anderson said. "It should be quite exciting, as the story itself is gripping and takes a dark view of the possible future." The free performance will be open to all who wish to attend and has been made possible through the CSUH General Studies Program and the Theater and Dance Department.

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Celtic Festival on Tap

The East Bay's annual Celtic Festival will be June 8 at Ardenwood Historic Farm in Fremont. There will be dragons, Romans, a colorful military parade and a "royal court," and continuous entertainment on three stages. The Michael Lucey Irish Band and Last Night's Fun will regale their audiences with rousing Irish music, vocals and step dancing. Other step dancing groups include the Deely Irish Dancers and the John Gavin Irish Dance Company, which has a new school in Fremont. The stirring skirl of pipes can also be heard, when the lilt of Irish music pauses, and the

Macintosh Pipe Band, the Alameda Sheriffs' Pipe Band, and the Piedmont Pipe Band each take the field during the course of the day. Returning will be Patrick Ryan's Celtic Junket, the Peninsula Scottish Fiddlers, Harpers' Hall, and Standing Stones. Swords of Gridlock, veterans of the ethnic dance festival, will perform traditional and comical wrap-around sword dances from England. Gayle Wayne, the festival's producer, and her troupe, Aladdin's Lads and Lassies, will bring a touch of the exotic as they perform Turkish-style dances to the music of bagpipes. Patrons can even participate in dances themselves at an afternoon ball as the Peers Victoria

Dancers will welcome all comers to join in the fun of waltzes, polkas, schottisches and other 19th Century dances. Children can again enjoy the fire-breathing roar of popular Claude the Dragon, and even sit safely in his stomach to manipulate the controls while he roars! Other activities include pony rides, face painting, the Children's Haggis Toss, and Richard Aspen with his infamous parrot. Over a dozen living history groups from the Ancient Romans to Mary, Queen of Scots and her Court, the 18th Century Montgomery Highlanders and Rogers' Rangers, can be seen in their encampments or environments and about the grounds.

History interpreters will reenact period dances, history and battle pageants. Festival tickets include tours of the restored Victorian Patterson Mansion, and the permanent animal and farm exhibitions at Ardenwood Historic Farm. Hours of the festival will be 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Adult tickets are \$8.50; seniors \$5.50; children 4-17, \$5; children 3 and under free. Persons wishing more information may call (510) 296-0663. The event is co-sponsored by East Bay Regional Park District and Wee Hand Productions. Other contributing sponsors are the Irish Herald and Woodland Scottish Games.

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