

CSUH Students To Appear on BBC

By Alan Dye
Staff Writer

The BBC interviewed two students and a professor from Cal State Hayward last week, while they were participating in the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, a theater gathering in Scotland.

The CSUH contingent is bringing director Edgardo de la Cruz's feminist version of Shakespeare's "Taming of the Shrew" to the festival, which features performers and audiences from around the world.

According to Theater Department Chair Tom Hird, also attending the festival, BBC Four taped several scenes from the play featuring CSUH students Craig Marker and Lisa Dokken.

The network also recorded a lengthy interview with de la Cruz.

The segments are to be aired Friday as part of the BBC's cov-

erage of the festival and will appear along with another production of "Shrew" from Zimbabwe. CSUH students are at the festival as a part of the "Highlands Summer Theater" program that also produced several shows on campus this summer, including "The Fantastiks," which will be staged through this weekend.

The Edinburgh Fringe Festival is the world's largest festival of its type, boasting some 20,000 performances by companies from around the world.

Large, international audiences numbering, in the aggregate, hundreds of thousands (800,000 tickets sold this year at last count) are exposed to theater styles from around the world.

The festival began in 1947 and became an international event, inspiring many similar festivals all over the globe, including the San Francisco Fringe Festival. In its 56-year history the Edinburgh

Fringe has premiered many new works, including Tom Stoppard's play, "Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead," which first appeared at the festival in 1966.

More than simply a theater festival, The Edinburgh Fringe is really a loose confederation of a number of separate arts festivals in the area, including a jazz and blues festival, a book festival and a film festival.

More information on the Edinburgh Fringe Festival is available on the Web at <http://www.edfringe.com>.

CSUH students and faculty forming the company at the European festival are Thomas Hird, Nancy Hird, Edgardo de la Cruz, Lisa Dokken, Jeanette Penley, Lindsay Cross, Marissa Keltie, Vera Jacobson, Dana Cholis, Craig Marker, James Cooney, Christian Overacker and Joseph Midyett.



Four faces: CSUH Theatre Department photo illustration shows contradictory characterizations of Lisa Dokken and Craig Marker in their roles of Kate and Petruchio in the production of "Taming of the Shrew," one of the presentations of the department at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. Photo/Courtesy

Display Celebrates 100 Years of the Teddy Bear

By Andrew West
Staff Writer

The bears are out of hibernation at the Pioneer Bookstore as it helps to celebrate the 100 years of teddy bear mania with a display cute little bruins.

In a culture that follows the slogan "out with the old, in with the new," it may seem odd that the teddy bear still has enthusiasts stock piling these furry friends as if they were soon to be rationed like Russian toilet paper.

The teddy bear's wide appeal may be due to the fact that, un-

like people who tend to lose touch with the times as they get older, the stuffed bears change with the times and usually only repeat themselves if they have a pull string or a button that makes them talk.

Even though there are a number of stories about how the teddy bear came into being, a number of references say that in 1902, while bear hunting in Mississippi, then President Theodore Roosevelt decided to spare the life of a bear cub that had been orphaned during the hunt.

The pardon of the young cub was the inspiration for a cartoon

that was run in the Washington Post. Toy novelty show owners Morris and Rose Michtom from Brooklyn, New York, saw the cartoon, made a toy bear and displayed it in their shop. The little bear was a hit with the public.

Michtom later wrote to Roosevelt requesting permission to name the bear "Teddy" after the President. The President agreed and the result has been that teddy bears have now become more numerous than bears in the wild. And there have been no reports of teddy bear maulings - except of the mini-ursines by kids.

Drew Mays, who was visiting the Pioneer Bookstore with her dad, admired the bears but declared she liked one of the stuffed puppies better.

After looking at the bears for several minutes, student Eric Schmidt finally decided on the bear he was going to purchase.

"I'm buying one because my mother collects teddy bears. The angel bear is cool for my girlfriend, but because I'm getting it for my Mom, I'm going for the brown, fluffy one," he said as he made his final selection.

Pioneer Bookstore cashier Goldie Vasquez said specialty bears that represent months and years get bought up fast but other types of stuffed critters sell well also.

"The 2002 graduation owls sold out really fast," she said. "Recently a lady bought three in one day."



Mini-bears: Drew Mays examines a collection of baby bruins. Photo/Edgar Sutherland



Tough Choice: Unidentified CSUH student ponders selection of fuzzy friends. Photo/Edgar Sutherland

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