



Sketches

July 2006 Newsletter

THREE 'MUST SEE' EVENTS IN JULY



Giri Japanese American Art Exhibit Opens
Saturday July 8, 5 – 7 p.m.

See page 10 for more on related activities.

Roy Bogas and Friends Summer Chamber Music Concerts
Saturday & Sunday
July 8 at 7:30 p.m.
July 9 at 4 p.m.

See page 3.



***Park your Car in Harvard Yard - A Dramody* Runs from July 21 – 30**

A grouchy old man and a vindictive housekeeper – what do they have in common? At first glance, there is not much. But the play, *Park Your Car in Harvard Yard*, shows that their differences come from a common base – humanity. Part comedy, part drama, this summer production is a must see.

“Nothing is inevitable,” goes the old saying, “except death and taxes.” In *Park Your Car in Harvard Yard*, playwright Israel Horovitz adds “regret” to that list. In the bleak New England winter, an imperious old Jacob Brackish shuffles around his house lamenting his mistakes and lost opportunities. “Memories can cripple you,” he says, “turn you into stone.” Similarly afflicted is his new housekeeper, Kathleen Hogan, a middle-age widow seething with resentment underneath her mousy demeanor. They are seemingly mismatched. He’s a Jewish bachelor with no family, a Harvard-educated Ph.D., and retired high school teacher. She’s a blue-collar Irish Catholic with a passel of relatives. However, the odd-couple relationship reveals their connections in this rueful, and often amusing, look at the popular habit of second-guessing one’s mistakes.

Directed by Lynne Atkins, *Park Your Car in Harvard Yard* is a play in miniature. Except for the voice of a classical-music DJ (Dave Badger), the entire cast consists of Jim Riley as Brackish and Kathye Hitt as Hogan. However their skillful *pas de deux* evokes the personalities of the past that peoples the cast with many characters.



Horovitz has been a successful playwright since the 1960s. He also founded a theater company in Gloucester, his hometown, where he tutored many fledgling writers. His mentoring provided a seed for this play – the study of impact teachers make on their students. Many works have addressed the subject, but *Park Your Car* . . . asks a deeper question. How do specific events and general circumstances affect a person’s life? Jacob wonders if he had any effect as a teacher, while people in Kathleen’s world blame his harsh rigidity for their misfortunes.

A gentle, introspective play, *Park Your Car in Harvard Yard* is powered by personality. This thoughtful, touching piece is also potent, funny, and resonates after the final scene.

Park Your Car in Harvard Yard shows at Gualala Arts Center Theater on Friday, July 21 with a Gala Champagne Opening at 6 p.m. and performance at 7 p.m. Performances continue on Saturday, July 22 at 7 p.m. and on Sunday, July 23 at 2 p.m. On the following weekend there will be performances on Friday, July 28 at 7 p.m., on Saturday July 29 at 7 p.m., and on Sunday July 30 at 2 p.m. Tickets for the Champagne Opening Show are \$25, and \$15 for the rest of the performances. Tickets are available at Gualala Arts Center 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays and noon to 4 p.m. weekends, and at The Dolphin 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily. Or call 884-1138 to purchase your tickets by phone with a credit card.