‘Living Stones’ Original Production To Play at Cal Poly and Hollywood

SAN LUIS OBISPO – Cal Poly’s Theatre and Dance Department will open its 2004-2005 season with an original play, described as a collage of six stories based on six classic myths, focusing on universal themes.

“Living Stones” will play Thursday through Saturday, Nov. 11-13 and Nov. 18-20. All performances will be at 8 p.m. in the Spanos Theatre. Theatre and Dance Department faculty member Al Schnupp, who wrote and directs the play, said, “‘Living Stones’ is a compelling show that portrays powerful and comic moments in the lives of some well-known figures from Greek mythology, such as Medusa, Daedalus, Prometheus and Orpheus.” The play also features numerous paintings, unique visuals, stylized movement, masks, narrative and interactive dialogue.

Schnupp has updated the language to make the play “more palatable” to contemporary audiences. An ensemble of nine actors will be playing 8-12 roles each as they move between the six stories. “And like all good Greek mythology, the themes of the tales range from love and jealousy to the creative urge and revenge,” Schnupp said.

To illuminate the action, 50 panels painted by local artists will move on and off the stage during the course of the play.

Following the play’s run at Cal Poly the production will move to Hollywood, where it will be presented for one weekend at the Open Fist Theatre.

In addition to Schnupp, who also co-designed the set, other production staff members include co-designer and lighting designer Tim Dugan, costume designer Kathy Dugan, and technical director Howard Gee.

Jeremy A. Cohen, a theatre major from Los Angeles, is the stage manager, and Jennifer Fox, also a theatre major from Los Angeles, is the assistant stage manager. Cal Poly music major Chris Conley is the sound designer and San Luis Obispo resident Kristen Fraisse is the sign-language instructor.

The performance runs approximately 75 minutes, without intermission. Theatergoers should be aware that no one will be seated once the play has begun. Sign language for the deaf will be provided at every performance.

Tickets are $12 for adults and $10 for senior citizens and students and are available at the Performing Arts Ticket Office between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday. Tickets can also be ordered by phone at 756-27867, or online at www.pacslo.org.
“Living Stones” is co-presented by Cal Poly’s College of Liberal Arts.

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