

[Skip to Content](#)

[Cal Poly](#)

[News](#)

Search Cal Poly News

Go

California Polytechnic State University

Feb. 11, 2003

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: LISA WOSKE

(805) 756-7110

Mummenschanz Performs One Night Only at Cal Poly March 10

SAN LUIS OBISPO, CALIFORNIA - "They have never been matched and they should never be missed," stated the Los Angeles Times after seeing a performance of the legendary Swiss theatre troupe, Mummenschanz.

Cal Poly Arts presents Mummenschanz on Monday, March 10, 2003 at 8 p.m. at the Christopher Cohan Center as part of their Great Performances Series.

In their latest show, entitled "Next," Mummenschanz tells stories of everyday life with fantastic shapes, dream-like creatures, and human characters with hilarious masks and metamorphoses.

In 1972, Bernie Schürch and Andres Bossard, both from Switzerland, formed their now celebrated visual theater group with Italian-American Floriana Frassetto.

They gave themselves the name Mummenschanz (roughly meaning "masquerade") and set out with a sense of fun and imagination to invent a new form of theater, creating a non-verbal theatrical language that transcends the traditional barriers of nationality and culture.

The trio continued to refine their performances, constantly developing new ideas and finding ways to devise from everyday materials the expressive shapes and fantastical creations that became their signature.

In 1973, Mummenschanz achieved major success with engagements in Berlin, the United States, Canada, and South America. Subsequent tours throughout Europe and the Eastern Bloc countries in 1974 and 1975 were met with exceptional enthusiasm.

In 1979, Mummenschanz made it to Broadway, performing at the Bijou Theatre for a three-year run. Their new style of theatrical art --

which has since spawned many imitators -- was fully embraced by the public and critics alike. Film and television work followed, bringing the maverick company to an even wider audience.

Original member Andres Bossard passed away in 1992. John Charles Murphy and Raffaella Mattioli have joined the remaining co-founders for Mummenschanz "Next," now making Mummenschanz a company of four.

Mummenschanz "Next": "For children who think they are adults and for adults who still believe they are children at heart." (New York Times)

A pre-performance lecture by Dance Dept. faculty member Moon Ja Minn Suhr will be held at 7 p.m. in the Phillips Recital Hall.

Tickets for the performance range from \$26 - \$38, with student discounts available, and may be purchased at the Performing Arts Ticket Office, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays. To order by phone, call 805/756-2787; to order by fax: 805/756-6088.

This performance is sponsored by the Foundation for the Performing Arts Center in honor of its Legacy Members..

For audio and video samples of Cal Poly Arts events, visit www.calpolyarts.org.

- 30 -

[CP Home](#) • [CP Find It](#) [Get Adobe Reader](#) • [Microsoft Viewers](#)

[Events](#) • [Recent Releases](#) • [Cal Poly Magazine](#) •
[Cal Poly Update E-newsletter](#) • [Contact Public Affairs](#) • [Alumni](#) • [Giving](#) • [Athletics](#)

Cal Poly Public Affairs

California Polytechnic State University

San Luis Obispo, CA 93407

805.756.7266

polynews@calpoly.edu