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5TH & PEARL • EUGENE

Feminist play deals with gender issues

By Nicole Krueger
Entertainment Editor

A play about oppression and power struggle between the sexes will end the Arena Theatre season.

The Conduct of Life, by Maria Irene Forbes, will open May 1. Forbes, a noted feminist playwright, has influenced American theater for the past two decades with plays such as *Fefu and Her Friends* and *The Successful Life of J.*

The Conduct of Life explores the roles of men and women and the mutual oppression between the two sexes. It includes adult themes and violence in examining these issues.

The performance, directed by Elizabeth Ramirez, associate professor of theater and director of the University Ethnic Studies Program, will take place in a thrust stage arrangement to allow the audience to get closer to the actors.

The cast includes freshman theater arts major Rob Stockton and sophomore Julie Keyantash.

The Conduct of Life will be performed May 1-4 and 9-11 at 8 p.m. in the Arena Theatre. Tickets are \$3 for University students; \$4 for senior citizens, University staff and faculty and non-University students; and \$5 for the general public.

For more information, call 346-4191.



EN MIN CHANG/Emerald

'The Conduct of Life' addresses gender issues such as oppression.

Infamous photographer to speak to students

Internationally famous and controversial artist Andres Serrano will visit the University to give a slide show and talk

By Nicole Krueger
Entertainment Editor

If anyone can be accused of being controversial, it's Andres Serrano.

When Serrano exhibited his "Piss Christ" photograph, in which he immersed a 13-inch plastic crucifix in a tank of his own urine, he sparked a national debate over government support of the arts.

This photograph angered Jesse Helms, who then delivered a sermon that began the end of freedom in arts funding.

After his National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) was yanked, Serrano went on to push religious, racial and cultural dualities to their limits.

"I've always had trouble seeing things black or white ... I've always accepted that duality in myself. My work is a reflection of it," Serrano said in a recent press release.

His work went on to gain him international fame

as one of America's most controversial artists.

Serrano will now bring his duality to the University May 2 in the form of a slide show and talk

sponsored by the magazine *two girls review*.

"He's an extremely controversial figure," said Devin Crowe of *two girls review*. "His works are outrageous."

Serrano's works include images of suicide, the Ku Klux Klan and the body inside-out. Much of his photography incorporates bodily fluids, such as blood, semen and urine.

Amid all of the controversy, however, Serrano's artistic merit cannot be ignored.

"He's world renowned for the technical merit of his photography," Crowe said. "When you put these things together, you've got someone who attracts a lot of attention."

Serrano will appear at 7:30 p.m. in 180 PLC. Tickets are \$5 for students and \$7 for the general public.

"I've always had trouble seeing things as black and white ... I've always accepted that duality in myself."

— Andres Serrano
Photographer

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