

# Cohn to highlight Beckett event

■ **SYMPOSIUM:** The former UC Davis professor will look at the life and work of the playwright, her friend

By Kirstin Hamilton  
Freelance Reporter

Drama scholar Ruby Cohn will speak at a three-day symposium in honor of playwright Samuel Beckett, the purpose of which is to educate the public about Beckett's life and works.

Cohn, a former professor of comparative drama at UC Davis, was a close personal friend of Nobel Prize-winner Beckett. She is also the author of numerous critiques of his plays and the editor of two major theater journals.

The University Theatre's current main stage production is "An Evening in Beckett's Shorts," which consists of ten of Beckett's short plays.

Joseph Gilg, Developmental Director of University Theatre and director of "An Evening in Beckett's Shorts," hopes that Cohn's account of Beckett will "humanize him and provide a different perspective of him other than through his plays."

Gilg said although "An Evening in Beckett's Shorts" has had an outstanding response from audiences, Beckett's plays are complex works. He said he looks forward to the awareness and knowledge Cohn's symposium will generate.

"By bringing in an internationally renowned scholar, it will give

## BECKETT SYMPOSIUM

■ **JAN. 30:** Master's class in 330 Gilbert; 3:30 p.m.

■ **JAN. 31:** Reception and keynote address in Knight Library Browsing Room; 3 p.m. and 4 p.m.

■ **FEB. 1:** Panel discussions in rooms 330 and 338 Gilbert; 9 a.m., 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.

more understanding and dimension to Beckett's somewhat obscure and abstract plays," he explained.

Student Josh Nathan is an actor and assistant director in "An Evening in Beckett's Shorts." He said he appreciates the light Cohn will shed on the production.

"It is comforting to have the analytic opinion of someone who is well-known and has the credentials. We are lucky to have the symposium to finish the run of the production," he said.

The first symposium event, a master's class, is scheduled for Jan. 30 at 3:30 p.m. in room 330 of Gilbert Hall. Cohn will deliver a lecture titled "Play: The Threshold Text Between Early and Late Plays."

"Play" is one of ten of Beckett's short plays performed in "An Evening in Beckett's Shorts."

On Jan. 31, a reception in the Knight Library Browsing Room will honor Cohn and other sym-

posium participants at 3 p.m.

The reception precedes Cohn's keynote address "Beckett and Me" at 4 p.m. Her speech will provide a personalized account of Beckett's life.

For the final portion of the symposium, University departments will host panel discussions of Beckett's works on Feb. 1.

Panel topics scheduled for 9 a.m. include "Beckett in the Shadow of Europe" in 330 Gilbert and "Technology, Aesthetic Form, and History" in 338 Gilbert.

The 11 a.m. panels include "Author's Intentions/Director's Intentions: The Dilemma of Prerogatives in Staging the Plays of Samuel Beckett" in 330 Gilbert and "The Ethical Dimensions of Beckett's World" in 338 Gilbert.

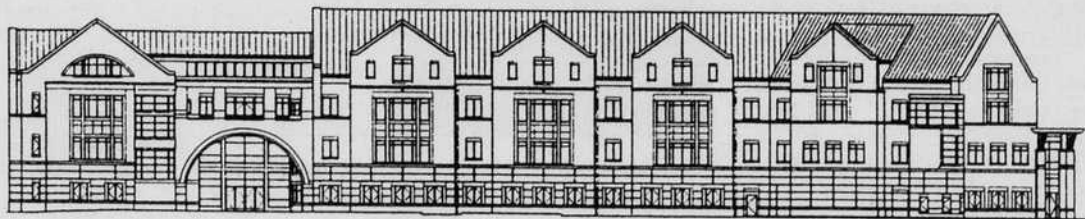
The final panel, "An Interdisciplinary Discussion with Ruby Cohn," features Cohn and one scholar from each of the morning panels and is scheduled for 2 p.m. in room 330 Gilbert.

All symposium events are open to the public and free of charge, thanks to a gift to the University from Gordon W. Cook of Newport Beach, Calif.

The two final performances of "An Evening in Beckett's Shorts" will be Jan. 31 and Feb. 1 at 8 p.m. in the Robinson Theatre.

Tickets are available through the University Theater box office, 346-4191.

## WILLIAM W. KNIGHT LAW CENTER SCHEMATIC DESIGN Public Comment Session



AGATE STREET ELEVATION

The University of Oregon and its architectural consultants have completed the schematic design of the new William W. Knight Law Center to be constructed on the southeast corner of the 15th and Agate intersection.

Members of the community are invited to review and comment on the schematic design.

**WHEN: 4:30-6:00 p.m., Monday, February 3, 1997**  
**WHERE: Bowerman Building, Room 213 (Heritage Hall)**

This session is being sponsored by the William W. Knight Law Center User Group and the University Planning Office.

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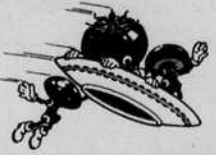
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