

theater

There Will Be Blood

Wedding bell blues at Miracle Theatre; the Rocky road to Sodom

Bodas de Sangre (Blood Wedding)

Enrique Andrade is one busy guy.

By day he's a court-certified Spanish interpreter for the Oregon Judicial Department. He's also the proud owner of the impossibly suave voice that makes MAX announcements in Spanish.

In the queer community he serves on the board of directors for Metropolitan Community Church of Portland and volunteers at the Sexual Minority Youth Resource Center.

His acting experience is limited, a technicality that did not stop him from scoring a major role in Federico García Lorca's 1932 tragedy *Bodas de Sangre* (Blood Wedding), running through Feb. 23 at Miracle Theatre. Andrade plays El Novio,

a Spanish farmer who's too busy fulfilling his mentally ill mother's expectations to realize that his beautiful bride has the hots for another fellow.

"I'm really angry with my character because he's such a dumb-ass," Andrade says. "He doesn't realize the bride doesn't love him, and he's emotionally inept."

García Lorca—a homosexual who died in 1936 at the outset of the Spanish Civil War—is best known for his poetry and for his brutal condemnations of provincial Spanish life in emotionally taxing plays like *La Casa de Bernarda Alba* (The House of Bernarda Alba).

Miracle Theatre mainstay Olga Sanchez directs the production. *Bodas de Sangre* will be presented in Spanish; English subtitles will be provided at every performance except Saturdays and opening night Feb. 1.

"The tone of the play is so dramatic that you can't avoid heaviness," Andrade notes. "But there are some comic elements. I just hope that people will walk away feeling something."

Andrade isn't sure how much acting work he wants to tackle after *Bodas de Sangre*. "I don't want to overwhelm myself with it," he says.

In 2008 he hopes that romance will take precedence over his professional and creative endeavors. "This might be the year of the partner," he says in that sexy MAX way of his.

Miracle Theatre presents *Bodas de Sangre*

7:30 p.m. Thursdays, 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays and 2 p.m. Sundays at 525 S.E. Stark St. Tickets are \$15-\$20 from 503-236-7253 or www.milagro.org.

—Stephen Blair

Vampire Lesbians of Sodom

Ladies, be forewarned: There are vampires, of sorts. And vamps, for that matter. But lesbians? Not so much, despite the alluring title of *Vampire Lesbians of Sodom*. However, in the vein of *The Rocky Horror Picture Show*, expect plenty of witty one-liners, drag pageantry and audience participation as rival, blood-sucking vixens travel swiftly from ancient Sodom to Tinseltown in the '20s before winding up in present-day Las Vegas.

Written by gay playwright Charles Busch (who also penned *The Tale of the Allergist's Wife* as well as film and stage versions of *Psycho Beach Party* and *Die, Mommy, Die!*), this irreverent one-act was well-received when it appeared off-Broadway in 1985. *New York Times* journalist D.J.R. Bruckner wrote: "Costumes flashier than pinball machines, outrageous lines, awful puns, sinister innocence, harmless depravity—it's all here. And it is contagious; this kind of campy show that transforms everything it touches attracts audiences that could take over and finish the performance if the cast walked out in the middle."

Behind this Portland incarnation is relative newcomer Third Eye Theatre, established in 2005 with



Enrique Andrade (inset) stars in *Bodas de Sangre* through Feb. 23 at Miracle Theatre.

the purpose of placing theater back into the hands of the performer in order "to produce art that is visionary and illuminates the human condition in an unconventional way." Previous presentations include *No Exit*, *Buried Child* and *Das Barbecu*. A production of *Cannibal the Musical* is slated for late summer 2008.

Vampire Lesbians of Sodom plays 10:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays through Feb. 16 at Back Door Theater, 4319 S.E. Hawthorne Blvd. Tickets are \$12 from 503-970-8874.

A rip for the insatiable: Make the night a double feature by catching Defunkt Theatre's workshop production of Anne Washburn's *The Communist Dracula Pageant* through Feb. 16 at the same venue. Performances are 8 p.m. Thursdays through Sundays. Tickets are \$10-\$15 from 503-481-2960.

—Timothy Krause 10



Third Eye Theatre presents the late-night production *Vampire Lesbians of Sodom* through Feb. 16.

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