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DOWNTOWN EUGENE
125 W. 11TH AVENUE

Sunday–Saturday 9 a.m.–8 p.m.
541-342-8666



Cultural
Services

Celebrating 30 Years!



Enjoy our Pearl Red Ale from Oakshire Brewing,
our signature King Estate Pinot Noir, and stop by our
Post-it Wall and put up your sticky note!

7th & Willamette, Downtown Eugene • 541-682-5000 • HultCenter.org



Rock of Ages

EUGENE SYMPHONY PRESENTS **Mozart's Piano Concerto**

Thursday, January 17 at 8:00PM

SILVA— Tix: \$59-\$33; Student & youth discounts available

Avery Fisher Career Grant pianist Alessio Bax graces the Silva stage with one of Mozart's greatest works.

BI-MART BROADWAY IN EUGENE PRESENTS

Rock of Ages

This Weekend!

Saturday, January 19 at 3:00PM and 8:00PM

SILVA— Tix: \$55-\$35; Student & youth discounts available, *Mature Content*

A small town girl meets a big city rocker and they fall in love in an awesomely good arena-rock love story about dreaming big, playing loud and partying on!

DANCE FOR A REASON PRESENTS

19th Annual Dance for a Reason

Friday, January 25 at 7:30PM

SILVA— Tix: \$17.50; Day of show \$20

Eugene's most eclectic, energized and fun benefit dance show! This year's beneficiary is ELAW.

VARSITY VOCALS PRESENTS

The International Championship of Collegiate A Cappella, 2013 West Quarterfinal

Saturday, January 26 at 7:00PM

SILVA— Tix: \$25; Student & youth discounts available

Celebrating its 8th year in Eugene, this 'pitch perfect' event will feature some of the best collegiate a cappella groups from the West Region.

Now On Sale!

EUGENE BALLET COMPANY PRESENTS: **Swan Lake**— February 9 & 10

EUGENE SYMPHONY PRESENTS: **The Planets**— February 14

**BUY TICKETS ONLINE at HultCenter.org
or call 541-682-5000**

HULT CENTER TICKET OFFICE HOURS:

Tue–Fri, 12–5 PM; Sat, 11 AM–3 PM

ONE HOUR BEFORE PERFORMANCE MON–SAT, TWO HOURS BEFORE ON SUN.

UO TICKET OUTLET IN THE EMU: Mon–Fri, 9AM–5 PM

THEATER BY ANNA GRACE

SOME ASSEMBLY REQUIRED

Very Little Theatre presents

Sherlock Holmes: The Final Adventure

Fantastic characters, high drama, a peppering of unexpected jokes — the VLT production of *Sherlock Holmes: The Final Adventure* has it all, almost.

Steven Dietz's 2007 adaptation of William Gillette and Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's 1899 play won the Edgar award for best mystery, and it is a great selection for a community theater. It is a fun combination of "A Scandal in Bohemia" and "The Final Problem," with Holmes (Dan Pegoda) locked in a culminating intellectual battle with the nefarious Professor Moriarty, while falling for the brilliant, beautiful opera singer Irene Adler (Tracy Ilene Miller).

Much of the acting lives up to the standards of VLT. Holmes fans will not be disappointed by Pegoda's gentle, phrenic Holmes. Achilles Massahos is a darling Watson, and he is steadfast in his commitment to the character and the tone of the production. Miller masterminds an engaging Irene. There is great spirit among some of the criminals, including Paul Rhoden's quick-talking, safe-cracking Sid Prince and Leslie Murray's multi-accented Madge.

Director Suzanne Shapiro doesn't shy away from the melodramatic, or from the humor inherent in the story. You can see a strong pattern of direction that tries to shore up weaker aspects of the script. The problem seemed to be that some cast members were not buying into her vision, or simply not living up to it. We have to suspend a lot of disbelief for the premise of any of Doyle's mysteries, and the only way to pull off a production of such a fantastical story is to bring total commitment to every moment on stage. Some actors nailing it most of the time still leaves a number of scenes where one or more characters appear to be performing in a lesser production.

The set, so long a strength of VLT productions, was cumbersome. The script moves the audience quickly from one location to the next, and despite a great deal of scraping furniture, the set was not able to keep up with the action. Skillful lighting might have helped direct audience attention, but as it was, it was hard to tell if someone was on the street, in an apartment or standing under a waterfall because most of the time they seemed to be doing all three.

It is likely the production will gel with time, and even with a few elements gone astray it is a delightful evening. Audience response is strong and happy to bask in the web of Holmes' logic. If the cast and crew were to locate a few more pieces of the puzzle, *The Final Adventure* would be complete. ■

Sherlock Holmes: The Final Adventure runs through Jan. 26 at The Very Little Theatre; \$12–\$17.



ROCK OF AGES, JAN. 19, HULT CENTER

GET THEE TO A THEATER!

Don't miss these one-night-only performances

Got a case of the post-holiday blues? Then get yourself out of your undecorated home and into a theater. Playing Saturday are two one-night-only events that I'm hard-pressed to choose between.

Feeling like something honest and thought provoking? The Actors' Table of Eugene's next series of staged readings is centered on the theme "To Be Determined." Local actors will read their favorite scenes and monologues examining the beauty and betrayal of that sticky virtue: determination. Carol Massahos directs the overall performance and Laura Robinson and Emily Hart direct individual scenes. Laura Robinson will be your emcee for the evening. There will be only one show, Jan. 19, at Tsunami Books. If you have \$5-\$10, donate it at the door to defray costs.

Feeling like something heart-poundingly entertaining? *Rock of Ages* is coming to the Hult Center, a Tony-nominated homage to The Big '80s. Sherrie, a small town girl, and Drew, born and raised in South Detroit, find love and adventure on the Sunset Strip amid rockin' guitar licks and superstar egos. Depending on your parenting style, this could be an excellent opportunity for parents and teenage children to bond over classic pop. Plus the entire cast is super hot. Seriously, I've seen the promotional photos. Tickets are \$35-\$55 and can be purchased through the Hult Center.

Whatever your bent, get your behind off the sofa now and get some drama back into your life. ■