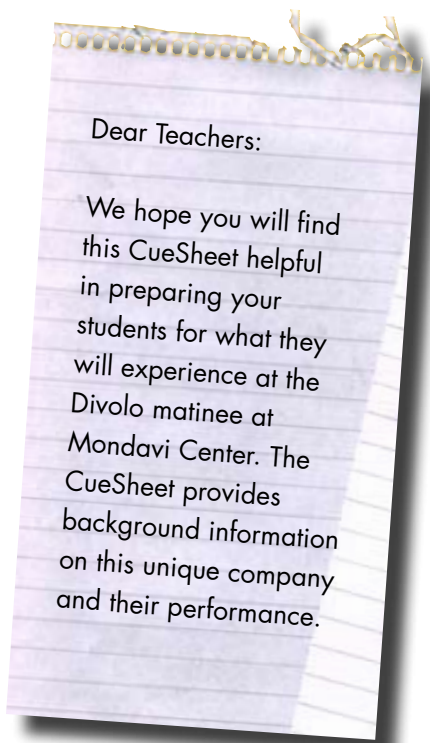


MONDAVI
CENTER
Arts Education

Q
CUE
Sheet
for Teachers



Diavolo

MON, APR 12, 2010 | 11:00 AM JACKSON HALL

Recommended for grades 4-12

ABOUT

DIABOLO (Di-a'-vo-lo) "Dia": Spanish for "day"; Greek for "through, across, from point to point"; "Volo": Latin for "I will fly."

Bodies perch precariously on leaning towers of ladders. A dancer slithers through the bars of a massive steel cube. A woman dives from the top of a tilted, rope-slung wall into a waiting quartet of arms. All these images are included in the majestic repertoire of Diavolo, the innovative dance company acclaimed by the *Los Angeles Times* for its "sharply defined creative goals, unstinting energy and the ability to dance on any surface, whether horizontal, vertical, tilted or tubular." Under the direction of Jacques Heim, who has also worked with Cirque de Soleil, the Los Angeles-based 10-member troupe creates surreal dreamscape worlds. This matinee demonstrates the company's performance style and philosophy while introducing some basic elements of dance.

Using a structured improvisation process, Heim engages dancers in a journey of "working out" with a new prop for at least six weeks—exploring the set's possibilities, and cultivating the story behind the work. Sometimes the process takes more time, or goes off in an entirely new direction. Once the movement is set, the music is laid onto the piece. His work is never static, and pieces will change from performance to performance, sometimes quite radically over the course of a year.



LEARN MORE

<http://www.diavolo.org>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ikXvKJKmBM4>

<http://video.google.com/videoplay?docid=4462047225500578770>



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THINK ABOUT IT!

DEAR STUDENTS

- 1 How would you describe a Diavolo performance to a friend?
- 2 If you were to choreograph a dance what would it be about, and why? Develop your own artistic vision statement.
- 3 Pretend you are a reporter for a newspaper or blog. Write a cultural review of the matinee for the *Arts* section. Describe the dancers, stage props, and music with as much detail as you can remember. Then discuss what you liked best about the performance and why.



ATTENDING THE THEATER

WHAT IS EXPECTED OF STUDENT AUDIENCES AT THE MATINEE:

- Enter the auditorium quietly and take your assigned seat immediately (note that all matinees have reserved seating);
- Show courtesy to the artist and other guests at all times;
- Demonstrate appreciation for the artist's work by applauding at the appropriate times;
- Refrain from making unnecessary noise or movements;
- Please eat lunch before or after the performance; food is not allowed in the performance hall;
- Relate any information acquired from the pre-matinee discussion to the new information gained from the matinee;
- Please do not use flash photography.

WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT OF YOUR EXPERIENCE IN A PERFORMING ARTS THEATER:

A theater is a charged space, full of energy and anticipation. When the house lights (the lights that illuminate the audience seating) go down, the excitement level goes up! Theaters are designed so that the voices of the singers and actors and the music of the musicians can be heard. But this also means that any sound in the audience—whispering, rustling of papers, speaking and moving about—can be heard by other audience members and by the performers. Distractions like these upset everyone's concentration and can spoil a performance.

The performers on stage show respect for their art form and for the audience by doing their very best work. The audience shows respect for the performers by watch-

ing attentively. Applause is the best way for audience members to share their enthusiasm and to show their appreciation for the performers. Applaud at the end of a performance! Sometimes the audience will clap during a performance, as after a featured solo. Audience members may feel like laughing if the action on stage is funny, crying if the action is sad, or sighing if something is seen or heard that is beautiful.

Appreciation can be shown in many different ways, depending upon the art form and the culture(s) of the people in the audience. While the audience at a dance performance will sit quietly, other types of performance invite audience participation.

CUE Sheet for Teachers

ROBERT AND MARGRIT MONDAVI CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

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MONDAVI CENTER ARTS EDUCATION

Arts Education provides CueSheets for all performances in the Mondavi Center 2009-10 School Matinee Series. They are intended to help teachers prepare their students for the school matinee that they will attend at Mondavi Center, UC Davis.



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