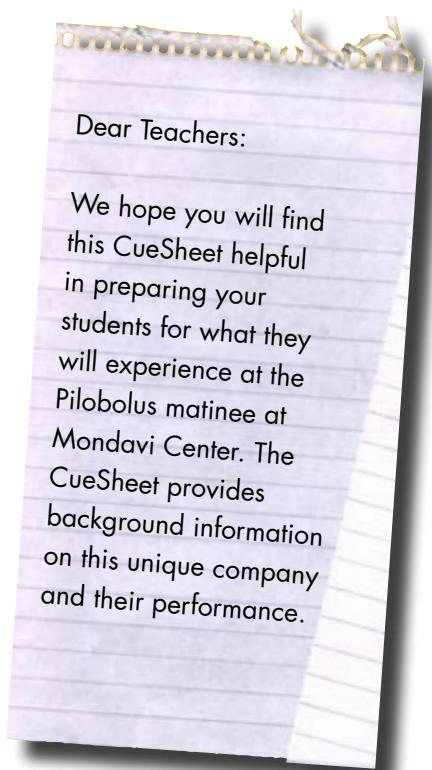


MONDAVI
CENTER
Arts Education

Q CUE
Sheet
for Teachers



Dear Teachers:

We hope you will find this CueSheet helpful in preparing your students for what they will experience at the Pilobolus matinee at Mondavi Center. The CueSheet provides background information on this unique company and their performance.



Pilobolus

FRI, NOV 13, 2009 | 11:00 AM JACKSON HALL

Recommended for grades 4-12

ABOUT

Pilobolus (*crystallinus*) is a sun-loving fungus that grows in pastures. It is also a highly unusual dance company that germinated in the fertile soil of Dartmouth College in 1971. What emerged was a collaborative choreographic process and a unique weight-sharing approach to partnering that gave the young company a non-traditional but powerful new set of skills with which to make dances. The group was immediately acclaimed for its startling mix of humor and invention and Pilobolus soon became a self-sufficient organization, its members choreographing, dancing, managing, and publicizing their own programs.

Nearly 40 years later, it has evolved into a pioneering American cultural institution of the 21st century. Since its founding, Pilobolus has been a creative collaborative, with three artistic directors and more than twenty-five full and part-time dancers contributing to one of the most popular and varied bodies of work in the history of dance. From Academy Awards telecasts to the Winter Olympics, Pilobolus delights audiences with its mind-bending tangles of humanity that seem to defy the laws of gravity and physics — it's "acrobatics liquefied into poetry." (*New York Times*). Its many decades of consistent artistic activity now stand as a testament to the group's remarkable fruitfulness and longevity.



LEARN MORE

- <http://www.pilobolus.org/>
- [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pilobolus_\(dance_company\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pilobolus_(dance_company))
- http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cKUDJ-Y51gg&feature=channel_page
- http://www.ted.com/talks/pilobolus_perform_symbiosis.html



ROBERT AND MARGRIT
MONDAVI CENTER
FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS
UC DAVIS

THINK ABOUT IT!

DEAR STUDENTS

- 1 How would you describe a Pilobolus performance to a friend?
- 2 What did you like best about performance and why? Was it what you had expected?
- 3 What do you think life would be like if you were part of a dance company?



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

Don Roth, Ph.D Executive Director

Joyce Donaldson Associate to the Executive Director
for Strategic Projects and Arts Education

Ruth Rosenberg Professional Development
Programs Coordinator

MondaviArts.org
530.754.5430

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.



Friends of
Mondavi Center