

MONDAVI
CENTER
Arts Education

CUE
Sheet
for Teachers



Paul Dresher's Schick Machine

THU, NOV 12, 2009 | 11:00 AM VANDERHOEF STUDIO THEATRE

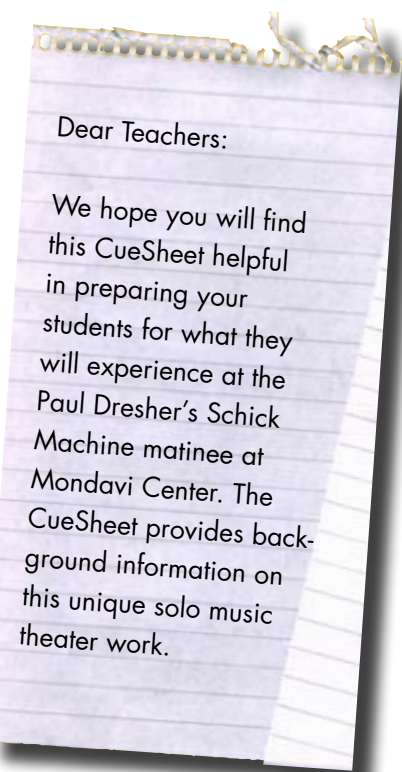
Recommended for grades 4-12

ABOUT

In this new solo music theater work by Paul Dresher, master percussionist Steven Schick will perform—using both conventional percussion instruments and new large-scale instruments invented and built by Dresher—on a stage where every object and surface is wired for sound. This matinee performance introduces students to the basics of the physics of sound in a fun, accessible way and explains how the various instruments operate and make sounds.

Virtuoso percussionist **STEVEN SCHICK** has long been bringing considerable theatrical skills into his performances. Steven has always thought that percussion is as much about the movements and performance energies of the player as it was about the exploration of new sounds. Schick is Distinguished Professor of Music at the University of California, San Diego and a Consulting Artist in Percussion at the Manhattan School of Music.

As both a composer and performer, **PAUL DRESHER** is uniquely able to integrate different musical influences into a coherent and remarkably personal style. A polymath who makes music in an astounding variety of ways, he composes and performs experimental opera and music theater, chamber and orchestral music, and instrumental electro-acoustic music. He also creates and performs on newly invented musical instruments and collaborates each season with artists in theater, dance, and film.



LEARN MORE

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PYVMrCD-W04>

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_Lft2_IODj8

http://www.bernsarts.com/dresher_schick/dresher_schickbio.html

<http://www.dresherensemble.org/>



ROBERT AND MARGRIT
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THINK ABOUT IT!

DEAR STUDENTS

- 1 How would you describe the Schick Machine performance to a friend?
- 2 What did you like best about the performance and why? Was the program different from what you expected? How?
- 3 Describe some of the instruments used in the performance. Did you like the conventional or invented instruments better? 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.

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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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