



For Immediate Release
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LISTING: THEATRE

**TRIUMPHANT RETURN ENGAGEMENT OF HOMER'S
"THE ODYSSEY"
BOXTALES THEATRE CO.~ FOUR SHOWS ONLY!**

(APRIL 11, 2007) **BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND**, after its sold-out world premiere in 2005 and the 2006 sold-out run, **BOXTALES Theatre Company** returns with **"THE ODYSSEY"** to the historic **Lobero Theatre for four shows only – May 24 through May 26** with the classic Greek tale of Odysseus and his ten year journey home from the Trojan War. The Lobero Theatre, a co-sponsor and longtime home for BOXTALES, is located at **33 E. Canon Perdido St.**, in the heart of downtown Santa Barbara. www.lobero.com. Using every art at their fingertips: circus arts, masks, acrobatics and live music **BOXTALES *The Odyssey*** leaves audiences breathless and on the edge of their seats. A thinking man's Cirque with an age-old tale as its base, this performance was described by a native of Greece as the best & most authentic adaptation of the *Odyssey* she had ever seen on stage, "even better than the Greeks have told the tale!" ***The Odyssey*** is a story for all ages and for all times. Tickets range from \$20 to \$75., with an opportunity to meet the artists in a post-show reception on Friday night. (805)963-0761 Call now.

THE ODYSSEY- This exciting ninety-eight minute play follows Odysseus, as he journeys home from the Trojan War. Five virtuosi performers descend from circus-fabric, jump on stilts, swing from hoops, operate puppets, tumble, contort, sing and play ethnic instruments all live on stage. Audiences are spellbound and deeply moved by the basic human drama of a man returning home to his family after twenty years. L.A. Times theatre critic Phil Brandes says, "[this] stylish, acrobatic production taps the capacity for wonder in all of us. Think Homer meets Cirque du Soleil."

YOUNG AUDIENCES HAVE ENJOYED BOXTALES shows for many, many years and the material is always intriguing to adults as well but this amazing production catapults this company way out of the box with its first large-scale, fully mounted, extravagant production. BOXTALES, now in its 13th year of operation, is the only professional touring theatre company in Santa Barbara. Serving as artistic ambassadors for our city, BOXTALES have been lauded & nominated as "*the best children's program in America*" by Shirley Ririe, the United States delegate to Dance and Child International and a consultant for the National Endowment for the Arts serving on the National Advisory Committee for Young Audiences. She recently retired from the University of Utah where for 39 years she was a professor of Modern Dance.

THE ODYSSEY CAST INCLUDES THE THREE-MAN BOXTALES team of Michael Andrews, Jeff Mills and Matthew Tavianini, who also serve as producers of the show; Joanne Lubeck from Los Angeles and Stephanie O'Neill; directed by Indie Award winner Peter Lackner; masks built and designed by award-winning designer Ann Chevrefils; costumes by Lesley Finlayson (Cirque du Soleil); script adaptation by Jessica Bortman and lights designed by Jon Retsky.

BOXTALES GRACIOUSLY THANKS ITS' ODYSSEY SPONSORS:

Lobero Theatre Foundation, Outhwaite Foundation, Towbes Foundation, Karuna Foundation, Pacifica Graduate Institute, Santa Barbara County Arts Commission, Marlyn Bernstein, Susan Bower, and the Santa Barbara Bowl Foundation.

FACTS:

BOXTALES Theatre Company in *THE ODYSSEY*

An original adaptation of Homer's classic tale and *Independent Theatre Award Winner*

Four Performances: **May 24, 25 @ 8 pm May 26 @ 2 pm & 8pm**

Lobero Theatre, 33 E. Canon Perdido St., Santa Barbara CA 93101.

(805) 963-0761 or www.lobero.com CALL NOW!

Tickets range :\$20 – \$75. Patron Tickets: \$75 Friday night only includes preferred seating & post-show reception with the artists; all other tickets: \$25 General \$20 Student/Senior.

www.lobero.com

www.BOXTALES.org

www.mcfaddenpr.com