



Yet another love
that dare not
speak its name.

PERFORMANCE PICK OF THE WEEK

THE RED RED ROSE

If you are in search of an innovative alternative to commemorate Valentine's Day, this eclectic adaptation of Oscar Wilde's tale "The Nightingale and the Rose" may be your romantic answer. Artistic directors L.F. Esquerria of the MET Theater, Christian Meoli of Cabaret Voltaire and Will Salmon of the Open Gate Theater — in collaboration with Highways — join forces in blending opera, the blues, puppetry, mask work and other genres to recount the selfless sacrifice of a 'Nightingale (coloratura Christina Linhardt) in uniting a lovelorn student (Charlie Pacello) with a professor's daughter (Jeanne Van Zanten). The Baboon Torture Puppet Division and the Orion Woodwind Quartet portray sundry garden creatures and plant life in what Meoli terms an edgy and satiric tribute to love: "the dark side, the light side and the reality of it." Highways Performance Space, 1651 18th St., Santa Monica; Thurs.-Sat., Feb. 10-12, 8:30 p.m. (310) 315-1459.

—Martin Hernández

Sat.—*The Waterbrains*, 8 p.m.; *The Transformers*, 9 p.m.; *The Fortune Room*, 10 p.m.; \$10 for one or all shows.

GROUNDING THEATER, 7307 Melrose Ave. The stage has been scuffed by some of the finest improvisers in the West. No booze. Not recommended for under 17. (323) 934-9700.

Every Fri.—*30th Anniversary Box Set Vol. 1*, 8 & 10 p.m.; \$25. See review in Theater.

Every Sat.—*30th Anniversary Box Set Vol. 2*, 8 & 10 p.m.; \$25.

Every Sun.—*Run DMSunday* goes old-school, 7:30 p.m.; \$13.50.

Wed.—*The Crazy Uncle Joe Show*, 8 p.m.; \$10.

Thurs.—*Cookin' With Gas*, 8 p.m.; \$16.50.

HA HA CAFE COMEDY CLUB, 5010 Lankershim Blvd., N. Hlywd. Full bar, two-drink min. Over 18. (818) 508-4995.

Fri.-Sat.—*All-Star Comedy*, 8:30 p.m.; \$15, \$12 with resv.

Sun.—*College Comedy Tour*, no cover before 9 p.m.

Mon.—Open mike, 6 p.m., \$3 sign-up; *Young Guns of Comedy*, no cover before 9 p.m.

Tues.—Open mike, 6 p.m., \$3 sign-up; *Trippin' Tuesdays*, no cover before 9 p.m.

Wed.—*Wednesday Night Jam*, no cover before 9 p.m.

Thurs.—*100% Thursdays*, no cover before 9 p.m.

THE ICE HOUSE, 24 N. Mentor Ave., Pasadena. Since 1960 nearly three million served. That's a few cocktails. Full bar; two-drink min. Over 18. Cover charge subject to change. (626) 577-1894.

Fri. Mon.—Valentine's Weekend with "Booster"

lowed brick wall. Full bar; two-drink min. Over 18. Resv. suggested. (323) 651-2583.

Fri.—**Jim Gaffigan**, 8:30 p.m., \$15; *Mi Orgullo (My Pride)* hosted by **Richard Villa** and **Rick Martinez**, 10:30 p.m., \$10.

Sat.-Mon.—**Jim Gaffigan**, 8 p.m., \$15, \$25 Mon. (Valentine's Day).

Mon.—*Mo' Better Monday*, 8 p.m.; \$10.

Tues.—*Gender Blender* hosted by **Ant**, 8 p.m.; \$15.

Wed.—*Pretty Funny Women* with **Lisa Sundstedt** and **Jason Pullman**, 8 p.m., \$10.

Thurs.—*Tonight Show* showcase, 8 p.m., \$10; *Bailey's Irish Comedy* hosted by **Bill Devlin**, 10:30 p.m., \$10.

IMPROV OLYMPIC WEST, 6366 Hollywood Blvd., Hlywd. Headquarters for long-form improv known as "The Harold." (323) 962-7560.

Fri.—*Scott's Search for a Rose*, 8 p.m., \$10; *Opening Night: The Musical*, 9 p.m., \$10; *God Squad*, *Box of Wolves*, 10 p.m., \$10; *The Front*, *The Reunion Show*, 11 p.m., \$10; *The Jim Coughlin Standup Hour*, mid., free.

Sat.—**The Lampshades**, 8 p.m., \$10; *Bear Shark Mice*, 9 p.m., \$10; *Red Shirt Freshmen*, 10 p.m., \$10; *David Park*, 11 p.m.

Sun.—Level 4, 6:30 p.m., free; *Jeff Garlin's Combo Platter*, 7:30 p.m., free; *Cog*, 9 p.m., \$10; *Night Terrors*, *Saucebox*, 10 p.m., \$10; *Tigerpants*, 11 p.m., free.

Mon.—*The Lottery*, Level 6 Grad Show, 8 p.m., \$10; *Armando* featuring **David Cross**, 9 p.m., \$10; *Adsit and Pasquesi*, 10:30 p.m., \$10; improv jam, 11:30 p.m., free.

Twenty-eight years deep in improv. No booze. All ages. (818) 784-1868.

Fri.—*Comedy Improv for Kids by Kids*, or *Rock & Roll Rookies*, 7:30 p.m. (rotating), \$10; *All-Star Improv Double Header*, 9 & 10:30 p.m., \$10.

Sat.—*New All-Stars*, 7 & 8 p.m., \$10; *L.A.*

Connection's 2001: An Improv Odyssey, 9 p.m., \$12; *Late Night All-Stars Improv*, 10:30 p.m., \$10.

Sun.—*Comedy Improv for Kids by Kids*, 3:30 p.m., \$7; *Rock & Roll Rookies*, 5:30 p.m., \$7.

Thurs.—*Every Time I Look at You*, *You Change Colors*, 9 p.m.; \$8.

THE LAUGH FACTORY, 8001 Sunset Blvd., W. Hlywd. Full bar; two-drink min. Over 18. Resv. required. (323) 656-1336.

Fri.—*All-Star Comedy*, 8 & 10 p.m., \$15; *Late & Wicked*, hosted by **Mike Marino**, mid., \$15.

Sat.—*All-Star Comedy*, 8 & 10 p.m., \$15; **P.K.** hosts *Asian Invasion*, mid., \$15.

Sun.—**Chris Spencer** hosts *Chocolate Sundaes*, 8 & 10 p.m.; \$15.

Mon.—**Kris Martinez** hosts *Latino Night*, 8 p.m.; \$15.

Tues. & Wed.—*All-Star Comedy*, 8 p.m.; \$12.



COMEDY CALENDAR

Wed.—**Jon Lovitz**, 8 p.m.; \$15.

M BAR, 1253 N. Vine St., Hlywd. Full bar; one-drink min. Over 18. Resv. recommended. (323) 856-0036.

Mon.—**Jason Nash** hosts *The M Spot* with **Andrew Donnelly**, **Eddie Pepitone** and **Jen Kirkman**, 8:30 p.m.; \$5.

Every Tues.—*Comedy Death Ray*, with a bunch of hotshots and others demanding your reservation, this week including **Arj Barker**, 8:30 p.m.; free.

THE NEXT STAGE, Second Floor, 1523 N. La Brea Ave., Hlywd. (323) 850-7827.

Every Tues.—**The Omelettes**, 8 p.m., \$7 (free booze alert!).

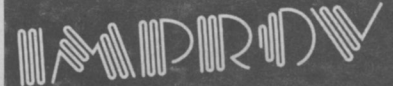
Every Wed.—Long-form improv with *Tiny Banderas*, 8 p.m.; \$10 at door, \$8 with resv. Resv.: (323) 876-6861.

THE SECOND CITY STUDIO THEATER, 8156 Melrose Ave. Full bar. Over 18. (323) 651-2583, Ext. 176.

Fri.—*Cheap Boxed Chocolates*, 8 p.m., \$5; *Holly Wortell's Level 1 Workshop*, 9:30 p.m.; \$5.

Sat.—*Cheap Boxed Chocolates*, 8 p.m., \$5; *The Conservatory 1 Workshop*, 9:30 p.m., \$5; improv jam, 11 p.m., \$4.

KATE SNEAL



Celebrating 40 Years of Laughter!
8162 Melrose Ave, Los Angeles, CA
www.improv.com

Valentine's Weekend

with **JIM GAFFIGAN** from "Sex and the City"
Feb. 11 @ 8:30pm, Feb. 12 at 8:30 & 10:30pm
Feb. 13 at 8pm and Feb. 14 at 8pm

