

Rehearsals underway: Magritte's story

Written by

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Rehearsals are winding down for Appalachian State University's newest production, set to stage October 3-7 in the Valborg Theatre.

"This is Not a Pipe Dream," by Barry Kornhauser is a play director and ASU professor Teresa Lee is excited about. It allows her to direct her specialty: physical comedy.

There's a lot of slapstick, silent film type comedy, contemporary to Magritte.

The play explores the dreams and wishes of painter Rene Magritte- an artist that Lee and the rest of the ensemble came to know intimately. Lee was not fluent in Magritte paintings prior to the production. Now, however, she can't help but recognize the importance of his artwork.

It challenges the viewer, she says- and is full of surprises, just like the show.

The show is a family friendly production, produced in cooperation with Appalachian Young People's Theatre. While it's appropriate for all ages, Lee says kids 8-years-old and above would particularly enjoy the show. The show will also be staged for Watauga County students.

Performances are on Oct. 3, 5 and 6 at 7 p.m.; Oct. 4 at 8 p.m. to allow participants in a special play-related lecture to see the production; and matinee performances Oct. 6-7 at 2 p.m. For ticket information, call 828-262-3063.

On a related note: In conjunction with ASU's "This is Not a Pipe Dream," acclaimed art critic and author Suzi Gablik will read from her most recent autobiographical book, "Living the Magical Life: An Oracular Adventure," on Oct. 4, at 6:30 p.m. in the Turchin Center for the Visual Arts lecture hall. The memoir offers a glimpse into her life and work, including eight months living with acclaimed Magritte and his wife.