

# San Francisco Chronicle

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## THIS WEEK

# S

### PERFORMANCE

#### San Francisco Mime Troupe

"Walls," the troupe's 58th season opener, asks an important question: "How does a nation of immigrants declare war on immigration?" The answer is fear. The Tony Award-winning San Francisco Mime Troupe weaves together a story about an agent with Immigration and Customs Enforcement who knows how to stoke fear in people like a Somali refugee and an Irish woman wanting to become an American citizen. 2 p.m. Sunday, July 9, in Live Oak Park, Shattuck and Berryman streets, Berkeley. Free. See website for full schedule and venues through Sept. 10. [www.sfmt.org](http://www.sfmt.org)

### EXHIBITION

#### Space Brainz

The exhibition by Damon Rich and Jae Shin fills the entire gallery with a modular structure that almost seems like a futuristic city. It's a collection of Hector Design Service's experiences in architecture and planning projects. The exhibition is part of the City Initiative, which highlights the creativity of architects, designers, planners and artists working in urban environments. 11 a.m.-6 p.m. daily through January. Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, 701 Mission St., San Francisco. \$8-\$10. See website for special events. (415) 978-2787. [www.ybca.org](http://www.ybca.org)

Hansel Tan (left), Sean Fenton, Phil Wong and James Seol star in "The Four Immigrants: An American Musical Manga," presented by TheatreWorks Silicon Valley.

# M

### LECTURE/BOOK

#### 'Lefty O'Doul: Baseball's Forgotten Ambassador'

Author Dennis Snelling talks about what O'Doul did to make baseball popular in Japan. O'Doul, a San Francisco native who played in Japan in 1931, brought Babe Ruth and others to Japan in 1934 and helped establish the team now known as the Yomiuri Giants. After World War II, Gen. Douglas MacArthur had O'Doul bring a team to Japan to help mend the relationship with the U.S. 6 p.m. Monday, July 10. Commonwealth Club, 555 Post St., San Francisco. \$7-\$20. (415) 597-6705. [www.commonwealthclub.org](http://www.commonwealthclub.org)

# T

### AUTHOR EVENT

#### Julia Glass

"A House Among the Trees" is full of unlikely alliances, upheavals and relationships. The book centers on a respected children's author, Mort Lear, who leaves his entire Connecticut estate to his assistant. His will also leaves specific directives for her to follow. Honoring Lear's last wishes demands that she look closely at the life he led, one that includes a difficult boyhood and his explosive relationship with a lover who died from AIDS. 7 p.m. Tuesday, July 11. Books Inc., El Camino Real, 74 Town & Country Village, Palo Alto. Free. [www.booksinc.net](http://www.booksinc.net)

# W

### THEATER

#### 'The Four Immigrants: An American Musical Manga'

This world premiere musical comedy with a score by Min Kahng is set in 20th century San Francisco. The musical is based on the Japanese comic book "Manga Yonin Shosei," by Henry Yoshitaka Kiyama. 8 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday, July 12-15; 2 p.m. Sunday, July 15. Through Aug. 6. Lucie Stern Theatre, 1305 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto. \$35-\$82. (650) 463-1960. [www.theatreworks.org](http://www.theatreworks.org)

# T

### THEATER

#### 'La Cage aux Folles'

The Tony Award-winning musical is the story of life partners Georges and Albin, who run a drag nightclub. When the couple's son becomes engaged to the daughter of a bigoted politician, the couple masquerade as a typical family. It features the risqué humor of playwright Harvey Fierstein and memorable music by Jerry Herman. 8 p.m. Wednesday-Friday, July 12-14; 3 and 8 p.m. Saturday, July 15; 2 p.m. next Sunday, July 16. Through Sept. 16. San Francisco Playhouse at Kensington Park Hotel, 450 Post St., San Francisco. \$35-\$125. (415) 677-9596. [www.sfplayhouse.org](http://www.sfplayhouse.org)

# F

### THEATER

#### 'The Last Days of Judas Iscariot'

Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Stephen Adly Guirgis weaves a tale of morality that is both comic and poignant. It's one answer to the fate of Judas Iscariot, the apostle who betrayed Jesus to the Sanhedrin for 30 pieces of silver. The play is full of zany characters, who appear in flashbacks and at Iscariot's trial in the Court of Free Will vs. Divine Mercy. 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, July 13-15. Through Aug. 12. Shelton Theater, 533 Sutter St., San Francisco. \$25-\$50. (800) 838-3006. [www.sheltontheater.org](http://www.sheltontheater.org)

# S

### CULTURAL EVENT

#### 'Solis'

The performance is the fourth installment of a series from Julia Adam Dance that uses all the senses to immerse the audience. "Solis" explores the themes of fire, energy and locally sourced food in an open-air ballet set at Big Mesa Farmstead, with vistas of the West Marin hills. The collaboration between Adam and her husband, Aaron Lucich, a producer, rancher and agricultural activist, is more than a performance; it's a cultural event that merges dance with nature and food. The evening features a multicourse feast plus beer, wine and nonalcoholic beverages. 5-10 p.m. Friday-next Sunday, July 14-16; and July 21-July 23. Big Mesa Farmstead, 280 Mesa Road, West Marin. \$200. (415) 235-0605. [www.juliaadamdance.com](http://www.juliaadamdance.com)

### COMEDY

#### Jim Jefferies

The comedian returns to the area on his "Unusual Punishment" tour. The critically acclaimed Jefferies is known for his suggestive and provocative humor. He is probably best known for his HBO special "I Swear to God," and other specials that include "Contraband," "Alcoholocaust" "Fully Functional" and "BARE." His latest special, "Freedumb," is now on Netflix. 7 p.m. Saturday, July 15. Luther Burbank Center for the Arts, 50 Mark West Springs Road, Santa Rosa. \$39.50-\$49.50. (707) 546-3600. [www.lutherburbankcenter.org](http://www.lutherburbankcenter.org)

—Kathleen Dixon



Kevin Berne