

Mondavi Center

ARTS EDUCATION 2010-11  
TARGET SCHOOL MATINEE SERIES

# Q CUE

Sheet for  
Teachers

## MOMIX *Botanica*

MONDAY, JANUARY 31, 2011

11 AM • JACKSON HALL

*Recommended for grades 4-12*



Dear Teachers:

We hope you will find this CueSheet helpful in preparing your students for what they will experience at the MOMIX matinee at the Mondavi Center. The CueSheet provides background information on this phenomenal ensemble and their performance.

*Botanica* is a fantasy land of breathtaking beauty. It's a brilliant exploration of nature as large scale puppets, projected imagery, and larger-than-life props evoke a vivid landscape. While the company uses an eclectic score ranging from birdsongs to Viv-

aldi, it follows the rhythm of the seasons, the evolution of the world and the passing of the day.

### ABOUT

The internationally renowned dance company known as MOMIX has been delighting and astounding audiences since 1981 with its distinctive and almost unbelievable blend of dance, acrobatics, music, costumes, and movement. The ensemble of 10 dancer illusionists presents a new work, *Botanica*, which traces the unfolding of the earth's four seasons, continuing the MOMIX tradition of stunning and mind-boggling creations that transfix audiences with an unforgettable multi-media experience.



MOSES PENDLETON (Artistic Director) has been one of America's most innovative and widely performed choreographers and directors for over 40 years. A founding member of the ground-breaking Pilobolus Dance Theater in 1971, he formed his own company, MOMIX, in 1980.

### LEARN MORE:

- <http://www.cami.com/?webid=614>
- <http://www.momix.com>



ROBERT AND MARGRIT  
**MONDAVI CENTER**  
FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS  
UC DAVIS



# think about it!

## DEAR STUDENTS

- 1 Describe what you SAW in the performance. What did the costumes and backdrops represent? What materials were used in the costumes and props to represent the different parts of a flower? What movements did the dancers and props perform?
- 2 Describe what you HEARD in the performance. What sounds did you hear that brought to mind each of the four seasons?
- 3 What did you like best about the performance and why?

## ATTENDING THE THEATER

### WHAT IS EXPECTED OF STUDENT AUDIENCES AT THE MATINEE:

- Please 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 artists' 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 watching 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.

**MONDAVI CENTER ARTS EDUCATION** provides CueSheets for all performances in the Mondavi Center 2010-11 Target 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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