

Crow and Weasel

Later in the month, CTE's second show is *Crow and Weasel*, adapted by Jim Leonard, Jr., based on the children's book by Barry Lopez and directed by guest artist Robert Ernst. The story follows two young "Animal People" who go on a Vision Quest to the Northern Lights. The characters are based on tales from the Plains Indian tribe and include many elements of their culture within the play. For example, they had no formal religion but instead practiced Animist religion, putting forth the idea that all living things have a spirit. This idea forms the core of *Crow and Weasel*. Important within this religion was the group ceremonies to *Wakan Tanka* (The Great Spirit) such as the Sun Dance. This ceremony lasted four days and involved some self-sacrifice and self-inflicted feats of pain. Another vital part of the Plains Indians culture was the Vision Quest, a rite of passage for all boys to evolve into young men. *Crow and Weasel* will involve parts of traditional culture such as movement and mask work led by Mr. Ernst who is no stranger to these methods. For those who enjoyed last year's Mother Lode play, *Nothing*, with Bob at the helm, *Crow and Weasel* promises to offer great opportunities for his innovative directing style. Guest artist Kathryn Zdan (who is also a CTE alumn) will supply the movement and choreography.

Caroline De Lone, Peter Wallace, Oliver Erteman, Kelsey Engstrom, Katie Lee, Martine Ehrlich, Allison Curtis, Taylor Will, and Max Kligman form the ensemble cast.

The designers for *Crow and Weasel* are Suzy Plessas/Set, Sarah Higgins/ Costumes, Greg Rathje/ Sound, Caleb Dorfman/ Props and / Lighting.

Performances are at the Caldwell Theatre at 7:00 PM with the doors opening at 6:30. Tickets are on sale one hour before the performance at the box office: Students/ Seniors @ \$5 and Adults @ \$12. Appropriate for third graders and up.