



For Immediate Release

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MO`OLELO PERFORMING ARTS COMPANY ANNOUNCES THE FIRST SHOW PRODUCED UNDER GREEN THEATER GUIDELINES

***Cowboy Versus Samurai* will be brought to stage using environmentally friendly and sustainable practices**

October 15, 2007 - San Diego, CA - Mo`olelo Performing Arts Company, a theater organization dedicated to broadening the scope of San Diego's cultural environment, today announced that its fall production, *Cowboy Versus Samurai*, will be the first show produced in the United States under recently developed guidelines for a green theater industry. The groundbreaking production, which begins previews November 29, will feature sets painted with non-toxic, environmentally friendly Safecoat® paint; platforms recycled from the La Jolla Playhouse; and promotional materials printed on recycled paper certified by the Forest Stewardship Council.

Cowboy Versus Samurai is a contemporary Asian-American retelling of Edmond Rostand's *Cyrano de Bergerac*. The romantic comedy delivers a timely discussion on race, identity and love – and proves theater can be good for the planet as well as the mind.

"Theater by its nature is wasteful because sets, props and costumes are often created for only one-time use, and then stored in vast warehouses, or, worse, thrown away," says Mo`olelo's Artistic Director Seema Sueko, who worked closely with LEED-certified architects and other experts to develop the GREEN Theater Categories & Sustainable Guidelines (<http://moolelo.net/mission/green>). "To bring a green production to stage means every decision we make is passed through a green filter. We're rethinking the paints, papers, costumes, and set materials traditionally used in theater production. In addition, we're offering discounts to patrons who carpool, drive a hybrid vehicle or take public transportation to the theater."

Mo`olelo's green initiative has gained national attention. Shortly after the company published the guidelines for green theater, Sueko was interviewed by *American Theatre Magazine* and *Inside Arts Magazine*. Both reporters have applauded Mo`olelo for leading the industry with the first green production to be brought to stage. No other company has developed a document like Mo`olelo's that addresses how to green its operations from top to bottom.

Mo`olelo's *Cowboy Versus Samurai* will run through December 16 at the 10th Avenue Theatre in downtown San Diego. For show schedule, and to read the GREEN Theater Categories & Sustainable Guidelines, please visit www.moolelo.net.

About Mo`olelo

Mo`olelo means *story* in Hawaiian. A two-time recipient of the KPBS Patté Awards™ for Theater Excellence (Outstanding Ensemble and McDonald Playwriting Award) as well as the Anti-Discrimination Award, Mo`olelo Performing Arts Company is dedicated to broadening the scope of San Diego theater by telling powerful stories that are as diverse as the islands of Hawaii. Voted Best New Theater Company in 2006 by the readers and editors of *San Diego Magazine*, Mo`olelo's mission is to create new works based on research from our diverse communities, produce lesser-known works by master and contemporary playwrights, and educate youth. To learn more, visit www.moolelo.net or call 619-342-7395.



Mo'olelo Performing Arts Company
Cowboy Versus Samurai
Fact Sheet

What: ***Cowboy Versus Samurai***
A play by Michael Golamco

When: **November 29 – December 16, 2007**
Press Opening Saturday, December 1, 7:30 p.m.
November 29-30, December 1, 7-8, 13-15 at 7:30 p.m.
December 2, 9, 16 at 2:00 p.m.
High School Matinees December 5, 6, 12 at 9:30 a.m.

Where: **Mo'olelo at 10th Avenue Theatre**
930 10th Avenue, San Diego, CA 92101 (Downtown)

Who: **Produced by Mo'olelo Performing Arts Company**
Director: Kimber Lee*
Scenic Design: David F. Weiner
Lighting Design: Jason Bieber
Costume Design: Jennifer Brawn Gittings
Stage Manager: Jennifer Wheeler*

Cast:

Volt Francisco*	<i>Travis</i>
Eric 'Pogi' Sumangil*	<i>Chester</i>
Zandi De Jesus	<i>Veronica</i>
Paul Morgan Stetler*	<i>Del</i>

** Member of Actors' Equity Association, the union of professional actors and stage managers in the United States.*

Synopsis:

"Things in nature always hide. Lizards change the color of their skins. Moths live or die based on the color of their wings..."

Will Travis Park risk being seen as he truly is?

In this savagely funny re-telling of Edmond Rostand's *Cyrano de Bergerac*, English teacher Travis Park is the only Korean American living in the small town of Breakneck, Wyoming. When beautiful Veronica Lee arrives, she stirs up questions about love and race, and Travis must choose... but who's who in this struggle between *cowboy* and *samurai*?

Tickets: \$18-\$30

Box Office: 619-342-7395 and www.moolelo.net

Green Discounts:

As part of Mo'olelo's Green Initiative, we offer incentives and discounts when you "travel green" to the theater. See our website for more details.

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