
Academy of Visual & Performing Arts

Culver City High School

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AVPA Performs Holocaust-themed *Treehouses*

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What is loyalty? What is love? These are some of the themes the young actors at the Academy of Visual and Performing Arts (AVPA) will bring to life in their production of Elizabeth Kuti's *Treehouses*. The play, directed by Darryl Hovis, will be performed Wednesday through Saturday, December 6-16 at 7:00 p.m. in the Sony Pictures Theater, behind the Robert Frost Auditorium on the Culver City High School campus (4401 Elenda Avenue). Tickets are \$15 general/\$13 ASB, faculty, seniors. Seating is limited for this thought-provoking performance, so reservations are recommended (www.avpa.org).



Interweaving lives and secrets, *Treehouses* is a magical tale of refuge, treachery and love lost and found. An important avenue for understanding the Holocaust, *Treehouses* tells the story of two women whose lives are intrinsically connected through one man. On the day of her father's funeral, Eva is haunted by a scene of betrayal she witnessed from her childhood haven – a tree house. That same day another woman, Magda, remembers the

ghosts of another hiding place and a different betrayal – ghosts from which she still seeks forgiveness.

This new play by the award-winning playwright has been published as part of the innovative Abbey Theatre playscript series. Hovis chose to present *Treehouses* because it's a memory play, a traditional part of the Irish literature. According to Hovis, "We spent a lot of time analyzing the script which, I think, has helped the actors pull things out of themselves that are helping them make strong artistic choices."

The Academy of Visual and Performing Arts (AVPA) at Culver City High School offers a comprehensive arts curriculum after regular school hours for students who are committed to excellence in Art, Film, Theatre, Dance, and Music. Established in 1996, AVPA enjoys tremendous community support from Sony Pictures Entertainment and other design, recording, and theatre companies in the area. For more information about the Academy, go to www.avpa.org or contact Tony Spano at 310-842-4200 x6094 or Kristine Hatanaka at 310-842-4200 x6001.

Picture captions:

Treehouses cast (L-R) Alexandria Richardson, Halimah Najieb-Locke, Molly Clancy, Ali Sieke, Max Lichtig, Colin Stanley

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