



MONDAY, AUGUST 20, 2007

## A sight to be seen



Last week I took my [sister](#) to see the Donald Margulies play, "[Sight Unseen](#)," at art/works theatre on Santa Monica Blvd. When we walked up to the tiny theatre in the waning evening light and saw only one couple lingering outside, I figured we were either a little early (it was 7:40 p.m.) or a little late (the show started at 8 p.m.). It turned out it was neither. The attendance that Thursday night was 7, including the two of us.

The theatre may have been empty, but the play was plenty full. Full of emotion and wit and thought-provoking content. It was full of intensity and complexity. It was full of dialogue. And subject matter: modern art, love, identity, Judaism, wealth, marriage.

Johnathan Waxman, played by the handsome Jeffrey Dean, is a wildly successful and arrogant Jewish-American painter who is in London for his first European retrospective. He decides to pay his former college sweetheart, Patricia (Tiffany Walker), a visit in her northern England farmhouse, where she lives a sparse existence with her quirky archaeologist husband, Nick (Steve Owsley). Patricia has never healed from her painful breakup with Johnathan fifteen years earlier and her current passionless marriage is a sad result of mere circumstance.

Awkward chit chat, bitter accusations and highly charged exchanges ensue as the old lovers meet for the first time since their explosive breakup and as Nick faces the menacing figure that has been looming over his marriage and his mantle in the form of a nude painting Johnathan did of Patricia the day they met.



Superbly written, "Sight Unseen" won an Obie award for Best New

## Calendar

### What suits your fancy?

Prepare your spirit for the high holy days with one month of "inspiration on hope and healing" through the eyes of Elie Wiesel, the Dalai Lama, Deepak Chopra, Matisyahu, Kirk Douglas and more at [Jewels of Elul](#).

### Friday, Aug. 17- Thursday, Aug. 23

Boring Summer blockbusters got you down? Fear not, because [DOCUWEEK](#) is showcasing a program of international documentary films utilizing innovative formal techniques and provocative subject matter. Set in Jerusalem during the weeks preceding Rosh Hashanah, an elderly man struggles to walk, to attend synagogue, to live. "[Steps to Eternity](#)" is the story of his journey against despair and into the light of living out his future. "[A Promise to the Dead: The Exile Journey of Ariel Dorfman](#)" delves into the memory of the playwright/author/activist's political plight, which carried him across three countries, through a military coup and exile — and he lived to tell the tale. International Documentary Association. \$11. ArcLight Cinemas, 6360 Sunset Blvd., Hollywood. For full program and showtimes, visit their [website](#).

### Friday, August 17

Self-proclaimed Armenian/Dominican hybrid and actress/writer, Adriana Sevan explores ethnic identity in her one woman show "[Taking Flight](#)." Characters include a Haitian cabdriver, a Jewish fashion maven from Long Island and...a 90-year old sexy grandmother. Two-week engagement begins tonight. 8 p.m. \$25. [Fountain Theatre](#), 5060 Fountain Ave., Hollywood. (323) 663-1525.

American Play when it debuted in 1992. It also had a [long, successful](#) run at the Manhattan Theatre Club in 2004 where Laura Linney reportedly played Patricia to perfection. Though Tiffany Walker was a bit overdramatic in her performance as the resentful shiksa and Jeffrey Dean not quite charming enough to make his insecure but self-absorbed character likeable, the production was still powerful and entertaining.

And full. Very very full.

Posted by Dikla Kadosh at [3:54 PM](#) [0 comments](#)

## Jonah Hill is 'Superbad'

Jonah Hill got discovered in a bar. It was storytelling/poetry night at "Black and White," a hip joint in Manhattan's East Village, when a couple of peers noticed this funnyman. They suggested Hill meet their father, who turned out to be Dustin Hoffman. After that, Hill (a Los Angeles native) found himself living the dream with roles in "I Heart Huckabees," "The Forty-Year-Old Virgin" and "Click." He currently stars in the new movie "Superbad" by director-friend [Judd Apatow](#).

On Aug. 12, he was featured in a one-on-one chat with the New York Times' Deborah Solomon discussing youthful immaturity, being bar mitzvahed and sex.

## Superdude

**There is much that is supergood about your performance in "Superbad," which opens this week. But how do you feel about landing your first big role in a film that celebrates male immaturity and vulgarity?** Any time I have a conversation with a female reporter, this kind of comes up. The way that [Michael Cera](#) and I talk in the movie is vulgar. But whether people realize it or not, this is how 17-year-old kids talk today. You might not want to believe it.



[Trailer: 'Superbad'](#)

**You make the film sound like an example of gritty realism, when it's a teen comedy about two underage buddies trying to buy alcohol to impress girls.** I don't think "Superbad" is a teen movie. I think it's a movie about young people. I mean, no one has sex with a pastry of any kind.

## Friday-Sunday, August 17-19

JDate is throwing a "Schmooz-a-palooza" on the Sunset Strip and in this case, the appellation is code for weekend-long cocktail and pool parties, an '80s concert with live musicians and a swanky Sunday brunch. Boasting an annual turnout of 1,000 JDaters, you're bound to find someone who likes long walks on the beach. For more information on event locations and to register, please call (877) 453-3861.

## Saturday, August 18

Elan Alekzander began studying ballet when she was 4 years old. Since then, she has appeared in many of the most prestigious ballet companies in the country. Tonight, she makes her Media City Ballet debut in the all-Spanish performance "Noche de Sabor" replete with ballet, tango, flamenco and salsa. 8 p.m. \$20-\$45. The Alex Theatre, 216 N. Brand Blvd., Glendale. To purchase tickets, call (818) 243-2539 or visit <http://www.alextheater.org>.

Though he is widely acclaimed as one of the 20th century's best American film satirists and observers, the primary setting of Billy Wilder's early career is often overlooked. Tonight, [Billy Wilder's Europe](#), a retrospective, will screen "People on Sunday," a German silent film Wilder co-wrote, and "[Mauvaise Graine](#)," his 1934 comic-thriller and directorial feature debut set in France. \$7-\$10. Billy Wilder Theater, The Hammer Museum, 10899 Wilshire Blvd., Westwood. For tickets and show times, visit [www.cinema.ucla.edu](http://www.cinema.ucla.edu).

## Sunday, August 19

[JConnectLA Day @ The Bay](#) is an eco-adventure topped off with beach games and pizza that will surely make a difference in the lives of young Jewish children. Join Jewish Big Brothers Big Sisters and spend the afternoon having fun while helping the planet. 10:30 a.m. Will Rogers State Beach (meet at tower 8), 15800 Pacific Coast Highway, Pacific Palisades. To R.S.V.P., please call Claire at (310) 570-7772.

## Through Sept. 1

Simone Gad was born in Brussels to holocaust survivor parents, grew up in Boyle Heights with an overzealous stage mom, and is now a self-taught funky pop/expressionist/kitsch painting/collage/assemblages artist. And actress. So who knows what to expect from the kooky curator and her exhibit "The