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Go live this weekend -- a mess of Murray Mednick

March 27, 1:09 PM · Add a Comment

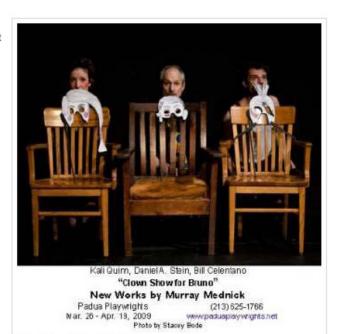
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Say one thing about Padua Playwrights founder Murray Mednick, the man doesn't sleep. He always seems to have something cooking. I've lost count of how many of the man's plays have been produced at Padua.

Currently, however, Mednick-ites can get a triple dose...all in a single evening, if they're especially brave.

"Three New Works by Murray Mednick," presented by Padua Playwrights -- with an assist from the Zoo District -- includes two full length plays and one movie. You've got "Destruction of the Fourth World," which find the trickster Native American god Coyote preparing for the apocalypse with the help of a 13 year old boy from a dysfunctional Jewish family. This one's co produced by the Zoo District.

"Clown Show for Bruno" is Mednick's tribute -- via Yiddish theater, clowning, masks -- to the murdered Polish scribe Bruno Schultz.



And for good measure, there's the film adaptation of Mednick's play "Girl on a Bed" concerning the death of a high school girl who gets involved with drugs and pornography.

"Clown Show for Bruno" (Photo by Stacey Bode)

The three works run in repertory, Thursday-Saturday, through April 19. "Girl on a Bed" is always Saturdays at 10 p.m. Which means that on any given Saturday, a theater-goer could hop from "Destruction of the Fourth World" at 5 to dinner, to "Clown Show" at 8 and finish off with "Girl on a Bed" at 10.

An exhausting evening, yes, but then you come out with bragging rights. It's at Art/Share Theater, 801 E. 4th Pl., L.A. (213) 625-1766, www.paduaplaywrights.net.