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Has *Laramie*, Wyoming, changed much in ten years since the brutal murder of Matthew Shepard? Is he just the unlucky victim of a robbery gone bad or something else?

"Laramie Project: Ten Years Later" by Moises Kaufman and the Tectonic Theater Project is presented by *Looking Glass Theatre*. Performed on the campus of the First Unitarian Universalist Church of San Diego in Hillcrest, November 7th & 8th at 7:30 p.m. Suggested donation is \$15 at the door (\$12 for Students, Youth and Military with ID). More information and on-line tickets are available at www.LookingGlassSD.org.

Laramie, Wyoming, is a small town which became infamous overnight in the fall of 1998, when Matthew Shepard, a gay college student, was found tied to a fence after being brutally beaten and left to die. This set off a nationwide debate about hate crimes and homophobia. A month after the crime, Moises Kaufman, and his troupe, the Tectonic Theater Project, traveled to Laramie to interview people who lived in and around the area to better understand how people reacted to this event. Ten years later Kaufman and the troupe returned to interview the townspeople again to see what, if anything had changed.

This play features eight actors playing fifty-five different people who were interviewed. Presented as Readers Theatre, also known as a rehearsed reading, the actors are seated at the front of the stage using scripts only for reference. They each wear

bits of costumes which they switch with each character's presentation.

There will be a "Talk Back" session after each show where the audience may ask questions of the cast and express opinions.

The play is directed by Bobbi Karpinski. The cast includes David S. Cohen, Diane Masser-Frye, Eddie Riedel, Everardo F. Aguilar, John Keasler, John P. Falchi, Lydie Lovett, Maxine Levaren and Rosalie Riedel.

Moises Kaufman is best known for his 2000 play and film, "The Laramie Project". His "Gross Indecencies: The Three Trials of Oscar Wilde", was performed by *Looking Glass Theater* last fall. He has received numerous awards including an Obie and a Tony. Kaufman is of Romanian and Ukrainian Jewish descent. He described himself in an interview by saying "I am Venezuelan, I am Jewish, I am gay, I live in New York. I am the sum of all my cultures. I couldn't write anything that didn't incorporate all that I am."

Looking Glass Theatre was founded in 1986. "*Laramie Project: Ten Years Later*" is its forty-fifth show. In the last three years the group has also produced "Seussical", "Nunsense", "Once Upon a Mattress", "8", "Spoon River Anthology" and "You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown". In recent years they have staged "Oliver", "Fiddler on the Roof", "The Most Fabulous Story Ever Told" and "Jeffrey".

The First Unitarian Universalist Church of San Diego campus, at 4190 Front Street, is wheelchair accessible. To reach the campus from I-8, take Hwy 163 South. Exit on Washington West. From I-5, exit Washington (East). From Washington go North on First Avenue (one way). Turn left on Arbor Street when First Avenue ends. Go one block. Entrance to

the parking lot is directly across from the UCSD Medical Center main doors. Parking is free. See www.LookingGlassSD.org for interactive map.

Looking Glass Theatre

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