



The Guardians

Though filled with tender moments, thoughtful reflections and some lovely prose, *The Guardians* isn't quite ready for prime time. However, it explores a topic sure to stir the hearts and concerns of parents. **Fri 8pm, Sat 8pm, Sun 2pm; Through 2/16; \$18-\$20;** Resurrection Theatre, 1723 25th St.; (916) 491-0940, resurrectiontheatre.com. P.R.



Juno and the Paycock

Juno and the Paycock focuses on the Boyle family struggling in the squalor of a Dublin tenement. It takes a while for this production to find the right rhythm, but once it does, the audience is effectively pulled into the family drama. **Fri 8pm, Sat 8pm, Sun 2pm; Through 2/17; \$15-\$20;** California Stage, 1725 25th St.; (916) 451-5822, calstage.org. P.R.



House on Haunted Hill

A millionaire and his wife invited a group of five strangers to a "haunted house" party with the

promise of \$10,000—for a comedy, there seemed to be too many straight-man characters, which allowed Tara Sissom and Jason Kuykendall to completely steal the show with their hilarious character choices. **Thu 8pm, Fri 8pm, Sat 5pm & 9pm, Sun 2pm, Tue 6:30pm, Wed 2pm & 6:30pm; Through 2/17; \$33-\$47;** B Street Theatre, 2700 Capitol Ave.; (916) 443-5300, bstreettheatre.org. TMO



Murder for Two

Featuring a small cast of two, minimal story lines, sets and costumes, this madcap musical mystery works when you accept the fact that the show is campy, the story quirky, the musical numbers corny, and the ending comes before the whole thing becomes tiresome. **Thu 7pm, Fri 8pm, Sat 8pm & 2pm, Sun 2pm & 7pm; Through 2/10; \$20-\$38;** Sacramento Theatre Company, Pollock Stage, 1419 H St.; (916) 443-6722; sactheatre.org. P.R.



Slowgirl

A teenage American girl flees to an ex-pat uncle living in Costa

Rica to contemplate her life after what appears to have been a tragic accident; her uncle, a former lawyer, has his own secret reason for choosing life in the jungle over his homeland in Greg Pierce's provocative play, now at Capital Stage. Stephanie Altholz and Tim Kniffin co-star. **Wed 7pm, Thu 7pm, Fri 8pm, Sat 2pm & 8pm, Sun 2pm; Through 2/24; \$30-\$42;** Capital Stage, 2215 J St.; (916) 995-5464, capstage.org. J.C.



Wit

This Pulitzer Prize-winning drama about a brilliant professor of English who struggles to understand the life and death process of ovarian cancer with the same intelligence and wit she has applied to studying the poetry of John Donne is an outstanding piece of theater. Beth Edwards stars and Karen Bombardier directs. **Thu 8pm, Fri 8pm, Sat 8pm; Through 2/9; \$12-\$22;** Big Idea Theatre, 1616 Del Paso Blvd.; (916) 960-3036, bigideatheatre.org. J.C.



FOUL



FAIR



GOOD



WELL-DONE



SUBLIME
DON'T MISS

Short reviews by Patti Roberts, Tessa Marguerite Outland and Jim Carnes.

PHOTO COURTESY OF JOE HAUNER



PICK

Keith Lowell Jensen will be performing, and here sports a truly formidable beard.

Jensen plays Harris

Not for Rehire is Keith Lowell Jensen's newest comedy album. It's the local comedian's sixth, to put a number to it. The content follows Jensen's varied career enterprises throughout his life, in venues ranging from the golf course to the house of Colonel Sanders himself: a KFC. This night doubles as a live recording of everything that happens during the show. Every sneeze that lands on the mic will be etched into the annals of history—unless The Man edits it out. Come hear Jensen's poignant stories, and maybe catch a sneeze or two. **Sat 2/9, 8pm \$18-\$39; Harris Center, 10 College Parkway in Folsom; (916) 608-6888, harriscenter.net.**

—MAXFIELD MORRIS

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