DAVID WIEGAND
Television

'Boys' just goofy, but satire hits the mark

Sketch comedy has long been a television staple, from "The Carol Burnett Show," to "Saturday Night Live," "In Living Color" and, more recently, "Key & Peele."

There's sketch comedy, though, and there's sketch comedy. The kind of comedy practiced by groups like Upright Citizens Brigade and Killing My Lobster, for example, is harder fit for TV because it tends to be edgier, less polished and, in a way, more dangerous.

"The Birthday Boys" got their start with Upright Citizens Brigade and now, with the help of executive producer Bob Odenkirk and Ben Stiller, they bring their brand of the IPC channel on Friday.

Odenkirk, whom a few TV watchers may remember from that vintage series "Breaking Bad" (Off the air, of course) is also a participant in some of the sketches, but he mostly leaves the hilarity to the seven aging "Boys," Jefferson Dutton, Matt Kowalski, Michael Mitchell, Mike Hanford, Tim Kalpaki, Dave Ferguson and Chris Vin-Artesdena. They've done guest shots on shows like "Parks & Recreation" and "Comedians," but their particular brand of comic alchemy is best appreciated in their own.

Wiegand continues on E6

Chris Riggott/IPC

Bob Odenkirk appears in "The Birthday Boys."

ART

"Tree Fall," in Building 95 on the Main Parade Ground in the Presidio, features a tree branch and ceiling covered in clay.

Inspiration takes root
Sculptor converts felled Doyle Drive eucalyptus into Presidio piece

By Sam Whiting

After hoisting a paint brush too feet into the sky and sending a line of logs 400 yards on the ground, there was just one direction left to Andy Goldsworthy — down into the Earth.

"Tree Fall," his latest installation in the Presidio of San Francisco, is not underground in the actual sense, but you will feel that way upon entering Building 95, a windowless square of stone that stands alone in the middle of the Main Parade Ground. The ceiling has been covered in clay and is painted by a suspended tree branch also covered in clay. The intended effect is to stand in a Hobbit hole, looking up. "How extraordinary that that tree fits in here," says Goldsworthy, who is known as much for his droll demeanor as his for his clever use of natural materials. "A most unlikely combination, a tree in the center of a building. It's a very difficult work to unravel, yet it feels Goldsworthy continues on E3

Andrea Goldsworthy says his piece is "a very difficult work to unravel, yet it feels so right."


THEATER REVIEW
Politics as scheming rather than leadership

By Robert Hurwitt

For a play about political people, there's very little politics in Kenneth Lin's "Warrior Class," the California premiere that opened Saturday at TheatreWorks in Mountain View. How-trading? Checks? Cultivating funders? Voting

Sculptor gives felled tree role in installation

Goldsworthy from page E1

so right.

The commission by the For-
sider, has been to install Gold-
struction of the Presidio, the

"Spiral" represents the ver-

the former storage center had

was dirt smoothed during

during the Doyle Drive demol-

Enlisting family, volunteers,

For starters, he could not

and date to 1966, making it

Once the stone structure

Goldsworthy went to

A sanguine in the famous

His hope was that the

He set up an assembly

was dirt smoothed during

through the open door.

"Tree Fall," an art installation at the Presidio utilizing clay and natural lighting, occupies a space that was originally an ammunition store and has never been open to the public.

Natural Illumination

"There is a lot of oze and

him, "you never

He says, "I did not know how

If you come here, we're

he says. "I did not know how

the Presidio Trust, so that

through the Presidio, it was

the Presidio, after "Spiral" (2006) and "Wood

The site for "Tree Fall" was

San Francisco gallery owner

She has shown Goldsworthy's

For Site in 2005 to present

the public realm, most
definition of one of the

the Presidio in 2011. As

"Tree Fall," an art installation at the Presidio utilizing clay and natural lighting, occupies a space that was originally an ammunition store and has never been open to the public.

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