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# Calendar

ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

By JON MATSUMOTO  
SPECIAL TO THE TIMES

Art, drama, film and TV reflect—and, some would say, shape—the nation's social climate. So as the delegates, pols and protesters come to town for the Democratic National Convention, politically themed exhibits, screenings and performances arrive too.

The Washington, D.C.-based troupe Gross National Product gives candidates equal skewering time in the West Coast premiere of "Gore More Years" or "Son of a Bush" at the Odyssey Theatre Ensemble beginning Saturday. Rock the vote? Nah. The GNP promises to "mock the vote."

"We get everyone involved in this mock convention and at the end we have a vote," said GNP actor and director John Simmons. "Then we raise the American flag and whoever wins the vote gets to come out with Lee Greenwood and sing 'Proud to Be an American.' It's very touching!"



Christine Thompson, above left, John Simmons as Al Gore, and Jan Blake in Gross National Product's "Gore More Years" or "Son of a Bush" at Odyssey Theatre; a Ronald Reagan 1984 TV ad, left, can be seen at the Museum of