



Lea Thompson, Julie Wittner, Kevin Small at the Acme Comedy Theatre.
Photo: Kerrfoto



Comedy

Improv & Sketch Theatres

Acme Comedy Theatre

135 N. La Brea Ave., (323) 525-0202. Beautiful 99-seat proscenium theatre space, handicapped access, valet parking. Shows Fri & Sat.

Steve Allen Theatre at Center for Inquiry

4773 Hollywood Blvd., (323) 666-4268. Tomorrow Show every Sat at midnight. Cartoon Dump fourth Tues of every month at 8pm. The Rudi Casoni Variety Show first Wed of every month at 8pm. (See MUSIC)

Bang Improv Studio

457 N. Fairfax Ave., (323) 653-6886. Performance space and teaching studio dedicated for study of improvisation; shows Thurs-Sat at 8pm. Box office opens half-hour before show time. www.bangstudio.com

Comedy Central Stage at the Hudson

6539 Santa Monica Blvd., (323) 960-5519. Comedians, actors & writers at all professional levels develop ideas and polish material in front of a live audience. All shows are free. (Reservations are required).

The Complex

6476 Santa Monica Blvd. (323) 465-0383. Complex Comedy Sat at 10:30pm. Call for schedule. www.complexhollywood.com (See THEATRE)

Groundlings Theatre

7307 Melrose Ave., (323) 934-9700. Improvisational & sketch theatre claims talented alumni including Phil Hartman, Lisa Kudrow, Julia Sweeney, Jon Lovitz, Will Ferrell, and Cheri Oteri. Shows Wed-Sun evenings.

Improv Olympic West

6366 Hollywood Blvd., (323) 962-7560. The Los Angeles arm of the world-famous ImprovOlympic Chicago, presents some of the best improvisation performances and training west of the Windy City. Shows seven nights a week.

National Comedy Theatre/ComedySportz

733 N. Seward St., (323) 856-4796. Renovated 90-seat theatre is home to ComedySportz. Performances Thurs & Fri at 8pm, Sat. 10:30pm. Popular "U-sical" Sat at 10:30pm. www.comedysportzla.com (See FAMILY)

Next Stage & Tres Stage

1523 N. La Brea., Ste. 208 & 209, (323) 850-7827. Home of the Berubian's Theatre Company. "Dark Side of the Moon" every Sun at 8pm; Free Improv Workshops Mondays at 8pm; "7 Deadly Sins" Tues at 8pm. "Hollywood Stories" Thurs at 8pm.

Sacred Fools Theatre

660 N. Heliotrope Blvd., (310) 281-8337. Located just below Melrose between Vermont and Normandie Aves. Home of "Serial Killers" comedy nights Saturdays at 11pm. www.sacredfools.org

Second City Studio Theatre

6560 Hollywood Blvd., (323) 464-8542. Both students and professionals showcase their talents applying the distinctive Second City style. Performances almost every night of the week. www.secondcity.com/theatre/la

Upright Citizens Brigade

5919 Franklin Ave., (323) 908-8702. Everything comedy presented nightly in 92-seat theatre. Sketch, improv, etc. "cheap or free." Six restaurants nearby in Franklin Village under the Hollywood sign.

Stand-Up Comedy Clubs

The Comedy Store

8433 Sunset Blvd., (323) 656-6225. Comedy nightly. See hottest up and coming talent, as well as comedy legends in the place that started it all.

The Improvisation

8162 Melrose Ave., (323) 651-2583. Showcasing the funniest knowns and unknowns nightly. Alumni include Drew Carey, Sarah Silverman, Jerry Seinfeld, David Spade.

Laugh Factory

8001 W. Sunset Blvd., (323) 656-1336. Enjoy America's top comedy stars as well as rising new talent every night. See comedians from "The Late Show with David Letterman," "Late Night with Conan O'Brian" and other TV shows.

Rocket Video

726 N. La Brea Ave, (323) 965-1100. Free comedy show every 3rd Saturday of the month at 9pm with up-and-comers. Hours: 10am-11pm daily.

1160 Bar & Lounge at the Ramada Inn

1160 N. Vermont Ave., (323) 660-1788. Stand-up on Sun, Mon & Wed 8pm.

M Bar

1253 N. Vine St., (323) 856-0036. Stand-up comedy on varied nights of the week. Call for schedule. Reservations recommended. (See MUSIC)

Coffee Houses, Art, Music & Comedy

The Bar

5851 Sunset Blvd., (323) 468-9154. Features art shows, board games, D.J. and specialty drinks.

Bliss Café

1249 Vine St., (323) 962-2986. Music Open mic Mon 7pm. Tues-Fri Comedy open mic 7pm.

Bourgeois Pig

5931 Franklin Ave., (323) 464-6008. Revolving monthly art exhibits. Cozy "Moroccan Room" in back.

Café Muse

6547 Santa Monica Blvd., (323) 464-MUSE (6873). Healthy food and organic coffee and tea. Live music nightly; comedy on Tuesdays; rotating art gallery. Open at 9am. www.cafemusela.com

Spoken Word

Book Soup

8818 Sunset Blvd., (310) 659-3110. Readings, talks and book signings by various authors. See website for schedule. www.booksoup.com

Center for Inquiry

4773 Hollywood Blvd., (323) 666-9797. Explores and advances critical thinking, freedom of inquiry, and humanism. "Feed Your Brain Lectures" 11am, 1st and 3rd Sun; Café Inquiry last Wed of each month. www.cfiwest.org

The Golden Age Theatre

(at L. Ron Hubbard Gallery) 7051 Hollywood Blvd., (323) 466-3310. Live Theatrical Readings of noted author's pulp fiction classics every Saturday at 7:30pm. Free parking on Sycamore just off Hollywood Blvd. Call for reservations.

Greenway Court Theatre

544 N. Fairfax Ave., (323) 655-7679. Da' Poetry Lounge on Tuesdays 9pm-midnight. Free. 3rd Tues Poetry Slam, \$5. Largest poetry lounge in the country. Free Parking.

Skylight Books

1818 N. Vermont Ave., (323) 660-1175. An independent bookstore in Los Feliz. An open, airy space where authors talk about books.

Dance

Answers 4 Dancers

www.answers4dancers.com Offers over 200 professional auditions a month and career tips from working industry dancers.

Bethune Theatredanse

3342 Barham Blvd., (323) 874-0481. Pioneering productions of movement-theatre rooted in classical dance, blending traditional and digital media arts, for abled and disabled artists. "Infinite Dreams" educational dance and drama program fosters "arts transcending limitation" for disabled youth.

Dance On The Internet

www.LAChoreographersAndDancers.org/socdancedirectory.html Southern California Dance & Directory. Contact numbers for over 400 professional dance companies and related service organizations of dance in the Southern California area.

Dance Resource Center

(323) 687-3961. Information center for auditions, classes and events concerning dance. www.drc-la.org

Fountain Theatre

5060 Fountain Ave., (323) 663-1525. "Forever Flamenco" first and third Sunday nights at 8pm. The hottest flamenco in town; a thrilling combination of prepared work and spontaneous exploration with invited audience participation for the last number! (See THEATRE)

Hollywood Dance Center

817 N. Highland Ave., (323) 467-0825. All forms of dance classes offered for all ages. Call for schedule. www.hollywooddancecenter.com

King King

6555 Hollywood Blvd., (323) 960-9234. "L'Effleur Des Sens" a French-styled Cabaret show every other Thursday at 9pm, Sept 17, Oct 1, 15 & 29.

Los Angeles Choreographers & Dancers

(213) 385-1171. Professional non-profit dance organization includes Louise Reichlin & Dancers (modern dance). Programs for children. www.LAChoreographersAndDancers.org

Pantages Theatre

6233 Hollywood Blvd., (213) 365-3500. Historical landmark and art deco masterpiece. Spectacularly restored, 2700-seat venue hosts lavish Broadway musical theatre productions. "Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas" The Musical Nov 10-Jan 3, 2010. (See PLACES and THEATRE)

The Studio Theater @ St. Denis Bldg.

3433 Cahuenga Blvd West., (323) 850-9497.

Dance museum and studio of legendary dancer Ruth St. Denis designated a Historic-Cultural Landmark. Home of Valentina Oumansky Dramatic Dance Foundation.

Unknown Theater

1110 Seward St. (323) 466 7781. Hosts four dance performances a year.

"Forever Flamenco" at the Fountain Theatre.
Photo: Bruce Bisenz

