

Chester Arnold

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MUSIC

San Francisco Chamber Orchestra: Benjamin Simon conducts the orchestra in "Dial M for Music," a program highlighted by the world premiere of Harold Meltzer's Sinfonia Concertante for Violin and Viola. Also on the program are Mozart's work of the same name and Mendelssohn's Sinfonia No. 9 in C. Violinist Scott St. John and violist Sharon Wei are the soloists.

3 p.m. Sunday, Herbst Theatre, 401 Van Ness Ave., S.F. 8 p.m. Monday, First Congregational Church, 2345 Channing Way, Berkeley. 3 p.m. Tuesday, First Palo Alto United Methodist Church, 625 Hamilton Ave. Free. (415) 692-3367.
www.sfchamberorchestra.org.

ART

Chester Arnold: A Pilgrim's Progress: Think Paul Bunyan before John Bunyan. Despite his show's title, Arnold's darkly comic vision of Gold Rush dead-enders points toward no saving destination. His allegory of lessons never learned evokes the futility of the artistic life, while his paintings in their exuberance make its temptations plain. 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday. Through Jan. 12. Catharine Clark Gallery, 150 Minna St., S.F. (415) 399-1439
www.cclarkgallery.com.

THEATER

Big River: TheatreWorks' fine revival of the Roger Miller musical adaptation of Mark Twain's "The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn" comes to the end of its tuneful run this weekend. James Monroe Iglehart's Jim anchors Robert Kelley's strong production

8 p.m. Thursday (Dec. 27)-Saturday, 7 p.m. Sunday, 2 p.m. Saturday-Sunday. Lucie Stern Theatre, 1301 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto. \$23-\$73. (650) 463-1960. www.theatreworks.org.

Brava's New Year's Eve Comedy Fiesta: Marga Gomez rings in the new year headlining a gala comedy blowout with her Funny Lady Friends as a benefit for Brava Theater Center. Featured comics include Aundre the Wonderwoman, Pippi Lovestocking, Lydia Popovich and Eloisa Bravo. 9 p.m. Monday. Brava Theater Center, 2781 24th St., S.F. \$30-\$50. (415) 641-7657. www.brava.org.