TEATRO PIÑATA AT THE NEW CHILDREN’S MUSEUM

Mexican-born artist David Israel Reynoso created an immersive and kid-friendly art installation for the New Children’s Museum that focuses on the magic of theater. “Teatro Piñata” debuts this weekend and serves as a portal to a surreal backstage world using a combination of dramatic lighting, sound and props that people can touch and play with. The installation isn’t just for stage-bound kids, as it has all sorts of aspects from the theater world — a ticket booth, an audience seating area, a costume forest, dressing rooms and a “magic storage crate pile.” The colorful and dream-like piece is a reflection of the artist, who works as a theater designer at the Old Globe and La Jolla Playhouse and is also the founder of Optika Moderna, an experimental theater company that stages shows in unexpected and unconventional locations. Open this weekend. New Children’s Museum, 200 W. Island Ave., downtown. Open Mondays, Thursdays, Fridays and Sundays; check site for museum hours. $10 to $15.

dhinkplaycreate.org

Edo de Waart and The Russian Romantics: The San Diego Symphony welcomes back principal guest conductor Edo de Waart for a night of Russian composers. The evening features Tchaikovsky’s beloved Piano Concerto No. 1 featuring guest pianist Simon Trpceski, as well as Rachmaninoff’s “Symphonic Dances.” The concert opens with “Abstractions,” an orchestral suite by contemporary London composer Anna Clyne. 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Rady Shell at Jacobs Park, 222 Marina Park Way, downtown. $25-$108. theshell.org

“Sowing the Seeds of Universal Language”: Mesa College Art Gallery presents an exhibit that takes a look at the disharmony of our lives — from our relationships with each other to the way we interact with land — with an attempt to find solutions and stay optimistic about the future. You’ll see works by 44 artists working with a variety of media, from paintings and assemblages to encaustic works and installations with living fungi. Opening reception is 3 to 7 p.m. today. Art Gallery FA 103, San Diego Mesa College, 7250 Mesa College Drive, Kearny Mesa. Gallery hours are 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesdays through Thursdays. Park in Lot 1 (student spaces only). sdmesa.edu

San Diego Early Music Society presents The Gesualdo Six: This award-winning British vocal ensemble performs a concert titled “Josquin’s Legacy,” honoring Renaissance French composer Josquin des Prez. The program also features the music of Jean Mouton, Antoine Brumel, Constanzo Festa and more. The Gesualdo Six is known for its imaginative programming and vocal accuracy, and travels around the world performing and educating audiences about early music. 7:30 p.m. Tuesday. St. James-by-the-Sea, 743 Prospect St., La Jolla. $35 to $45; order by phone at (619) 291-8246. sdems.org