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**THE 99-SEAT BEAT**

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BY F. KATHLEEN FOLEY

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## 'Ashes to Ashes' at the Odyssey

**The essentials:** Debbie Bolsky's premiere, a visiting production at the Odyssey, has been described by its director, Katherine James, as a classic screwball comedy. It charts the initial animus and — what else? — the dawning romance between an ultra-liberal woman and an arch-conservative man who, bound by the provisions of a will, travel across Europe to scatter their best friends' ashes.

**Why this?** "Ashes" was developed in Theatricum Botanicum's Seedlings workshop under the guidance of playwright-in-residence Jennie Webb. The play is being presented by the Athena Cats, a well established Southern California collective of female directors and playwrights that includes Webb, Bolksy and James.

**Details:** Odyssey Theatre, 2055 S. Sepulveda Blvd., Los Angeles. 8 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays, 2 p.m. Sundays; ends Jan. 14. Dark Dec. 24 and 31. Additional performances 8 p.m. Dec. 21 and 28. \$30. (310) 564-9410. [www.AshesToAshesThePlay.com](http://www.AshesToAshesThePlay.com)