

## THEATER



COOPER BATES

TONY DURAN, left, and Jesus Castaños-Chima portray immigrants with citizenship in their sights in "ICE."

## THE 99-SEAT BEAT

# Attempts at a dream life

BY F. KATHLEEN FOLEY

Comedy and drama, baseball and roller derby, warring relatives and immigrants trying to live the American dream. This week in L.A.'s small-theater scene, our picks consist of "ICE" at 24th Street Theatre, "For the Love Of (Or, the Roller Derby Play)" at Theatre of NOTE, audience favorite "Noises Off" at A Noise Within and "Bad Jews" at the Odyssey.

## 'ICE' at 24th Street Theatre

**The essentials:** Armed only with their aunt's salsa recipe, two Mexican baseball players arrive in the U.S. in 1988, hoping that a victory as the best food truck at Dodger Stadium will establish their all-Americanism beyond doubt and put them on the path to citizenship.

**Why this?** In his bilingual play, Leon Martell reassesses the American melting pot through two central characters: a schemer who thinks dishonesty is central to American success, and an uncorrupted naif who still believes in the ideals of honesty and hard work. Under the direction of Debbie Devine, the play overlays Martell's serious arguments with plenty of cheeky humor suitable for ages 8 and older.

**Details:** 24th Street Theatre, 117 W. 24th St., L.A. 3 and 7:30 p.m. Saturdays, 3 p.m. Sundays; ends June 10. \$10-\$24. (213) 745-6516, [www.24thstreet.org](http://www.24thstreet.org)