



Steve Spiro in “UK Underdog” (Natalie Ford)

## ‘UK Underdog’ at Zephyr Theater

by Philip Brandes

**The Essentials:** In an affirmative tale of self-transformation, London-born actor-playwright Steve Spiro’s new solo piece chronicles his evolution from a bullied Jewish runt into an accomplished martial artist, boxer community leader and animal rights activist. Like “The Rescued,” the show also draws explicit parallels between at-risk humans and rescued animals.

**Why this?** Spiro, a member of Venice-based Pacific Resident Theatre, developed this nuanced multi-character performance with director and company colleague

Ann Bronston, also a prominent veteran of Rogue Machine, City Garage. All proceeds from the production will benefit Shelter Transport Animal Rescue Team and other selected animal charities and anti-bullying groups.

**Details:** A Shelter Transport Animal Rescue Team in association with Pacific Resident Theatre production at Zephyr Theater, 7456 Melrose Ave., Los Angeles. 8 p.m. Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays, 2 p.m. Sundays; ends Oct. 28. \$25. (323) 960-7788, [www.plays411.com/ukunderdog](http://www.plays411.com/ukunderdog)