

# Eye openers

## Theater

### Christmas redemption

Coming home for the holidays isn't always heartwarming. If the usual seasonal chestnuts have gotten a bit stale for you, pass on the "Nut-crackers" and "Christmas Carols," and head for adventure with San Jose Stage Company. Fast on the heels of the deliciously dark "Pillowman," San Jose Stage continues its walk on the theatrical wild side with Conor McPherson's sly **"The Seafarer."** More than one kind of spirit flows freely in this pitch-black tale of cards, sin and Christmas Eve redemption from the playwright famed for "The Weir" and "Shining City." Wednesday-Dec. 20. 408-283-7142. [www.sanjose-stage.com](http://www.sanjose-stage.com).

— Karen D'Souza,  
Mercury News

Julian López-Morillas is in "The Seafarer" at San Jose Stage.  
DAVE LEFORI

