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CULTURE "TXOTX," AKA: Get More to Drink at the Oinkari Basque Fundraiser

POSTED BY [JESSICA MURRI](#) ON FRI, JUN 15, 2012 AT 12:21 PM



OINKARI BASQUE DANCERS

"Txotx" in action at last year's Oinkari Cider House Fundraiser.

Here's a fun word: txotx. It sounds like chooch, and one person will yell it after every course of food at the Oinkari Cider House Fundraiser on Saturday, June 16. When "txotx" is yelled, everyone runs to the barrels filled with Basque hard cider, takes their glass, and raises it to add carbonation and toast.

"It's kind of primal and gritty because you go in with a fork and a steak knife, and in the Basque Country, sometimes they don't even give you plates," said Lael Uberuaga, president of the Oinkari Basque Dancers. "But we're going to try and make it a little more civilized and give everyone plates."

The evening's menu begins with two styles of cod, the first sauteed with peppers and onions, and the second, a cod omelet.

"It sounds kind of strange but it's delicious," Uberuaga said.

The main course will include thick-cut steaks that will, yes, be served on plates.

The evening offers live and silent auctions, giving away a weekend in Hagerman, a golf package and a Basque genealogy project to trace back your ancestry.

Money from the event will go to bringing a professional dance teacher from the Basque Country to the Oinkari dance group, as well as help cover operating costs for Boise State's Basque Studies Center.

Dan Ansotegui from local Basque band Amuma Says No will play at the fundraiser, and Uberuaga said to expect impromptu dancing.

"This is the only authentic cider house experience that you'll get [in Boise]," Uberuaga said. "We love to have some non-Basques and introduce them to our culture and have fun."

The fundraiser begins at 5:30 p.m. at the Basque Center. Tickets cost \$50 per guest or \$90 for a couple, but only 25 tickets remained as of this report. They can be purchased by emailing lael@oinkari.org, or if you're feeling lucky, at the door.

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