DEPARTMENT NEWS

JOHN LITHGOW SPEAKS AT UC SAN DIEGO AND MEETS WITH STUDENTS

Esteemed actor John Lithgow visited campus and spoke with the students as part of his visit to the campus through its Helen Edison Lecture series. Lithgow met with students in the Wagner Theatre and discussed his career and a life in the theatre across the world. Later that evening he spoke at a campus-wide event as well.
BA Student Sophia Zaragoza in Under Construction, photo credit: Jim Carmody

Under Construction, photo credit: Jim Carmody
UNDER CONSTRUCTION PERFORMS AT WoW FESTIVAL

The La Jolla Playhouse’s bi-annual site-specific festival of new work, the Without Walls Festival, was held this week throughout San Diego. There were a couple of pieces in this year’s festival from UC San Diego Students and Faculty, including Under Construction, from Sledgehammer Theatre in a co-pro with UC San Diego Theatre & Dance. BA alumnus and MFA Scenic Design Faculty Professor Robert Brill, BA alumnus Scott Feldsher, and BA alumnus David Cannon and PhD Faculty Professor Julie Burrelle developed the production which was created in collaboration with UC San Diego Theatre & Dance and included work from several students: MFA Scenic Design student Samuel Keamy-Minor as the Assistant Scenic Designer, MFA Lighting Designer Justin Beets as the Lighting Designer, MFA Sound Design alumnus Steven Leffue as the Sound Designer, MFA Sound Design student Stephen Jensen as the Assistant Sound Designer, MFA Scenic Design alumnus Justin Humphries as the Video Designer, BA student James Reid as the Sound Assistant, BA student Michelle Yang Xiao as the Lighting Assistant, BA student Evan Kwong as the Costume Assistant, and BA student Hyunjung Park as the Production Assistant with additional work from BA students Mona Gutierrez, Sofia Zaragoza, and Levani Korganashvili.

AND THEN YOU WAIT AUDIO INSTALLATION RUNS AT WoW

Also as part of the 2017 WoW Festival, MFA Playwriting student Lily Padilla and MFA Directing student Dylan Key created an immersive audio installation, And Then You Wait, which performed in an abandoned grain silo at Bread and Salt.

The piece was designed and recorded with MFA students Samantha Rojales, Kasson Marroquin, Kimberly Monks, Max Singer, BA student Jenna Dern, Music Composition PhD John Burnett and Acting Faculty Professor Kim Walsh.

~MFA Students Kasson Marroquin, Lily Padilla, Dylan Key, and Music PhD student John Burnett outside of And Then You Wait. Photo credit: Jim Carmody
~Lily Padilla in rehearsal for And Then You Wait. Photo credit: Jim Carmody

ALUMNI NEWS

MFA Scenic Design alumna Robin Sanford Roberts and MFA Lighting Design alumnus Trevor Norton.
**UC SAN DIEGO DESIGN ALUMNI COLLABORATE ON HAND TO GOD AT SD REP**

*Hand to God* has opened at San Diego Rep in a production that is designed by two MFA design alumni, MFA Scenic Design alumna Robin Sanford Roberts and MFA Lighting Design alumnus Trevor Norton. The production runs October 19 - November 12.

Something devilish is lurking in a church basement puppet show in Cypress, Texas. And his name is…Tyrone. He may look like an innocent sock puppet, but when he infiltrates the angst-ridden church youth group and takes possession of Jason’s arm, all hell breaks loose. Spectacularly foul-mouthed and wickedly scandalous, Tyrone shocks the congregation with his outrageous insinuations, exposing their deepest secrets—and teaching us all about love, grief and what it means to be human. A smash success on Broadway and in London, this darkly delightful and wildly funny comedy is the most produced play in America!

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**UC SAN DIEGO ALUMNI COLLABORATE AT OLD GLOBE**

BA alumnus Carlos Angel-Barajas is playing Benvolio in a production of *Romeo and Juliet* at the Old Globe. The production is designed by MFA Lighting Design alumna Sherrice Mojgani, MFA Costume Design alumna Elisa Benzoni, and MFA Sound Design alumna Melanie Chen Cole. The production opens November 11th.

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**LIZ JENKINS APPEARS IN HOW TO GET AWAY WITH MURDER**

MFA Acting alumna Liz Jenkins appeared in this week's episode of *How To Get Away With Murder*, the hit ABC drama on Thursday night. In its fourth season, the show features Viola Davis as a criminal defense professor and is produced by Shonda Rhimes.
MARY GLEN FREDRICK DIRECTS NEW MUSIC VIDEO

MFA Acting alumna Mary Glen Fredrick has directed a music video for contemporary folk singer Lizzie No. The video, for the single, *Sundown*, explores the joy, support, and intergenerational support of a group of women and all proceeds will go to support Black Lives Matter. The video received a writeup in Billboard.com and kicks off Lizzie’s fall tour.

BRIAN SCHAEFER COVER STORY FOR DANCE MAGAZINE

BA alumnus Brian Schaefer has penned the October cover story for Dance Magazine. Brian profiled Ryan Heffington, a choreographer who has emerged as one of the most in-demand choreographers in Hollywood. Ryan has worked on many recent shows such as Baby Driver and The OA but is perhaps best known for choreographing the "Chandelier" dance with the artist Sia.

KIERSTEN VAN HORNE WRITES BERLIN STATION EPISODE

MFA Acting alumna Kiersten Van Horne wrote last night’s episode of *Berlin Station*, which airs Monday nights on EPIX. The drama series tells the story of CIA operatives abroad and Kiersten has wrote for the show since its inception.

HALEI PARKER DESIGNS FOR EAST WEST PLAYERS

MFA costume design alumna Halei Parker is the costume designer for the LA premiere of the musical *Allegiance*, which will perform this spring and stars George Takei in a production directed by Snehal Desai.
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