SPRING NEWSLETTER: WEEK 2
DEPARTMENT NEWS
MFA ACTING CLASS OF 2018 PREPARE FOR SHOWCASE

The upcoming MFA Acting Class of 2018 is preparing for their showcase in New York City. They will perform twice tomorrow, Monday, April 9th, 2018 at the Alice Griffin Jewel Box Theatre at the Pershing Square Signature Center on 42nd Street. Please let your agents and managers or others in the industry know and ask them to let their colleagues know.

There will be an alumni gathering after the second performance around 8:30pm at Perdition (692 10th Ave) in New York City. Come if you’re around!

UC SAN DIEGO STUDENTS TO APPEAR IN STAGED READING

Next Thursday and Friday, the Research Ethics Program at UCSD is sponsoring two staged readings of Purely Academic that will feature MFA Acting student David Price, PhD student Kristin Leadbetter (shown above), MFA Acting student Danielle E.B. Wineman, and Acting faculty Professor Natalie Griffith Robichaux. The reading is directed by MFA Acting student Nicole Javier. An Australian play, Purely Academic is by amateur playwright (and professional computer scientist) David Abramson. Refreshments will be served during the pre-show mingling, and the cast will participate in a talkback after the reading. I hope you’ll be able to join us at one of the two events to support our talented students and colleagues, as well as to participate in the cross-campus discussion on ethics and academia.

Purely Academic dramatizes the darker side of academia, including both personal and professional clashes. It invites an honest discussion about professional ethics and practices today. What “persona” is cultivated by today’s academic regime? What does it mean to be an academic today? Is it possible to be both ethical and successful in 21st century academia?
ALUMNI NEWS

ANNE KAUFFMAN TO DIRECT TWO SHOWS FOR LA JOLLA PLAYHOUSE

MFA Directing alumna Anne Kauffman will direct back to back productions at the La Jolla Playhouse this year, reviving her production of Hundred Days with the Bengsons in September and following that with The Year to Come by Lindsey Ferrentino in December.

For tickets and more information, click here.

LIGHTING DESIGN ALUMNI PRESENT PORTFOLIOS

MFA Lighting Design alumni Brandon Rosen and Joel Britt both presented their lighting design portfolios in New York City at the The Hemsley Lighting Programs 14th Annual Lighting Portfolio Review. They attended a couple days of seminars, tours, talks and mentoring sessions.

CARIDAD SVICH’S RED BIKE RECEIVES NNPN PREMIERES

MFA Playwriting alumna Caridad Sivch’s play Red Bike will receive an NNPN rolling World premiere. The Roll includes Member Theaters Pygmalion Productions (April 20-May 5 in Salt Lake City), Simpatico Theatre (June 6-24 in Philadelphia), Know Theatre of Cincinnati (January 11-February 2, 2019), and The Wilbury Theatre Group (April 11-21, 2019 in Providence). Red Bike was presented at NNPN’s 2017 National Showcase of New Plays, hosted by Orlando Shakespeare Theatre.

What kind of future will you have living in these here United States? Remember when you were eleven years old and you had a bike, one that made you dream about a world bigger than the one in which you live? This is that memory. Except it is now.
LAUREN YEE TO BE PRODUCED IN NEW A.C.T. SEASON AND AT OSF

MFA Playwriting alumna Lauren Yee's *The Great Leap* will be produced in A.C.T.'s 2018-2019 season the first programmed by former UCSD student Pam MacKinnon, its new artistic director. *The Great Leap* will be produced in March of 2019 and is about the clash of cultures and global politics that erupt when a college basketball team in San Francisco travels to Beijing for an exhibition game in 1989. The play, which was developed at A.C.T.'s New Strands Festival in 2017, will be directed by Lisa Peterson.

For tickets and more information, click here.

Lauren's *Cambodian Rock Band* will be produced in Oregon Shakespeare Festival's next season from March 6-Oct. 27, with songs by Dengue Fever, about the legacy of the Khmer Rouge genocide through the music-filled story of a Cambodian American woman and her father, who return to the country he fled 30 years later. Chay Yew will direct. For tickets and more information, click here.

DANNY BURSTEIN TO APPEAR IN MOULIN ROUGE!

MFA Acting alumnus Danny Burstein has been cast in *Moulin Rouge! The Musical*, playing Ambassador Theatre Group (ATG)'s Emerson Colonial Theatre for just 36 performances from June 27, 2018 through August, 5, 2018. Reviving a great theatrical tradition, Boston's crown jewel reopens its doors this summer with the World Premiere engagement of the musical, based on the 2001 20th Century Fox Motion Picture by Baz Luhrmann. *Moulin Rouge! The Musical* will star Karen Olivo and Aaron Tveit.

For tickets and more information, click here.

UC SAN DIEGO ALUMNI NOMINATED FOR LUCILLE LORTEL AWARD
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Three UC San Diego alums were nominated for Lucille Lortel awards for their off-Broadway work this past season. MFA Directing alumni Michael Greif (The Low Road) and Anne Kauffman (Mary Jane) were nominated in the Outstanding Director category, MFA Acting alumna Quincy Tyler Bernstine was nominated twice, in Outstanding Lead Actress in a Play for The Amateurs and in Outstanding Featured Actress in a Play for As You Like It.

DIRECTING ALUMNI TO DIRECT IN SAN DIEGO REP SEASON

MFA Directing alumni Jesca Prudencio and Todd Salovey are both directing productions in San Diego Repertory Theatre's 2019-2019 season. Jesca will direct Anna Ziegler's Actually (Oct. 11-Nov. 4), which explores the charged topic of sexual consent as two college freshman try to remember the details of a night spent together. Todd will helm Julia Cho's Aubergine (Jan. 24-Feb. 17), about a chef who uses the power of food to keep his ailing father alive.

JOSHUA WOLF COLEMAN APPEARS IN LOST TRIBES

MFA Acting alumnus Joshua Wolf Coleman is currently rehearsing in lost tribes, a show in Encinitas which opens on April 14-15 at The Hive's theatre dybbuk series.

In the early eighth century BCE, the Neo-Assyrian Empire conquered the Northern Kingdom of Israel, from whence it has been said that ten of the twelve ancient tribes of Israel were deported and assimilated. These tribes are now lost to history, with a variety of folktales, legends, and theories about their fates having come about since that time. Some are told from the point of view of those who regard themselves as members of a lost tribe, while others are told from an outside perspective in order to make a case for self-serving outcomes.
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