DEPARTMENT NEWS

Professor Emily Roxworthy received the Barnard Hewitt Award for Outstanding Research in Theatre History Honorable Mention for her book *The Spectacle of Japanese American Trauma* (University of Hawaii Press, 2008) at the American Society for Theatre Research (ASTR) conference in San Juan, Puerto Rico, recently. The award is made for a book judged as innovative in its approach to material, meticulous in its historical scholarship, and original in its conclusions.

**One Night Only** - A new play written and directed by Stephen Metcalfe featuring Acting Professor Jim Winker, *The Tragedy of the Commons*, was read on December 7th at the Cygnet Theatre. Synopsis: “Dakin Adams, a retired school teacher, spends his days writing and sending his thoughts - his blogs - out into the void that is the internet. His wife, Macy, walks the dogs and gardens. It would seem the only thing they have in common anymore is their home and their memories and their love of “the view” - the pacific ocean as seen from the back deck of the house. But now their neighbor is selling and the new owner is coming in to tear down and rebuild - build "up" - and the view - and the fragile relationship of two people - is in ever increasing jeopardy.” (The cast also included alum Monique Gaffney.)

Professor Marianne McDonald hosted a panel conversation about all things supernatural and Irish on Thursday, December 3rd, prior to the performance of *Sam’s Salon: Sympathy for the Devil - The Good, The Bad and The Wicked* at the San Diego Repertory Theatre.

**Jorge Huerta** and his wife Ginger are now the proud grandparents of twins, born November 19th, in Brittany, France, to their son Ron and daughter-in-law, Ariane: a boy, Zephyr Titouan, and a girl, Alize Flor (with an accent on the “e”). Jorge says “they are the best birthday present (November 20) a father could ever hope for!”

**Kyle Sorensen**, a first-year Dance Theatre artist, finished a show with his wife, Gina Bolles Sorensen, recently. Their company, somebodies dance theater, performed a new collaboration with DK Dance. The DK Hair Salon in Hillcrest was transformed into a performance space for the bi-annual festival titled *San Diego Dances*. The production theme, “Without Walls”, featured dances created and performed by Bradley Lundberg, La Diego Dance Theatre, DK Dance (with somebodies dance theatre), Mojalet Dance Collective, Erica Buechner and Dancers, and The PGK Project.

Professor John Rouse participated in a panel discussion with Brigitte Maria Mayer and Peter Sellars after the screening of Mayer’s film *Anatomie Titus Fall of Rome* at Redcat on October 27th. The film is based on plays by Heiner Müller and Shakespeare. The event was sponsored by the Villa Aurora and the Goethe Institute Los Angeles.

The Salsa Club at UCSD hosted their very first special event on November 14th at the "Loft" in Price Center East. There were free lessons with Dance instructor Tony Caligagan and then guests danced the night away to the mega sounds of Salsa, Merengue, Cha cha cha, Bachata, and Reggaeton. Join their email list by sending an email to thesalsachub123567@gmail.com. The club is also on Facebook.

ONSTAGE

Coming Soon: La Mandragola, by Niccolò Machiavelli, directed by Isis Saratial Misdary in the Theodore and Adele Shank Theatre. January 28th – February 6th

The Revenger's Tragedy, directed by Christopher Ashley, Quinn Martin Guest Chair in Directing, in the Sheila and Hughes Potiker Theatre. February 11th - February 20th.


Click for Ticket Information for all shows.

ALUM UPDATES

The League of Professional Theatre Women has announced the recipients for its 2009 series of awards, to be presented at a ceremony at the National Arts Club in New York on Monday, December 7th. Alum Caridad Svich (MFA '88), founder of the NoPassport Theatre Alliance, was selected to receive the Lee Reynolds Award. The award is given annually to a woman or women active in any aspect of theatre whose work for, in, about, or through the medium of theatre has helped to illuminate the possibilities for social, cultural, or political change.

Adrienne Krstansky (MFA ’94) is currently an Assistant Professor of Theatre Arts at Brandeis University. She will be playing “Carol” in the upcoming feature film The Company Men, directed by John Wells, starring Ben Affleck and Tommy Lee Jones, and recently performed in 2.5 Minute Ride, by Lisa Kron, at the New Repertory Theater.

Rebecca Bruno (BA, Dance, ’08) has studied at the Academy of Music and Dance in Jerusalem and at the Summer MELT Dance Workshop in New York City. Her dance work has been presented in both Israel and San Diego. Rebecca is currently dancing and choreographing in the San Diego area with plans to start a Feldenkrais training program.
Brian Hostenske (MFA ’07) took on the roles of “Principal,” “Junie B.’s father,” and “Crybaby William” in *Junie B. Jones*, adapted from the book *Junie B. Jones and a Little Monkey Business*, by Barbara Park, at the South Coast Repertory Theatre in November.

Michael Schwartz (MFA ‘98) is Envision Theater Coordinator and Conservatory Director this year at Canyon Crest Academy in San Diego. He’ll be directing *Bat Boy, the Musical* in the near future for the Conservatory.

Dilka Marshall (MFA ‘03) is “the Jester” in Arthur M. Jolly’s *The Christmas Princess* at the Promenade Playhouse in Santa Monica on December 5th – 20th. She plays a spoiled princess who has to find magic gifts in order to escape a marriage to a less-than-top-notch prince. Dikla also had a role in *Pawn*, a short movie, and also in *Conversations with Lucifer*, a short indie film made in Los Angeles this year.

Johnny Wu (MFA ’99) sends: “I’m writing to invite you to catch my episode of "Cold Case" on CBS. This will be my official TV debut, even though I shot "24" first, that won't air until after the New Year. My homepage says the episode airs this Sunday, but because of football runovers, the ep is not airing until next week… I won't give much away but I have a fun role and it's the sweeps ep, so it should be an exciting one. Would love for you to tune in (or DVR it) and catch the beginning of my professional acting career after being in school for two decades. Thanks for the support!”[Johnny’s episode was scheduled to air on Sunday, November 22nd, on CBS.]


Graduate playwriting alum (‘04) Rachler Axler’s play *Smudge*, starring Brian Sgambati (‘01) will run January 3rd - February 7th at the Women’s Project's Julia Miles Theatre. Undergrad alum Pam MacKinnon (‘95) will direct the production. The dark comedy is about the changing face of the American family and the limits of love and cheesecake, as a hopeful young couple gives birth to a smudge. Axler is currently a staff writer of NBC's hit comedy series *Parks & Recreation* and she won two Emmy Awards for her work as a staff writer on *The Daily Show With Jon Stewart*.

Dileep Rao (MFA ‘98) dropped a quick line to say that he’ll be seen in James Cameron’s new movie, *Avatar*, which opens on December 18th. “I have a beard, glasses and science it up. The picture is pretty amazing to see…” The cast includes Sam Worthington, Zoe Saldana, and Sigourney Weaver.

Emeritus faculty Les Waters wrote to let us know he’s directing Sarah Ruhl's *In the Next Room or the vibrator play* on Broadway at the Lyceum, produced by the Lincoln Center. In it are alums Maria Dizzia (MFA ’01), Quincy Tyler Bernstine (MFA ’99), Erica Sullivan (understudying - she was an undergraduate at UCSD and went on to Yale), and Michael Cerveris (who started his major theatre career at the La Jolla Playhouse as “Tommy” in *Tommy*). Sarah Rasmussen (MFA ‘08) is the Assistant Director and Annie Smart is the set designer. Through January 10th - here’s the New York Times review. [Les says he’s always happy to hire UCSD alums.]
Editor’s Note: Just hit “reply” to taddnews@yahoo.com and share your info. Photos are always encouraged, but please don’t send huge files - resize them from what comes off your camera first. Also, be sure to let us know if you’re using a different name than you did here at UCSD. We look forward to hearing from you!

Best wishes for a happy holiday season.