



Week 2

January 19th, 2017

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Department News

OPENING THIS WEEK: A Night of Original One Acts

U USED 2 CALL ME

Written by **Sam Occhino** (current UG Theatre major)

Directed by **Wylie Simpson** (UG Theatre alum)

Hotline Bling was a song that created a movement in popular culture, and the response it received changed the face of 2015. Fans wanted to dress like Drake, dance like Drake, and above all BE Drake. When the fate of the humanity is placed in one man's hands, he has to make one choice: save the world, or never play Hotline Bling again. U Used 2 Call Me is a story of tragedy intertwined with love, sacrifice, and comedy- one that Drake would surely be proud of. Hotline Bling may have changed 2015, but could it go far enough to end it as well?

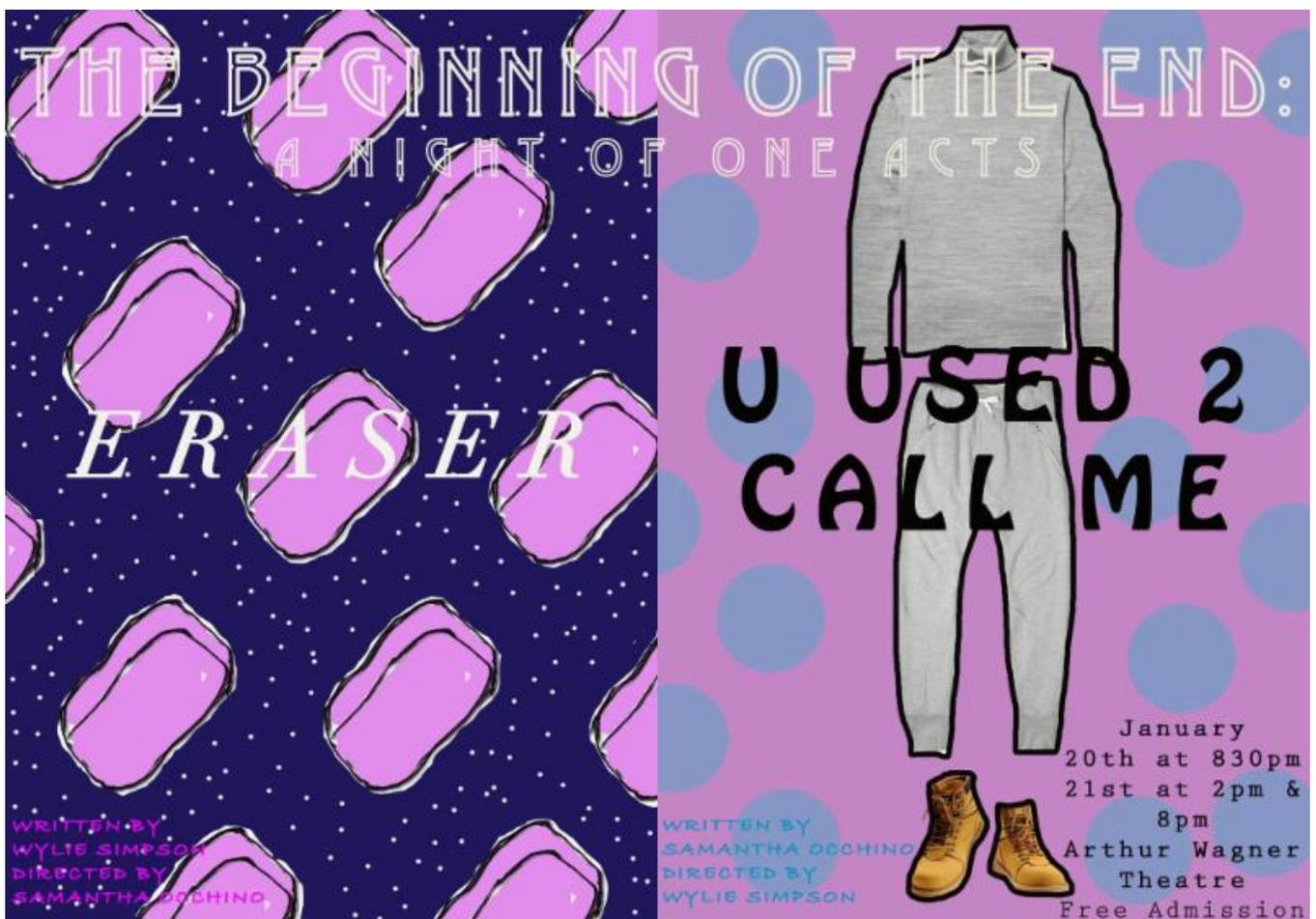
&

ERASER

Written by **Wylie Simpson**

Directed by **Sam Occhino**

Eraser, previously titled The Darkness Within, explores the relationship between four coworkers at an eraser manufacturing facility during a power outage. A play set entirely in the dark that mixes together visual media, music, dancing and puppetry to ask the question, "how do you act when no one can see you? "



The creative team is filled with **UG Theatre alums & current students:**

Production Stage Manager: **Keili Fernando**

Scenic & Lighting Design: **Jake Cushnir**

Sound Design: **Kinsey Green**

Assistant Stage Manager: **Jacqueline Chan**

Guitarist: **Milo B. Strong**

Featuring the acting talents of **Sarah Prentiss, Paloma Dominguez, Andrew Walters, and Ryan Bradford.**

Come see two original one acts in one night:

Tickets are free!

Friday 1/20 at 830pm

Saturday 1/21 at 2pm and 8pm

Arthur Wagner Theater located in Galbraith Hall Room 157

For more information, [click here](#).

Alumni News

UC San Diego Alumni Gathering

There will be a UC San Diego Theatre & Dance Alumni Gathering on Monday, Jan 23rd at Central Bar, 109 E 9th St NYC 10003, from 8-11pm.

Department Chair Chuck Means will be there and hopes to see many of you. Also, **Acting Faculty Professors Kyle Donnelly** and **Ursula Meyer** will be in NY for the audition tour and may be attending this evening as well.

Spread the word! It's always a great time to make new connections or to reconnect.

Keith Wallace & Deborah Stein Interviewed on ABC7

Over the past 13 years, the New York Public Theater's Under the Radar Festival has highlighted cutting-edge performances featuring diverse voices.

And one of those performances resonates with the honoring of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., whose legacy resonates throughout "The Bitter Game."

The late Dr. King's words took on new meaning for writer/actor **Keith A. Wallace (MFA Acting alum)** after violence erupted in Ferguson, Missouri, following the death of Michael Brown in police custody.

"What I'm trying to do as a playwright with that particular line is to create a sense of empathy in the audience members," he said. "A sense of understanding about why people in certain communities exhibit this behavior in certain situations (and) act the way they do."

"We really want the audience to lean forward and participate and feel active, because the political messages that Keith is trying to get across is that we can't sit by passively, feel sad, watching things happen on the news," director **Deborah Stein (Playwriting Faculty)** said. "We actually have to lean forward, stand up and take action."



To read the full interview, [click here](#).

New Yorker Article about Monica Bill Barnes at The Met

UG alum Brian Schaefer writes an article in The New Yorker about **UG alum Monica Bill Barnes'** new piece at The Met.

"The Museum Workout" is a forty-five-minute journey through the Met that will take place before opening

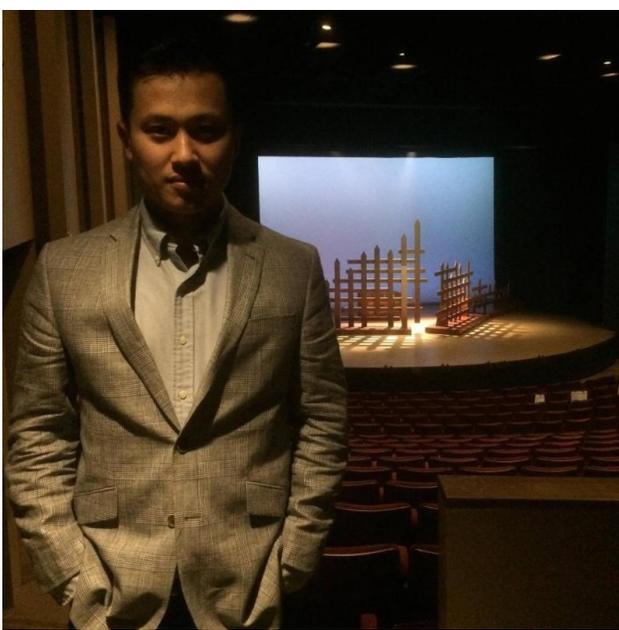
hours, accompanied by disco and Motown hits-part performance, part guided tour, part gentle boot camp. The latest in a string of unlikely creations by the American choreographer Monica Bill Barnes, the workout, which premieres this week for a monthlong run, constitutes an approximately two-mile path around the museum, sporadically narrated in recorded voice-overs by the author, illustrator, and museum enthusiast Maira Kalman, who has created many covers for this magazine. In her voice-overs, Kalman describes her long love affair with the Met and her relationship with the works of art there ("I think of them as guardian angels that are there to protect me"), and casually contemplates mortality, lending the experience a surprising poignancy.

The workout is led, at a quick clip, by Barnes and her longtime sidekick, Anna Bass, who wear their signature sequined cocktail dresses and sneakers. Robert Saenz de Viteri, their creative producing director, trails behind with a speaker dangling from his neck, mixing the music and voice-overs. Since the Met commissioned them to make a piece for the space, Barnes, Bass, and Saenz de Viteri have visited the museum frequently-sometimes three or four times a week-to observe visitor viewing habits and clandestinely rehearse. On a busy Friday last month, a couple of weeks after the run-through I attended, I met Barnes and Saenz de Viteri on the grand staircase at the Met's entrance, where the workout commences. They were still honing the beginning of the routine, trying to strike a balance between putting people at ease and imploring them to be careful of the works of art they were going to be running around. The electronic pulse of "Staying Alive" came on at a low volume from Saenz de Viteri's computer as we started to trace the route, taking a wide loop up and down the staircase, then tucking into a hallway that led toward Medieval Art. Visitors eyed us with curiosity and suspicion. "It makes me nervous," Barnes admitted. "I don't know why it doesn't bother me," Saenz de Viteri said.



To read the full article, [click here](#).

Raphael-Mingshuo Zhao Designs for The American Bard Theater Company



MFA Scenic Design alum Raphael-Mingshuo Zhao will design three performances at The American Bard Theater Company's Visionary Voices Festival with directors Tonya Pinkins and Aimee Todoroff.

The American Bard Theater Company is a not-for-profit theatrical organization serving New York City. They are dedicated to the exploration of works by Shakespeare and other highly regarded playwrights. They seek to entertain and impact today's audiences through classics: the established and the newly uncovered -storytelling that encourages the shared experience of common ground or new worlds.

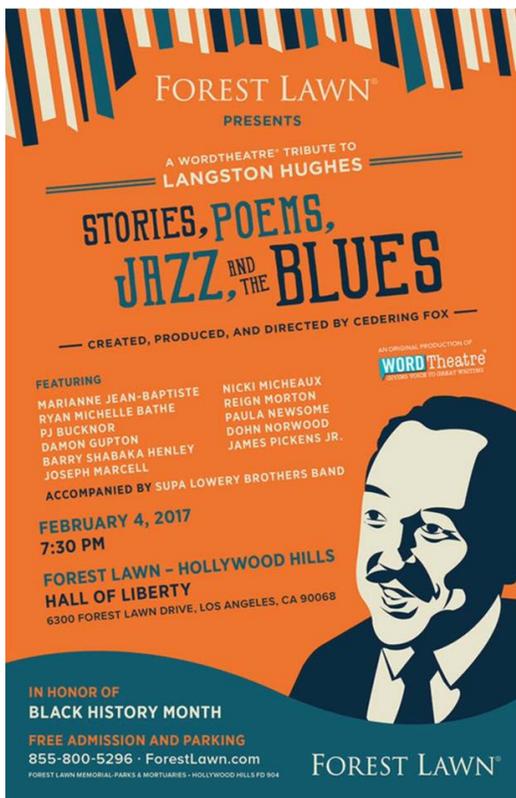
American Bard Theater Company was born out of the desire for 14 artists to hone our craft and provide ourselves with opportunities for performance, design, directorial and administrative growth. With a collective

agreement that "The play's the thing," the founding members worked to establish a company that honors the playwright and deems service to the text as the #1 priority in storytelling.

Since the creation of our company in 2009, we have proudly worked with over 500 wonderful NYC artists. We look forward to sharing the creative process, design visions, rehearsal room collaborations, and stage productions with more artists in the future.

To read more about the productions, [click here](#).

Dorn Norwood Performs at The Grammy Museum's Tribute to Langston Hughes



The Grammy Museum is pleased to host A Tribute To Langston Hughes: Stories, Poems, Jazz & The Blues. This special installment of WordTheatre will feature an impressive cast of TV/film/theatre stars coming together to breathe life into the words of Langston Hughes, one of the finest and most prolific voices in American letters. Participating in this one-night-only performance will be **MFA Acting alum Dohn Norwood**, 2016 Emmy nominee Sterling K Brown (The People vs. OJ Simpson: American Crime Story); Jerrika Hinton ("Grey's Anatomy"); Primetime Emmy winner Keith David (John Carpenter's The Thing); Emmy winner and Golden Globe nominee Lynn Whitfield (The Josephine Baker Story, Madea's Family Reunion); Daytime Emmy nominee Jason George (NBC's "Sunset Beach"); rapper PJ Bucknor; Ryan Michelle Bathe ("Boston Legal," "Franklin & Bash"); and Reign Morton (Whitney). Also as part of the program, the renowned Supa Lowery Brothers Band will debut their original jazz score. Created, directed and produced by Cedering Fox.

WordTheatre is an innovative, internationally esteemed nonprofit organization based in Los Angeles and dedicated to inspiring empathy, curiosity and conversation through powerful and entertaining performances, both live and recorded, of the world's

best contemporary literature. Renowned actors inhabit and illuminate the texts of world-class authors. WordTheatre performances bring people together to share exquisitely crafted stories that encourage us create community and engender compassion.

For more information, [click here](#).

Quincy Tyler Bernstine In Soho Rep Workshop



MFA Acting alum Quincy Tyler Bernstine was recently cast in a Soho Rep workshop presentation of a new play by Jackie Sibbles Drury.

The workshop presentation of Drury's untitled new play, a co-commission with Berkeley Repertory Theatre and developed with support from The Ground Floor at Berkeley Rep., will take place at the Public Theater on Friday, January 27 at 3pm and Friday, February 3 at 3pm. Directed by Sarah Benson, the cast will feature Quincy Tyler Bernstine, April Matthis, Mirirai Sithole, and Tanya Selvaratnam. Tickets are free and open to the public.

For tickets and more information, [click here](#).

UC San Diego

ARTS AND HUMANITIES Theatre and Dance

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Sincerely,

[UC San Diego Theatre & Dance](#)