Department News

Opening This Week: William Shakespeare's The Taming of the Shrew(d)

Directed by Acting Faculty Professor Kyle Donnelly Taming of the Shrew(d) is set in the post-apocalyptic future (is there any future that is not?) where a group of female warrior/actors perform plays from before the collapse of society, most notably those of Shakespeare as cautionary tales of how civilizations have fought with each other, may have loved each other but ultimately destroyed each other.

The Creative Team

Director - Kyle Donnelly
Adaptation - Kristen Tregar & Kyle Donnelly
Scenic Designer - Samantha Rojales
Lighting Designer - Joel Britt
Costume Designer - Annie Le
Sound Designer - Grady Kestler
Dramaturg - Kristen Tregar
Fight Choreographer - Charlie Oates
Production Stage Manager - Hsiu-i Lu
Drumming Coach - Katherine Ko
Vocal Coach - Eva Barnes
Vocal Coach - Ursula Meyer
Assistant Costume Designers - Samantha Englander, Chun "Mira" Han
Assistant Light Designer - I Teng Su
Assistant Sound Designer - Zhongran Wang
Assistant Stage Manager - Willie Mae Michiels
Production Assistants - Jiaxiang Liang, Doreen Nilo

The Cast

Lucentio - Claire Roberson
Tranio - Caroline Siewert
Gremio - Nicole Javier
Katherine - Katherine Ko
Baptista - Zora Howard
Bianca - Mo Rodvanich
Grumio - Kimberly Monks
Petruchio - Mary Glen Fredrick
Hortensio - Danielle Wineman
Biondello - Hannah Finn
Vincentio - Janet Fiki
Men - Hunter Spangler, Max Singer, Allyn Moriyon

Performances February 28th - March 11th, 2017.
In the Sheila & Hughes Potiker Theater

For tickets and more information, click here.

Yahya Abdul Manteen II of Netflix's "Get Down" Visits UCSD

Last week the Black Arts Collective, Black Studies Project and UCSD Department of Theatre and Dance hosted actor/producer of Netflix's "Get Down," Yahya Abdul Manteen II for lunch and a conversation facilitated by current MFA Actor Zora Howard!

It was a great event with a fantastic turnout of about 40 students!!! Thanks again for sponsoring the lunch. Mr. Manteen had such a good time that he posted a picture of himself outside of the building commending us.
"Streamers" Talkback with Dr. Peter Levine

Dr Levine shared his insights on the production and his research on the effects of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). Professor Kim Rubinstein, director of Streamers joined Dr Levine. The talkback was moderated by current PhD student Jim Short.
Alumni News

Lorene Chesley In "Smart People" at the Arena Stage in D.C.

MFA Acting alum Lorene Chesley is in this upcoming Arena Stage production of Smart People.

The full company has been announced for the Washington, D.C., premiere of Lydia R. Diamond’s Smart People, playing April 14-May 21 at Arena Stage. Deputy artistic director Seema Sueko makes her Arena Stage directorial debut at the helm of the production.

The four-person cast will feature MFA Acting alum Lorene Chesley (La Jolla Playhouse’s Memphis) as Valerie Johnston, Gregory Perri (Broadway’s Good People) as Brian White, Sue Jin Song (Manhattan Theatre Club’s The World of Extreme Happiness) as Ginny Yang, and Jaysen Wright (Studio Theatre’s Choir Boy) as Jackson Moore.

Described as a "fiercely funny play" that "explores the
unavoidable nature of cultural bias," Smart People follows a doctor, an actress, a psychologist, and a neurobiologist as they study the human brain's response to race and search for love, acceptance, and identity.

The design team will include Misha Kachman (set design), Dede M. Ayite (costume design), Xavier Pierce (lighting design), Andre Pluess (sound design), and Jared Mezzocchi (projection design).

For more information, click here.

**Paloma Young Honored with the TDF/Kitty Leech Young Master Award**

Congratulations to **MFA Costume Design alum Paloma H Young** who will be honored with the TDF/Kitty Leech Young Master Award at the Theatre Development Fund/Irene Sharaff Awards on April 28th.

Paloma is being honored along with an amazing group of designers that evening. **Professor Judith Dolan** will present her award.

Catherine Zuber and Tony Straiges Among 2017 Theatre Development Fund/Irene Sharaff Awardees.

For more information, click here.

You can also listen to Paloma Young's interview on the "Behind the Curtain: Broadway's Living Legends" podcast where she is interviewed by SDC Director Robert W. Schneider and AEA actor Kevin David Thomas. To listen to the podcast, click here.

**Dohn Norwood In "Hap and Leonard: Mucho Mojo" at Sundance**

_Hap and Leonard_ is an American television drama series based on the characters of _Hap and Leonard_. The six-episode series premiered on the American cable network SundanceTV. A second season will begin airing on March 15th, 2017 based on the second novel, _Mucho Mojo_.

SundanceTV's HAP AND LEONARD: MUCHO MOJO includes Hap (James Purefoy), Leonard (Michael K. Williams), Florida Grange (Tiffany Mack), MeMaw (Irma P. Hall), Sheriff Valentine Otis (Brian Dennehy), Judge Beau Otis (John "Spud" McConnell), Reverend James Fitzgerald (**MFA Acting alum Dohn Norwood**), TJ (Kelvin Brown) and Detective Marvin Hanson (Cranston Johnson).
Current MFA Students and Alums Attend the "Come From Away" Gala

On February 4th, 2017, La Jolla Playhouse hosted a "Come From Away" gala to honor Christopher Ashley's 10 years as Artistic Director with a concert performance of the upcoming Broadway production of "Come
In attendance that evening, from left to right in the picture above, **MFA Sound Design alum Chris Luessmann, MFA Lighting Design alum Sherrice Mojgani, Phd alum Naysan Mojgani, MFA Stage Management alum Laura Zingle, current MFA Stage Managers Hsui-i Lu and Kamra Jacobs, current Phd Student Alison Urban, and MFA Acting alum Keith Wallace.**

**Kelly Hanson Celebrates 3 Years at "Tonight with Jimmy Fallon"**

**MFA Scenic Design alum Kelly Hanson** celebrates the third anniversary of "Tonight with Jimmy Fallon." Kelly is the Art Director and has been with the show since its "Late Night with Jimmy Fallon" days.

The full creative team celebrates in the photograph below.
Have news to share? Send it to us at TandDNews@ucsd.edu and we'll pass it along for you. Photos are encouraged. Please be sure to let us know what year you graduated, if you're an alum. If you've changed your name, be sure to tell us what it was when you attended UC. Miss a back edition? Visit the Newsletter Archives.

Sincerely,

UC San Diego Theatre & Dance