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Meetings of the Week:

Monday, April 6th
4:00-5:30pm
Faculty Meeting

Wednesday, April 8th
4:00-5:30pm
Faculty Meeting

Department News

On Stage

The Department of Theatre and Dance is proud to announce this year's Wagner New Play Festival! For tickets and more information click here!

April 14 - 25

Borealis
by Ben Fisher
Directed by Jesca Prudencio
Mandell Weiss Forum Theatre
When a cryptic but ominous letter arrives from her brother on the oil fields, thirty Alaska to find him. Armed with a book by Donald Trump and an axe, Cozbi battle pursuit of her missing brother, squaring off against a host of monstrous Ass-Hats mythic journey, part workplace satire, Borealis is a darkly comic adventure about what we leave behind to make our way to the top.

**Widower**
by David Jacobi
Directed by Emilie Whelan
Mandell Weiss Forum Theatre

Jonas is home alone. His drug addict father has disappeared. Hattie, a former pro wrestler, shows up out of the blue. Stuck together in a home in the middle in the New Mexico desert, Jonas and Hattie wrestle with the truth of who they are and the lies they tell to get by. When the Exterminator arrives, Jonas and Hattie soon realize that the only allies they have may be each other. Widower explores heroes, enemies turn into allies, and loss is transformed into something approximating redemption.

**Three Women in Four Chairs**
by Emily Feldman
Directed by Jim Carmody
Theodore and Adele Shank Theatre

Three women sit in four chairs trying to reconnect. They were once inseparable, what it was, and not what they thought it would be. Maybe a weekend away will Four Chairs explores how small choices grow important over time, what we hold and how our buried desires transform us in unexpected ways.

**Second Skin**
by Kristin Idaszak
Directed by Delicia Turner Sonnenberg
Theodore and Adele Shank Theatre

When Quinn discovers her estranged mother is dying, she returns to a home she mother, Quinn wrestles with disturbing childhood memories. What is her mother' Selkies her mother once told her really mean? Told in three interconnected monologues, Second Skin investigates the fraught relationship between mothers and daughters, and how one mistake can transform into something approximating redemption.

**Death of a Driver**
by Will Snider
Directed by Will Detlefsen
Arthur Wagner Theatre

An American engineer moves to Kenya to build a road, and befriends her charismatic local election lands her driver in jail, she questions the integrity of their alliance and what happens when personal and political obligations collide.

**Staged Reading:**
**Ninth Annual Dr. Floyd Gaffney Playwriting Competition on the African-American Experience**
**Blue Heart Beats**
by Catherine Frost
Arthur Wagner Theatre

Set in post-hurricane Katrina New Orleans, teenage Ishelle who is new at school problems for her sister Jaelah and their family. Catherine Frost's memorable script poetry the responsibility a family and a community must share, and to the indelible women.

**Actors Showcase Class of 2015**
**NYU Tisch School of the Arts**
**Tuesday, April 7th 7:00pm**
**Wednesday, April 8th, 2:00pm & 7:00pm**

[Click here to reserve tickets!](#)

**News for Students**
Arts Around Campus: SPRINGFEST at The Loft: Experiments in Music Part 1
Tuesday, April 7th - Sunday, April 19th

Tommy Babin & Kyle Motl present improvisations and new compositions for two (Mark Dresser and Mark Helias: basses), and Mark Helias' Open Loose with Tom Rainey and Tony Malaby.

Springfest is an annual festival wholly curated by and highlighting new work from the premier center on the West Coast for experimental and new music. Springfest performers and sound explorers preview their most dangerous ideas, initiate new projects. Nowhere else in San Diego do chamber sounds, computer music, noise, performance art all collide. And just in time for a much-needed seasonal ear-cleaning...

Springfest is supported by the UC San Diego Department of Music, the Dean of Arts and Humanities, and the Graduate Student Association. Image Credit: Frankie Martin

For more information about the festival, visit http://ucsdmusic.blogspot.com

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Associated Students Election
Our mission is to facilitate and encourage students to grow and develop through its services and auxiliaries. We promote student engagement in all areas of campus service in order to build and strengthen our community. General Elections are being held this month.

Election Dates: Monday, April 6th - Friday, April 10th
Vote on Tritonlink!

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Wait List Closes
Thursday, April 9th - 4:30pm
Alumni News

See Acting alum **Gabriel Lawrence** in *The Acting Company* national tour. **MARK TWAIN’S A CONNECTICUT YANKEE IN KING ARTHUR’S COURT**, a newly commissioned play by JEFFREY HATCHER, **SHAKESPEARE’S MACBETH** comprise the 42nd Season of The Acting Company productions to be presented in residency at Minneapolis’ Guthrie Theater at the Pearl Theatre.

Directing alum **Sarah Rasmussen** (MFA '08) was just named the next Artistic Director of the Jungle Theater in Minneapolis. Current Artistic Director Bain Boehlke is winding down 25 years as founding artistic director of the Jungle Theater. He's about to move to Seattle. And he couldn't be happier with his successor, Sarah Rasmussen.

"I think this might be the first woman artistic director in Minneapolis appointed by a board," Boehlke said. "There are not that many women artistic directors. We have four in our town, but these are all founder women; they made their own theaters. ... I'm so proud of the Board's choice. I think the selection of Sarah was quite enlightened." Click [here](#) to read the full article in the Minnpost.

See acting alum **Ryan Sham** (MFA '07) in a FREE staged reading of *MRS. GHADA’S PAIN THRESHOLD* by Abdullah Alkafri with Kathleen Chalfont and Heather Raffo on Sunday, April 26th at the [Lark Play Development Center](http://www.larktheatre.org) in New York. For forty years, Damascus kept on putting frustration in the memory of Ghada, the teenager, the young woman, and the woman. As the days pass by, Ghada feels yet more pain. Her past haunts her present, consumes it each and every moment and turns it into a play! Her toothache leads her to the basement of her building, where the new dental Clinique is. She falls in love with the dentist Anas, a prisoner of his own past. Will Ghada succeed in her quest? Will she be able to make peace with her past or will her pain-intoxicated memory ignite Damascus' nights with questions.

Reservations recommended. Visit [www.larktheatre.org](http://www.larktheatre.org) for more information.

**UCSD Alumni nominated for Lucille Lortel Awards!**
Best Director: Michael Grief (MFA Directing '85) for Our Lady of Kihebo

Best Actor: Owiso Odera (MFA Acting '05) in Our Lady of Kihebo

Best Actress: Quincy Tyler Bernstein (MFA Acting '99) in Grand Concourse

The 2015 Lucille Lortel Awards will celebrate 30 years of recognizing Outstanding Achievement Off-Broadway. The 30th Annual Lucille Lortel Awards will be handed out on Sunday, May 10, 2015 at the NYU Skirball Center, beginning at 7:00 PM EST. The program will be co-hosted by Emmy Award® Nominees Jesse Tyler Ferguson (“Modern Family”) and Anna Chlumsky (“Veep,” Broadway’s upcoming “Living on Love”).

(Owiso Odera, right, in Our Lady of Kihebo)          (Quincy Tyler I)

Acting alum Ricardo Chavira (MFA '00) was recently cast in the UK premiere of Stephen Adly Guirgis’s THE MOTHERF**KER WITH THE HAT at the Lyttelton Theatre. Indhu Rubasingham will direct.

Chavira will join THE GOOD WIFE’s Flor de Liz Perez, Nathalie Armin, Lisa Caruccio Came and more in Guirgis' play. The play premiered on Broadway in 2011 starring Tony Awards winners Cannavale, Annabella Sciorra, Elizabeth Rodriguez, and Alex Timbers.

The story follows Jackie, a former drug dealer newly out of prison who discovers a hat in his girlfriend Veronica’s apartment and accuses her of cheating on him. Drama ensues.

Chavira’s other TV credits include CASTLE, BAD TEACHER, WELCOME TO THE FAMILY, BURN NOTICE, SIX FEET UNDER and more. Click here for the full article.

Have news to share? Send it to us at TandDNews@ucsd.edu and we'll pass it along for you. Photos are encouraged, 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,

UCSD Department of Theatre and Dance

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