

Monday, February 23, 2009

Volume 7 No. 20

MEETINGS OF THE WEEK

Wednesday, February 25th - Area Heads Meeting, GH 144, 4:00-5:30pm

Thursday, February 26th - Production Meeting, *Refraction*, GH 144, 9:00-10:00am
Production Meeting, *Obscura & Picked*, GH 144, 10:00-11:00am



ADVISORY BULLETIN

Please be aware there was a sexual assault in Parking Lot 102, the large Theatre & Dance parking lot across from the Weiss and Forum Theatres, on February 3rd. We urge you to [review the details](#) and especially the safety information put out by the campus chief of police. If you ever have concerns regarding safety issues around the Theatre District or Galbraith Hall please report them immediately.

Some important safety tips:

- Be especially aware of your surroundings at times when you may be less alert and more vulnerable to an attack - during periods of stress, when you are upset or sick, or if you have been drinking.
- Use discretion and caution when taking shortcuts through isolated parts of the campus.
- Walk in a group or with a friend after dark, or use the Community Service Officer (CSO) Escort Program, (858) 534-WALK, available daily from 5:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m.

Anyone having information about this case is asked to call UCSD Police at 858-534-4359 or send an email to detective@ucsd.edu. If you see anyone suspicious in the housing areas call the UCSD Police Department at 858-534-4357 or 9-1-1 (in an emergency).



FACULTY AND STAFF NEWS

UCSD Exemplary Staff Employee of the Year Award Program is accepting nominations. The program recognizes career employees in Professional and Support Staff positions who have demonstrated distinguished service and contributions to the UCSD and San Diego communities. The deadline for receipt of nominations is 4:30pm on Friday, March 13th. Want to nominate a co-worker? [Click](#) for information.

MORE...

UCSD's Faculty and Staff Assistance Program (FSAP) offers an ongoing eldercare support group, as well as individual eldercare referrals and resources. Specific issues addressed include: caretaker management, elderly relatives and disabilities, long-distance caretaking, and other timely issues. All current and retired faculty and staff can participate in the eldercare support group and benefit from individual referrals and resources (medical, psychological, professional caretakers, transportation, etc.). The support group meets at the Student Services Center, Room 260 on the first Thursday of each month. Click for [more information](#).

The [UC Budget Line](#) website provides the latest impacts of the economic crisis on UCSD.



DEPARTMENT NEWS



Charles Isherwood, of *The New York Times*, has given **Les Waters'** direction of *In The Next Room, or The Vibrator Play* at the Berkeley Rep a [great review](#).

By Sarah Ruhl; directed by **Les Waters**; sets by **Annie Smart**; costumes by David Zinn; lighting by Russell H. Champa; sound by Bray Poor; music by Jonathan Bell; production stage manager, Michael Suenkel. Presented by Berkeley Repertory Theater, at the Berkeley Rep Roda Theater, 2015 Addison Street, Berkeley, Calif.; (510) 647-2949.

Alum **Maria Dizzia**, left, and Hannah Cabell
Photo: Kevin Berne, NYTimes



Theatre Lecturer *emeritus* **Ron Ranson** (Design and Production) will return to campus on Friday, February 27th, as part of the nation-wide celebration honoring the Peace Corps. Ron is a featured speaker at the Peace Corps information session at the UC International Center near Library Walk and Gilman Drive ([map](#)). The panel of speakers will be held from 10:00 - 11:30am, followed by a Soul Food lunch (\$5.00).

Ron served in the Peace Corps in Nepal and taught English at the high school and college level for 2 years (using a lot of classroom theatre projects). He taught design and production in the department from 1979 to 2003.



ADMINISTRIVIA

Undergraduate Degree and Diploma Application Deadline - February 27th

Drop Without an "F" Deadline – March 6th

[Gaffney Playwriting Competition](#) Deadline – March 6th

ONSTAGE

Now Playing –



[Danton's Death](#), through February 28th in the Mandell Weiss Theatre.

Director - **Dominique Serrand**

Production Stage Manager - **Sandra M. Kroll**

Scenic Designer - **Kristin Ellert**

Costume Designer - **Rachel Shachar**

Lighting Designer - **Stephen Sakowski**

Sound Designer - **Christopher M. Luessmann**

Dramaturg – **Laura Brueckner**

Movement Coach – **Alicia Peterson Basket**

Assistant Director – **Tom Dugdale**

Assistant Stage Managers - **Hannah Wichmann & Evangeline Rose Whitlock**

Asst Scenic Designer - **Colin McGurk**

Asst Costume Designer - **Alina Bokovikova**

2nd Assistant Costume Designer - **Anna Murray**

Assistant Lighting Designer - **Sarah Cogan**

Assistant Sound Designer - **Omar Ramos**

Production Assistant – **Lea Cano**

CAST

Marshel Adams - Saint-Just

Kyle Anderson - Philippeau

Matt Bovee - Paris, 2nd Citizen

Maren Bush - Lucille, Deputy from Lyons

Maritzell Carrero - Legendre, Mercier, & Marion

Christina Cervanka - Adelaide, Woman

Lorene Chesley - Lacroix, Ballad Singer

Ross Crain - Robespierre, Fabre, Amar, Fouquier, & Laflotte

Sara Garcia - Julie

Demetrius Greene - Chaumette, Beggar

Bianca Harlow - Several Women

Zachary Harrison - Herman, Dumas, Simon

Spencer Howard - Thomas Paine, Legendre, Collot

Meghan McCauley - Rosalie, Young Man, & Billaud

Evan Powell - Herault-Sechelles, Dillon

Daniel Shapiro - Barere, 1st Citizen

Emily Star - Simon's Wife

Jessica Watkins - Camille

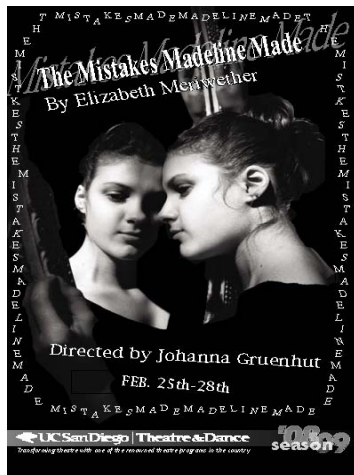
Bowman Wright - Danton

Photos from *Danton's Death*

(Manny Rotenberg)



Opens This Week -



[The Mistakes Madeline Made](#), by Elizabeth Meriwether. In the Arthur Wagner Theatre, February 25th through March 1st.

Director **Johanna Gruenhut** recently directed *No Child...* for the Weston Playhouse. *BillyJoelTookMeToTheProm.Com*, which she directed for American Globe Theatre's Short-Play-Festival took home awards for best play and best director. Her short-film *Thanksgiving 2001* was a finalist at the Redstone Film Festival in Boston. Johanna has directed new plays for Andy's Summer Playhouse, Bright Young Things, Manhattan Theatre Source, The Tank, and Dock-Street Project. Associate director credits include collaborations with Hal Brooks, Daniel Kramer, and Kim Rubinstein. She has served as assistant director to Max Stafford-Clark, Gordon Edelstein, and Oskar Eustis. Upcoming projects: a workshop with Israeli playwright Yosef Bar-Yosef on his newest play, *This Wide-Winged Sea*.

Also This Week -



[1001](#), by **Jason Grote**. A potent, passionate, funny, kaleidoscopic re-imagining of the classic Arabian Nights. Nationally celebrated playwright Jason Grote's politically charged theatrical maze explores current Middle Eastern tensions as it shifts back and forth and through mythic Arabia and modern-day New York City. Jason Grote's plays include *1001* (Denver Center world premiere, Page 73, Theater @ Boston Court, Contemporary American Theater Festival, Mixed Blood), *Box Americana*, *Darwin's*

Challenge, *Hamilton Township* (Salvage Vanguard Theater world premiere; upcoming, Soho Rep), *Maria/Stuart* (Woolly Mammoth Theater world premiere; upcoming, Theater Schmeater), and *This Storm Is What We Call Progress* (Rorschach Theater world premiere). He is currently working on the screenplay for *What We Got: DJ Spooky's Quest* for the Commons and co-hosting *The Acousmatic Radio Theater Hour* on WFMU (91.1FM in NY/NJ, around the world at wfmu.org). *1001* runs February 26th - March 7th in the Mandell Weiss Forum Studio.

Coming Soon - [winterWorks!](#) Directed by **Eric Geiger**. March 12th – 15th. Sure to inspire, this exciting range of interdisciplinary collaborations in dance theatre highlights the unique talents of our students in original, innovative choreography by faculty choreographers **Eric Geiger**, **Margaret Marshall**, **Patricia Rincon**, and **Yolande Snaith**, who welcome this season's guest artist from New York, [Miguel Gutierrez](#).

[Click for tickets](#) to all Department productions.



ALUM UPDATES

Megan Bryant (BA '88) took the time to write us: "...I won't go into all that has happened since then [graduation]. Suffice to say a lot of really cool things. Just did the lighting for a Christmas play at a local church. Sounds rinky dink right? Well not so fast. After having not touched a piece of equipment in over 15 years (got into camera work for films) I was able to light a show and I can thank all of those Friday night

MORE...

cabarets down at Warren's black box. (Is it still there?) I had to design and light those in three hours. For this Christmas play, I was not able to refocus one light. (Church's floor was on a slant. Church had no equipment and no money to rent a suitable Cherry picker.) I could only set lighting levels and fade from one preset to the next (on a board meant to run house lights. Not really a board at all.) I was able to rent two small follow spots and five 500 watt Fresnels to light the set. But... It came out fantastic! It was surprisingly like riding a bike. It all came back. I must now fade back into the job of Mother, Wife and "Homemaker" but it sure is a boost to know that I can still do it."

Meredith McDonough (MFA '04) is directing [Copenhagen](#) at Delaware Theatre Company through March 8th.

Suzanne Agins (MFA '03) directs the world premiere of [Jailbait](#), by Deirdre O'Connor, at the Cherry Lane Theatre in New York, March 19th through April 25th.

Chris Flanders (MFA '94) was on the first two episodes of [24: Day 7](#). He plays "Todd" in the 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and the 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. episodes (Season 7, Episodes 1 & 2). [You can watch entire episodes on the 24 website.]

Virginie Magnat (PhD '04) has just been awarded a second major research grant by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada. The three-year [Research/Creation Grant in Fine Arts](#) will enable her to further develop her practice-based research on cross-cultural and trans-generational transmission processes among women in the Grotowski diaspora. The organizers of Year Grotowski events in Cuba have recently published one result of this research, Virginie's essay, "The Stanislavski-Grotowski Lineage," in Spanish translation in the literary journal *Criterionos*. A bilingual version of her article, "Meetings with Remarkable Women," is featured in the current issue of *Le Théâtre en Pologne/The Theatre in Poland*.



Melanie Marnich (MFA '98) writes for HBO's [Big Love](#) (and is now married to playwright Lee Blessing). Her play *Quake*, "about a young woman who travels cross-country to find the love of her life, with an astrophysicist/serial killer and other bizarre twists thrown in" will be presented at the Arts Bank Theater of The University of the Arts in Philadelphia through February 28th. [Read a review](#) at Broadwayworld.com.

L-R: Playwright Lee Blessing, Melanie Marnich and Signature Theatre Company Artistic Director Jim Houghton. Photo: Broadwayworld.com

Have News To Share?? Send it to us via the newsletter's own email address, [TandDNews at Yahoo.com](#), by Tuesday night and we'll put it in the next newsletter. We love photos, but please, if you send them, make sure they are no larger than 400k files. Also, don't forget to identify yourself, tell us if you had a different name at graduation, and what year you graduated. If your news features other alums, please be sure to identify them. We hope to hear from you soon!