

Monday, May June 1, 2009
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MEETINGS OF THE WEEK

Monday, June 1st - Area Heads Meeting, GH 144, 4:00-:005pm

Wednesday, June 3rd - Faculty/Staff Meeting, GH 144, 4:00pm

Friday, June 5th - Department Undergraduate Graduation Ceremony



FACULTY AND STAFF NEWS



Deeper Cuts - Read a statement by UC President Mark Yudof on the UC's role in sorting through the [shifting budget scenarios](#) and its aim to be a vigorous participant in the state's efforts to work through the fiscal crisis.

BlinkCast - Can't squeeze learning into your workday? Download a podcast specifically produced for UCSD faculty and staff. Tune into fascinating lectures and classes while you walk, drive, or fly. Topics vary from how to find your soul-mate to how to avoid skin cancer. [More here](#).



DEPARTMENT NEWS

Undergraduate Graduation Ceremony Reminder – The Department will hold its annual undergraduate graduation ceremony this Friday at 4:00pm in the Poitiker Theatre. Come see off the 2009 Class of Theatre and Dance and share their memories in the making. A number of honorary awards will be made and next year's Undergraduate Representatives will be announced.

Stage Combat Instructor **James Newcomb** will be performing as “Feste” in *Twelfth Night* and “Junius Brutus” in *Coriolanus* (directed by Professor **Darko Tresnjak**) at the [Old Globe Theatre](#) this summer.



Women of Valor, a play with music by **Todd Salovey**, Ali Viterbi, and Leah Salovey and directed by Todd Salovey, will have its inaugural reading on Sunday, June 14th, at 2:00pm in the Lyceum Space, San Diego, as part of the 16th Annual Lipinsky Family San Diego Jewish Arts Festival. “A woman of valor who shall find?” Share the excitement of a brand new piece of theatre celebrating the lives and courage of nine remarkable women from the San Diego Jewish community. Todd, Ali, and Leah have interviewed and created a moving theatrical work that explores the vision, love, strength, and faith of the women in their lives.

MORE...

The Department's four MFA playwrights were featured on KPBS radio's *These Days* show last week, with their short plays performed acted and directed by MFA students. Playwrights: **Jennifer Barclay, Stephanie Timm, Ronald McCants, Krista Knight**, – featuring MFA students **Zoë Chao, Sarah Garcia, Marixtell Carrero, Adam Arian, Tom Dugdale**, and PhD **Laura Brueckner**, plus Professor **Jim Carmody**. Listen [here!](#)

Second-year MFA playwright **Ron McCants** was just voted Vice President of Campus Affairs for the UCSD Graduate Student Association. First-year MFA playwright **Krista Knight** was appointed Cultural Coordinator for the UCSD Graduate Student Association.



ONSTAGE

Opening This Week...



[New Directions](#) - *MFA Student Choreographers' Showcase.*

Co-Directed by **Allyson Green & Margaret C. Marshall**.

MFA Student Choreographers: **Alicia Peterson Baskel** and **Rebecca Salzer**

Undergraduate Choreographers: **Trixi Anne Agiao, Katie Lorge**, and **Morgan McGreevey**

Enter a disturbing world of memory inhabited by two actors and two dancers in Harold Pinter's "Night." Explore cycles of turbulent mood changes in a game that integrates dance, saxophone, and video images. Experience motions and sounds inspired by fireflies; a powerful investigation into the suppression of women in society; and haunting gestures by a soloist framed within a birdcage. These new and innovative approaches in dance theatre will be unveiled in *New Directions*, the premiere concert of works by our

Inaugural class of Dance Theatre MFA choreographers and our top undergraduate choreographers. The evening will feature outstanding performances by actors, dancers, video artists, and musicians in works by **Alicia Peterson Baskel, Rebecca Salzer, Trixi Anne Agiao, Katie Lorge**, and **Morgan McGreevey**. Don't miss these exciting new artists as they begin to redefine the boundaries of dance theatre at UC San Diego.

The Dancers/Performers: **Trixi Anne Agiao, Matthew Armstrong, Rebecca Bruno, Elizabeth Diaz, Juhi Dudani, Marleth Guerrero, Christine Herde, Arthur Huang, Moae Jane Ikeda, Kevin Kelleher, Katie Lorge, Morgan McGreevey, Jessica Pusateri, Phoebe Sanderson, Calvin Tsang, Ashley Walters, Jessica Watkins**, and **Aaron Yu**.

Opens Thursday, June 4th, with one performance on Friday, June 5th, and closes on Saturday, June 6th. All performances at 8:00pm. Click for [ticket information](#).



ADMINISTRIVIA

Last Day to Request Incomplete – June 14th ~ Last Day to Remove a prior Incomplete – June 15th
Grades Available Online – June 18th



ALUM UPDATES



Message from Alumni Relations: Alumni from every class of UC San Diego's nearly fifty years can relive their fondest memories during the university's inaugural Alumni Weekend, Thursday, June 4th, through Sunday, June 7th. Alumni Weekend is an opportunity for our graduates to come back to campus, enjoy the best of UCSD and be a part of this exciting new tradition featuring reunions, lectures, tours, receptions, exhibitions, performances and an awards gala. Read [more here](#).

Alum **Anjee Nero** ('07) has had a very busy year so far Stage Managing [Kingdom](#) at The Old Globe and two workshops at Center Theatre Group - one of which, *Post Office*, written by Melissa James Gibson and Michael J. Friedman and directed by Mark Brokaw is likely to be produced next season. She was the Stage Manager for *IMAGOmoves* at Sushi Arts last month with Artistic Director -Choreographer **Yolande Snaith** and MFA Lighting Design alum **Tom Ontiveros** ('07). Earlier this year she stage-managed for the Paul Dresher Ensemble world premiere of [Schick Machine](#), featuring Steven Schick, scheduled to begin touring in November. Most recently she stage-managed *Antigone*, directed by Anne Bogart with SITI Company and MFA Acting alum **Makela Spielman** ('04). Anjee is currently stage-managing *Cornelia* at The Old Globe where she will also stage-manage *Savannah Disputations* (directed by Acting Professor **Kim Rubenstein**) in the fall. In addition, Anjee will be stage-managing the La Jolla Playhouse's production of [Herringbone](#).



Alum **Dileep Rao** (MFA '98) was at the 2009 [Cannes Film Festival](#) recently to launch the movie *Drag Me To Hell*, which opened last week in local theatres. "A loan officer ordered to evict an old woman from her home finds herself the recipient of a supernatural curse, which turns her life into a living hell. Desperate, she turns to a seer to try and save her soul, while evil forces work to push her to a breaking point." Dileep plays the character of "Rham Jas." He also will be seen as "Dr. Max Patel" in the upcoming IMAX 3-D movie [Avatar](#), directed by James Cameron, starring Sigourney Weaver.

(Photo by Sean Gallup/Getty Images Europe)

Alum **Tom Ontiveros** (MFA '07) will be moving on from his teaching position at Chico State University to accept an Assistant Professorship at the University of Southern California. In addition to designing a full season at Chico State, recent projects include production design for [Schick Machine](#) (directed by Rinde Eckert, composed by Paul Dresher, and starring Steven Schick), as well as lighting and projection design for Head of Dance **Yolande Snaith's** *Iman* at SUSHI. Tom also designed set, projections and co-designed lighting with alum [Rebecca Bonebrake](#) (BA '06) for Chalk Rep's recent production of *Three Sisters* in Los Angeles. Upcoming projects include Projection Design for [He Asked for It](#) at MACHA in Los Angeles and a collaboration with Rinde Eckert, Steve Mackey, and the Eighth Blackbird Ensemble on New Music Theatre work, *Slide*, at the Ojai Music Festival. In August, Tom will be returning to the [Cabrillo Festival of Contemporary Music](#) in Santa Cruz to design lighting and projection as a guest artist.

Matt Henerson (MFA '95) writes: "At the beginning of the week, I wrapped five weeks of shooting on [Mars Needs Moms](#), Imagemovers' most recent motion-capture feature. Based on a childrens' book by *Bloom*

MORE...

County's [Berkeley Breathed](#), the film was directed by Simon Wells who also co-wrote the script with his wife, Wendy. *Mars* starred Seth Green, Dan Fogler, and Joan Cusack, and is due out sometime in 2010. Look for me as a cop rousting some hippies and as one half of an inept Martian clean-up crew. The process was delightful, the leads were terrific, and, given a fair wind and a following sea, it should turn out to be a marvellous movie. *Mars* wrapped on Monday, and on Tuesday I drove to Cedar City, Utah, to begin rehearsals for this summer's [Utah Shakespearean Festival](#). I'm playing "Dromeo of Ephesus" in *Comedy of Errors*, directed by Kirk Boyd, and "Ben Weatherstaff" in *The Secret Garden*, directed by Jim Christian, with whom I worked on last summer's *Fiddler*. The Festival's six shows--*Henry V*, *As You Like It*, *Private Lives*, and *Foxfire* in addition to the two I'm in--open in late June and play through the end of August. I'll be back in Los Angeles on August 30th. I am also in the midst of my first assignment as a dramaturg, for Brett Elliott's production of *All's Well That Ends Well* for the [Kingsmen Shakespeare Festival](#), which plays weekends from July 17th to August 2nd in Thousand Oaks."



Editor's Note: There is only one edition left of the '08/09 *Theatre and Dance Department Newsletter* for this year, due out on June 8th, so send your news now! If you have plans for the summer, we'll be publishing the annual "Special Mid-Summer Edition" at the beginning of August, so keep sending news to share and we'll include it then! Just hit "reply" and send your info. Photos are always welcome, but please try to not send huge files (resize them from what comes off your camera), thanks!

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