

Monday, November 17, 2008

Volume 7 No. 9

MEETINGS OF THE WEEK

Wednesday, November 19th - 4:00pm, Full Faculty Meeting, GH 144

Thursday, November 20th – 10:00am, *The Misanthrope* Production Meeting, GH144

Friday, November 21st – 4:00pm, Dedication of Wagner Theatre, GH157



FACULTY AND STAFF NEWS

Mid-year state budget cuts proposed by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger include a further budget cut of \$65.5 million for UC. This is in addition to the \$48 million year-over-year reduction that was included in the final 2008-09 budget. That final budget left it to the university to achieve an additional \$100 million in savings to cover student enrollment growth and increases in unfunded fixed costs. Read the entire [press release here](#).

UC Pension Plan Takes a Hit, Still Solid – UC President Mark G. Yudof released [a statement](#) regarding the impact of the current global fiscal crisis on UC pensions, current and future.

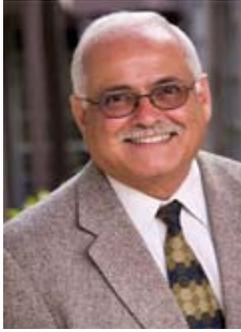


DEPARTMENT NEWS



Desperate Housewives actor **Ricardo Chavira**, Tony-award winner **Jefferson Mays** of *I Am My Own Wife* and Broadway star **Danny Burnstein** are among many theatre and dance professionals who owe their success to their mentor **Arthur Wagner**, founder of UC San Diego's highly acclaimed Department of Theatre and Dance. Wagner is being [recognized by the campus](#) on Friday, November 21st, for his service and support to the Department at of Theatre and Dance at a 4:00pm reception at Galbraith Hall, Room 157. The event will also celebrate the dedication of the 99-seat Arthur Wagner Theatre which features a full sound/light/stage management booth and dressing rooms

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Jorge Huerta was named the 2008 ASTR Distinguished Scholar at the recent meeting of the American Society for Theatre Research in Boston. He was cited for his lifetime of contributions to Latino/a theatre in particular and American theatre studies generally. From the introductory comments as the honor was announced: "... We recognize his role in not only breaking the path but setting a direction for it, literally and ethically, and continuing both to lay paving stones on its course, step by step, through his own articles, biographical entries in encyclopedias, and monographs, but also to travel with others on what has become a busy highway. For nearly forty years, since he founded *El Teatro de la Esperanza* in Santa Barbara, Jorge has demonstrated unflinching commitment to developing a field, and along with it, a younger generation of scholars in dialogue with artists. As a mentor, Jorge is generous to a fault, a constant presence as a speaker but also as an auditor whose encouragement of others is integral to the success of Latina/Latino theatre studies. The number of publications in Jorge's field is astounding *because* he is fully in the midst of the cultural politics of Latina/Latino theatre. He exemplifies the inquisitive co-inquirer, the patient explicator, exuding warmth, encouragement, and generosity to all...."

Luis Valdez on campus - Eleanor Roosevelt and Thurgood Marshall Colleges present a powerful and timely [week-long symposium](#) of free public events at UC San Diego on the interlocking themes of Human Rights and Global Citizenship. As part of the symposium, playwright, filmmaker and activist Luis Valdez will discuss the problems of citizenship in the U.S., and the blending of cultures in the dynamic California landscape. Known as the Father of Chicano Theater, Valdez, a member of the National Endowment for the Arts Council, is best known for his Broadway production, *Zoot Suit*, the international hit film, *La Bamba*. A panel of experts will discuss the themes of citizenship and diversity matters following the lecture. Associate Chancellor Emeritus **Jorge Huerta** will introduce Mr. Valdez. Thursday, November 20th, at 7:30pm in the Price Center Ballroom West.

Quinn Martin Director Announced - The Quinn Martin Guest Chair in Directing for this season will be Dominique Serrand. Mr. Serrand will be directing *Danton's Death* by Georg Büchner. The play follows the story of Georges Danton, a leader of the French Revolution, during the lull between the first and second terrors. It deals with great social moments-myths in our history, overwhelming pursuits, and offers passionate characters, tied to the romantic movement. It offers a renewal of the theatrical form, taking place in epic spaces. Mr. Serrand intends to apply his background in design, set, lights, costumes, to guide the Designers as an ensemble of artists working together to achieve a world (he started his career in architectural school), and to work with the performers (Actors, Dancers, etc..) as an ensemble.

Paris native Dominique Serrand was Artistic Director and co-founder of *Theatre de la Jeune Lune*. He studied at the *Ecole Jacques Lecoq* in Paris. Serrand has acted, conceived, directed and designed for most *Jeune Lune* productions for more than twenty-five years, concentrating more on directing. His directing credits include *The Kitchen*, *Lulu*, *The Bourgeois Gentleman*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Red Noses*, *1789*, *Children of Paradise: Shooting a Dream*, *Three Musketeers*, *The Pursuit of Happiness*, *Queen Elizabeth*, *Tartuffe*, *Gulliver*, *The Seagull*, *The Miser*, *The Little Prince* and *Amerika or The Disappearance*. He staged several operas including *The Magic Flute*, *Così Fan Tutte*, *Don Juan Giovanni*, *Figaro*, and *Carmen*. Serrand's directing stages include Berkeley Repertory Theatre, The La Jolla Playhouse, Yale Repertory Theatre, American Repertory Theatre, Actors Theatre of Louisville, The Alley Theatre, The Guthrie Theater, and the Children's Theatre Company, amongst others. Dominique has been knighted by the French Government in the Order of Arts and Letters.

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The Winter Undergraduate Production will be directed by guest director **Johanna Gruenhut**. Ms. Gruenhut will be directing Elizabeth Meriwether's *The Mistakes Madeline Made*. She writes: "I fall in love with this play more and more with each read. It is about how the outside world and our extended lives seep into our present moments. It is at once deeply funny, and deeply sad." Critics described it as a "twisted, hilarious" comedy about the horrors of low-level bureaucracy, pretentious writers and, more seriously, the death of a family member,and reveals some compelling theatrical moments." The cast break down is three men, two women, and all the parts are "extremely juicy."

Johanna Gruenhut is currently working on *Aracdia* with the Johns Hopkins Barnstormers. Recently she 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. Gruenhut 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 (*What Then, Widows*), Daniel Kramer (*Angels in America* UK tour and in London, England), and Kim Rubinstein (*The American Plan, The Incredible Design of Jenny Chow, A Midsummer Night's Dream, Guys and Dolls*). As assistant to associate artistic director of the Long Wharf Theatre, Kim Rubinstein, Gruenhut produced six short films for the theatre's education department. She has served as assistant director to Max Stafford-Clark (*The Overwhelming*), Gordon Edelstein (*BFE, A New War*), and Oskar Eustis (*The Ruby Sunrise, The Long Christmas Ride Home*). Upcoming projects: a workshop with Israeli playwright Yosef Bar-Yosef on his new play, *This Wide-Winged Sea*.

Auditions Announcements - The workshop for graduate actors will be held on Sunday, November 23rd, in GH 23 from 10:30-1:30pm. The first part of the audition will consist of a movement section led by director Dominique Serrand. Mr. Serrand indicates he would like actors to prepare a monologue "where you demonstrate passion for something." There will also be sides from the chosen play, available soon. Undergraduate auditions will be held on Monday, November 24th, starting at 4:30 in GH23 and/or GH15. The callbacks are planned for Tuesday, November 25th, starting around 5:30pm (TBD, watch for updated times) in GH 15, 23, 155, and/ or 170.



ADMINISTRIVIA

Annual Health & Wellness Fair is this Tuesday at [Price Center](#), Ballrooms A & B, 11:00 – 2:00pm

[Open Enrollment](#) ends at midnight next Tuesday (November 25th).

[Equal Opportunity/ Affirmative Action and Diversity Awards](#) nomination deadline is November 25th.

Transportation & Parking's free Holiday Shuttle to the airport reservations are now being [accepted online](#).

ONSTAGE

Now Running - [*Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead*](#) - Tom Stoppard startled and captivated audiences in this retelling of Shakespeare's Hamlet as an absurdist-like farce. Performed in the Mandell Weiss Forum Studio through Saturday, the 22nd. [Click here!](#) for ticket information

Opening This Week – [*The Laramie Project*](#). November 19th - 22nd in the Arthur Wagner Theatre.



Moisés Kaufman's and The Tectonic Project's reality-based, hate-crime docudrama of a young gay student's brutal murder searches for answers about our nation's responsibility and values. In 1998, Matthew Shepard, a young gay student from the University of Wyoming was severely beaten and left to die, tied to a fence just outside the small town of Laramie Wyoming. Shepard's brutal attack and consequential death because of his homosexuality led the national media to portray Laramie as a breeding ground for ignorance and intolerance. Moisés Kaufman and his Tectonic Theatre Project journeyed to Laramie to discover for themselves Laramie's true identity. Through the voices of the townspeople, *The Laramie Project* deconstructs the monolithic, media-assembled image of Laramie, revealing a complicated and complex character, not just of the small Wyoming town, but also of America itself.

Director **Raimondo Genna** is a PhD candidate who received his M.A. in Theatre at San Diego State University. His directorial credits include *All My Sons* (UCSD), N. Richard Nash's *Echoes* and Ariel Dorfman's *Death and the Maiden* (Stone Soup Theatre Company). Other directing credits include: (SDSU) *Macbeth*, *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead*, *Deep* and *One for the Road*, and Associate Director on *The Kentucky Cycle* (Nick Reid, Director); *Talk to Me Like the Rain*, *Let Me Listen*, and *A Thing of Beauty* (Mesa College); and assistant director for *The Weir* with Joe Hardy (Old Globe Theatre).

Also Opening This Week - [*Fall for Dance – True Possessions*](#).
November 21st – 23rd in the Molli and Arthur Wagner Dance Facility.



Using both contemporary and hip hop movement, *True Possessions* examines the nature of the deeply personal, genuine needs of our communities. Live music, poetry, set designs and full-bodied movement seek to spin a journey both touching and enjoyable. This evening will also feature the inspiring talent of three of UCSD's dance alumni. Opens Friday, November 21st, at 8:00pm. Performances on Saturday, November 22nd, at 8:00pm and Sunday, November 23rd, at 7:00pm (closing).

Choreographer/Director **Terry Wilson** has been performing, teaching and choreographing in San Diego for the past 22 years. She has enjoyed a long performing career with Jean Isaacs' dance companies: Three's Company and Dancers, Isaacs, McCaleb and Dancers, and **Jean Isaacs** San Diego Dance Theater, as well as many other local, national and international choreographers. Terry's teaching experience includes many years of teaching in the community and throughout Europe and Mexico. She is currently teaching at UC, San Diego, and is an assistant Professor of Dance at San Diego City College.



MORE....



grace shinhae jun is a choreographer, educator, and performer. The need for movement and the love of hip hop culture inspired her to begin *bkSOUL*, a performance company that shares culture, language, and soul. In addition to *bkSOUL*, grace has performed with several companies such as **Jean Isaacs** San Diego Dance Theater, tammy l. wong dance company, **Allyson Green** Dance, and Gabe Masson Dance. She currently teaches at UC San Diego, Southwestern College, San Diego City College and also with transcendANCE Youth Arts Project.

Coming Soon - [As You Like It](#) - November 24th – December 6th
Sheila and Hughes Potiker Theatre.



About the Play - We begin in ruins. Families are at war. One brother has overthrown another, seizing control of the government and installing himself as dictator. From this dark beginning, Rosalind, Orlando, and others escape into the Forest of Arden, a mystical place with all the logic of a dream. Those who enter Arden find love, transformation, renewal: their journey through the forest is their dream of a new world rebuilt upon the ashes of the old.

Director **Tom Dugdale** is a graduate of Dartmouth college and a candidate for a Master of Fine Arts in Directing at UCSD. His department credits include *A Cure for Pain*, *Vaudeveaux Nouvelle*, and *The Heliotropic Man*, an original solo performance piece conceived with Joel Gelman. He directed Benjamin Britten's opera, *The Rape of Lucretia*, for Manhattan School of Music in New York and also staged the incidental vocal music from Stravinsky's ballet *Pulcinella*. In the summer of 2008, at Music Academy of the West in Santa Barbara, Dugdale was assistant director of *A Wedding*, an opera based on the Robert Altman film of the same name. He has assisted or observed the work of Robert Woodruff, Anne Bogart, and the Romanian director, Gábor Tompa, his teacher at UCSD.

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



ALUM UPDATES

Ivy Khan (BA '02) is appearing in *You Can't Take It With You* at the [Pierson Playhouse](#) in Pacific Palisades through December 14th.

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!