

UC San Diego | Theatre & Dance



Imaginative · Eclectic · Interdisciplinary

April 5, 2010 Volume 8, No. 25

MEETINGS OF THE WEEK

Monday, April 5th: 4:00-5:00pm - Area Heads Meeting, GH144 5:00-6:00pm - *Arts in Action Festival* Meeting, GH144 Wednesday, April 7th: 4:00-5:00pm - Full Faculty Meeting, GH144 Thursday, April 8th: 10:00-11:00am - Production Meeting, *Phantom Band*, GH 144, Friday, April 9th: 10-11:00am - Production Meeting, Spring Dance, GH144



FACULTY AND STAFF NEWS

LSOE Info Series [From SVC Paul Drake] - "It is my pleasure to invite you to the annual briefing for members of the Lecturer with Security of Employment (LSOE) series. This is an informal discussion that includes panelists who will address advancement and promotion criteria and other issues unique to the LSOE series. Panelists will include Nicholas Christenfeld, Chair of the Senate Committee on Academic Personnel (CAP); Barbara Sawrey, Associate Vice Chancellor, Undergraduate Education; and Charlie Oates, Senior Lecturer with Security of Employment, Department of Theatre and Dance." Monday, April 26th, 10:30am – noon, University Center 111A. RSVP by Friday, April 16th, to Sheila Harley at <u>sharley@ucsd.edu</u>.

Outstanding Senior/Graduate Student Award Nominations - Student Affairs will recognize two remarkable students who have earned recognition in the UCSD community for their outstanding academic and leadership performance, and for enhancing the student experience at UCSD. One award will be given to an outstanding graduating undergraduate student and one to an outstanding graduating graduate or professional student. The recipients will each receive \$1,000, a lifetime membership to the UCSD Alumni Association, and be publicly recognized amongst their peers at the All Campus Graduation Celebration on Friday, June 11th. Read the call for <u>nominations here</u>. Nominations due by Friday, April 23rd.



DEPARTMENT NEWS

Arts in Action Festival LAST CALL FOR PROPOSALS - SAVE THE DATE: Friday May 7th. All day, inside and outside, and all over UC San Diego. Events all day and evening 10am-10pm. Forum at 4pm in the Mandell Weiss Theatre Visit and post your ideas on the <u>Arts in Action Blog</u>. Speak Out! Act Out! Use your art to bring change to UC San Diego! Calling all artists to action. The UC San Diego Department of Theatre and Dance is actively seeking proposals for the Arts in Action Festival to be held on May 7, 2010 during the UC San Diego Cares week. Submit a wide variety of proposals including dramatic performances, dance, spokenword, visual art, film or music, as well as papers and presentations for a panel discussion.

MORE...

The purpose of this festival is to provide a forum for artistic responses to the recent racial emergency on our campus. In the long-standing tradition of arts activism, we encourage you to explore the ways in which race, gender, and sexuality are constructed in performance and through acts of representation, as well as to challenge and interrogate the uses of stereotypes in comedy. This festival will offer opportunities to examine the visibility/invisibility of racialized and gendered bodies, at UC San Diego in particular, and in society in general.

We welcome a wide variety of proposals including dramatic performances, dance, spoken-word, visual art, film and music. There will also be a forum for critical discussion and proposals for papers and presentations are also welcome. Undergraduates and graduate students from across the campus and of all levels of experience are all welcome and encouraged to apply. Performative pieces can take place inside or out, and visual art works will be displayed in our theater lobbies, on video screens and on digital kiosks. Proposals are due by April 5 and should be one-page in length, outlining the technical needs, the concept for the work, length of the work, departmental affiliation, full contact information and a short bio of the artist(s). Selections will be made by April 12 by a committee of undergraduate and graduate students, faculty and staff. Mentors will be assigned to the selected artist to guide through the final presentation and exhibition.

For questions and to submit proposals please email the festival.



ONSTAGE



The Baldwin New Play Festival at UC San Diego 2010 features world premiere productions by our talented MFA playwrights - directed, acted, stage managed and designed by our nationally-acclaimed MFA companies. This year's plays take us from Rwanda to Santa Cruz, from the haunted mind of a teenage killer to the mysterious fragments of memory that a mother grieving her lost son tries to piece together. The plays take on themes ranging from the legacy of slavery for one African-American family to what it means to be an

American trying to do a good in a third world nation. They explore the complexity of finding justice in an imperfect world and the redemptive powers of making art. Filled with passion, insight, humor, and a dose of magic, these five plays represent some of the most original and ground-breaking new voices in American theatre. UCSD playwrights have gone on to be produced and commissioned around the country. New plays showcased at BNPF in recent years have had major productions and readings in New York City, San Francisco, Boston, Atlanta, Louisville, Minneapolis, Chicago, Washington D.C, and the O'Neill Playwrights Conference.

Click for more information.

Oyster, by <u>Ronald McCants</u> (MFA 10) Directed by Larissa Lury.

A Black-American man reconnects with the biological son he abandoned many years ago. As the two get to know each other, secrets from the past emerge that threaten to change everything. Can we ever know the truth of our own history? How can ghosts from our past destroy us? And how do we **OPENS:** Friday, 4/16 at 8 PM Monday, 4/19 at 8 PM Tuesday, 4/20 at 8 PM Friday, 4/23 at 8 PM Saturday, 4/24 at 8 PM

free ourselves from the demons that haunt us? An exploration of the Black-American experience through the prism of one father and son relationship.

Everything Nice, by <u>Stephanie Timm</u> (MFA 10) Directed by Jeffrey Wienckowski.

A woman returns to her 20 year high school reunion where she confronts old ghosts she's been running from for years. Are the people you know best really who they seem? Can you really trust what you remember? A psychological thriller that explores the dark side of adolescence and how getting away with something can be worse that getting caught.

Phantom Band, by <u>Krista Knight</u> (MFA 11) Directed by **Tom Dugdale.**

A group of teenage misfits in Santa Cruz struggle with hormones, unrequited crushes, crappy parents, college essays, and the meaning of life. One of their own decides to start a marching band and the teens come together to make strange and volatile music. When a mysterious exchange student joins the band, all hell breaks loose. A dark,

comedic, and music-filled exploration of what it means to make art out of the chaos of your life and what it feels like to come of age in the first decade of a new century.

In A Word, by Lauren Yee (MFA 12) Directed by Adam Arian.

Two years have passed since Fiona's eight-year-old son mysteriously vanished. As Fiona goes back over the events she remembers leading up to that fateful day, logic buckles and language breaks. Will she uncover the truth and what happens if she does? A lyrical, absurdist journey on how to get over, get around, get through what haunts you. **OPENS:** Wednesday 4/14 at 8 PM Saturday, 4/17 at 2 PM Saturday, 4/17 at 8 PM Wednesday, 4/21 at 8 PM Thursday, 4/22 at 8 PM

OPENS: Thursday, 4/15 at 8 PM Friday, 4/16 at 8 PM Saturday, 4/17 at 2 PM Friday, 4/23 at 8 PM Saturday, 4/24 at 8 PM

OPENS: Friday 4/16 at 8 PM Saturday, 4/17 at 10:30 AM Saturday, 4/17 at 2 PM Friday, 4/23 at 8 PM Saturday, 4/24 at 2 PM MORE...

Muzungu, by <u>David Myers</u> (MFA 12) *Directed by* Anthony Luciano.

A well-intentioned American travels to contemporary Rwanda to distribute aid. But he has brought his considerable baggage with him, and a suitcase in Rwanda can hold things both horrifying and beautiful. Muzungu explores the unseen motives in doing good, and the gifts one receives when lending a helping hand. **OPENS:** Friday 4/16 at 8 PM Saturday, 4/17 at 10:30 AM Saturday, 4/17 at 2 PM Friday, 4/23 at 8 PM Saturday, 4/24 at 2 PM

Staged Reading, by the winner of the fourth annual Dr. Floyd Gaffney Playwriting Competition on the African-American Experience. This is a free event.

Saturday, 4/24 at 10:30 AM

CLICK HERE for tickets.

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ALUM UPDATES

Alum **Daniel [Kim] Isaac** (BA '09) wrote to let us know he is is currently in an Off-Broadway show at the Spanish Repertory called *Kiss Bessemer Goodbye* ("*El Beso del Adios*") directed by **Jerry Ruiz** (MFA '07). Here's a <u>funny preview</u> in Spanish for the show and a review from the <u>New York Times</u>. ... More information for the show can be <u>found here</u> and performances have been extended through June.

Ryan Shams (MFA '07) has a short scene on *Law and Order: Criminal Intent* this Tuesday (April 6th) at 10/9 Central on the USA Channel. He says: "I speak two languages! One of them is English!"

New Alums - You are now alumni of UC San Diego Department of Theatre and Dance. If you haven't already, please go to our Alumni Database and create an account and input info regarding yourself. To do that go to http://theatre.ucsd.edu/alumni/login.aspx and click on the "Create an Account" on the left side of the page. You can also get to this page by going to our main page theatre.ucsd.edu click on Alumni Central over on the right and then click on Alumni Database (you will notice you could also have clicked on alumni newsletter to read newsletter compilations). Please, please then keep us posted of what's happening in your life so we can write glowing things about you in the newsletter. To send info to the newsletter you can send me info or to Nan at tanddnews@yahoo.com Thanks!. Mark Maltby, mmaltby@ucsd.edu

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Editor's Note: Just hit "reply" to <u>tanddnews@yahoo.com</u> and share your info. Photos are always encouraged. Also, be sure to let us know if you're using a different name than you did here at UCSD. News that arrives by Wednesdays usually makes it into the next Monday's edition. We look forward to hearing from you!