



**Zero Week**  
**September 21, 2009**  
**Volume 8, No. 1**



**Welcome to the Fall Quarter 2009!** I hope you all had a creative, restful summer and are ready to dive into another great season in Theatre and Dance. I am excited about our incoming class of students, who bring a multitude of talents. Our faculty continued their award winning creative research in professional projects across the globe. They are teaming up for new collaborative courses this year, to inspire innovative approaches to the creation of new work.

While the economic challenges have been difficult, we continue to be rich in the resources that matter most – passionate, dedicated staff, faculty and students who believe that art is essential. I look forward to an inspiring year with all of you!

Allyson Green  
Chair, Department of Theatre and Dance



## FACULTY AND STAFF NEWS



**Keep Current** with the ever-changing face of faculty and staff furloughs. The latest official information can be [found here](#). Lawrence Pitts, Interim Provost and Executive Vice President of Academic Affairs, recently addressed [a letter to faculty](#).

**Friday test of Emergency Contact System** – September is Emergency Preparedness Month on campus. The campus will conduct a test of the emergency alert system on Friday, September 25<sup>th</sup>. All cell phones registered with the system will receive a test text notice. For more info on campus emergencies, visit [the emergency links website](#).



## ADMINISTRIVIA

**Fall Quarter begins** - Monday, September 21<sup>st</sup>  
**Department Student Orientation** - Tuesday/Wednesday, September 22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup>  
**Instruction begins** - Thursday, September 24<sup>th</sup>  
**Undergraduate auditions** - Friday, September 25<sup>th</sup>  
**Deadline to Add/DDA deadline** - October 9<sup>th</sup>

## DEPARTMENT NEWS

**MFA 3 Directing student Adam Arian** writes from New York: "I am directing a show for the New York Musical Theater Festival, called... ahem ahem... "[Fantasy Football, The Musical?](#)" And it is a big honking, pedal-to-the-metal joyride. Totally self-aware, more than a little touching, funny as, (no. *Funnier* than) all get out, and deceptively smart. We play from 10/1-10/8. Four of our originally scheduled six shows are already sold out, (!) and so NYMF just extended our run, adding one extra show. Word is we may get another one soon."



***The Laramie Project*** - Special One Night Reading! Ticket proceeds of this reading benefit the Hillcrest Youth Center, a program operated under the auspices of the San Diego LGBT Community Center. Directed by **Darko Tresnjak**. The La Jolla Playhouse will join with theatres across the country in presenting a reading of the Tectonic Theater Project's new work: [The Laramie Project: 10 Years Later](#). This compelling and groundbreaking epilogue to the original piece will premiere on October 12<sup>th</sup> at Lincoln Center's Alice Tully Hall and at more than 100 other theaters in all fifty states, Canada, Great Britain, Spain, Hong Kong, and Australia. The epilogue focuses on the long-term effects of the murder of Matthew Shepard on the town of Laramie. It explores how the town has changed and how the murder continues to reverberate in the community. The play also includes new interviews with Matthew's mother Judy Shepard and Mathew's murderer Aaron McKinney, who's serving two consecutive life sentences. Several UCSD affiliates are involved in this reading.

**Marianne McDonald** has a play coming up - *Fires in Heaven*, a free dramatic story about Rabia Al-Adawiyya (717-801), whose sayings and poetry have an honored place in world literature. The work traces her search for both physical and spiritual survival and a night with a thief who came to rob her: he is after her body, and she is after his soul. [Previews at The Theatre, Inc.](#), in San Diego, on October 1<sup>st</sup>, opens October 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**Undergrad Auditions** - Auditions for all undergraduate roles for the *The House of Bernarda Alba*, *Camino Real*, *Sexual Selection*, and the Undergraduate Production (*Marriage, Medicine, Money, and Mayhem: French Farces by Molière and Feydeau*) will be held on Friday, September 25<sup>th</sup>, starting at 5:30pm in Galbraith Hall 15. Interested actors should prepare a one to two minute Shakespeare monologue or two monologues (one contemporary and the other Shakespeare). Auditions should last no longer than two minutes. Also be prepared to sing *a capella* if asked and bring an instrument if you can play one. Please note: you must have at the very least the Shakespeare monologue. Callbacks will be: *The House of Bernarda Alba* - morning, Saturday September 26<sup>th</sup>; *Camino Real* and *Sexual Selection* - Monday September 28<sup>th</sup>, in the evening. Scripts and the sign up sheet for audition times will be at the Department of Theatre and Dance front desk starting today.



**The UCSD AIDS Research Institute** and Butterworth Dance Invite You to attend *Investigating Motion*, An evening of dance to benefit the UCSD AIDS Research Institute. *Investigating Motion* is a dance performance featuring the Butterworth and Malashock Dance Companies, UCSD faculty member **Eric Geiger**, and somebodies dance theater. Your donation of \$25 or more includes all performances plus a reception with gourmet appetizers, wine and non-alcoholic drinks. Great prizes, including dance classes, jewelry and more, will be offered through an opportunity drawing. UCSD physicians and researchers will tell you about the life-changing and life-saving work supported by *Investigating Motion*. Don't miss out on what promises to be a fun and fascinating evening! Thursday, October 1<sup>st</sup>, at 6:30pm at The Abbey, 2825 Fifth Avenue, San Diego, CA 92101. For more information about this event, please contact Ms. Kim Schafer at (858) 534-5545, or email at [ari@ucsd.edu](mailto:ari@ucsd.edu).

MORE...

**James Newcomb** is doing two roles in the [Old Globe](#) Season - Feste in *Twelfth Night* and one of the tribunes in *Coriolanus*. **Ursula Meyer** just finished coaching *The Mystery of Irma Vep* at the Globe and *The Taming of the Shrew* at the [Shakespeare Theatre](#) in Washington DC. (There's video of [Irma Vep](#) on Facebook.)

**What to study Theatre at an Ivy League College?** Apply to the UCSD-Dartmouth Exchange Program. Its open to all undergraduate students, for more information go to: H&SS 2126 - Muir Academic Advising Office.

**Undergraduate Advising** - Undergraduate Coordinator **Laura Jimenez** is available for academic advising via walk-in and by appointment. Walk-ins are 5 - 10 minute sessions for simple questions such as: changing your current quarter classes, clarification of major/minor requirements, or other immediate concerns, and are available Week 0, Week 1, and every Friday from 9:00-11:00am and 1:00-3:00pm. Appointments are 15 minute sessions to deal with more involved questions such as: developing a long-term academic plan, updating a degree audit, and discussing a double major. Appointments are available from the second week of the quarter onwards and must be made at least 24 hours in advance. Please inquire at the Front Desk in GH 202 or call 858-534-3791 to arrange an appointment.

**New Undergrad Costume Class** - Advanced Costume Design is a seminar-style class, structured much like a graduate design class, which will help students develop and refine design processes. Over ten weeks, students will work on a portfolio project - including period research, text exploration, character study, fabric choices, and sketching and rendering - for a classic play. At the end of the quarter, students will be equipped to design a mainstage production at UCSD. Meets Mondays from 1:00-3:50. [Contact Michelle](#) for more information.

**Shamu Wants You! SeaWorld** will be holding [open call auditions](#) for female or male vocalists who show hosting skills on September 26<sup>th</sup>.



## ONSTAGE

**Upcoming Season Announced** - The Department has announced a number of exciting productions this year. Please visit the Department's [Season page](#) for scheduling and ticket information. Works to be staged include:

### Fall Quarter

[Topdog/Underdog](#)

[Sexual Selection: Darwin and Shakespeare Ponder Love.](#)

[The House of Bernarda Alba](#)

[Camino Real](#)

### Winter Quarter

[La Mandragola](#)

[The Revenger's Tragedy](#)

[The Seagull](#)

[Marriage, Medicine, Money, and Mayhem: French Farces by Molière and Feydeau](#)

[winterWORKS!](#)

### Spring Quarter

[Baldwin New Play Festival at UC San Diego 2010.](#)

[Spring Moves '10](#)

[Seven Against Thebes](#)

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

## ALUM UPDATES

**Rachel Axler**, 2004 MFA in Playwriting, received [an Emmy](#) last night for being part of last year's writing staff of *the Daily Show with Jon Stewart*. The writers won for "Outstanding Writing for a Variety, Music, or Comedy Series."



**Jefferson Mays** (MFA '91) appeared this summer in *Quartermaine's Terms* at Williamstown Theatre Festival. From a review by Frances Benn Hall at [BerkshireLinks.com](#): "Jefferson Mays plays this role expertly. We do not dislike him, but there is little to like. He seems totally unaware that except for the school, he has no life at all. He seems to try to be a part of life but has reached late middle age not knowing how one does it...." Photo BerkshireLinks.com.

**Dileep Rao** (BA '95) writes: "I am currently shooting a picture for Warner Brothers and Christopher Nolan in London and Los Angeles 'til Christmas or so. [[Inception](#) with Leonardo DiCaprio, Michael Caine, and Ken Watanabe] Also, after a long time in post (where the effects are truly breathtaking) [AVATAR](#), James Cameron's new science fiction epic will hit theaters December 18<sup>th</sup>. You can occasionally see my beard among the many wonders. Hope this finds everyone well."



**David Barrera's** (MFA '94) film (he co-produced and co-starred) [Cruzando](#) will be screened at the [San Diego Film Festival](#) this weekend. The film shows at 5:30pm on this Friday, the 25<sup>th</sup>, at the Gaslamp Theatre.

**Online Alum Database User Alert** - Due to security concerns, we recently made some changes to our [alumni database](#). As a result, the password you have been using to access the alumni database will no longer work. The fix for this is really simple, though. To get a new password, go [HERE](#), enter the email address that you've been using to login to the database, then click next. Follow the very simple instructions and you will receive a new password. Your New password *will not be changeable*, so make a note of it. If you do forget it, you can always go back to the login page and click on the "[I forgot my password: send it to me](#)" link and get another one. PLEASE NOTE: the email you enter *MUST* be a working email address, because you will be sent your new password via that email address. If it is not a working email address, you will have the option of changing it when you click next. You can [search the database here](#).



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