

March 28, 2011
Week One, Spring Quarter

MEETINGS OF THE WEEK

No Faculty meeting

Thursday, March 31 - *Salamander Leviathan & A Man, His Wife, and His Hat*
production meeting, 9:00-10:15am in GH 144
Small Prophecies production meeting, 10:15-11am in GH 144

DEPARTMENT NEWS



SETTING: JEROME RELOCATION CENTER (S.E. ARKANSAS)
DESCRIPTION: MEDIUM SHOT OF NISEI GIRL HOLDING PAPER STREAMER GRASPED BY ANOTHER GIRL ONBOARD THE TRAIN
AUDIO: SOUND OF TRAIN ENGINE AND MUFFLED CROWD VOICES

Professor **Emily Roxworthy**, with Amit Chourasia of the San Diego Supercomputer Center, is turning one of the darker chapters of U.S. history into an educational and interactive computer game titled "[Drama in the Delta](#)." Funding is in part by the National Endowment for the Humanities. The developers are looking for community input. Read [more here](#).



Wonderland: Festival of International Contemporary Dance Experience

ArtPower!, in partnership with Sushi Contemporary Performance and Visual Arts and the UCSD Department of Theatre and Dance, creates our own Wonderland dance experience with the west coast's new international festival of contemporary dance. This year's participants include the award-winning ensembles Kate Weare Company, Theatre and Dance alum Monica Bill Barnes and Company, Chunky Move, and Lux Boreal Danza Contemporánea.

This three-day interchange of choreographic creation sparks a new future for dance in San Diego. International, national and local artists will present a thrilling range of movement and performance at venues downtown and on campus, giving audiences the ability to experience the wonderland of dance. In addition to performances, Wonderland presents artist-to-artist exchange, site-specific creations, community classes, interactive movement play and fantastic parties for all. [Read more](#)

Professor Gabor Tompa was awarded the Annual International Theatre Institute (ITI) Award for major contribution to the intercultural role of the Art of Theatre. The Award was presented Monday, March 28, 2011 at the National Opera in Budapest.

Undergrad major **Brian Bose** has gotten some good press. Brian blogged, a year ago, in the *New York Times* about the sometimes stressful process of selecting and applying to colleges. Read his story in [This Week at UCSD](#).

ADMINISTRIVIA

March 28th - First day of classes, Spring Quarter

April 1st - Grades should be available on StudentLink

April 4th – Automatic waitlist ends

April 8th - Deadline to file for Advancement to candidacy for master's degrees

April 22nd - Deadline to [change grading option, change units, and drop classes](#) without "W" on transcript

May 30th - Memorial Day, campus closed.

ONSTAGE

Are you a faculty, staff, or major in the Department of Theatre and Dance? Check the [comp ticket policy](#)!



In April – Watch for the [Baldwin New Play Festival 2011](#), world premier plays by UCSD authors.

The Plays

[A Man, His Wife, and His Hat](#) by: Lauren Yee

[Salamander Leviathan](#) by: Krista Knight

[Small Prophecies](#) by David Myers

[Bodies in the Park](#) by Sharif Abu-Hamdeh

The Baldwin New Play Festival 2011 features world premiere productions by our talented MFA playwrights, and directed, acted, stage managed and designed by our nationally-acclaimed MFA companies. This year, the plays offer deals with the Devil to haunting from ghosts; the trials and tribulations of parenthood (and really, growing up); and the search for lost love – and a hat.

Filled with passion, insight, humor, and a dose of magic, these four 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.

Also Coming in Spring Quarter –

[The Underground New Play Festival](#), May 26th - June 4th

[New Directions - MFA I Student Choreographers' Showcase](#), June 1st – 4th.

ALUM UPDATES

Mark Emerson (MFA '07) is a member of [MTWorks](#), an award-winning not-for-profit theatre company based in New York City that premieres distinctive new plays, “bringing Broadway caliber to Off-Off Broadway audiences since 2006.”

Abdul-Khaliq Murtadha (MFA '06) is an actor, senior partner, and executive producer at [State and Cabrillo Productions](#) in Los Angeles.

Lisa Velten-Smith (MFA '05) appears this year in the TV show [White Collar](#) on the USA Network in the episode titled “Burke’s Seven,” as the character “Captain.” [Season 2, episode 10]

Irungu Mutu (MFA '09) will be appearing in *A Raisin in the Sun* by Lorraine Hansberry in the role of Joseph Asagai. Going up at Crossroads Theater in New Brunswick, NJ for a three week run. Opening April 14th - May 1st.

Whitney Anne Adams (BA '08) writes that she “has been loving life in NYC since graduation. Since September of last year, she has been working as the Costume/Art Department Assistant on Baz Luhrmann's new film adaptation of *The Great Gatsby*, assisting costume/production designer Catherine Martin. She worked on a crucial workshop of the film in the fall with the leading actors and now she is very excited to be steaming ahead on the actual film. Before this recent job, she has been designing and assisting as well as working as a first hand at Carelli Costumes NYC making costumes for tons of different Broadway shows, the Metropolitan Opera, and other random events, including Beyonce's costumes for her last national tour. If you would like to see some of the pretty things she has made, please visit www.whitneyadams.com”

Zan Aufderheide (MFA '02) will be with [Lazy Fairy Improv](#) in Sarasota, Florida, on March 28th doing stand-up. You can check the calendar on her web page to see her future engagements.

Paloma Young (MFA '06) did the costumes for *Peter and the Starcatcher* at the [New York Theater Workshop](#) this month. The show got a nice write up in the [New York Times](#).

Monica Bill Barnes (BA '95) will be a part of [Wonderland](#) in San Diego from March 27th to April 2nd. “ArtPower!, in partnership with Sushi Contemporary Performance and Visual Arts and the UCSD Department of Theatre and Dance, creates our own Wonderland dance experience in the west coast’s new international festival of contemporary dance.” In the Potiker Theatre.



Actor **Scott Drummond** (MFA '07) played the part of “Mark” in the premier of *A Perfect Future* at the Cherry Lane Theatre recently. Here’s a writeup from [NewYorkTheatre.com](#).



Alums – On Facebook? Come visit the Department’s [Facebook Alumni page!](#)

Note: Just hit “reply” and send your info, and we’ll share it for you. Be sure to let us know what your name was at graduation, if you’ve changed it, and your year of graduation. Welcome Back to Campus!