April 18, 2011 Week Four, Spring Quarter

MEETINGS OF THE WEEK

Thursday, April 21st - Production Meeting for New Directions, 9:00am-10:00am in GH 144

FACULTY AND STAFF NEWS

Parking Alert – In case you missed it, Transportation and Parking sent out a message recently warning people who are parking in local mall parking lots and taking the bus from there to campus that the malls have tightened security and are towing cars of people who are not patrons of the mall. This is their legal right. For detailed information about changes related to parking, shuttle and public transit services, visit <u>their website</u>. For questions about parking in local commercial and residential areas, please contact <u>Brian DeMeulle</u>.

Chancellor's Medal Nomination Call – The UCSD Chancellor's Medal, bestowed only ten times since it was first established in 2000, is given for exceptional service in support of the university's mission. Nominees must have a connection with the University; however, current employees are not eligible for the medal. Nominators must have an association with UC San Diego. Further guidelines and the nomination form can be found at their website. The deadline for nominations is May 2nd, and the award will be presented on Founder's Day.

DEPARTMENT NEWS



Head of Design Faculty **Andre Both** was this year's recipient of the highly prestigious "Artist Emeritus" award given by the Hungarian Government for outstanding artistic and cultural achievement. The presentation was made on March 14th by the Minister of Culture, Dr. Miklos Rethely, at the Museum of Literature after a retrospective of Andrei Both's achievements in theatre design.

Design Faculty **Tara Knight** is mentioned in a <u>write-up</u> of a new Malashock Dance Company's work that will be staged on April 23rd.

MORE...



The Theatre and Dance Department Undergraduate Graduation Ceremony will be held this year on Friday, June 3rd, at 4:00pm in the Sheila & Hughes Potiker Theatre. All Theatre and Dance majors who will or have graduated Winter, Spring, Summer, or Fall Quarters of 2011 can participate in the graduation ceremony

If you wish to participate and "walk" in the ceremony, please email Laura Jimenez, the Undergraduate Coordinator, to let her know your intentions and be sure to give her the following information:

- 1. Your name written as you want it displayed in the program
- 2. Your PID number
- 3. Your major(s)
- 4. Your college
- 5. Your email address

Your family and friends are welcome to attend – no tickets are required. This event has been a great success, with many warm memories created, over the past years. Please contact Laura Jimenez if you have any questions and be sure to RSVP to Laura by May 9th at lajimenez@ucsd.edu.

Emeritus Professor **Jorge Huerta** will be the keynote speaker at a conference on US Latina/o theatre at Northwestern University on April 22nd. His title: "From the Margins to the Mainstream: Latina/o Theatre in the U.S." An expanded version of Huerta's address will be published in an anthology of scripts, interviews and articles celebrating the first five installments of the Latino Theatre Festival at the Goodman Theatre, Chicago. The book, to be published by Northwestern University Press, will be co-edited by Professors Ramon Rivera-Servera and Hector Godinez. Also participating on a panel will be MFA '88 Playwriting alum **Caridad Svich**.

ONSTAGE



The <u>Baldwin New Play Festival 2011</u> 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.

The Plays

<u>A Man, His Wife, and His Hat</u> by: <u>Lauren Yee</u>. Hetchman loves his hat. Oh, and his wife, too. But when both go missing, the retired hat maker vows to stop at nothing to find them. If he can ever muster the strength to leave his armchair. But the arrival of a talking wall and a hungry golem threatens to derail his endeavor. A klezmer-inspired love triangle between a man, his wife, and his hat. Remaining performances: April 19, 20, and 21.

MORE...

Salamander Leviathan by: Krista Knight. Winner of the Kennedy Center's 2011 American College Theatre Festival's Musical Theatre Award. It's 1890 in Black River Falls, Wisconsin. The loneliest man in the world makes a deal with the Devil: A wife and a family in exchange for his soul. When a beautiful stranger steps off the train, everything seems headed towards happily ever after. But neither the stranger nor the Devil is quite what they seem. A casio-pop fable about the price we pay for love. Music written and performed by Arkansas based band David's Pegasus. Remaining performances: April 22 and 23. [Special invitation from Professor Jim Carmody: you can view his photo album of shots he took at the April 9th technical rehearsal for *Salamander Leviathan*.]

Small Prophecies by David Myers. William looks in the mirror and knows that who he is now is only a part of who he will become. As he reaches for the future, he grows in a direction that his parents won't allow. How do you stop your child from becoming someone terrible? How do you become the person you want to be? Remaining performances: April 21 and 23.

Bodies in the Park by Sharif Abu-Hamdeh. A couple grapples with ghosts from their past and secrets in the present in a neighborhood where the planes roar overhead and the night is full of dangers both visible and unseen. Can you ever really know another person? And, can you trust a world where the person you love most turns out to be a stranger? Remaining performances: April 22 and 23.



Special Event -8Ball staged reading. 8Ball, by A-lan Holt, is the winner of the fifth annual Dr. Floyd Gaffney Playwriting Competition on the African-American Experience, and will be presented on Saturday (4/23) at 10:30am in the Arthur Wagner Theatre. Synopsis: An explosive, dramatic probe on the world of five individuals caught in Los Angeles during the pain of a 1980's crack epidemic. Lives rise and fall in a searing urban mural of hope and decay. This is a free event. To order complimentary seats, click here.

Also Coming in Spring Quarter – <u>The Underground New Play Festival</u>, May 26th - June 4th; <u>New Directions -</u> MFA I Student Choreographers' Showcase, June 1st – 4th.

ADMINISTRIVIA

April 22nd - Deadline to change grading option, change units, and drop classes without "W" on transcript

May 30th - Memorial Day, campus closed.

June 3rd – Undergraduate Department Graduation Ceremony

ALUM UPDATES

There is a great interview and review of **Monica Bill Barnes**, '95 Undergrad Dance alum, here.

Rebecca Lingafelter (Dance BA '00) earned her MFA from Columbia University (2005). Her thesis production, House of Bernarda Alba (Angustias), directed by Karin Coonrod, was awarded Best Ensemble of the Year by the NY Observer. She has performed internationally in Korea, Germany, Italy and Budapest, Hungary. She is currently co-artistic director of Performance Lab 115 and has produced and performed in all of their productions. She also teaches movement and voice at the New York Conservatory for Dramatic Arts.

MORE...



Alum **Chris Burris** (MFA '01) played the role of Mr. Johnson in *Indelible*, a movie currently in post-production. He was seen previously on *Guiding Light* and *As the World Turns* on TV. He was recently seen in *Tennessee Southern* at Middlebury College and in *Lobby Hero* at Shadowland Theatre. Currently, he is a member of the First Look Theater's acting and directing companies at Tisch School of the Arts. He has also performed live singing background for Kanye West, Faith Evans, and Ludacris.



Alums – On Facebook? Come visit the Department's Facebook Alumni page!

Note: Just hit "reply" and send your info, and well 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.