



May 16, 2011

Week Eight, Spring Quarter

MEETINGS OF THE WEEK

No meetings announced at this time.

FACULTY AND STAFF NEWS

Wellness at Work - The UC Office of the President has established a partnership with health care providers to create targeted wellness programs as part of the UC "Living Well" initiative. Kaiser Permanente Health Works is offering the Thrive at UCSD program to promote a culture of wellness at work, increase awareness about health risks and behaviors, and provide faculty and staff with the resources and tools to help them live well. Thrive at UCSD will kick off at the second annual UC Walks event scheduled on May 18th. Click for [more information](#).



Retirement seem far off, or looming? [Click on this link](#) to read the UC Focus Magazine, find information about your 2011 Retirement Review, or learn about [retirement preparedness classes](#).

DEPARTMENT NEWS

Design Faculty **James Ingalls** is in Vienna, lighting Toni Morrison's *Desdemona* for Peter Sellars, with Elizabeth Marvel and music by singer/composer Rokia Traore and her singers and musicians. Jim writes that they'll be taking the production to Brussels the week of the 22nd. His next engagement will be *The Wooden Floor* in Irvine over the Memorial Day Weekend.

ADMINISTRIVIA

May 27th – Deadline to drop without a “F”

May 30th - Memorial Day, campus closed.

June 3rd – Undergraduate Department Graduation Ceremony

June 6th – Final Week Begins



ONSTAGE



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

The Underground New Play Festival has one simple goal this year: to find the unfamiliar in the familiar. We provide a venue for developing theatre artists to explore new areas and delve deeper into the familiar ones. The end result is richly textured, highly physicalized theatre that shows the infinite number of contradictions and similarities contained in each human. Every year, the Underground New Play Festival selects and mounts a full production for six to eight new short plays. New and experienced directors, designers, and actors join together to create works of art bigger than any one person could hope for; works of art that could not exist as they do in any other place, with any other artists.

There are eight works in all. They will be staged in the Arthur Wagner Theatre.

Showcase A

[Maman Joon](#) - "In a house besieged lived a man and a woman. From where they covered in the kitchen the man and woman heard small explosions. "The wind," said the woman. "Hunters," said the man. "The rain," said the woman. "The army," said the man. The woman wanted to go home, but she was already home, there in the middle of the country in a house besieged."

[Butterfly in China](#) - A look at how the choices that we make in any given moment can affect our own lives and the lives of those around us. A professor gives the last lecture of his life while a chance encounter radically alters the paths of two strangers. Maybe even the world.

[Nevermind](#) - If you woke up with no memory of who you were, what would be the darkest secret you could discover about yourself? Willard awakens to this very question in a strange, mysterious environment, and with the help of the enigmatic—but strangely familiar—Susie, he begins piecing together the clues of his forgotten life. What he discovers is that he may not be the hero of his own story...he may be the worst kind of villain instead.

[Walls](#) - A play about God, faith, the generational gap, existentialism, theatre, rebellion against hopeless causes, suburban America, or the holocaust, depending upon who you ask. The playwright himself may or may not know; he was unavailable for comment. It takes place in an ordinary middle-class household, and includes at least one unexpected scene change. To say anything else would be to give too much away.

Showcase B

[Big Bang](#) - Can experience be created, or must one undergo it? Struggling author Charlene battles the noise and chaos of her overcrowded apartment building as she sets out to write the novel that will make her career. An exploration of the process of authorship and creativity, Big Bang paints a picture of life at its richest and most diverse and hints at how finding inspiration simply in the world around us can lead to deeper, more meaningful work.



More...

[*A Likely Story*](#) - Alice lives in Utah and talks too much. King lives in San Francisco and complains too much. And while just fifty years ago they'd go through hell trying to see each other, much less date each other, the spoils of the 21st century let them do just that. The question is: will they remember who they are in the process? A love story, replacing princesses and dragons with awkward dates and Facebook stalking.

[*Broken China & Honey Bears*](#) - If Teagan is Goldilocks, and her hallucinations are the 3 bears, then Teagan's secret lover, pregnant with Teagan's husband's child, is the hot porridge. And that's not the half of Broken China & Honey Bears. For Teagan, fantasy is too big, and reality is too cold, and there are too many voices telling her what's just right.

[*Surprise in Sea Sharp*](#) - An exploration of human compassion and connection. It presents a heightened reality where anything (and its opposite) can coexist. The play asks questions about the decisions that a person can make when everything, including limitations, desires, hobbies, tomato juice, and camels, is up in the air.

Tickets - Advance tickets are available online through this [weblink](#). At-the-Door tickets, if available, are "pay what you can" starting one hour before show time at the Arthur Wagner Theatre.

Coming Soon! [*New Directions - MFA I Student Choreographers' Showcase*](#), June 1st – 4th. Our first year MFA Dance Theatre choreographer **Anya Cloud** stretches dance theatre boundaries in an inventive, new work along with original works by our most talented undergraduate choreographers.

ALUM UPDATES



Blurred Borders Dance Festival #13 will feature several UCSD alums in a blend of “way-outside-the-box” dance theatre on May 20th and 21st. Participating are recent grads **Alicia Peterson Baskel** (MFA '11, dance theatre), **Omar Ramos** (MFA '11, design), and **Alina Bokovikova** (MFA '11, costume) as well as dance alumni **Kenna Crouch** ('08) and **Sarah Larson** ('08), and soon to be alum **Sarah Garcia** (SP 11). **Blurred Borders Dance Festival** is an annual cross-cultural dance event created to foster the artistic exchange and pollination of local, national, and international artists, produced each year by the Patricia Rincon Dance Collective (Head of Dance **Patricia Rincon**, director). *Blurred Borders* venue is being sponsored by the San Diego City College Department of Visual & Performing Arts and the World Cultures Department. [Click here](#) for more information about the Festival.

[Jason H. Thompson](#) (MFA '01) is the Projection Designer for the Broadway staging of [*Baby, It's You*](#). Jason is also working on a project with the [Civilians Theatre Company](#) in New York.

Dance Alum **Deborah Lohse** (BA '01) invites you to attend the 92nd Street Y's [Sundays at Three](#) performance series presentation of [ad hoc Ballet](#) in an afternoon of short films and dances on Sunday, May 22nd, at 3:00pm in New York. There will be a post-performance discussion session.

Congratulations to **Darko Tresnjak**, a past Directing faculty, on his being [named artistic director](#) at the Hartford Stage. His first effort with them will be to direct John Van Druten's *Bell, Book and Candle*, followed by another work of his selection for the 2011-2012 Hartford Stage season.



More...



Who, exactly, is Nan? There have been requests for information about the Newsletter author/editor. Nan Daugherty has been with UCSD for fifteen years. She was the Theatre and Dance Undergraduate Coordinator from 1999-2004 and now works elsewhere on campus. She still enjoys keeping up with the latest T & D news and the alumni's careers. When not at her day job or writing the news, Nan lives with her adult daughter, her very old cat, a dwarf hamster, and her daughter's elderly-but-still-alert Norwegian Hooded rat, Tennyson. She spends quite a bit of her spare time doing genealogical research and enjoys traveling. Her most recent overseas trip took her to Ireland to visit Newgrange, to the Highlands of Scotland in search of the

Loch Ness Monster, and to the British Museum (aka Encyclopedia Britannica National Park) to see the Sutton Hoo hoard. Her favorite trip so far has been to Northern California, where she stayed in technology-free lodgings and walked among the redwood trees with her daughter. She also collects pre-WWII era cookbooks. Nan has written the Theatre and Dance Department Newsletter for ten years.



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.