



May 30, 2011

Week Ten, Spring Quarter

MEETINGS OF THE WEEK

Friday, June 3 – Undergraduate Graduation Ceremony, Sheila & Hughes Potiker Theatre, 4:00pm.

FACULTY AND STAFF NEWS



Faculty, staff, and UC will contribute more to the UC Retirement Plan (UCRP) beginning July 1. Rates for most faculty and staff will rise to 3.5%, up from roughly 2% for most employees. The University will pay 7%, up from 4%. The amount will increase again in July 2012.... Read the [full article here](#).

DEPARTMENT NEWS

Company 157 has gotten some good press. *The Guardian* featured [an article](#) this month that detailed the history of the company and their current efforts on the *Underground New Play Festival* (see below). They also were featured in [another article](#) in last week's *Words Are Not Enough* - a new San Diego theatre website by the theatre editor of *City Beat*.

Gabor Tompa recently directed the Hungarian Theatre of Cluj's rendition of *Richard III* at the Culture and Arts Center in Daejeon, South Korea, and received a ten-minute standing ovation from an audience of 1,400. The play subsequently moved to the [LG Art Theatre](#) in Seoul. This is his first production in front of Korean audiences.

[La Jolla Playhouse](#) is running *A Dram of Drummhicit*, by Arthur Kopit and Anton Dudley, directed by Artistic Director Christopher Ashley, in the Mandell Weiss Theatre through June 12th. Alum **Larry Paulson** plays "Reverend Hagglehorne," and current MFA student **Daniel Rubiano** is "Little Nick." The ensemble includes MFA students **Natalie Birriel**, **Gabriel Lawrence**, **Jenni Putney**, **Megan Robinson**, and **Taylor Shurte**. Synopsis: "...modern American commercialism runs headlong into a Scottish island steeped in Celtic mythology" with some bog bodies thrown in for good measure. [More here](#).

Have Plans This Summer? The *Theatre and Dance Newsletter* will be going on hiatus for the summer after the June 6th edition. Let us know what you're going to be up to and we'll share that for you before we all leave. Be looking for the "Special Edition" that will be published later in the summer and send us your photos!

ADMINISTRIVIA

June 6th - Final Week Begins

June 10th - Last day to remove a "P" prior quarter

June 13th - last day to request a grade of "P"

June 22nd - Grades available on TritonLink

ONSTAGE

Running This week - [The Underground New Play Festival](#), through June 4th.

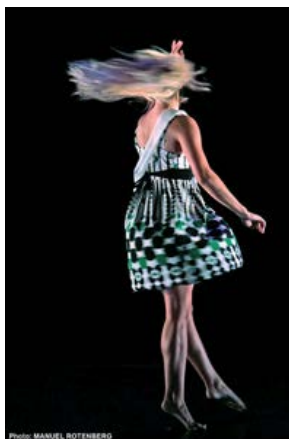
[Maman Joon](#) - [Butterfly in China](#) - [Nevermind](#) - [Walls](#) - [Big Bang](#) - [A Likely Story](#) - [Broken China & Honey Bears](#) - [Surprise in Sea Sharp](#)

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

Photos from the Festival -



More photos available courtesy of Professor Jim Carmody's [photo page](#).



Opening This Week!

[New Directions - MFA I Student Choreographers' Showcase](#) June 1st – 4th in the Sheila and Hughes Potiker Theatre. Co-Directed by **Eric Geiger** and **Pat Rincon**. 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. Photo by Manuel Rotenberg.

The Choreographers - **Tanya Lewis, Emily Aust, Chris Cortez, Erica Reyna, Karol Moreno, Sung-ji Park, Martita Abril, Matthew Armstrong, Zach Kissinger, Tiffany Waniczek, Matthew Tay, Forrest, Nicole Oga, Anya Cloud.**
The Dancers - **Alicia Peterson Baskel, Rebecca Salzer, Kyle Sorensen, Trixi Agiao, Shayna Bradley, Sally Chou, Forrest, Amy Kim, Courtney Liphay,**

Tanya Lewis, Nicole Oga, Calvin Tsang, Martita Abril, Matthew Armstrong, Matthew Tay, Zach Kissinger, Tiffany Waniczek, Chris Cortez, Erica Reyna, Jonathan Arreola, Jasmine Garam Kim, and Susan Kim.

ALUM UPDATES



[Yareli Arizmendi](#) (MFA '91) appears as “Rosario” in [Mariachi Gringo](#), a movie currently in post-production. Yareli is well known for her role as “Rosaura” in *Like Water for Chocolate* and “Lila”, the missing link, in *A Day Without a Mexican*. She and her husband, Sergio Arau, are preparing a follow up to their successful first film with *Another Day Without a Mexican*.

[Jonathan Josephson](#) (BA '05) is one of the co-founders of Unbound Productions. Their project [Wicked Lit](#) has been running for four years and their new project, [History Lit](#), launched last Tuesday with a reading at the Pasadena Museum of History.

Actor **Jennifer Chang** (MFA '06) appeared as “The Schoolteacher” in an episode of [The Paul Reiser Show](#) titled “The Playdate” in April. You can view complete episodes on the show website. She also appears in a [Subaru commercial](#) that’s currently posted up on YouTube.

Check out Costume Designer **Whitney Adams** (BA '08) being [interviewed](#) by MTI’s *New York Minute* staff.

Devon Allen (MFA '92) is head of Acting and resident artist at Portland State University. She has taught at New York University’s Tisch School of the Arts, Duke University, UCSD and Muhlenberg College. Devon is an NEA recipient, and a member of the Lincoln Center Director's Lab and Actor's Equity.

Rebecca Bryant (Dance BA '96) participated in “a non-virtual but quite virtuous and virtuosic dance [performance](#) by the participants of the 6th annual performance lab” in Marfa, Texas, this past April.



David Barerra (MFA '94) has been quite busy lately, with appearances in an episode of CBS-TV’s [The Defenders](#) [episode – “Nevada v. Doug the Mule”], in the short film *Bright*, and on the FOX-TV series [Human Target](#) [episode – “A Problem Like Maria”].



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. There’s only one more edition of the newsletter, after this one, for the year. But send us your news over the summer and we’ll put it in our “end of summer” edition!