



September 27, 2010

Week One, Fall Quarter

## MEETINGS OF THE WEEK

Wednesday - September 29<sup>th</sup>, 4:00pm: **Department Faculty and Staff/ LJP Mixer**, Potiker Lobby

Thursday - September 30<sup>th</sup>, 10-11:00am: **Production Meeting - Joe Turner's Come and Gone**, GH 144

## FACULTY AND STAFF NEWS

**Chancellor's Challenge 5K Run/Walk for Scholars** – Chancellor Marye Anne Fox will lead the 15<sup>th</sup> annual Chancellor's Challenge 5K Run/Walk for Scholars on Friday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>, to raise undergraduate scholarship support for UCSD students. With state funding on the decline and recent increases in student fees, scholarships are of critical importance for our students' continued success. [More here.](#)

## DEPARTMENT NEWS

**Laura Brueckner** (PhD student) has enjoyed a whirlwind summer. In June, she served as dramaturg for the world premiere of Enrique Urueta's play *Forever Never Comes*, produced by Crowded Fire Theatre, San Francisco. Based on the success of that project, Crowded Fire invited her to become a Resident Artist, an honor she now shares with incoming PhD student **Sonia Fernandez**. She is already slated to dramaturg another new play with Crowded Fire next fall: a project on the physics of time, by award-winning playwright Marilee Talkington. Laura has also been confirmed to direct *The Broadside Music Hall* this winter - a Victorian-era, variety-style comedy and music show in San Francisco that has been running as part of the [Dickens Fair](#) for over fifteen years. In addition, she was recently hired as the resident dramaturg and literary manager for PlayGround, a new play development lab in San Francisco, and will be the head dramaturg on their new play festival in May 2011...the same month as her wedding.

UCSD staff members **Joe Huppert** (sound design) and **David F. Weiner** (scenic design) are working with Mo'olelo Performing Arts Company's production of *Yellow Face*, the story of a world famous Asian American playwright, a Caucasian actor who gets his big break, and a Chinese American banker living the "Jimmy Stewart life." Written by Tony Award-winning playwright David Henry Hwang (*M. Butterfly*), *Yellow Face* explores the complexities, contradictions and comedy of the construct of race. October 7<sup>th</sup> - 31<sup>st</sup> at [Mo'olelo Theatre](#).

## ADMINISTRIVIA

October 7<sup>th</sup> – Automatic Waitlist Ends

October 8<sup>th</sup> – Last day to add a class, last day to file Advancement to Masters Candidacy

October 22<sup>nd</sup> – Last day to change grading option

November 11<sup>th</sup> – Thursday, Veteran's Day, campus closed

## ONSTAGE

The Department is offering “5 Shows for \$20” for the upcoming season. The offer is now available for purchase at the front desk (those five shows are; Fall Quarter: *Joe Turner*, Winter Quarter: *The Three Penny Opera*, *Hedda Gabler*, winterWORKS; and, Spring Quarter: *New Directions*). If you are **not** a Theatre or Dance major this a great way to see our productions at a cheap rate! Below is a quick summary of our four Fall Quarter shows (also note there will be a MFA I showcase).

**[Kasimir and Karoline](#)**, by Ödön Von Horváth, directed by **Larissa Lury**. November 12<sup>th</sup> -13<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> -20<sup>th</sup>. Theodore and Adele Shank Theatre. Jobs are scarce, the country’s in debt, yet everyone loses money on beer, roller coasters and love. America 2010? No, Germany, 1930s. In one night at Oktoberfest, von Horváth’s characters vie for a sense of worth, in a game of calculation and chance. Surrounded by music, amidst talented circus freaks and a zeppelin circling over-head, they fall in with the world’s most beautiful and dangerously manipulative power: love.

**[onSIGHT](#)**. Directed by **Eric Geiger, Allyson Green, and Allison D. Smith**. Art and Sound Installations by Peter Terezakis. November 18<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup>. Starts at Dance Studio Three and site-specific venues across campus in celebration of the UCSD’s 50th anniversary, architectural landmarks across campus provide the inspiration for a traveling tour of site-specific dance and art works. Slow down and experience a revelatory sense of place, and celebrate the beauty of the landscape and architecture of the campus.

**[Reasons to be Pretty](#)**, by Neil LaBute. Directed by Eric Hunicutt, Guest Director. November 17<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> in the Arthur Wagner Theatre. Physical beauty may be fleeting but words can hang around forever. Guest director Eric Hunicutt envisions Neil LaBute’s third play in a trilogy of meditations on physical appearance where two couples grapple with their looks, their thoughts, and the damage inflicted on their relationships by truths spoken and hid.

**[Joe Turner's Come and Gone](#)**, by August Wilson. Directed by **Kyle Donnelly** - Quinn Martin Endowed Chair Production. November 19<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup>, December 3<sup>rd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup>. Sheila and Hughes Potiker Theatre One of August Wilson’s shatteringly beautiful Pittsburgh Cycle plays, *Joe Turner’s Come and Gone* follows the stories of inhabitants of a boarding house, from the cranky proprietor and his nurturing wife, the conjure man and the traveling peddler, and one of Wilson’s most haunting characters, Harold Loomis, a man searching for his lost wife to make him whole.

**LJP Student Subscription Card** – Follow the link to info about the La Jolla Playhouse’s [discounts for students](#).

## ALUM UPDATES



'95 Alum **Dileep Rao** helped the campus kick off its [50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary](#) celebration. He was keynote speaker at the Welcome Week Convocation and Dinner last Tuesday. Dileep was seen in [Avatar](#) and, most recently, with Leonardo DeCaprio in [Inception](#).

**Michael Bakkensen** (MFA '00) dropped us a line to let us know he’s “In DC with the [Shakespeare Theatre](#), playing Parolles in Michael Kahn's production of *All's Well That Ends Well*. Love it if folks could stop in and see it. Playing through Halloween. Ran into Ursula [Meyer] who was coaching for *Twelfth Night* and it made me nostalgic. Hello to all the faculty and staff.”



From **Jennifer Barclay Newsham** (MFA '09) – “ My play *Obscura* will have its world premiere in Chicago this month, at [Red Tape Theatre](#), directed by Julieanne Ehre...with an industry show on Monday, 9/27. I'm lucky to be working with a group of very talented collaborators, and am thrilled with the way the production is shaping up. I hope you can make it!”

[Ronald McCants](#) sends this your way: “Hey guys, So, I just got married and moved to LA. I'm the Playwright in Residence at [Center Theatre Group](#). One of my missions this year is to find out: "What the state of American theatre. I'm connecting with artists, theatres, schools, producers, and audience members across the country to join in this online discussion that will culminate in the TCG Conference this coming June. *The Big Experiment* is a chronicle of my new life as a writer in LA trying to make it. It's an in-depth, real-time look at the growth of an emerging writer in LA. It will include my failures, rejections, successes, and social adventures. If I make it, it will give new and existing writers a clear, detailed picture of how one guy made it. We'll see what happens. [State of Theatre in America](#) is a year-long discussion that needs people to contribute. If you have insight, places you think I should go, comments, feel free to add. This will be linked to Center Theatre Group's Backstage blog.”

## IN MEMORIAM

**Rita Bronowski**, long-time supporter of the Department and the presenter of the annual Bronowski Prize in Theatre (in honor of her husband), passed away on September 2<sup>nd</sup> at her home in Pacific Palisades. Rita was a welcomed fixture at the presentation podium at the Department's Undergraduate Graduation festivities for many years. A memorial service will be planned for later in the year. Rita was 92. Her obituary is [online](#).



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