

Week Three – Spring Quarter 2012

Monday, April 16<sup>th</sup>

## MEETINGS OF THE WEEK

No Faculty meeting this week.

UNPF production meeting Tuesday, April 17<sup>th</sup>, 10:00am in GH 144

## DEPARTMENT NEWS

PhD student **Lily Kelting** is part of the cast of [A Man, His Wife, and His Hat](#), currently running at the Moxie in San Diego through the 29<sup>th</sup>. **Sherrice Kelly** and **Nick Drashner** (both MFA '12 alums) are designing light and sound, respectively. Professor **Victoria Petrovich** designed the sets. The production got a nice [write-up here](#) and another in the [Union Tribune](#).

Professor **Kyle Donnelly**, director of Eugene O'Neill's *Ah, Wilderness!* at Arena Stage is interviewed online on their blog [discussing the play](#). The production closed April 8<sup>th</sup> to [good reviews](#).



Professor **Marianne McDonald** will be presented with a Founder's Award from the [Women's International Center Education and Sistership Programs](#) (a 501C3 foundation) on May 5<sup>th</sup>. For over 27 years the Women's International Center has honored ground-breaking individuals from around the world who are making a big difference, bringing together hundreds of people to celebrate the accomplishments and lasting contributions of women, men, and organizations. Celebrity Hosts for the evening will be legendary actress [Margaret O'Brien](#) and film star Randal Malone President Southern California Motion Picture Council of the Southern California Motion Picture Council, Co-Emcee with Emmy Award

Winning Lee Ann Kim of the San Diego Asian Film Festival.

**The 2012 MFA Actors Showcase** will be held in Burbank at the Falcon Theatre on Wednesday, April 25<sup>th</sup>. The pre-show reception starts at 6:00pm in the lobby. There is a Preview performance at 7:00pm. More [info here](#). [Reserve On-Line \(LA Only\)](#) or phone 310-712-1278

## FACULTY AND STAFF NEWS

**Thinking of using Cloud storage?** - Using an external cloud to store data can be convenient and cheap but you should be aware of the security risks that are raised regarding how commercial providers handle file ownership, privacy, breaches, and security. Read [more here](#).

**Save the Date** - Sharecase returns August 29<sup>th</sup> with a theme of "Collaboration." More [info here](#).

**Emergency Response Training Available** - Be prepared to help yourself and others as a trained member of the [Campus Emergency Response Team \(CERT\)](#). Membership is open to all interested students, faculty, and staff. Team members have the opportunity to participate in additional exercises, refresher training, campus drills, and scheduled events. Register by contacting [Barbara Haynor](#) for the CERT Academy training. Please include 'CERT Academy' in the subject line. Completion of one three-day class is required for certification.

## ONSTAGE



*Gas House Baby* by [David Myers](#). Directed by **Anthony Luciano**. [Gas House Baby](#) - Cotton just got divorced, lost his job, and is living in a Motel 8. Coming back home to Shreveport, Louisiana, his life is about to change in ways he could never have predicted. In a play about fracking, fatherhood, and family secrets, one man figures out what it means to be a good father and a good son, and what happens when it's impossible to be both. [More...](#)

*Santa Barbarians* by [Sharif Abu-Hamdeh](#). Directed by **Joshua Kahan Brody**. [Santa Barbarians](#) - 2005: the economy in a downward spiral, Bush in a second term, the war in Iraq. Four friends graduating from college try to figure out what to do with the rest of their lives. As they play poker, wait tables, hook up, and get high, the pressures of the world grows until one fateful night when all hell breaks loose. Nothing will be the same afterwards. [More ...](#)

*Hookman* by [Lauren Yee](#). Directed by **Larissa Lury** [Hookman](#) - Freshman year at college is hard: your roommate is weird, you're feeling homesick, and a serial killer is slashing girls' throats. If Lexi discovers what really happened to her old high school friend on that car ride to the movies, everything will be okay. In this existential slasher comedy, Lexi and her friends learn what it means to grow up – and it's not pretty. [More...](#)

*Cry Old Kingdom* by [Jeff Augustin](#). Directed by **Kate Jopson** [Cry Old Kingdom](#) - Haiti, 1964. Francois "Papa Doc" Duvalier terrorizes the island, death squads roam the countryside, and rebels plot the overthrow of the regime. In a remote village, a young man builds a boat to escape to America. A painter in hiding paints the young man's portrait, while the painter's wife joins a group of revolutionaries. As they each pursue singular dreams, their worlds intersect in dangerous ways, and the painter must make a choice that will change their lives forever. Winner of the 2012 Lorraine Hansberry Award. [More...](#)

*Gossamer* - Staged Reading by **Cerstin Johnson**, winner of the Sixth annual [Dr. Floyd Gaffney Playwriting Competition on the African-American Experience](#). Set against the backdrop of a southern town, *Gossamer* illuminates one family's struggle with love, betrayal and shame triggered by a father's infidelity. Written with grace and probing insight, Cerstin Johnson infuses her powerful tale with the music of traditional African-American blues and with the promise of how we nurture filial injury back to life's remarkable renewal. Saturday, 4/28 at 10:30am. This is a FREE event. Order [complimentary tickets here](#).

## Coming Soon!

**June 1<sup>st</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup>** [\*The Underground New Play Festival\*](#) - written, directed, designed, managed and performed by our undergraduate students. Celebrate the artistic achievements of our undergraduate playwrights, directors, designers, and actors in a festival dedicated to world-premiere plays and work created entirely by undergrads. 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.

**June 6<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup>** [\*New Directions- MFA I Student Choreographers' Showcase\*](#) with works from our top undergraduate choreographers, directed by **Eric Geiger**, in the Sheila and Hughes Potiker Theatre. Left of center, right of left, and centered squared in between. Celebrate exciting world premiere dance and dance theatre from UC San Diego undergraduate choreographers and MFA dance theatre candidates.

## ALUM NEWS



[\*Good People\*](#) is playing at the Geffen Playhouse in Los Angeles through May 13<sup>th</sup> with **Brad Fleisher** (MFA '05) in the cast. The sets are designed by **Craig Siebels** (MFA '99). *Good People* premiered on Broadway last season and won the 2011 New York Drama Critics Circle Award for Best Play of the Year. The production got a very nice write-up in [\*Entertainment Weekly\*](#).

Brad Fleisher, right. Photo Michael Lamont.

*You Better Sit Down*, by the Civilians, is being staged at the Flea Theater in New York to great reviews, including this one in the [\*New York Times\*](#). [\*The Civilians\*](#) is a New York-based theatre troop heavily populated by UC San Diego alums, including *Sit Down's* director **Anne Kauffman** (MFA '99) and cast member **Jennifer Morris** (MFA '98). The show runs through May 6<sup>th</sup>.



A reading (by the actors) of MFA '01 alum [Zina Camblin's](#) play about Whitney Smith's life will take place on the evening of April 10<sup>th</sup> at [Know Theater](#) in Cincinnati. (The theatre will be producing the play next fall.) [Whitney Holwadel Smith](#), born April 10, 1984, and died April 4, 2009, of suicide at the United States Penitentiary in Terre Haute. Smith had been first sent to prison at age 17 for robbery. He wrote a regular column on prison life and his struggle to rehabilitate for [XRay Cincinnati Magazine](#). Smith was in and out of prison, and was incarcerated at the time of his death. He reportedly had been depressed and emotionally broken after being forced to spend more than a year in the Segregated Housing Unit (The Hole).

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

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**Have news to share?** The Newsletter's email address is [\*\*TandDNews@ucsd.edu\*\*](mailto:TandDNews@ucsd.edu). We're always thrilled to hear what you've been doing and to share it with our readers. Photos welcome!