

Week One – Fall Quarter 2011  
 Monday, September 26<sup>th</sup>

## MEETINGS OF THE WEEK

Area Heads Mtg 4pm, Monday, GH 144  
 Faculty Mtg, 4pm, Wednesday, GH 144

## DEPARTMENT NEWS

**Todd Salovey** is directing [A Weekend with Picasso](#), by Herbert Siguenza, as it premieres in the San Francisco Bay area in October. The tag: “Six paintings in one weekend! – who does he think I am, Dali?” No, he’s Pablo Picasso, the most astonishingly prolific and influential artist of the 20th century. Now comes a new portrait of Picasso from famed writer, actor and painter Herbert Siguenza, of the nationally renowned comedy troupe Culture Clash. Acting the irrepressible Picasso with “boundless energy, exuberance and humor,” Siguenza takes us inside the mind – and paint brush – of the man who changed how we look at the world.” At the Lesher Center for the Arts in Walnut Creek from October 21<sup>st</sup> – November 19<sup>th</sup>.



Emeritus Dance Faculty **Jean Isaacs'** Dance Company's annual favorite, *Trolley Dances*, is underway. A one-of-a-kind ride to see site-specific dance, this year *Trolley Dances* will tour you east. Starting out at the Grantville station passengers will follow the Green Line into Santee. The site-specific choreographers include: Jean Isaacs, Minerva Tapia, John Diaz, Allyson Green, and Paz Tanjuaquio. Audiences follow a trained tour guide to view six premiere dances created specifically for their unique location. There are still two days left for you to catch this inventive, original production – October 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>. Read [more here](#).

**Steven Adler**, Professor of Theatre and Provost of Earl Warren College, is the author of a chapter in the new [Oxford Handbook of the American Musical](#), to be published this October by Oxford University Press. The volume is co-edited by Raymond Knapp and Mitchell Morris of UCLA and Stacy Wolf of Princeton. It comprises work by more than 25 authors and offers a comprehensive examination on the state of the musical today. His chapter, “Box Office,” analyzes how financial decisions affect the making of musical theatre and features observations from conversations Adler had with former *New York Times* theatre critic Frank Rich, as well as Jeffrey Seller, Roy Furman, Paul Libin, and other leading Broadway producers. Adler is at work on a new book, *Pivot Points*, co-authored with playwright/librettist Jerry James, which explores how certain shows changed the course of musical theatre by virtue of significant innovation.

Mo'olelo Performing Arts Company's upcoming production of [26 Miles](#) features Department staff **David Weiner** and **Joe Huppert**, as Scenic and Sound Designers, respectively. The production runs through October 23<sup>rd</sup> at the 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue Theatre in San Diego.

## NEWS FOR FACULTY AND STAFF

**FSA Reminder from UCOP** - If you are currently enrolled in [UC's Flexible Spending Accounts](#) (Health and/or DepCare), this is a good time to review your account information to make sure you are using all the funds in your account. You will be able to make adjustments to your withholding amounts or enroll in a FSA during Open Enrollment. Remember, if you don't use it, you lose it. [More here](#).

**Got Your Running Shoes?** - Chancellor Marye Anne Fox will join the campus community in the traditional [Chancellor's 5K Challenge](#) race on Friday, October 21<sup>st</sup>. The race has raised \$2.5 million for scholarships to date.

**Crafty?** – Walk-in registration for classes at the Craft Center begins on Tuesday (online registration is open now). Staff, faculty, and alums get a discounted rate for non-credit classes that include everything from gassblowing to weaving. Check their [website](#) for lists of classes offered and fees.

**Parking Permits Online** – If you still need a parking permit and don't want to wait in the beginning of the year/quarter lines, check the [transportation website](#). You can now pay for an annual A, B, or M permit, or a multiyear A, B, M, or Night/ Weekend permit online.

## NEWS FOR STUDENTS

**Choreographers** - The San Diego Dance Theater is seeking choreographers between the ages of 18 and 35 to participate in their second annual San Diego Young Choreographers Showcase and Prize. The event is scheduled for March 25, 2012, at The Neurosciences Institute. Read [more here](#).

**La Jolla Playhouse Discounts** - Rush tickets are 50% off tickets for the remaining seats in certain performances available for purchase one hour before curtain of that night's performance on a first-come, first-served basis. Seniors (ages 62 and over), active military, and full-time students are eligible for these tickets. One Rush ticket per valid I.D. Patrons are encouraged to call the Box Office at (858) 550-1010 on the day of the performance to see if Rush tickets will be available for that show.

## ON STAGE



Starting off the Department's season this year will be [The Dybbuk](#), by Shloyme Zanzl Rappoport, directed by second year graduate directing student **Joshua Kahan Brody**, on November 10<sup>th</sup>. The synopsis: Khonen, a devoted Talmudic scholar, falls love with Leah, but when her father finds a wealthier suitor, he drops dead of sorrow. At his gravesite, Leah becomes possessed by a Dybbuk, a malicious spirit intent on righting past wrongs, and ultimately, unites Leah with her destined love. *The Dybbuk* is a re-imagined classic from the Yiddish theater.

Shloyme Zanzl Rappoport, known by his pseudonym of S. Ansky, was a turn of the century Russian writer, playwright, and ethnographer of Yiddish folklore. He is most known for this play, finally staged in Warsaw in 1920, months after his death. In his early days, Ansky rejected his Jewish faith and culture, but after reading the writings of famous Yiddish and Hebrew writer I.L. Peretz, Rappoport realized that Yiddish literature could indeed be considered a part of the European canon of great works. He began writing folk tales, Hasidic lore, stories about social justice in Yiddish. While living in St. Petersburg, he devoted himself to Jewish cultural institutions intent on preserving important aspect of Jewish culture and traveled the countryside doing ethnographic research on

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customs and stories handed down from families of old. It is from these travels that Ansky was inspired to write *The Dybbuk*. During the Russian revolution, Ansky moved to Vilna, Lithuania and then onto Warsaw where complications from pneumonia contributed to his death age 56.

[The 2011/12 Season](#) schedule is online now. Tickets for *The Dybbuk*, and all the Department's upcoming productions, are [available now](#).

## ALUM UPDATES

**Steven Kemp** (MFA '08) is designing [Faust](#) for the San Jose Opera for 2012.

Undergrad alum [Nathan Snyder](#) ('07) founded his own production company, triple d films, with some long-time friends. Their first feature film project, titled *The Sigil*, is currently in production with high hopes for the film's future.

[Craig Siebels](#) (MFA '99) directed [Burn Notice](#) that aired on USA network recently. He writes: "I'm directing another episode later in the season as well, but this one is my television directing debut."



**West Hyler** (MFA '08) is working on the 2012 [Big Apple Circus](#) in New York. The *Big Apple Circus* annually presents an all-new show featuring renowned circus artists from around the world. This year's performers come from America, Bulgaria, China, Ethiopia, Kenya, Mongolia and Russia. West is currently the Assistant Director of [Jersey Boys](#), winner of fifty-three major awards worldwide, including the Olivier Award for Best New Musical, in London's West End.

## EAST COAST ALUMS REMINDER!

**Taking Center Stage: An Evening with UCSD Alumni** - Sunday, October 9 | 6:30–9:00 p.m.  
[Trattoria Dell'Arte](#)  
900 Seventh Avenue, New York, NY 10019  
(Between 56<sup>th</sup> and 57<sup>th</sup> Streets, across from Carnegie Hall)

**EVENT PANELISTS:** [Monica Bill Barnes, '95](#), [David Wilson Barnes, '95](#), [Danny Burstein, MFA '90](#), [Jefferson Mays, MFA '91](#), & [Neil Patel, MFA '91](#). The panel will be moderated by [Allyson Green](#), Chair of the UC San Diego Department of Theatre & Dance. Your attendance includes a complimentary beverage and light bites. Email [JVanMeter@ucsd.edu](mailto:JVanMeter@ucsd.edu).



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

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Have news to share? Please let us know. Send your news and photos to us at [TandDNews@yahoo.com](mailto:TandDNews@yahoo.com) and we'll share them in the next edition. News received by Wednesday evening typically makes it into the next Monday's edition. Remember to add your graduation year, if an alum, and if you have changed your name since then, let us know your old one as well! Photos are encouraged.