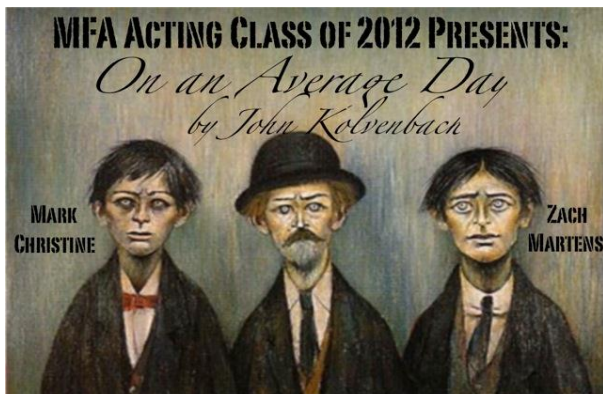


Week Four – Fall Quarter 2011  
 Monday, October 17<sup>th</sup>

## MEETINGS OF THE WEEK

Wednesday, October 19<sup>th</sup> - Faculty Meeting in GH 144, 4:00pm  
 Thursday, October 20<sup>th</sup> - *The Dybbuk* Production Meeting in GH 144, 10:00am

## DEPARTMENT NEWS



### Fundraiser for the 2012 MFA Actor Showcase!

"After 23 years two alienated brothers are reunited in the stinking kitchen of a rotting home. Bob is a sociopathic slob; Jack seems successful and self-disciplined, but nurses his own considerable demons. Together they piece together a dark shared history, which includes the disappearance of their father when they were young."

This production is presented by the UCSD MFA Acting Class of 2012 - directed by and featuring **Mark Christine** and **Zach Martens**. The show, which runs approximately

75 minutes without an intermission will be performed on Saturday, Oct. 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00pm and 9:30pm, and on Sunday, Oct. 23<sup>rd</sup> at 8:00pm. Tickets are a \$10 donation to the MFA Acting Showcase and can be [purchased online](#) or by cash/check with a reservation to [UCSDshowcase2012@gmail.com](mailto:UCSDshowcase2012@gmail.com). Tickets will be sold at the door, however, due to limited seating, advance purchased tickets/reservations are strongly recommended.

Professors **Emily Roxworthy** and **John Rouse** gave papers on October 8<sup>th</sup> as part of a conference on "Global Flashpoints: Transnational Performance and Politics," organized by the Center for Performance Studies and the Center for the Study of Women at UCLA. Emily spoke on "Empathy's Place in America's Concentration Camps: Allegiance: A New American Musical and the Drama in the Delta Video Game," John on "Brecht's Orientalism." Also participating was Daphne Lei, a colleague in our joint PhD program from UCI.

The undergraduate students in **Todd Salovey's** "Introduction to Theatre" class went out on the town to the Old Globe for the world premiere of [Somewhere](#), by Matthew Lopez, starring Tony award winner Priscilla Lopez (original cast *A Chorus Line*, also *In the Heights*.) After the show, [Matthew Lopez](#), whose *Whipping Man* played Off-Broadway this year, came to class and described the development process of the play, and spoke about his writing and career.



Professor **Jim Carmody** is on the [search committee](#) for the new UCSD Chancellor to replace Marye Anne Fox when she steps down in June. The committee consists of students, faculty, staff, alumni, regents, and fundraisers.

## NEWS FOR FACULTY AND STAFF

**Benefits Open Enrollment** begins on Halloween and runs through November 22<sup>nd</sup>. UC Benefits will be mailing information, beginning October 24<sup>th</sup>, to all faculty and staff who were in the payroll system by August 31<sup>st</sup> of this year. (Please check with the Department if you were not employed on that date.) Reportedly, there are minimal changes to the plans this year; however, UC has decided to move from the Vision Service Plan (VSP) Signature network to the Choice network, which is said to save the University about twenty percent of the plan cost while impacting just two percent of plan participants. UC plans to use some of the savings to improve the benefit for contact lenses. Premiums for most plans will increase. More information will be available soon on the [At Your Service website](#). An article on the [cost of UC insurance](#) may be of interest.

**Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action and Diversity Award Nominations** - The Awards Program is soliciting nominations for the 2011 Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action and Diversity Awards. These awards honor staff, faculty, students, departments, and organizational units or groups that have made outstanding contributions in the areas of equal opportunity, affirmative action, diversity, and the UCSD Principles of Community during the past year. All members of the campus and healthcare community are invited and encouraged to nominate UCSD community members who meet certain criteria. [More info here.](#)

## ON STAGE

Starting off the Department's season this year will be [The Dybbuk](#), by S. Ansky, directed by second year graduate directing student **Joshua Kahan Brody**, on November 10<sup>th</sup>. Khonen, a devoted Talmudic scholar, falls love with Leah, but when her father finds a more wealthy 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. A re-imagined classic from the Yiddish theater.

**November 16<sup>th</sup>** - [The Thugs](#), by Adam Bock, directed by Guest Director **Eric Hunicutt**. Someone may have died up on the ninth floor. But these temps in a law firm's back office certainly don't want to find out. Gossip and rumors abound in this Obie-award winning play.

**November 18<sup>th</sup>** - [The Storm](#), by Alexander Ostrovsky. Directed by **Larissa Lury**. The ideal faces the real in a small storm-ridden town on the bank of a major river. A young couple, a domineering mother, an eccentric scientist, a powerful businessman, and a new-comer all harbor secrets. But some may find the weight of such hidden knowledge too much to bear. The intertwining of nature, science, and faith flood the stage in this classic play by one of Russia's most treasured dramatists.

**December 2<sup>nd</sup>** - [Pedestrian Politics Performance Project](#). Created by **Robert Castro, Patricia Rincon, Yolande Snaith, and Natalia Valerdi**. *Pedestrian* is a Site Specific Happening at various locations/times on campus.

Tickets for *The Dybbuk*, and all the Department's upcoming productions, are [available online](#).

## ALUM UPDATES

**Ashley Lucas** (PhD '06) will be one of the authors presenting at a book talk (with a reception) hosted by Ethnic Studies on campus on Monday at 3:00pm. The title of the talk is "Popular Culture, Sex Trafficking, and Razor Wire Women." At The Dugout Annex Conference Room (near RIMAC). All are welcome.

More...

**Andrew Smith** (MFA '05) dropped us a line recently to say that **Lisa Velten Smith** (MFA '05) and **Amy Lynn Stewart** (MFA '04) appeared recently in *Gideons' Knot* as part of Project Y's New Playwright Festival in New York. All details are available at [www.projectytheatre.org](http://www.projectytheatre.org).



**Sarah Rasmussen** (MFA '08) was among this year's winners of the 2011 **Princess Grace Awards**, announced on August 15<sup>th</sup> by the Board of Trustees of the Princess Grace Foundation-USA (PGF-USA). The Awards continue the legacy of Princess Grace (Kelly) of Monaco, who anonymously helped emerging artists pursue their artistic goals during her lifetime. The Foundation presents the Princess Grace Awards to artists who show excellence and promise in the areas of theater, dance, and film. Students are eligible for scholarships; emerging artists working in companies qualify for apprenticeships and fellowships.

**Alyssa Ishii** (MFA '09) has been nominated for the **LA Ovation Awards** "best sound design" category (intimate theatre) on the show *Awake* for **Bootleg Theatre**. Alyssa currently lives in Los Angeles, working on sound design/mixing for theatre as well as post-production sound for film. She received both her MFA (Theatrical Sound Design) and BA (ICAM Music) from UCSD. During her time in San Diego, she worked on several productions including *The Revengers Tragedy* with the La Jolla Playhouse's artistic director Christopher Ashley, *Blurred Borders* with choreographer Patricia Rincon, *Ruins True* with director Gabor Tompa and composer Shahrokh Yadegari, as well as a variety of plays with UCSD's MFA actors and designers.



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

## IN MEMORIAM



It is with great sadness that we announce the passing **Lisa Wolford Wylam** (MFA Dramaturgy 1991). Lisa died suddenly on October 9<sup>th</sup> while visiting family in Knoxville, Tennessee. Lisa was a passionate and widely respected scholar, best known for her extensive involvement with the Workcenter of Jerzy Grotowski and Thomas Richards as well as her ethnographic work with Guillermo Gómez-Peña and his company, *La Pocha Nostra*. She was on the faculty of the Department of Theatre at York University, where she was a beloved teacher and a strong advocate for students and junior faculty. Lisa is survived by her loving husband, John Wylam. A memorial will be held at York University later this fall.

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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. Miss a back edition? Visit the [Newsletter Archives](#).