MEETINGS OF THE WEEK

Thursday, February 28th, Production Meetings:

Casagemas in GH 144 from 9:00-9:45am
Little Children in GH 144 from 9:45-10:30am
Hameline & Ex Machina in GH from 144 10:30-11:15am

DEPARTMENT NEWS

The Kallisti Vocal Ensemble will debut Lear on the 2nd Floor, a libretto by playwriting faculty Allan Havis, on March 6th at 7:00pm in the Conrad Prebys Music Center’s Experimental Space. A number of campus affiliates are involved – the music is by UCSD’s composing faculty member and acclaimed opera artist Anthony Davis and many other faculty members from Music Department are in the singing or playing in the instrumental ensemble. MFA graduate student Halei Parker designed the costumes and Victoria Petrovich has done the sets and projections. Additional performances will be held on the 8th and 9th. Ticket information here.

Acting faculty member Todd Salovey will direct A Weekend with Pablo Picasso for the Denver Center Theatre Company at the Ricketson Theatre in Denver March 22nd – April 28th. Todd is also in his twentieth year as Associate Artistic Director at the San Diego Repertory Theatre.

The Department participated over the weekend in a scholarship fundraiser as part of the campus celebration of Black History Month. The event attendees included keynote speaker MFA Acting Alum John Wesley (*’77) and the program included a snippet from the Department’s recent production of In the Red and Brown Water, featuring current MFA Actors. Department Faculty attending included Nadine George, Allan Havis, Steven Adler, and Jim Carmody.

Photo L to R: Chaz Hodges, Tesiana Elie. Alum John Wesley, Ronald Washington, Jasmine St. Claire

NEWS FOR FACULTY AND STAFF

FSA Spend Deadline - Reminder, if you had money left in your Health and/or Dependent Care Flexible Spending Accounts (FSA) at the end of 2012, you have until March 15th to use the balance. If you don’t spend the money, you lose it. More here.
Whoops! The online retirement income calculator at UC At Your Service is not working properly for employees who have transitioned to the bi-weekly pay cycle. UCOP is aware of the problem and is working on a fix. At present the system is severely under-calculating retirement benefits. If you are in need of a retirement income estimate, please contact Jo Morales (858-534-5244) at the campus Benefits Office.

ADMINISTRIVIA

March 8th – Deadline to drop without “F”
March 18th - 23rd – Finals Week
March 23rd – Last day to remove a grade of “I” from a previous quarter.
March 25th – Last day to request a grade of “I” for the current (winter) quarter.

ONSTAGE

*Tonight We Improvise*, by Luigi Pirandello, directed by Gabor Tompa. February 20th - March 2nd

The scandalous La Croce family is the talk of the town, and so are the actors playing the parts! One of Pirandello’s theatre-within-theatre plays, *Tonight We Improvise* charts an acting troupe as they improvise a script based on a novel. Direct address to the audience, narration, mime, and music are just a few of the techniques employed in this multi-layered theatrical exploration.

*Doctored and Devised*, directed by Maiya Murphy. February 27th - March 2nd

This devised theater piece celebrates the ingenious and playful work of San Diego’s own Dr. Seuss by translating some of his most beloved drawings, stories, and characters into a physically–based world premiere romp through a live cartoon landscape.

*winterWORKS*, directed by Yolande Snaith. March 13th - March 16th

Featuring a diverse palette of innovative, collaborative dance theatre, *winterWORKS* highlights the unique talents of our students in new works by faculty choreographers and MFA dance theatre candidates.

Ticket Information - Visit the Department’s “Tickets Page” for individual and group ticket information.
ALUM NEWS

Alums – On Facebook? Come visit the Department’s Facebook Alumni page! This group is set up for UC San Diego Department of Theatre and Dance Alumni to correspond with each other regarding their current or upcoming productions, projects or events. Please use it as a place to update each other on your past, current or future projects. If you have a show coming up let the group know. If you are performing, directing, designing, writing, stage managing or in any way involved in a creative project please let us know. Note that the Department will use some of the postings from this site for alumni updates in the newsletter. The Department will also use this group to alert you on Department information or Alumni events.

Johnny Ray Gill (MFA ’10) appears as Kerwn Whitman in several episodes of the TV series Rectify on the Sundance Channel. Johnny’s been on TV quite a bit in the last year, appearing in True Blood, Bones, and in a made-for-TV movie Shadow of Fear. You can also see Johnny in several older (2011) episodes of the TV show Harry’s Law.

Katy Reeves (MFA ’05) is the Company Manager for the Palm Beach Opera in West Palm Beach, Florida, and the Head Scheduler and Stage Manager for the Hawai’i Performing Arts Festival. Katy has also worked with the La Jolla Playhouse, The Old Globe in in San Diego, and the Houston Grand Opera, among other organizations.

Crystal Watts (BA ’08) is affiliated with the VenueTech management organization and has been Manager of the Dougherty Valley Center for the Performing Arts and the Front Row Theatre in San Ramon, California since 2008. Previously, Crystal was an Assistant Dramaturg for the La Jolla Playhouse, Assistant Stage Manager at the Moonlight Amphitheater, Theatre Supervisor for the Santa Rosa Repertory Theatre, Production and Facilities Assistant for San Diego Theatres, Inc., and Assistant Theatre Manager for the Jewish Community Center in San Diego.

Neil Patel (MFA ‘91) sends word that he is “designing three amazing plays this month in New York: Dominique Morisseau's Detroit '67, Lanford Wilson's The Mound Builders and Craig Lucas's The Lying Lesson. Set respectively in the 60's, 70's and 80's! Feeling a very lucky but tired designer…” Neil is an award winning New York based designer practicing in many disciplines, including theatre, opera, dance, film, television and live events. He is best known for developing new work and bold interpretations of classic texts.

Have news? The Newsletter’s email address is TandDNews@ucsd.edu. We’re always thrilled to hear what you’ve been doing and to share it with our readers. Photos encouraged. (Be sure to tell us your “old” name, if you’ve changed it, and the year you left us.)