

Winter Quarter – Week Eight

February 24, 2014

MEETINGS OF THE WEEK

Monday, Feb. 24th: Faculty Meeting - Acting Candidate, 4:00pm in GH 144

Wednesday, Feb. 26th: Faculty Meeting - Playwright Candidate, 4:00pm in GH 144

Thursday, Feb. 27th: Production Meeting: *In the Crowding Darkness/Panda Play*, 9:00am, GH 144
Production Meeting: *Battlecruiser Aristotle*, 10:00am, GH 144

Saturday, March 1st: Tribute to James Avery, 2:00pm, Mandell Weiss Theatre

DEPARTMENT NEWS



James Avery Celebration This Saturday: You are invited to attend a celebration in honor of the life of the late [James Avery](#) ('79) from 2:00 – 4:00pm in the Mandell Weiss Theatre. Distinguished Professor Seth Lerer, Dean of Arts and Humanities, will offer a welcome address. Other guests who will share remembrances of James will include Professors *Emeriti* Arthur Wagner and Jorge Huerta, as well as alums Veronica Henson-Phillips ('87), Goyo Flores ('79), John Wesley (MFA '77), Annasa P. Graves ('77), and Monique Gaffney ('93). Brian Bose, the current James Avery Scholarship recipient will also say a few words. Allan Havis, Provost of Thurgood Marshall College, will offer closing remarks and Dance students Sydney Jacobs, Nic Gilbertson, Kaiya Young, Tyrone Reynolds, Kimie Parker, and Gezell Custudio will perform “Surrender to Love,” a work choreographed by Lecturer of Dance Sandra Foster King. A reception will follow. Please [register here](#).

Congratulations to Theatre Design grad student **Andy Muehlhausen**, one of three recipients of the UC San Diego 2014 Interdisciplinary Research Awards. Earlier this year, the Graduate Student Association, in coordination with the Office of Graduate Studies, held a competition designed to recognize excellence in interdisciplinary research. Campus departments were each allowed to nominate one student, who had to integrate different areas of research into a coherent agenda and be able to present it to a broad audience. Andy’s project, “Designing Interactive Spaces for Real Human Interactions: Video Game Theatre,” was selected for an Award. Andy will be recognized at a ceremony this Thursday (Feb. 27th), during which he will present his research in a twenty-minute talk followed by a short question-and-answer session. The ceremony begins at 2:30pm in [the Loft](#) and is free and open to the public.



Graduate Playwriting student **Jeff Augustin** has been selected as Roundabout Theatre Company’s 2014 Playwright-in-Residence. This position, provided by a generous grant from the Tow Foundation, allows Jeff to spend a year with the company in which he will see his work produced at [Roundabout Underground](#). Jeff will write a newly-commissioned play for Roundabout as well as developing other projects for the Company. [More here](#).

NEWS FOR FACULTY & STAFF



Library Digitization Project – “The [UC Libraries](#) are a treasure trove for scholars and bibliophiles. General and specialized collections across the campuses boast a total of 100 libraries, 2,400 staff and 38 million print volumes in their combined holdings. Now the libraries are making their collections more widely available than ever before by digitizing millions of hard-to-find and out-of-print books in the public domain (published before 1923). These books are now leaping off library shelves and finding second lives in electronic form or as re-mastered reprints.” Read [more here](#).

E.O.Y. Nominations Open – The Exemplary Staff Employee of the Year Award Program recognizes career employees in Professional and Support Staff (PSS) positions who have demonstrated distinguished service and contributions to the UC San Diego and San Diego communities. Why not nominate a co-worker? The deadline to submit your nomination is March 19th. Read [more here](#).

Finals Looming: Regulations – The final exam schedule is [available online](#). Instructors may, but are not obligated to, make accommodations for students who have scheduling conflicts or exam overloads. (See “[Student Responsibilities](#)”) All final exams must be given by the instructor during the scheduled times. Deviations from the Academic Senate policy must be approved in advance by the Committee on Courses acting through the Committee on Educational Policy (CEP). Faculty are to be in attendance at finals unless other arrangements have been made in advance with the Chair.

Remind Your Students: Grad Slam Student Competition Deadline – “The Grad Slam will be a competitive speaking event to showcase the impact of graduate student research. Participating UC San Diego graduate students will compete in preliminary rounds during the week of March 31 – April 4, 2014, with a select number advancing to the final round on Wednesday, April 9, 2014. A panel of judges will award the second and third place students \$1,000 each, and the top competitor will receive \$2,500!” Deadline to sign up: [this week](#) – Friday, February 28th. [More here](#).



Use It or Lose It! - If you had money left in your Health and/or Dependent Care Flexible Spending Accounts (FSA) at the end of 2013, you have until March 15th to use the balance. If you don't spend the money, you forfeit it. Health FSA participants receive a [benefits card](#) to pay for eligible expenses. If you don't use the card to pay for an eligible expense, you must submit a manual claim for reimbursement. (Log into [CONEXIS](#) and complete an online form.) Examples of eligible expenses can be [found here](#).

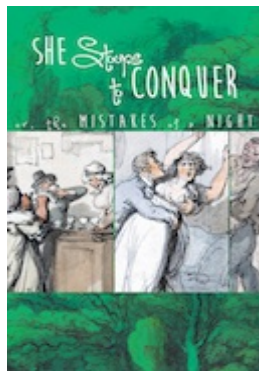
ADMINISTRIVIA

Friday, March 7th - Deadline to drop a class without a grade of “F”

Saturday, March 15th – FSA/DCPFSA expense deadline

Monday, March 31st – Deadline for employees to “retro-switch” health plans for 2014

ONSTAGE



Running Through March 1st - [She Stoops to Conquer](#), by Oliver Goldsmith, directed by **Penny Metropulos** (Quinn Martin Production), in the Mandell Weiss Theatre.

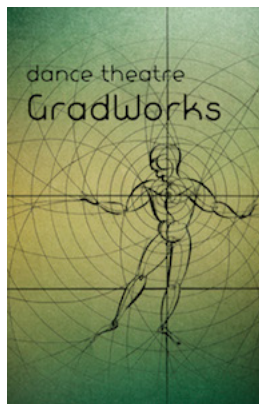
Oliver Goldsmith was an Irish novelist, playwright and poet, born in 1730. The fifth of eight children, he was awkward and slight, and an early attack of smallpox left him permanently disfigured. In 1744, Goldsmith started attending Trinity College, Dublin, earning his education, room, and board with menial chores for the school. Neglecting his studies in theology and law, he fell to the bottom of his class, and in 1747, along with four other undergraduates, he was expelled for a riot in which they attempted to storm the Marshalsea Prison. However, he managed to return and graduated in 1749, albeit without any employment prospects; his education seemed to have given him mainly a taste for fine clothes, cards, Irish ballads, and the flute. He travelled for a year in Europe, and then settled in London, claiming to be a physician with a degree from a foreign university. Nobody came for treatment, however, so he turned to writing. [More here.](#)



Opening March 6th - [The Underground New Play Festival](#). Managing Director - **Mary Hill**, Artistic Director - **Jaime Tuttle**. In the Arthur Wagner Theatre.

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 5 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.



March 12th – 15th - [dance theatre GradWorks](#). Choreographed by **Lisa Frank** and **Sam Mitchell**. In the Molli and Arthur Dance Facility Studio 3.

Lisa Frank is a second-year MFA candidate in Dance & Theatre. Her UC San Diego credits include: *Arts in Action: Connected*, *Crossing Boundaries 2012*, and *WinterWorks*. She completed her BA in Dance with a focus in Choreography, Performing and Teaching at Northeastern Illinois University in Chicago, IL. [More here.](#) **Sam Mitchell** began his training over twenty years ago at the University of California, Santa Barbara. Sam explored improvisation, performance art and theater, while pursuing formal dance training in ballet and modern technique. Sam continued his training in the Bay Area with Joe Goode, Kim Epifano, Kathleen Hermasdorf and Augusta Moore. [More here.](#)

Advance tickets for these productions are available Monday-Friday, noon to 6:00 pm by calling the Box Office at (858)534-4574 or in person at the Theatre District's Central Box Office at the Sheila & Hughes Potiker Theatre. **At-the-Door tickets**, if available, can be purchased one hour before show time at the performing theatre's box office at Mandell Weiss Forum Theatre.

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.

Alums **Joshua Brody** (MFA '13), **Carissa Cash** (BA '12), **Claire Kaplan** (BA '11), **Thomas Miller** (BA '12) will appear in *The Trip’s Macbeth*, directed by **Tom Dugdale** (MFA '10) and featuring sound design by **Nick Drashner** (MFA '12). *The Trip’s Macbeth* is a contemporary, site-specific version of *Macbeth*, staged in a refurbished-but-still-raw former military barracks on Point Loma. March 7th – 9th and 12th – 16th at 8:00pm at NTC at Liberty Station, Barracks 2. (2790 Truxtun Road, San Diego.) Tickets are [available here](#).

Marsha Stephanie Blake (MFA '01) is cast as “Dido” in Soho Reps’ world premiere of *An Octoroon*. Dion Boucicault’s *The Octoroon* opened at The Winter Garden Theatre in New York City in 1859. This reworking, by Branden Jacobs-Jenkins, “collides the sensational plot and heightened theatrical gestures of Boucicault’s original with contemporary language and dueling set of narrators.” The play runs from April 23rd through May 18th, with an official opening on May 4th, at the Rep in Manhattan. Read [more here](#).

April 8th - 11th New York Premiere - [The Great Immensity](#), written and directed by MFA '99 **Steve Cosson**, with songs by Michael Friedman, at The Public Theatre, 425 Lafayette St., New York. “The Civilians’ *The Great Immensity* is a highly theatrical look into one of the most vital questions of our time: how can we change ourselves and our society in time to solve the enormous environmental challenges that confront us?” You can hear some of the music from the show [on their video page](#). *The Great Immensity* is funded by the National Science Foundation.

Have news to share? Send it to us at TandDNews@ucsd.edu and we’ll pass it along for you. Photos are encouraged.
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