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UC San Diego
 Division of Arts & Humanities

Newsletter Week 6

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May 4, 2015

Meeting of the Week

Faculty Meeting: Advisory Committee

Wednesday, May 6th @ 4pm
 GH 254

Department News

The Big Man to Premiere in EST's 35th Marathon of One-Act Plays

MFA 1st Year Playwright, Will Snider, will receive a production of *The Big Man* this month as a part of the Ensemble Studio Theatre's marathon of one-act plays.



This year, EST received an overwhelming amount of promising marathon submissions. Beginning with 1,078 submissions for this year's Marathon, Artistic Director William Carden selected 14 plays by 15 playwrights. The plays will be presented in three separate evenings from May 13th through June 27th.

Billy Carden, artistic director tell us about this year's plays: "From a science lab in Siberia to the red-light district in 18th century Japan to a taxi in Manhattan to a police station in Kenya, the 14 plays in this year's Marathon take our audience on a series of surprising adventures. This diverse and eclectic mix of plays--including a musical, a dance piece, and a nod to Kabuki--combines traditional and experimental forms in ways that are moving, entertaining, challenging, and fun. A healthy mix of familiar veterans, newly recognized writers, and brand new voices join us to celebrate our 35th Marathon."

The Big Man by Will Snider, directed by Matt Penn, is about an American aid worker negotiates with Kenyan police for the release of his truck, but gets more than he expected in this menacing thriller about political power.

[For tickets and information click here!](#)

News Around Campus

Kallisti presents THE THREEPENNY OPERA

Music by Kurt Weill
 Text by Bertolt Brecht and Elisabeth Hauptmann, after John Gay's The Beggar's Opera.
 English adaptation by Marc Blitzstein

Kallisti vocal ensemble's new production of Brecht and Weill's Threepenny Operaviews a classic work through the prism of a dystopian future of inequality and political corruption, drawing parallels with disturbing trends in contemporary society. Produced by soprano Susan Narucki of the music faculty and kallisti ensemble, directed by Ruff Yeager, the production is based on the early-fifties English adaptation by Marc Blitzstein. It will also incorporate dance choreographed by Michael Mizerany, with Weill's music directed by Kyle Adam Blair leading an eight piece ensemble.

Wednesday, May 6th, 2015 @ 7:00pm
 Conrad Prebys Music Center Experimental Theater
 General Admission: \$15.50
 UCSD Faculty, Staff, FOM, Alumni: \$10.50
 Student Rush: Free, one-hour before concert, with ID
 Department of Music Box Office: 858-534-3448

[For more information, click here!](#)

San Diego Blood Drive

The San Diego Blood Bank will hold blood drives at UC San Diego on the following dates in 2015:

Mon, May 4
 Tue, May 5
 Wed, May 6

10am - 3:30pm @
 BloodMobile on
 Library Walk

To schedule an
 appointment, or for



more information, call the San Diego Blood Bank, (800) 4MY-SDBB (800-469-7322), or go to the Blood Bank website.

Walk-ins are welcome; however, appointments will be honored first. When scheduling an appointment, please provide sponsor code: UCPC. You can earn points for each blood donation and shop online at the Donors 4 Life Store for gift cards, movie tickets and much more.

Donors can give blood every 56 days.

[For more information, click here!](#)

Alumni News

Guadalupe Hires New Executive Director

The Guadalupe Cultural Arts Center has hired a new executive director following a national search. **2008 MFA Directing Alum, Jerry Ruiz**, a Brownsville native, starts May 4. Prior to taking the job at the Guadalupe, Ruiz spent four years as curator and producer of the Crossing Borders Festival, an event devoted to new Latino plays, at the Two River Theater Company in New Jersey.



He is replacing Patty Ortiz, who stepped down as executive director of the Guadalupe last year after five years in the position.

Ruiz is coming back to Texas from New York City, where he has been based since 2001.

"Really, it was the job that brought me back, the opportunity to run an organization like this and do artistic work that has a social impact," said Ruiz, 37, who has a bachelor's degree from Harvard

University and a master's degree from the University of California San Diego. "That's become really important to me over the last five years or so. I want to do work that makes a difference and enriches the lives of audiences and artists alike."

See *Boy Gets Girl* in Los Angeles



See **2002 Acting Alum, Ivy Khan**, in Rebecca Gilman's play, *Boy Gets Girl*, at Theatre Unleashed in Los Angeles.

What started as an innocent blind date has quickly turned into a dangerous obsession. For Theresa, an accomplished journalist, her life is now spiraling chaotically out of control as she experiences a violent terror that's all too familiar.

Through May 9th at the Belfry Stage

[For tickets and information, click here!](#)

The Ultimate Wedding Adventure!

2007 UG Acting Alum, Cheetah Platt, and his wife, Rhian Woodyard, were recently married ... 38 times! Instead of spending their money on an elaborate wedding ceremony, the Los Angeles couple decided they'd rather start their lives together by traveling the world, holding 38 wedding ceremonies along the way. For less than \$3,000 apiece, the two -- both acrobats -- planned out an impressive itinerary spanning 83 days and 11 countries.

For Platt, two standouts have been getting married in front of the pyramids in Giza, and seeing a cheetah (his namesake) on



the savannah in Africa.

[To see the video, click here!](#)

2015 International Academy of Web Television Awards



The IAWTV Awards celebrates the best in digital entertainment. Established for digital content creators by digital content creators, they are voted on by the digital entertainment professionals who comprise the IAWTV membership.

2011 UG Acting Alum, Leland (Lee) Montgomery wrote and directed *God Particles*, which won 2 IAWTV awards:

Best Microbudget Series

Best Female Performance in a Comedy - **2011 MFA Acting Alum, Zoe Chao**

[To see all 4 episodes, click here!](#)

Have news to share? Send it to us at TandDNews@ucsd.edu and we'll pass it along for you. Photos are encouraged. Please be sure to let us know what year you graduated, if you're an alum. If you've changed your name, be sure to tell us what it was when you attended UC. Miss a back edition? Visit the [Newsletter Archives](#).

Sincerely,

[UCSD Department of Theatre and Dance](#)