

From: **UCSD Department of Theatre and Dance** tanddnews@ucsd.edu
Subject: Spring Newsletter: Week 2
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To: tanddnews@ucsd.edu



UC SAN DIEGO THEATRE & DANCE

SPRING QUARTER: WEEK 2

DEPARTMENT NEWS



SPRING SHOW SCHEDULE

The quarter has leapt into gear and rehearsals for the spring's set of productions have begun in earnest. The full schedule of performances is included below, mark your calendars and get your tickets soon!

Dance gradWORKS: **The Implicit Self**, directed by Verónica Santiago Moniello, April 20-22

2017 Wagner New Play Festival: May 9-20

- Strange Men** by Will Snider
- (w)holeness by Lily Padilla
- Birds of North America** by Anna Moench
- Baby Teeth** by Ava Geyer
- Are You There** by Stephanie Del Rosso

Undergraduate Theatre: **Gruesome Playground Injuries** by Raiiv Joseph. June 7-10

Undergraduate Dance: **New Directions**, directed by Eric Geiger, June 8-10



UCSD HOSTS BLACK STUDENT UNION

This week the department hosted seven students from the Black Student Union Overnight Program. The students came from across the state to tour the facilities, meet with the faculty, and discuss the program.

SPRING TRITON DAYS 2017

This Saturday the department hosted dozens of accepted students from the undergraduate class of 2021. These students toured the campus and the department facilities and got to meet each other. Members of the faculty gave presentations and introductions for what to expect while others gave tours. Several acting scenes and dance pieces from the current undergraduates were presented as well. Special thanks to Laura Jimenez for all of her work organizing the event! Enjoy the pictures below!





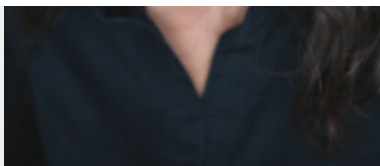
ALUMNI NEWS



LISA PORTES AND LAUREN YEE IN DENVER CENTER THEATRE'S 2017- 2018 SEASON

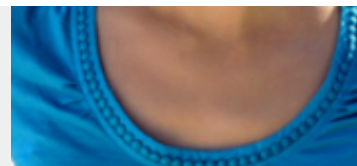
Denver Center Theatre recently announced their 2017-2018 season. **MFA Playwriting alumnus Lauren Yee's** comedy *The Great Leap* will open in February of 2018 and **MFA Directing alumnus Lisa Portes** will direct





Karen Zacaria's *Native Gardens* next April.

To read more, [click here](#).



OGIE ZULUETA IS OPENS AT CENTER REP

BA alumnus Ogie Zulueta is currently performing in *Sisters Matsumoto* by Kan Gotanda, at Center REPertory Company in Walnut Creek, CA.

Sisters Matsumoto explores the return of three Japanese-American sisters to their family's farm in California after being incarcerated in an internment camp during World War II and their fight to reframe their post-war identity.

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

SARAH RASMUSSEN OPENS LONE STAR SPIRITS AT JUNGLE THEATER

Jungle Theater Artistic Director and **MFA Directing alum Sarah Rasmussen** discussed her new production of **MFA Playwriting alumnus Josh Tobiessen's** *Lone Star Spirits* in a video which can be [viewed here](#).

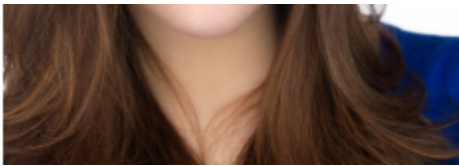
The production opened this weekend and explores a young women's return to the small Texas town of her childhood and her struggle to deal with her past. It runs through May 7th.

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



LORENA MARTINEZ JOINS SOUTH COAST REP'S WORLD PREMIERE

MFA Acting alumnus Lorena Martinez will appear in Dipika Guha's *Yoga Play*. The world premiere is part of South Coast Rep's Pacific Playwright's Festival and opens April 19th. Crispin Whittell directs Guha's sharp comedy about the commercialization of Yoga and enlightenment at a large Yoga apparel company.



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

RONALD MCCANTS WRITES EPISODE OF SPEECHLESS

MFA Playwriting alumnus Ronald McCants wrote last week's episode of ABC's new sitcom *Speechless*. Starring Minnie Driver as a mother who will do anything to help her family, especially her son who has cerebral palsy.

The show airs on Wednesday nights and last week's episode, "C-H-Cheater", can be [streamed here](#).



ANNE KAUFFMAN NOMINATED FOR LORTEL AWARD

MFA Directing alumnus Anne Kauffman has been nominated for a Lucille Lortel award for Outstanding Direction of Adam Bock's *A Life*. The production ran at Playwright's Horizons last fall and explored a man's obsession with astrology.

The Lucille Lortel Awards celebrate outstanding achievement in Off-Broadway theatre. In their 32nd year, the ceremony will take place May 7 at the Skirball Center.

To read more, [click here](#).

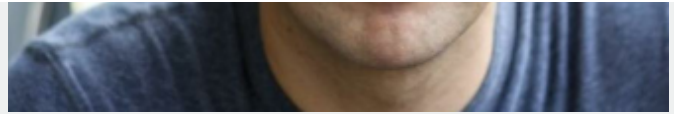
DANNY BURSTEIN TO PLAY NICK BOTTOM AT SHAKESPEARE IN THE PARK

The Public Theatre announced their initial casting for 2017's free Shakespeare in the Park in Central Park's Delacorte Theatre. **MFA Acting alumnus Danny Burstein** will play Nick Bottom in Lear DeBessonet's production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. The production will run July 11th - August



13th.

To read more, [click here](#).



COLIN MCGURK DESIGNS HEARTBREAK HOUSE AT HARTFORD STAGE

MFA Scenic Design alumnus Colin McGurk is designing George Bernard Shaw's *Heartbreak House* at Hartford Stage. Shaw's comic masterpiece is directed by former faculty member Darko Tresnjak who serves as Hartford Stage's Artistic Director. The production opens May 11th.

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

MATT HOVERMAN'S NEW COMEDY TO BE PRODUCED AT MARTHA'S VINEYARD PLAYHOUSE

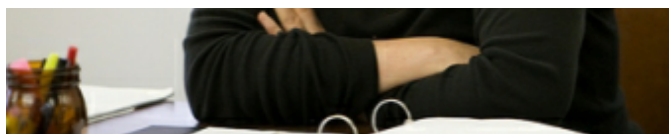
MFA Acting alumnus Matt Hoverman has written a new play, *Who You See There*, which will be produced at Martha's Vineyard's Playhouse this fall. A farcical comedy about anonymity, celebrity, and making the perfect salad, the show will open August 4th.

To read more, [click here](#).



MARIA MILEAF TO DIRECT FEEDING THE DRAGON

Hartford Stage recently announced their 2017-2018 season which will begin 2018 with Sharon Washington's *Feeding the Dragon*, directed by **MFA Directing alumnus Maria Mileaf**. The one-woman show tells Washington's story of growing up in the custodial apartment of a Manhattan library and is a coproduction with Primary Stages.



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To read more, [click here](#).



ALUMNI DESIGN THE LUCKY ONE FOR MINT THEATER COMPANY

MFA Sound Design alumnus Toby Jaguar and **MFA Lighting Design alumnus Christian DeAngelis** are both designing Mint Theater Company's upcoming production of A.A. Milne's classic comedy of sibling rivalry, *The Lucky One*. The production opens on April 14th at the Beckett Theatre in New York City.

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

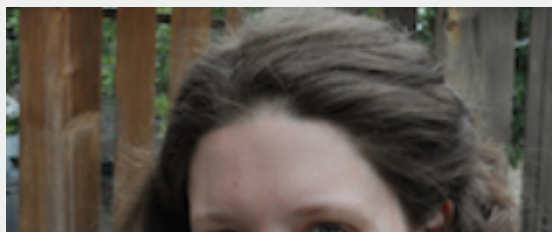
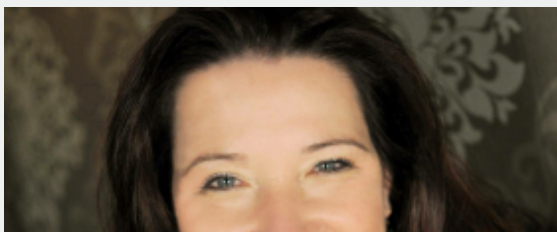


SHERRICE MOJGANI DESIGNS AT OLD GLOBE

MFA Lighting Design alumnus Sherrice Mojgani has done the lighting design for Dominique Morisseau's *Skeleton Crew*, which is currently in previews at The Old Globe.

Skeleton Crew is directed by Delicia Turner Sonnenberg and explores the struggle of a family in Detroit during the financial crisis trying to stay afloat amidst layoffs and company closings.

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





CYNTHIA STOKES AND LILY BARTENSTEIN DEVELOP OPERA

MFA Directing alumna Cynthia Stokes and **MFA Scenic Design alumna Lily Bartenstein** have directed and designed, respectively, a production of Bonnie Lander's opera *Mechanisms* with the company Rhymes with Opera.

The production performed on April 4th at UCSD's Conrad Prebys Music Center and explores how we create our own personal spaces while also longing for a connection with our community through improvised dramatic narratives and sounds. The production will perform in New York City at the Bank Street Theatre May 19th and 20th.

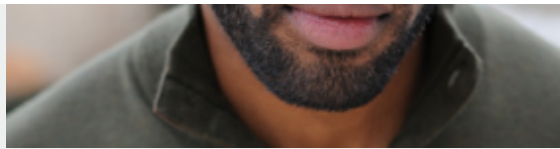
For tickets and more information, [click here](#).

SARAH BYRD DEVELOPS NEW DRAMAS FOR TNT

BA alumnus Sarah Byrd has been serving as a Writer/Producer for TNT and recently finished work on a new drama about Shakespeare, called *Will*, which will air later this year and can be [previewed here](#). She is currently working on another show for TNT, *The Alienist*, a crime-thriller which will also premiere later this year.

She's also completed work on Cinemax's horror-drama *Outcast*, which will begin its second season this evening and can be [previewed here](#).





IRUNGU MUTU AND WASHINGTON KIRK PERFORM AT CHERRY LANE THEATRE

MFA Acting alumni Irungu Mutu and Washington Kirk are both performing in Jocelyn Bioh's *Nollywood Dreams* which is currently in rehearsals at Cherry Lane Theatre as part of their Studio series of mentored playwrights. The show also features **MFA Costume Design alum Dominique Fawn Hill** as the associate costume designer. Directed by Saheem Ali with mentorship from Brandon Jacobs-Jenkins, the play explores the Nigerian film industry and opens April 25th.

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

UC San Diego

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