

# UC SAN DIEGO THEATRE & DANCE

## FALL NEWSLETTER: WEEK 1

### DEPARTMENT NEWS

#### CALENDAR FOR FALL QUARTER PRODUCTIONS

##### ***What of the Night?***

by Maria Irene Fornes

directed by Katie Pearl

the annual Quinn Martin production

Performs November 11 - 18th, 2017

##### ***The Green Cockatoo***

by Arthur Schnitzler

directed by Marco Barricelli

Performs November 15 - 20

##### ***She Kills Monsters***

by Qui Nguyen

directed by Jennifer Chang

Performs December 6 - 9

thesisWORKS 2017:

##### ***Before the horses crash into the ground, and then the ground.***

a dance performance directed by Verónica Santiago Moniello

Performs December 7-9



~photos by Anna Robinson

ARTISTS OF THE FUTURE

## UCSD THEATRE & DANCE CELEBRATE ARTISTS OF THE FUTURE GALA

The Theatre and Dance Department had its second annual ARTISTS OF THE FUTURE GALA at the home of Janet & George Hoover on September 23, 2017. The GALA, a fundraising event specifically for the Theatre & Dance Performing Arts Endowment, raises funds for the student production needs in the department. If you know anyone who couldn't attend but would still like to give, they can go to <https://giveto.ucsd.edu/?sk=420> to give a tax-deductible donation. Many alumni, faculty, staff, students, and supporters were in attendance including Interim chair and **MFA Costume Design Faculty Professor Judy Dolan** and **MFA Acting Faculty Professor Eva Barnes**, both of whom served as MC's for the event. Also in attendance were **Arts & Humanities Dean Cristina Della Coletta**, **Des McAnuff** (seen above right). Alumni in attendance were **Sandi Logan, BA**, new faculty member & **MFA acting alumna Natalie Griffith Robichaux** and **MFA Acting alumni Chris Butler & Silas Weir Mitchell** (seen below). **MFA acting alumna Zan Aufderheide** was the auctioneer and Faculty Professor Linda Vickerman arranged the entertainment which included current students **Kyle Hester, Yonatan Gebeyehu** and **Gina Maria Cioffi** singing with **Kyle Adam Blair** playing the piano and **Brandon O'Sullivan** on guitar. **Saura Naderi & Jaymee Ngernwichit** presented the Qualcomm costume. The evening was wonderfully staffed by many current students and organized by Marybeth Ward, whose beautiful floral arrangements graced each table, and Mark Maltby kept the whole evening flowing, ensuring its success. Following dinner, everyone enjoyed cake in celebration of **Molli Wagner's** birthday! The evening concluded with the music of WAG HALEN as **Wayne Wagner** and band put on a rousing cap to the evening.



~photo by Anna Robinson



*~photo Anna Robinson*



*~photo credit Farshid Bazmandegan*



~photo credit Anna Robinson

## **JUNK BEGINS ON BROADWAY WITH CHUCK MEANS AS PSM**

Ayad Akhtar's *Junk* begins previews on Broadway this week in a production that began at the La Jolla Playhouse. Our chair and **MFA Stage Management Faculty Professor Chuck Means**, who's on sabbatical this quarter, is serving as the Production Stage Manager for the show. The show also features **MFA Stage Management alumna Megan Sprowls** as a production assistant and **MFA Acting alumnus Sean McIntyre** is making his Broadway debut cast among the ensemble.

Set in the high-flying, risk-seeking, teetering financial world of the 1980s and inspired by the real junk bond kings of the day, this riveting story shows us from the inside how money became the only thing that mattered.







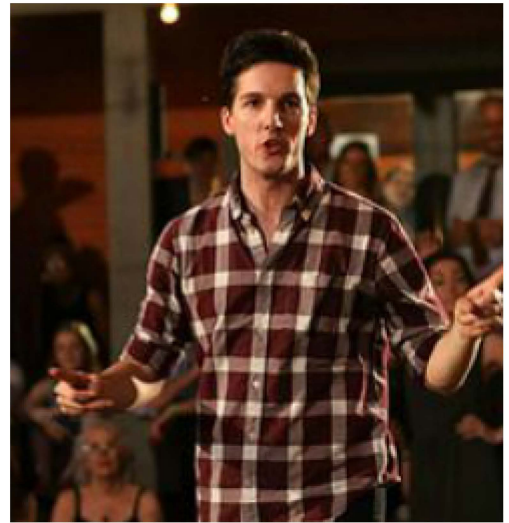
## UCSD FACULTY AND STUDENTS FEATURE IN LA JOLLA PLAYHOUSE'S WOW FESTIVAL

The La Jolla Playhouse's bi-annual site-specific festival of new work, the Without Walls Festival, opens next month throughout San Diego, performing October 19-22. This year's work includes pieces by many international artists including some from UCSD's community. Artist in Residence Basil Twist has partnered with the UCSD percussion ensemble *red fish blue fish* for a piece called *Faetopia*.

**BA alumnus and MFA Stage Management Faculty Professor Robert Brill** have created a production of Charles Mee's *Under Construction* with Sledgehammer Theatre and UCSD Theatre & Dance which will perform at Bread and Salt in Barrio Logan as part of the festival. Set within a pop-up banqueting hall, spectators of *Under Construction* will be immersed within a collage of America today—scenes and songs and dances inspired by Norman Rockwell of the fifties, and scenes and songs and dances inspired by the installation artist whose work most resonates in today's culture of socio-political corruption, Jason Rhoades. The team includes **BA students Mona Guttierrez, Sofia Zaragoza, Levani Korganashvili, and MFA Sound Design Student Justin Beets.**

**MFA Playwriting student Lily Padilla and MFA Directing student Dylan Key** have created an immersive audio installation, *And Then You Wait*, which will also perform at Bread and Salt. Explore an abandoned grain silo while discovering the stories of three families who have survived a nuclear disaster in a fallout shelter. The piece has been developed with **MFA students Samantha Rojas, Kasson Marroquin, Kimberly Monks, Max Singer, and BA student Jenna Dern.**

Two of the pieces in the festival are currently running promo codes for members of the University with \$10 TRITON Tickets now available for *GOB SQUAD'S SUPER NIGHT SHOT* and *SHASTA GEAUX POP*, two one-of-a-kind immersive adventures at the WOW Festival in Downtown San Diego.



## UNDERGRADUATES PERFORM AT CELEBRATE THE ARTS DAY

UCSD held their annual Celebrate the Arts Day last Thursday. The Theatre and Dance department hosted a table staffed by **BA students Sophia Vargosa, Jenna Dern and Blake Ramirez** (seen above). They also performed a piece called *Simply Fried* by **BA student Justin Livengood**, a rambunctious comedy about the mechanization of the human spirit with the greasy confines of KFC. The cast included **BA students Gina Maria Cioffi, Josiah Glesener, Blake Ramirez, Erin Li, and Jeffery Sims**.

## EURYDICE STUDIO PRODUCTION CONCLUDES RUN

A group of MFA Students produced and performed a studio production of Sarah Ruhl's *Eurydice* as part of the Week 0 series of events and performances. The production was directed by **PhD Student Kristen Tregar** and **MFA Acting student Nicole Javier** and featured the acting talents of **MFA Acting students Nicole Javier, Enrico Nassi, Sidney Hill, Janet Fiki, Danielle Wineman, and Max Singer**. The production was designed by **Kyle Adam Blair, Nancy Ross, MFA Lighting Design student Minjoo Kim, MFA Costume Design student Annie Le, and MFA Scenic Design student Samantha Rojas**. The production was stage managed by **MFA Stage Management student Bryan Runion**.



## ALUMNI NEWS



### ANDREW WEEMS PERFORMS AT GUTHRIE

**MFA Acting alumnus Andrew Weems** has been working around the country this summer. He was in *The Room Sings*, with the Talking Band at La Mama, played Shylock in *Merchant of Venice* at Shakespeare Theater of New Jersey and is currently playing Capulet in The Guthrie's production of *Romeo & Juliet* which will run through October.



## REED MARTIN DISCUSSES NEW SHAKESPEARE BOOK

MFA Acting alumnus **Reed Martin** and his fellow member of the Reduced Shakespeare Company, were interviewed by NPR's Scott Simon about their book, *Pop-Up Shakespeare*, and how Shakespeare's plays are kind of like Looney Tunes.



# UC San Diego

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UC San Diego Theatre & Dance

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