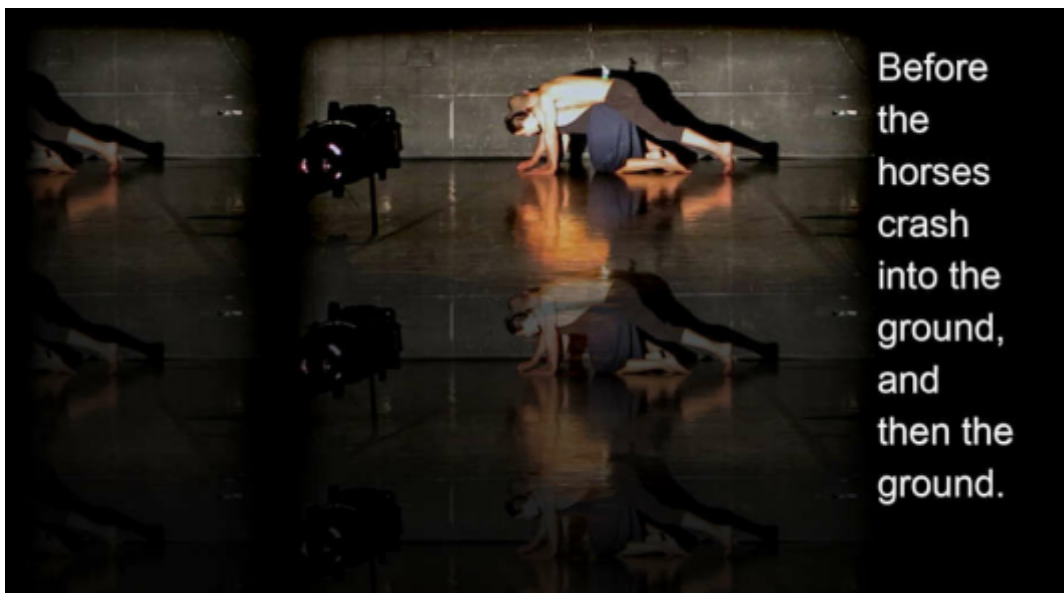




FALL NEWSLETTER: WEEK 10
DEPARTMENT NEWS



OPENING ON THURSDAY: *THESISWORKS 2017*

UC San Diego Theatre & Dance Department will continue its 2017 season with its graduate dance production, *thesisWORKS 2017: Before the horses crash into the ground, and then the ground*. by **MFA Dance candidate Verónica Santiago Moniello**. The production performs in the Potiker Theatre December 7th and 8th at 7:30pm and December 9th at 2:00pm.

thesisWORKS showcases the culmination of dance research over the course of graduate studies in Dance at UC San Diego. *Before the horses...* is a piece that reflects on the concept of territory—the description of a space— by using complementary bodily approaches: chants, music, percussion, dance. The piece introduces these notions to the audience through the construction of a plural zone, a scenography conceived as an archipelago where every performer has its own autonomy while keeping a shared sense of kinship. This enclave has also its own extension; a skin that covers and sustains, embracing the scenic space as a responsive texture where every performer dwells.



PERFORMANCES BEGIN THIS WEDNESDAY FOR *SHE KILLS MONSTERS* BY QUI NGUYEN

UC San Diego Theatre & Dance Department will continue its 2017 season with its undergraduate production of *She Kills Monsters* by Qui Nguyen, directed by **Undergraduate Acting Faculty Professor Jennifer Chang**. The production performs in the Shank Theatre on the following dates: December 6, 7, 8 & 9 @ 7:30pm, December 9 @ 2pm

A comedic romp into the world of fantasy role-playing games, *She Kills Monsters* tells the story of Agnes Evans as she leaves her childhood home in Ohio following the death of her teenage sister, Tilly. When Agnes finds Tilly's Dungeons & Dragons notebook, she stumbles into a journey of discovery and action-packed adventure in the imaginary world that was Tilly's refuge.

Tickets are currently sold out but a waitlist is available. To be put on the waitlist, please email mmaltby@ucsd.edu



~The cast of She Kills Monsters speaks to Intro to Theatre Class



ALLAN HAVIS AND CYNTHIA STOKES TO PRESENT NEW OPERA

ALLAN HAVIS AND CYNTHIA STOKES TO PRESENT NEW OPERA

This Wednesday December 6th, **MFA Playwriting Faculty Professor Allan Havis** will present a showing of his new opera, *Saint Francis De Los Barrios* in the Calit2 Auditorium of Atkinson Hall as part of the IDEAS Performance Series. The show begins at 7pm with a reception to follow. The opera is co-created with composer Joseph Waters, a professor at SDSU, and is directed by **MFA Directing alumna Cynthia Stokes** with scenic design by **MFA Scenic Design alumna Robin Roberts**. **MFA Lighting Design student Brandon Rosen** has designed the lights for the production and **BA student Mona Gutierrez** is the stage manager.

Saint Francis De Los Barrios is a magical realistic tale inspired by the Francis of Assisi myth set in modern day Tijuana among the poor and a community of sex workers - drugs, borders, and Pope included.



SENSORY-FRIENDLY *GRINCH* PERFORMS AT OLD GLOBE

MFA Stage Management Faculty Professor Lisa Porter has been working as a consultant with the Old Globe to develop their autism-friendly annual production of *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*. This year's performance, The Old Globe's sixth of its kind, will be held Saturday morning at 10:30a. The Old Globe was the first regional theatre to introduce sensory-friendly programming into their regular season thanks to Lisa's inspiration and consultancy. The production received a lovely write-up in this week's Union Tribune.

MARIANNE MCDONALD PUBLISHES ARTICLE ON AESCHYLUS DESCENDENTS

PhD Faculty Professor Marianne McDonald just published "Avatars of Aeschylus: O'Neill to Herzog/Golder" in *Brill's Companion to the Reception of Aeschylus*, ed. Rebecca Futo Kennedy, 2018. Her McDonald Center at Sharp Hospitals is still flourishing and she facilitates two groups, one monthly and one weekly to help combat addictions. Her *Thesaurus Linguae Graecae*, and its equivalent in Ireland for old Irish, are still in use as consultant guides.



ALUMNI NEWS

ANNE KAUFFMAN OPENS *HUNDRED DAYS* FOR NYTW

MFA Directing alumna Anne Kauffman has recently opened *Hundred Days* at New York Theatre Workshop where it will run through December 31st. The show is a folk-punk dream like you've never experienced. *Hundred Days* unleashes an exhilarating and raw story about embracing uncertainty, taking a leap, and loving as if you only had a hundred days to live. Written by The Bengsons & Sarah Gancher.



JESCA PRUDENCIO TO DIRECT UCSD-DRIVEN *VIETGONE* AT SAN DIEGO REP

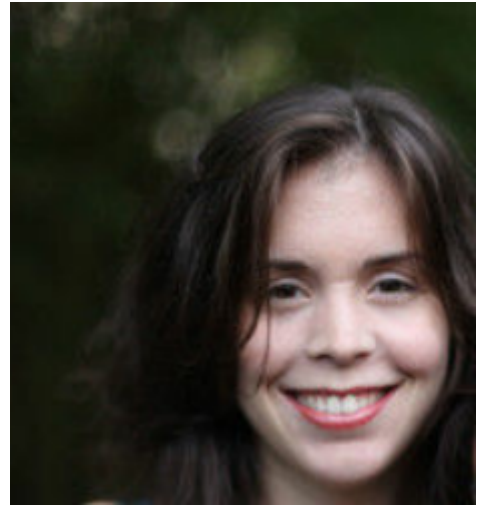
MFA Directing alumna Jesca Prudencio is directing Qui Nguyen's *Vietgone* at San Diego Repertory Theatre. The production stars **MFA Acting alumna Katherine Ko** and is designed by **MFA Scenic Design alumnus Justin Humphres**, **MFA Lighting Design alumnus Bo Tindell**, and **MFA Sound Design alumna Melanie Chen** and dramaturged by PhD student Jim Short.

Vietgone tells the story of how Quang meets Tong, how they flee from Saigon at the end of the Vietnam War, fall in love in a refugee camp in Arkansas, take a life changing road trip across 1970's America and eventually give birth to a playwright named Qui Nguyen (who happens to have written the play). Told through the eyes of a very contemporary young American who loves pop culture, *Vietgone* offers a mash-up of comic book aesthetics, martial arts and hip-hop, all while recounting a family's real history of fleeing Vietnam and immigrating to America.

Performances begin January 25th.

FILM COSTUME DESIGNED BY WHITNEY ANNE ADAMS HEADS TO SUNDANCE

MFA Costume Design alumna Whitney Anne Adams has designed the costumes for *Piercing*, a new film which will premiere at Sundance in January. The film also features **MFA Acting alumna Maria Dizzia** and tells a twisted love story as a man seeks out an unsuspecting stranger to help him purge the dark torments of his past. His plan goes awry when he encounters a woman with plans of her own. A playful psycho-thriller game of cat-and-mouse based on Ryu Murakami's novel.



CHAZ HODGES TO APPEAR IN *MARIE AND ROSETTA*

MFA Acting alumna Chaz Hodges will star in Cleveland Play House's production of *Marie and Rosetta* which announced its preliminary casting this week. The production begins performances in January and Chaz will play co-star Marie Knight.

One fateful night, Sister Rosetta Tharpe — who influenced performers from Elvis to Hendrix — plucks prim-and-proper Marie Knight from a rival gospel show. The two challenge one another on music, life, and The Almighty. This story of letting loose, finding your voice, and freeing your soul is a soaring music-theatre experience chock full of roof-raising performances.

THE HOMECOMING QUEEN TO PREMIERE AT ATLANTIC

MFA Acting alumna Ngozi Anyanwu latest play, *The Homecoming Queen*, will premiere at the Atlantic Theatre Company this winter, with performances beginning in February

In *The Homecoming Queen*, a bestselling novelist returns to Nigeria to care for her father. Having been absent for over a decade, the trip forces her to confront a painful past, her culture, and a deep, unexpected love.





KIM BLANCK TO PARTICIPATE IN RIOT COMEDY LAB

MFA Acting alumna Kim Blanck has been selected as one of eight to participate in the Riot Comedy Lab, a two-day comedy writing workshop hosted by Time Warner's Turner cable group and digital-media firm Refinery29. The Riot Comedy Lab, taking place December 2-3 in New York, will bring eight emerging women comedy creators together with mentors from the TV comedy world to provide feedback on their series concepts. At the end of lab, Refinery 29 and Turner will pick one web series idea for the creation of a pilot episode, to be distributed on TBS's digital platforms — with the potential for it to be picked up as a full series on TV.

GWEN GROSSMAN PROFILED BY VOYAGE CHICAGO

MFA Lighting Design alumna Gwen Grossman was profiled by Voyage Chicago to discuss her career as a lighting designer and her architectural lighting design firm, Gwen Grossman Lighting Design (GGLD) which has developed spaces and commercial developments nationwide. The story featured a beautiful photo display of several of their designs.



STEVEN KEMP PROFILED BY BOB MAGAZINE

MFA Scenic Design alumnus Steven Kemp was interviewed by BOB Magazine, the International Magazine of Space Designed and featured a six-page spread in their November issue including some gorgeous photos of his designs.



LAUREN YEE AND DAVID JACOBI TO FEATURE AT 2018 COLORADO NEW PLAY SUMMIT

The Denver Center Theatre Company has announced their 13th annual Colorado New Play Summit which this year will feature a reading of a new work by **MFA Playwriting alumnus David Jacobi**, *The Couches*, and a world-premiere production by **MFA Playwriting alumna Lauren Yee**, *The Great Leap*. Running Feb. 17-25, 2018, the New Play Summit is DCPA's signature festival dedicated to supporting playwrights and developing new work.

UC San Diego

ARTS AND HUMANITIES Theatre and Dance

Join our Mailing list

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,

UC San Diego Theatre & Dance



FOLLOW US ON:



We hope you like our newsletters. If you don't, [simply unsubscribe](#).

UCSD Arts & Humanities, [9500 Gilman Drive, La Jolla, CA, CA 92092](#)-0406
<http://theatre.ucsd.edu/index.htm>