

UC SAN DIEGO THEATRE & DANCE

FALL NEWSLETTER: WEEK 6

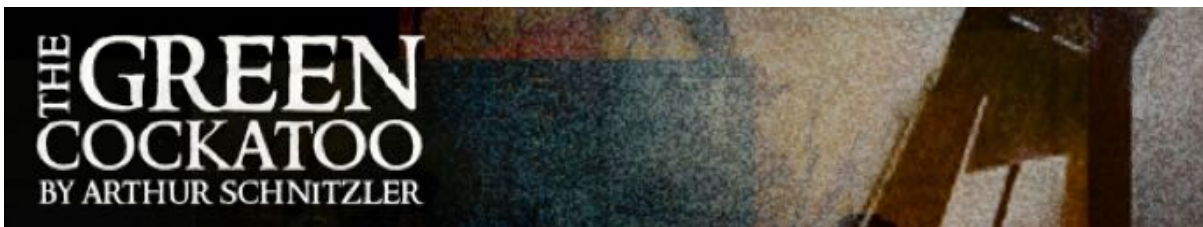
DEPARTMENT NEWS



THE NIGHT?

All students, alumni, and faculty are invited to our department-wide opening night party on November 14th to toast off the start of a new season of performances as UC San Diego Theatre & Dance Department begins its fall 2017 season with its graduate production of *What of the Night?* by Maria Irene Fornes, directed by Quinn Martin director Katie Pearl which runs from November 11th - 18th in the Potiker Theatre.

What of the Night?, a Pulitzer Prize finalist, offers a panoramic view into the spiritual and economic poverty of 20th and 21st century United States. Taking place over a 60-year span and following four individual family members through four linked plays, *What of the Night?* lifts the lid off societal oppression to expose the unstoppable humans within. Meet Nadine, who sets her children on their course by teaching them that love means survival at all costs and by any means; meet young Birdie who walks out of that life in search of a better existence. Meet Rainbow who carries her mother's lesson forward, caring for her lover Greta by renting out her body to a man who, unbeknownst to her, is her half-brother, Ray. Meet abusive and power-addicted Ray, who makes it to the echelons of corporate success only to be terrorized by the emptiness he finds there. Get to know tender-hearted Charlie, who in his old age finds himself in charge of a vast bureaucratized homeless shelter, where Ray and eventually fourth sibling Birdie come under his care. *What of the Night?* is a sweeping portrait of society, a brutal castigation of greed, and a brilliant assertion of human spirit. It is a tender and brutal telling of the impossibility of love and the spiritual disintegration that happens when the stranglehold of poverty-- or the forces of great wealth--infiltrate the inner workings of our lives and relationships.



THE GREEN COCKATOO OPENING NEXT WEEK

We will continue our fall season with our Graduate production of *The Green Cockatoo* by Arthur Schnitzler, translated by Carl R Mueller and directed by **MFA Acting Faculty Professor Marco Barricelli**. *The Green Cockatoo* performs November 15 - 19 in the Forum Theatre.

It's July 14th, 1789, Paris. The city is in an uproar and the political/social life is on the very brink of enormous changes ... changes that will effect the entire world from then on. A rag-tag theatrical group is performing their improvised show for some of the aristocracy. At a certain moment no one is sure if the frenzied performers are screaming real insults at the nobility as part of the show, or if they are finally telling them their cathartic truth about the burgeoning revolution and the overthrow of the aristocracy.

JULIE BURRELLE NAMED HELLMAN FELLOW

PhD Faculty Professor Julie Burrelle has been named a Hellman Fellow for the university. Through the Hellman Fellows Program at UC San Diego in 1995 to support and encourage junior faculty to pursue research projects and creative endeavors with the goal of enhancing their candidacy for tenure. This year, 11 faculty members representing a variety of academic disciplines have been awarded a total of approximately \$500,000 including our own Julie.



RICHARD ROBICHEAUX PREMIERES TWO NEW FILMS

MFA Acting Faculty Professor Richard Robicheaux is among the cast in the new film *Amanda and Jack go Glamping* which opens in theaters November 10th. The film premiered at the Austin Film Festival last month and stars Amy Acker, David Arquette and June Squibb.

Richard also appears in Richard Linklater's new film, *Last Flag Flying*, which premiered in Los Angeles last night. *Last Flag Flying* marks Richard's third collaboration with Linklater.



GABOR TOMPA OPENS SHOW AT 59E59

MFA Directing Faculty Professor Gabor Tompa opens a production of *TOYS* at 59E59 in New York City tomorrow. The production is having its New York premiere after having performed in Los Angeles, Romania, and Avignon.

Shari was born in a war-torn country, alone and fending for herself; Clara grew up in New York with seemingly the best of everything. When the two embark on a surreal journey to meet, they discover an explosive shared secret from their past. Through the exploration of identity and the piecing together of lives torn apart by war, *TOYS* ultimately asks what it means to belong.



LILY PADILLA PROFILED BY SAN DIEGO UNION-TRIBUNE

MFA Playwriting student Lily Padilla was profiled by the San Diego Union-Tribune this week for recent show *And Then You Wait* which she created for the La Jolla Playhouse's *WoW* Festival earlier this fall and her experiences making work in San Diego.



JENNIFER CHANG APPEARS IN *LITTLE WOMEN*

Undergraduate Acting Faculty Professor Jennifer Chang is currently appearing in a world-premiere multicultural transposition by Velina Hasu Houston inspired by the Louisa May Alcott novel. The production runs through November 21st at Playwrights' Arena in Los Angeles.

In 1949, Josephine Mayeda and her sisters Meg, Amy, and Beth are emerging in the midst of the history of Japanese Americans who found a place for themselves in Los Angeles' African American neighborhoods after WWII's forced incarceration camps.



ALLAN HAVIS AND UC SAN DIEGO ALUMNI COLLABORATE ON NEW OPERA

MFA Playwriting Faculty Professor Allan Havis, MFA Directing alumna Cynthia Stokes, and MFA Scenic Design alumna Robin Roberts are all part of the creative team of an in-progress opera that will be presented at the Cornelia Street Cafe in New York City on November 10, 2017. The evening, billed as *SWARMIUS Meets Opera*, will feature selections from their in-progress opera, *Saint Francis De Los Barrios*, 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.

ALUMNI NEWS



DANAE IRIS MCQUEEN AND JACQUES C. SMITH NOMINATED FOR OVATION AWARDS

MFA Costume Design alumna Danae Iris McQueen and **MFA Acting alumnus Jacques C. Smith** have both received Ovation Award nominations in Costume Design and Acting respectively. Dane was nominated for her design of *The Pride* at the Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts, and Jacques was nominated for his performance in *Five Guys Named Moe* for Ebony Repertory Theatre

WILL SNIDER PLAY WINS BARRYMORE AWARD

MFA Playwriting alumnus Will Snider's play *How to Use a Knife* won the Best New Play at the Barrymore Awards in Philadelphia for *How To Use a Knife* at InterAct Theatre Company.



UC SAN DIEGO ALUMNI PERFORM IN MIXED BLOOD'S *CURIOUS INCIDENT*

MFA Acting Alumni Macgregor Arney, Regan Linton, and Raul Ramos, are all starring in *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* in a production by Mixed Blood Theatre Company. The production also features some work from **BA alumnus Brian Bose** as Movement Director and former **MFA Acting Faculty Professor Charlie Oates**. The production begins previews this Thursday.



RICARDO CHAVIRA STARS IN JESUS HOPPED THE "A" TRAIN

Stephen Adly Guirgis's hit play is currently receiving a revival at Signature Theatre in a production starring **MFA Acting alumnus Ricardo Chavira**. Ricardo plays Valdez, the sadistic prison guard in a revival of the play from 2000 which runs through November 26th.

TWO PLAYS BY LAUREN YEE SELECTED FOR EDGERTON AWARDS

MFA Playwriting alumna Lauren Yee had two of her plays chosen as part of the second round of TCG's Edgerton New Play Awards. The awards, totaling \$1,051,000, allow 27 productions extra time for the development and rehearsal of new plays with the entire creative team. The awards aim to extend the life of new plays after their world premiere productions. The two plays of Lauren's awarded were *Great Leap* at Denver Center for the Performing Arts and *Cambodian Rock Band* at California's South Coast Repertory.





KATHERINE KO APPEARS IN PHILHARMONIC'S *DREAM*

The Los Angeles Philharmonic Symphony produced a staging of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* to accompany their performance of Mendelsshon's eponymous symphony. **MFA Acting alumna Kathrine Ko** was among the cast playing the role of Hermia in an inventive production directed by Nancy Meckler

SPECIAL EDITION NEWSLETTER ON TEACHING ALUMNI

We're continuing to profile many of our incredible alumni who teach in institutions across the world. We will include continued submissions and if you'd like to be included in a future newsletter, please send your details to tandnews@ucsd.edu .

SUZIE AGINS (MFA Directing, 2003)

Suzie is an adjunct professor at Princeton University and NYU where she teaches Beginning Acting, Collaborating on New Work, and Undergraduate Drama Lab. Her primary interests are in teaching collaboration.



EVA BARNES (MFA Acting, 1983)

Eva is a professor at UC San Diego, where she teaches Speech, Voice, and Dialects. Eva recently participated at the Voice and Speech Trainers Association Conference in Singapore this summer with some of her current and former students.

AMY COOK (PHD Theatre and Performance Studies, 2006)

Amy Cook is an associate professor at Stony Brook University, where she teaches Play Analysis, Theatre History, Shakespeare, and Graduate Seminars (Cognitive Approaches to Arts and Humanities; Shakespeare: Page to Stage). Her primary interests include Shakespeare and contemporary performance, how we process language and performance onstage, and how theater can change minds. Her second book, *Building Character: The Art and Science of Casting*, is coming out from University of Michigan Press in February of 2018.



STEPHANIE GATTON (MFA Stage Management, 2005)

Stephanie is the Assistant Director of Special Events at The Julliard School, and in that capacity she mentors current students, as well as young stage managers in the professional apprentice program. Stephanie works one-on-one with stage management apprentices, engaging them in the intricacies of event management (nonprofit and social).

MARK GUIRGUIS (MFA Design, 1999)

Mark is a professor at UC San Diego, where he teaches design. He heads the undergraduate design program and he is currently involved with a new work about the life of artist Mine' Okubo.



NAOMI IIZUKA (MFA Playwriting, 1996)

Naomi is the head of MFA playwriting at UC San Diego where she teaches playwriting. She heads the annual Wagner New Play Festival of work by the MFA playwrights and her adaptation of Haruki Murakami's *Sleep* will premiere at BAM's Next Wave festival later this month.



GRACE JUN (PHD Theatre and Performance Studies, 2014, B.A., 1998)

Grace is an adjunct professor at UC San Diego and San Diego City College where she teaches Hip Hop, Modern and Dance Making. Her primary interests are in hip hop, and dance representations in films and productions.

REED MARTIN (MFA Acting, 1986)

Reed is an adjunct professor at Santa Rosa Junior College and Napa Valley College, where he directs productions and teaches Beginning and Intermediate Acting, Improv, Acting for Voiceover and Camera, Theatre History, Film Comedy, and Intro to Film. His primary interests include movement, improvisation, and comedy.

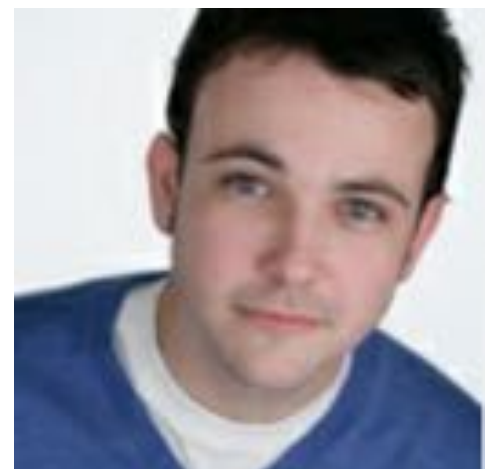


IRUNGU MUTU (MFA Acting, 2009)

Irungu is an adjunct professor at Marymount Manhattan College where he teaches Intro to Acting.

DAVID MYERS (MFA Playwriting, 2012)

David is an adjunct professor at UC San Diego and Chapman University where he teaches Playwriting, TV Writing, Screenwriting, and Story Foundations.





LISA PORTES (MFA Directing, 1992)

Lisa is the head of directing at DePaul University. Her primary interests are in teaching new plays and musicals. She directs throughout Chicago, recently directing *Augusta and Noble* by Carlos Murillo and received SDC's Zelda Fichandler award in 2016.

JENNIFER SETLOW (MFA Lighting Design, 2002)

Jennifer is the Associate Dean for Academic and Student Affairs at University of Florida. She is particularly interested in lighting design and student retention.



UC San Diego

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UC San Diego Theatre & Dance

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