



WINTER NEWSLETTER: WEEK 8

DEPARTMENT NEWS



DEBORAH STEIN AND MARA NELSON-GREENBURG OPEN AT HUMANA

Playwriting Faculty Professor Deborah Stein and **MFA Playwriting student Mara Nelson-Greenburg** each have new plays premiering at the Humana Festival at Actors Theatre of Louisville. Deborah's play, *Marginal Loss* tracks the few surviving employees of an investment firm based near the top of the Twin Towers after 9/11. Shell-shocked and grief-stricken, they work around the clock to reconstruct what's left of their company with determination, pen and paper, and a temp who just wants to help. But as they struggle to recoup their losses, they wonder: what does getting "back to normal" really mean? The production is directed by **MFA Directing alumna Meredith McDonough**.

Mara's play, *Do You Feel Anger?* follows Sofia, who was recently hired as an empathy coach at a debt collection agency—and clearly, she has her work cut out for her. These employees can barely identify what an emotion is, much less practice deep, radical compassion for others. And while they painstakingly stumble towards enlightenment, someone keeps mugging Eva in the kitchen. An outrageous comedy about the absurdity—and the danger—of a world where some people's feelings matter more than others'.



SOFIA ZARAGOZA AND WILLIAM GIVEN NOMINATED FOR WARREN COLLEGE BEARL AWARDS

BA Student Sofia Zaragoza and **PhD alumnus William Given** have been nominated for a Warren College BEARL Award as Champions of Freedom of Expression. Each year the BEARLS honor individuals or groups from across campus who exemplify the UC San Diego Principles of Community. Students, faculty, and staff from all colleges and all disciplines are eligible





~photo credit: Manuel Rotenberg

OTHELLO OPENS AT UC SAN DIEGO

The UC San Diego Theatre Department of Theatre and Dance continues its winter quarter with a production of Shakespeare's classic *Othello*, which opened in the Shank Theatre this past weekend.

Othello, a general of the Venetian army, has just married the lovely Desdemona, but the conniving and envious soldier, Iago, is bitter at Othello for having been passed over for advancement. What follows is one of Shakespeare's most famous stories of deceit, revenge, and the tragic events that occur when the truth is manipulated for selfish means.

Creative Team:

Director – Dylan Key

Scenic Designer – Matthew Herman

Costume Designer – Junior Bergman

Lighting Designer - Minjoo Kim

Sound Designer – Zhongran Carren Wang

Assistant Costume Designer – Dorottya Vincze

Assistant Sound Designer – Stephen Jensen

Production Stage Manager – Willie Mae Michiels

Assistant Stage Manager – Nicholas Lambros Smith

Othello – Deleon Dallas

Iago – Kyle Hester

Desdemona – Claire Roberson

Cassio – Allyn Anthony Moriyon

Brabantio – Brandon O'Sullivan

Roderigo – Max Singer

Emilia – Nicole Javier

Bianca – Danielle E. B. Wineman

Duke of Venice – Enrico Nassi

Lodovico – David Price

Montano – Garrett Schulte

REVOLT. SHE SAID. REVOLT AGAIN. NEARS OPENING AT UCSD

The UC San Diego Theatre Department of Theatre and Dance continues its winter quarter with a production of Alice Birch's play *Revolt. She Said. Revolt Again*, which begins performances in the Forum Theatre on March 6th.

This is a feminist alarm that scrutinizes the language, actions, and hidden biases of our society that unfairly favors men over women. Playwright Alice Birch puts forth a call for contemporary women to dismantle or sabotage anything that is complicit in their oppression.

Creative Team:

Director – Sean Graney

Scenic Designer – Samantha Rojas

Costume Designer – Annie Le

Lighting Designer – Brandon H. Rosen

Sound Designer – MaeAnn Ross

Vocal Coach – Ursula Meyer

Dramaturg – Kristin Leadbetter

Assistant Director – Jenna Dern

Assistant Scenic Designer – Hsi An Chen

Assistant Costume Designer – Chris Flagstad

Assistant Costume Designer – Isabella Calabrese

Assistant Lighting Designer – Justin Beets

Assistant Sound Designer – Justin Livengood

Production Stage Manager – Kasson Marroquin

Asst. Stage Manager – Tyler Larson

Asst. Stage Manager – Jacob Halpern-Weitzman

Production Assistant – Rosanna Wong

1 / Grandma – Assata Hefner

2 / Grandma – Mary Rose Branick

3 / Dinah – Christine Penn

4 – Yonatan Gebeyehu

5 / Dinah – Hannah Finn

6 / Agnes – Mo Rodvanich

7 – Volen Iliev

ALUMNI NEWS

MELISSA NG DESIGNS COSTUMES AT STEPPENWOLF

MFA Costume Design alumna Melissa Ng has designed the costumes for the Steppenwolf for Young Adults production of *The Burn*. The production runs through March 10th and is written by Philip Dawkins and directed by Devon de Mayo.

Mercedes is an outsider. Tara makes sure she knows it. When a high school production of *The Crucible* forces them together, tensions escalate into acts of bullying—both online and IRL. This world premiere play explores what happens to a teacher and his students when a classroom conflict turns into an online witch-hunt.

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





JESCA PRUDENCIO FINISHES TAYMOR WORLD THEATER FELLOWSHIP

MFA Directing alumna Jesca Prudencio has wrapped her year as a Taymor World Theater Fellow through which she has been traveling and collaborating with artists from the Philippines, Thailand, and Japan. The fellowship closes with a talk in NYC with the first year's fellows.

REED MARTIN TO PERFORM REDUCED SHAKES

MFA Acting alumnus Reed Martin is part of The Reduced Shakespeare Company which will be performing *William Shakespeare's Long Lost First Play (abridged)* at the New Victory Theater in NYC from March 2-11. The New Vic put together an amusing short video to advertise the piece which can be [seen here](#). The show tours across the U.S. in the spring before a month-long run at the Pittsburgh Public Theater from May 31 - July 1. Last year the show had an extensive UK tour and was also produced by both the Utah Shakespeare Festival.



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