SPRING NEWSLETTER: WEEK ELEVEN

DEPARTMENT NEWS

LOOKING FORWARD TO THE
2019-2020 SEASON

JOIN US IN FALL 2019 WITH THE FOLLOWING SERIES OF EVENTS

Announcing the 2019-20 Season!

BALM IN GILEAD
directed by Kim Rubinstein
in the Mandell Weiss Forum Theatre

MAN IN LOVE
by Christina Anderson
directed by Stephen Beuscher
In the Mandell Weiss Theatre

ELECTRA
directed by Juliana Kleist-Mendez
In the Shank Theatre

THE QUARTER IN REVIEW
Thank you to everyone who came out and supported the Wagner New Play Festival, the MFA Playwrighting Program and the UC San Diego Department of Theatre and Dance hopes you will join us again in 2020.

Did you miss out on this year? Keep scrolling for a review of the action.

**DUCHESS! DUCHESS! DUCHESS! BY VIVIAN BARNES DIRECTED BY JULIANA KLEIST-MENDEZ**

A Royal Wedding is looming. The Duchess and The Soon-to-be-Duchess are meeting face to face for the first time to go over everything you ever needed to know to become a duchess. There are rules. There’s a way of doing things. Remember, everybody is watching. And you don’t want to know what happens if you step out of line. Duchess! Duchess! Duchess! looks at the hidden costs of being the “luckiest girl in the world.”

PC: Jim Carmody

**THE GRADIENT WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY STEPH DEL ROSSO**

Tess just landed a job at sleek tech start-up The Gradient: a center where men accused of sexual misconduct are sent to be rehabilitated. The clients go in with a lifetime of toxic male conditioning and emerge as new men, sensitized, redeemed. It sounds too good to be true, and maybe it is. When Tess meets a client who says all the right things, she’s forced to question her most basic assumptions about what is true and what is real. The Gradient asks what it means to say I’m sorry and whether it’s possible for people to truly change.

PC: Jim Carmody
There’s something amiss at Jefferson Middle School. Women are going missing, Cora may be turning into a doll, and MJ has tubes growing out of his belly button. The editors of the school paper are going to get to the bottom of all of it. A coming of age comedy that dives into the dark underbelly of life in 21st century America, THE JEFFERSON MIDDLE SCHOOL MONTHLY explores what it means to become an adult in a world where the adults have messed everything up.

PC: Jim

Carmody
MONSTER BY AVA GEYER DIRECTED BY JOSEPH HENDEL

When TV self-help guru Drew Capuano's compulsive masturbation comes to light, he retains the services of the only person who will still represent him: his power hungry twenty-four year-old female assistant. Meanwhile, survivor Mona Giotti works to make sure she's put Drew away for good. *Monster* is a brutal and brutally funny odyssey through America's media machine that puts perpetrator and survivor on an inevitable collision course of reckoning.

PC: Jim

SHAME SPIRAL BY ALI VITERBI DIRECTED BY NATALIE GRIFFITH ROBICHAUX

When contestant Lauren S joins The Bachelor in its 23rd season, she's prepared for all the drama if it means finding her one true love. What she's not prepared for is the internet's response to the revelation of her virginity and the subsequent fallout. SHAME SPIRAL engulfs us in the alternate reality of reality TV complete with false eyelashes, red roses, antiquated gender roles, and this persistent sense of shame that seems to lurk beneath every single moment. What's the price we're willing to pay to find true love? And why do the things that give us pleasure make us feel so guilty?

PC: Jim

Carmody
PLUS THE WAGNER NEW PLAY FESTIVAL INCLUDED A STAGED READING OF *INCENDIARY* BY DAVE HARRIS DIRECTED BY FIRST-YEAR PHD STUDENT MADDIE WILLIAMS

THE UNDERGRADUATES TOOK CENTER STAGE FOR *SONNETS FOR AN OLD CENTURY* DIRECTED BY KYM PAPPAS IN THE ARTHUR WAGNER THEATRE

PC: Manuel Rotenberg
UC DANCE SPRINGS INTO ACTION FOR NEW DIRECTIONS 2019 IN THE SHELIA AND HUGHES POTIKER THEATRE

Undergraduate choreographers tested the boundaries of movement and embodiment with inventive new works, featuring undergraduate dance students.

Directed by Anne Gehman

Featuring choreography by
Jane Alvarado (solo)
Jeevika Bhat (duet)
Olivia Jewel Carter (group)
Jordan Daley (group)
Astrid Espitia (solo)
Alexis Eubank (large group)
London Davis & Alexandria Kim (duet)
Lily Rose Medoer (solo)
Luci Patrick (group)
Samantha Schroeder (solo)

PC: Jim

IN PURSUIT OF THE DOCTORATE

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2019 CLASS OF PHD'S ON THE SUCCESSFUL DEFENSE OF THEIR DISSERTATIONS

Dr. Kara Raphaeli successfully defended their dissertation The Clothes Make the Man: Theatrical Cross-dressing as Expression of Gender Fluidity in Seventeenth- through Nineteenth-Century Performance.

In addition Dr. Raphaeli celebrates the end of their time at UC San Diego with the publication of an article in Victorian Review, Issue 44, No 1, entitled “Victorian Gender Fluidity: Magic Sex Change in A Florida Enchantment and Non-Binary Gender in Gabriel”
Dr. Bryan Curtiss White successfully defended his dissertation *Renegotiating National Identity: Modern and Contemporary Irish Drama and Performance.*

### 4TH-YEAR PHD PASSES QUALIFYING EXAMINATIONS AND ADVANCES TO CANDIDACY

Congratulations to Will Jones on his successful qualifying examination and his advancement to candidacy. Jones’ developing dissertation project examines the spectator’s imagination and collective creation as a way of deepening our understanding of devised as well as traditional theatre.

### CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2019 UC SAN DIEGO THEATRE AND DANCE UNDERGRADUATE CLASS

*UC San Diego Department of Theatre & Dance Class of 2019*
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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.

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Sincerely,
UC San Diego Theatre & Dance

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