Transforming Theatre with one of the renowned training programs in the country

Monday, April 27, 2009 Volume 7 No. 29

MEETINGS OF THE WEEK

Wednesday, 4/29 - Full Faculty Meeting: Discussion on Priorities for Next Year & Discussion on Department Issues and Retreat Goals, GH 144, 4:00-5:00pm Undergraduate Meeting, GH155, 5:00pm

Thursday, 4/30 - Spring Dance Production Meeting, GH 144, 10:00-11:00am



FACULTY AND STAFF NEWS

SHPS Reminder - If you were enrolled in the Dependent Care (DepCare) or a Health Care Reimbursement Account with UCSD during 2008, SHPS will continue to handle your claims for your 2008 HCRA and/or DepCare account(s) expenses incurred through March 15, 2009, but SHPS must receive the required reimbursement request forms absolutely no later than June 15th to process your claim. If you do not use all the funds set aside in your account, they are forfeited. For more information, see the SHPS website. For information related to expenses to be drawn from your 2009 accounts, visit the CONEXIS website. Be sure to check your SHPS account statement carefully – notices regarding contested payments may only appear on the last page of the form. If contested charges remain unaddressed for sixty days, SHPS indicates they will be rejected and the subscriber would be expected to reimburse SHPS for the payment.



DEPARTMENT NEWS



Last Call! - You are cordially invited to join the '09 MFA Actors for their last 'performance' here at UCSD. They are presenting their showcase set, days before they perform it in NYC, and would love to have you all there and are offering two showings to accommodate as many as they can. The show runs only thirty minutes. Free admission and free refreshments. Monday, April 27th, in GH 23 at 5:00pm AND/OR 8:30pm.

Johnny Wu has a video up on <u>his blog</u>, for those that can't attend.

ONSTAGE

Opening This Week: *Woyzeck*, directed by <u>Gabor Tompa</u>.



A soldier is driven to extreme behavior as he desperately tries to preserve his young common-law family. Based on a true story, this 19th century German play asks harrowing questions about medical experiments and the military. Woyzeck, who is poor, is the servant/slave of a German Captain who treats him as an amoral and stupid lab animal, starving and then brainwashing him. The play, unfinished, was written by a young medical student in such a cryptic, unnatural style that the scenes can be interchanged and much is left open for interpretation. A century later, after World War I, avant-garde theatre artists such as

Bertolt Brecht and Georg Kaiser would use *Woyzeck* as a prototype for much of their work, thinking it the original "absurd" play.

April 27th – May 2nd in the Sheila and Hughes Potiker Theatre. Click for performance information.

~ and ~

Spring Moves!

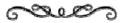
Directed by Margaret C. Marshall

Featuring Student Choreographers Michael Armstrong, Elizabeth Diaz, Christine Herde, Morgan McGreevey, Phoebe Osbourne Jessica Pusateri, Koren Rabago, & Anna Spalding

Undergraduate dancers take over the choreography in this showcase of their highly original works. An annual favorite, this year's Spring Dance includes eclectic contemporary, unique physical theatre, rhythmical tap, and a special site-specific work inspired by natural sounds heard during habitual paths through the campus. Add to the mix a bed, a few backpacks, two phones and a surprise ending every night, and you have the formula for an outstanding production from a new generation of dancers and choreographers.



In the Molli & Arthur Wagner Dance Facility, Studio III April 30th - May 2nd Click for performance and ticket information.



ADMINISTRIVIA

May 9th – Jorge Huerta <u>Farewell</u>

May 14th - Financial aid withdrawal date to retain 100% federal aid

May 16th – Margaret Marshall <u>Farewell</u>

May 29th - Drop without penalty of "F" grade - end of 9th week (undergraduates)

Final Exam Schedule – available online now.

ALUM UPDATES



Michael Greif (MFA in Directing '85) directs the musical *Next to Normal*, featuring a score by Tom Kitt, with a book and lyrics by Brian Yorkey, which was given a very <u>positive review</u> in the *New York Times* recently. *Next to Normal* is at the <u>Booth Theatre</u>, 222 West 45th Street, Manhattan.

<u>Julia Edwards</u>'s (MFA Playwriting '01) play, *Family Planning*, is being remounted by fellow alum's <u>Chalk Repertory Company</u> as a site-specific event in Los Angeles area homes in April. She wrote a children's picture book, *I Want My Boogers Back!* that is available <u>online</u> and is at work on her next, *Mad Max's Meltdown and Other Natural Disasters*. She lives in Pasadena with her husband, Gary Goodman, and her two wild children, Max and Sadie.

Rachel Axler (MFA in Playwriting '04) is writing for <u>Parks and Recreation</u>, a comedy on NBC TV that airs on Thursday nights. The new series is a half-hour "mockumentary that looks at the exciting world of local government." It was created by Greg Daniels and Michael Schur, part of the creative team on <u>The Office</u>. Rachel was previously a writer for the *Jon Stewart Daily* show and recently moved out to LA. A recent episode of Parks and Recreation titled "Canvassing" was written by Rachel and is available for <u>viewing</u> online.





CONGRATULATIONS TO

Current MFA student **Aimee Zygmonski** and her husband, Assistant Technical Director **Steve Gerlach**, on the birth of their daughter **Stella Ruth Gerlach** (**aka "Speedy"**), born Thursday, April 16th, at 11:37pm. Stella debuted at 6lbs, 8 ounces, and measured 19 inches. Mom, daughter, and Dad are at home and doing well.







Have News To Share?? Send it to us via the newsletter's own email address, *TandDNews at Yahoo.com*, by Tuesday night and we'll put it in the next newsletter. We love photos, but please, if you send them, make sure they are no larger than 400k files. Also, don't forget to identify yourself, tell us if you had a different name at graduation, and what year you graduated. If your news features other alums, please be sure to identify them. We hope to hear from you soon!