



January 24, 2011

Week Four, Winter Quarter

MEETINGS OF THE WEEK

No Faculty meetings this week.

Production Meeting - *Hedda Gabler*, Thursday, January 27th, 10:00-11:00am in GH144

FACULTY AND STAFF NEWS



StayWell Program Incentives - Employees participating in the [StayWell](#) wellness program have an opportunity again this year to take an online health assessment and receive an incentive payment. (Employees/Retirees can receive a \$100 gift certificate; spouses/domestic partners can earn a \$50 card.) This year the program has two components – the initial assessment and a follow-up component. Once you complete the initial assessment you will receive additional instructions as to how to complete an eligible follow-up activity.

DEPARTMENT NEWS

Department Wins Diversity Award - The 2010 UCSD Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action and Diversity Awards program [invited nominations](#) to recognize those individuals, departments, and organizational units who made outstanding contributions in support of UCSD's commitment to diversity. A review committee composed of representatives from each vice chancellor area evaluated the nominations and recommended finalists. A ceremony will be held on Tuesday, February 8th, at 2:00 p.m. at the Price Center West Ballroom to recognize the recipients. Please RSVP to [Paul Tagliaferri](#) by Tuesday, February 1st, if you would like to attend.



The Libraries have just acquired *Images of America: A History of American Life in Images and Texts*, which digitizes the entire contents of most of the 1300+ books published by Arcadia Publishing Co. (Charleston, S.C.). The company specializes in publishing relatively small books of local history, some of which consist of collections of antique postcards. Hundreds of these books feature sections on the theatres, movie palaces, outdoor arenas, drama and dance festivals, parades, and other theatrical aspects of the cities, towns, and rural areas. Each book in the series has been cataloged separately in Roger, but to take most advantage of the resource, you can do keyword searching across the entire collection. To access *Images of America*, go to the [SSHL homepage](#) and either click on "Databases A-Z" and then the letter I, or on "E-Resources by Subject (Sage)" and then "Theater" and then either "Electronic Texts (Collections)" or "Pictures (Still Images)." Note to Ph.D. Program: This is a UCSD Libraries purchase and is not available at UCI. Contact the librarian, [Robert Melton](#), with questions.

MORE...

The Underground New Play Festival is just around the corner and is sending out a call for directors. If you are interested in directing in the UNPF, please contact company157@gmail.com for application information. Applications are due no later than February 18th (Friday of 7th week). The Artistic Team will then review all applications and schedule interviews during 8th week.

They're Launching! - In conjunction with the Yale School of Drama and NYU's Tisch School, the Department's Class of 2011 will be showcased on Monday, May 2nd, in Los Angeles, and Monday and Tuesday, May 9th and 10th, in New York. You can find more information, including photos and individual bios, on the Department's [web site](#).



Singing Cabaret Fundraiser – Singing Instructor **Linda Vickerman** has organized a cabaret fundraiser to support the Class of 2011's travel to the Showcase locations. It will be held on Monday, January 24th, at 4:00 in the Arthur Wagner Theater. All are welcome - bring your eyes, ears and wallets! (There will also be another fundraiser later in the quarter.)



ONSTAGE

Opening This Week!



[The Threepenny Opera](#), directed by **Jeff Wienckowski**.

Book and Lyrics by Bertolt Brecht; Music by Kurt Weill. English adaptation by Marc Blitzstein. In the Sheila and Hughes Poitker Theatre.
January 28th – February 5th

The underworld rises to the surface as the ruthless gangster Mack the Knife climbs over corrupt politicians, crooked cops, and unfaithful lovers on his way to the top. Does he have what it takes to become "too big to fail"? Director Jeffrey Wienckowski sets this production amidst the turmoil of the Great Depression, turning Brecht's epic classic with rollicking music by Kurt Weill into a parable about the sellout of the American Dream.

Buy [tickets online](#), or to purchase by phone or mail [click here](#).

Coming Soon

[dance theatre thesisWorks](#), **February 9th - 12th**. This production is in two sections. *Stereoblind*, a screendance by **Rebecca Salzer** explores the limits and possibilities inherent in the act of seeing through movement, narrative, and neuroscience. *Space Between*, conceived and choreographed by **Alicia Peterson Baskel**, asks the question "How do my surroundings influence who I am at any moment? Blending movement, spoken text, projection and sound design, *Space Between* examines relationship to space and the transitions between personal sanctuaries and public routines.

[Hedda Gabler](#), directed by **Anthony Luciano**, **February 18th - 26th**. Ibsen's masterpiece of modernity *Hedda Gabler* remains enigmatic, funny and shatteringly beautiful. Choking in a house that smells of withered violets and death, completely apathetic and desperately alive, Hedda battles for life in a world that does not want her, clinging to the hope that one noble action can offer redemption.

[The Hot L Baltimore](#), directed by **Kim Rubenstein**, **February 23rd - 26th**. Eavesdrop on the comings and goings of an eccentric, motley group of residents on the fateful day they discover the once-elegant hotel is slated for the wrecking ball. Slices of private and public conversations reveal the fears, longings, and hilarious foibles of these lost souls as they face an uncertain future. Winner of the 1973 Obie Award for Best New Play, this ensemble comedy sings a tragic lament for the lost values of the American Dream, fracturing stability while celebrating hope and progress.

[WinterWorks](#), directed by **Yolande Snaith**, **March 9th - 12th**. Featuring a diverse pallet of inspiring, innovative, collaborative dance theatre, *winterWORKS* highlights the unique talents of our students in original new works by faculty choreographers **Yolande Snaith**, **Eric Geiger** and **Liam Clancy**, and second year graduates **Janet Hayatshahi** and **Kyle Sorensen**

Online Tickets are now available for our Winter Productions. Pass this information along to friends, family, agents... Go to [our website](#), choose your production, and click "Buy Online!"



ADMINISTRIVIA

January 28th - Deadline to Change Grading Option/Drop without a "W"
February 17th - Deadline to [withdraw and retain 100% federal student aid](#)
March 4th - Drop without penalty of "F" grade
Finals Week - Begins Monday, March 14th
Spring Break - Begins Monday, March 21st

ALUM UPDATES



Alums – On Facebook? Come visit the Department's [Facebook Alumni page!](#)

Playwright **Ronald McCants**, a 2010 master's program in playwriting alum, won the [San Diego Theatre Critics' Circle](#) Crain Noel Award for Outstanding New Play for his thought-provoking drama "Oyster," the story of a black father trying to reconnect with the adult son he abandoned years ago. The play premiered last spring at the University's Baldwin New Play Festival.

In partnership with KPCC, Watts Village Theatre Company (WVTC) presents a [staged reading](#) of the critically acclaimed original play *Ochre & Onyx: The Langston Hughes Project* on Monday, January 24th, in Pasadena. The reading will be directed by **Guillermo Avilés-Rodríguez** (MFA '02), Artistic Director, Watts Village Theatre Company and will be followed by a post-reading Q&A moderated by KPCC's Hettie Lynne Hurtes.



Lila Rose Kaplan (MFA '08) has had the script of her play "Wildflower" published by Dramatists Play Service. A copy is on order for the Social Sciences & Humanities Library. Her work *100 Planes* has public readings at Winter Studio Retreat [at the Lark](#) in NYC on February 17th & 18th at 8:00pm. There is an interview with Lila from last fall [online here](#). Lila was also appointed last fall as the very first Playwright-In-Residence at the Kavli Institute for Theoretical Physics at UC Santa Barbara.

[Daniel Vincent Gordh](#) (BA '07) writes that he "most recently shot a feature film called "Black Velvet" and appeared on AMC's "Mad Men", developing an original series called "The Cracked Advice Board" for humor website, Cracked.com (the production department of which is headed by Alum [Michael Swaim](#) [BA'07]). Feature film "Night Watcher" which I co-wrote and appeared in was distributed by Lionsgate in late 2009. I am so impressed and elated to hear what everyone is working on. Also, I am co-teaching a Basics of Film and TV Acting class with veteran actor/teacher Myra Turley - please pass on the message to anyone who might be interested in a beginning-level Technique/Scene Study class! E-mail me and I'll send the details along! - danielvincentgordh@gmail.com"



Where was last week's newsletter? - Due to technical problems, we were unable to provide you with a newsletter for Week 3. We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused and would like to provide you with information from the campus regarding [computer viruses](#). Here's information on a particularly [nasty worm](#) that has been appearing on campus recently. Remember – be cautious opening attachments sent by email, as this is a prime mechanism for infection. (Your newsletter is virus-scanned before we send it out, so it is safe!)

Note: Just hit "reply" and send your info, and we'll share it for you. Photos are always encouraged, but don't send huge files - please resize them from what comes off your camera - thanks! News we receive by Wednesday evening usually makes it into the next Monday's edition. Be sure to let us know what your name was at graduation, if you've changed it, and your year of graduation.