Week Five – Winter Quarter 2012 Monday, February 6th

MEETINGS OF THE WEEK

Monday, February 6th, 4-5:30pm in GH 144 - Area Heads Meeting 5:30-6:30pm in GH 144 - Full Faculty Meeting

Wednesday, February 8th, 4-5:30pm in GH 144 - Full Faculty Meeting

Thursday, February 9th, 9-10:00am in GH 144 - Production Meeting: *ThesisWorks* 10-11:00am in GH 144 - Production Meeting: *Wintertime*

NEWS FOR FACULTY AND STAFF

Signature Required - Faculty, staff, and visitors who use University of California research facilities and resources, but have not yet signed an amendment to UC's Patent Acknowledgment, received a second reminder email last week. The reminders include a link to the amendment and an electronic signature page. Employees without an email address on file who have not signed were sent a reminder via U.S. mail. More here.



StayWell Incentive Program - The <u>StayWell</u> program is UC's wellness initiative for employees and spouses/partners enrolled in most UC-sponsored medical plans. It features an annual health assessment, online health resources, interactive tools, and wellness coaching. Participants will be eligible for an incentive award if they complete a Health Assessment by June 15th and a follow-up activity by December 15th of this

year. The incentive award for employees is a \$100 gift certificate. Spouses/domestic partners can earn a \$50 gift certificate. The StayWell program is available to those enrolled in UC medical plans except Kaiser, which provides similar wellness resources to its members via its HealthWorks program.

DEPARTMENT NEWS



Jorge Huerta (Chancellor's Associates Professor of Theatre, *Emeritus*), will be lecturing at UC Santa Barbara in Professor Carlos Morton's (MFA Playwriting, '77) playwriting class as well as conducting a workshop on Theatre for Social Change on February 2nd. The following week he will be interviewed by Josefina Lopez in her new theatre in Boyle Heights, Casa 0101. This is the launching of Casa 0101s Directing Workshop series. At the end of February, Huerta will be directing readings of two one-act plays by Gabriel Rivas Gomez, at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. This program is a part of Professor Ashley Lucas' program in US Latina/o Studies. Dr. Lucas received a joint Ph.D. in Theatre and Ethnic Studies at UCSD in 2006. In mid-March, Dr. Huerta will be a keynote speaker at a conference on Chicana/o Culture at CSU Fresno.

More...



From the *Denver Post* "...**Regan Linton**, who was paralyzed in a 2002 car accident, played Laura Wingfield last month in Tennessee Williams' "The Glass Menagerie" for the University of California at San Diego. Linton, a graduate of Denver East High School, is believed to be the first paralyzed student ever accepted into any of the nation's top masters acting conservatory programs.

Linton's wheelchair-bound Laura was, by necessity, crippled - and cripplingly shy. When asked to dance by a gentleman caller, Linton responded, without straying from Williams' text, "I'm afraid you can't budge me." But Laura and

the audience soon discovered that, oh yes, he could, when actor Gabriel Lawrence, as Jim, whisked her from her wheelchair and twirled her about, leaving Linton's legs - and audience's hearts - dangling midair...." Read the entire *Denver Post.com* article here.

ONSTAGE



NOW RUNNING - **Spring Awakening**, by Frank Wedekind, directed by **Anthony Luciano**.

Through February 11th in the Mandell Weiss Theatre.

The knowledgeable heartthrob Melchior tries his best to explain sex to his doleful friend Moritz, but he seems more concerned about failing out of school than girls. However, beautiful Wendla learns more about the birds and the bees from Melchior than she may have bargained for as the play tumults towards its shocking end. Just as electrifying and erotic today as it was at its opening in 1906, Wedekind's classic example of German expressionism explores the passion and confusion, the potency and destruction of adolescents coming of age in a time when pubescent urges were just not discussed.

Photos of Spring Awakening are available online.



COMING SOON - <u>June Moon</u>, by George S. Kaufman & Ring Lardner, directed by Guest Director <u>Jonathan Silverstein</u> (Quinn Martin Endowed Chair Production)

February 24th - March 3rd in the Mandell Weiss Forum Theatre.

Synopsis: On his way to make it big in New York, aspiring lyricist Fred Stevens meets Edna, a gal with a heart of gold. But the promise of success with a Tin Pan Alley down and out songwriter and his glamorous relative deters Fred from the woman who really loves him. A classic comedy.

Director **Jonathan Silverstein** most recently directed the acclaimed Off Broadway world premiere of *The Temperamentals* by Jon Marans, produced by Daryl Roth, Stacy Shane and Martian Entertainment (Drama Desk Award for Outstanding Ensemble). Jonathan has taught directing at C.W. Post College/LIU and acting at UC San Diego., where he served as coordinator of graduate Teaching Assistants and helped revitalize the Introduction to Acting syllabus. He has been a regular director

with the Department of Dramatic Writing at NYU and has mentored student directors at Playwrights Horizons Theatre School. He has directed educationally at Yale University, The Cleveland Play House, MCC, Columbia University, C.W. Post, and UC San Diego. Jonathan was featured as one of 2009's Out 100, *Out Magazine's* annual list of the most outstanding and inspiring men and women of the year. Jonathan is an alum of the UC San Diego MFA class of '01.



Wintertime, by Charles Mee, directed by Naysan Mojgani.

February 28th - March 3rd in the Arthur Wagner Theatre.

Synopsis: Jonathan and Ariel head to his family's cabin for a romantic weekend. Little does he know that his mother and her lover and his father and his lover are also en route! As if things could get more complicated, Bertha bursts on the scene crying that her lover has fallen through a hole in the ice. Discover the struggle, heartache, and joy of love all in the dead of winter.

Charles Mee was raised in Illinois and educated at Harvard University. Following his graduation in 1960, Mee moved to New York City where he wrote plays for Off-Off-Broadway and supported himself as an editor and writer for the hardcover arts magazine. Between 1972 and 1993 he wrote eleven books on world history and American international relations. In 1986 Mee wrote the libretto for choreographer and director

Martha Clarke's dance- theatre piece *Vienna: Lusthaus*, a meditation on turn-of-the-century Vienna. This patchwork combination of found texts and his own imagination became the template in which he would compose all of his future plays, a technique inspired by the collage painting of surrealist painter Max Ernst and contemporary artist Robert Rauschenberg.

Charles Mee's plays have been produced in New York at New York Theatre Workshop, The Joseph Papp Public Theater, Second Stage Theatre, Brooklyn Academy of Music, and Lincoln Center Theater. His work has premiered at the Mark Taper Forum, Berkeley Repertory Theatre, American Repertory Theatre, Steppenwolf Theatre Company, La Jolla Playhouse, the Humana Festival for New American Plays at Actors Theatre of Louisville, as well as in Berlin, Paris, Amsterdam, Brussels, Vienna, and Istanbul. Mee is the recipient of the lifetime achievement award in drama from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, two OBIE Awards for *Vienna: Lusthaus* (1986) and *Big Love* (2002), a Laura Pels Foundation Award for Drama, and a TCG grant. Read more about https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chm.

dance theatre thesis WORKS, featuring choreography by Kyle Sorensen and Janet Havatshahi.

February 29^{th} – March 3^{rd} in the Mandell Weiss Theatre.

Live in the Wake: Kyle Sorensen asks the audience to explore their own visceral connections to the ephemeral qualities of our world through the performer's movement explorations and associations. Memory is at once elusive and tangible, slippery and unreliable, potent and powerful. Evocative and visceral dance theatre, Live In The Wake delves into the past and questions the future through the memories stored, suppressed, and imagined within and through the body.

The Rest is Silence: Spectators actively examine and experience Shakespeare's tragic moments through a blend of classic text and contemporary physical narrative. Cries. Confessions. Longings. In this installation performance event, spectators experience the tragedy of Shakespeare's heroines. Through a blend of classic text and contemporary physical narrative, this site-specific piece actively engages viewers in the events and invites them to explore the unknown through their individual imaginative journey.

ADMINISTRIVIA

Spring Quarter schedule of classes available - 2/10 Spring Quarter registration begins - 2/15 Deadline to drop without a penalty of "F" - 3/9

ALUM NEWS



Corey Brill (MFA '04) is in a star-packed production on Broadway that started rehearsal last week. Gore Vidal's *The Best Man* stars James Earl Jones, Angela Lansbury, John Larroquette, Candice Bergman, Eric McCormack, Kerry Butler, and **Jefferson Mays** (MFA '91, who plays "Sheldon Marcus"). Corey landed the part of "Don Blades."

Chalk Rep presents <u>Slither</u> in the Historic Masonic Lodge at Hollywood Forever (6000 Santa Monica Blvd., Hollywood) with the preview on February 9th and Opening February 10th. Alum **Amy Ellenberger** (MFA '07) writes: "As always, there are a lot of UCSD alums contributing to this show! We have student discounts for \$15 if anyone from SD wants to make the trip up here. Feel free to spread the word and hope to see you soon!"

Kevin Connell (MFA '90) is the co-founder and artistic director of <u>Blueprint Theatre Project</u>, whose mission is to examine "adaptation in all its forms – genre, style and content – with source materials that range from the classical to the hyper-contemporary."

From the Wall – Ryan McCarthy is "playing Poshumus, Cloten and Belarius in a 6 person *Cymbeline* at Portland Center Stage through April 8th. Having a blast. If you find yourself in Portland, come check it out." Jennifer Barclay Newsham [MFA '09]: "Hi everyone, UCSD playwrights will be representing at La Jolla Playhouse this month. Come check out *The Car Plays*: a series of 10-minute plays which take place in real cars, for an audience of 2 at a time. Playwrights include UCSD alums Lila Rose Kaplan [MFA '08], Alex Lewin, David Meyers, and myself...." MFA Danny Burstein [MFA '90] recently participated in a panel discussion for the UCSD Entertainment Alliance in NYC, and now he's just been interviewed (for a FULL HOUR) by [National Public Radio's] Terry Gross! Congrats, Danny!"

Alums – On Facebook? Come visit the Department's Facebook Alumni page!

Have news to share? Send it to us at <u>TandDNews@ucsd.edu</u> and we'll send it out. Photos are always welcome. Be sure to let us know your name at graduation, if it's changed since them. News that arrives by Wednesday nights usually goes out the following week. Remember, the Newsletter email address has changed! Be sure it's going to @ucsd.edu and not Yahoo – Yahoo email is often blocked by the UCSD email system. Hoping to hear from you soon!