

Week Seven – Winter Quarter 2012

Monday, February 20th

MEETINGS OF THE WEEK

Monday, February 20th – Presidents Day Holiday, campus closed.

Wednesday, February 22nd, 4-5:30pm in GH 144 - Full Faculty Meeting

Friday, February 24th, 10-11:00am in GH 144 - Production Meeting: *WinterWorks*

NEWS FOR FACULTY AND STAFF

Upcoming Retirement Forums - The Faculty and Staff Assistance Program, Benefits, and the Retirement Resource Center are partnering to provide the frequently-requested [Retirement Forums](#) for employees who are planning a voluntary retirement from UCSD within one year. For those who are not planning to retire soon, increases in pension contribution amounts are coming. Continue [reading here](#).

New tool for faculty and staff - Can't squeeze learning into your workday? Download a podcast specifically produced for faculty and staff. Tune into fascinating lectures and classes while you walk, drive, or fly. Visit the [BlinkCast website](#) for more details.

DEPARTMENT NEWS

Emeritus and founding Professor **Arthur Wagner** got a write-up in the [Union Tribune](#) recently.



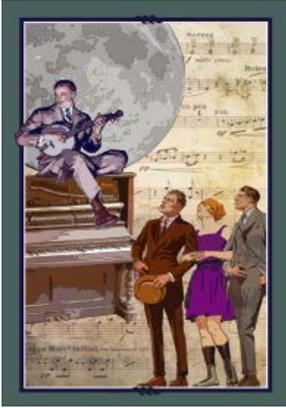
Brian in 'Joe Turner's Come and Gone'

Theatre and Dance major **Brian Bose** was recently awarded the James Avery Endowed Scholarship to help support his educational studies at UC San Diego. The fund was established by UC San Diego alumnus and acclaimed actor and poet, James Avery ('76). Avery earned his bachelor's degree in Drama and Literature from UC San Diego after serving in the U.S. Navy in Vietnam. He has had a thriving career in Hollywood, with roles in dozens of films and television shows, including his beloved portrayal as Uncle Phil on "The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air." Read [more here](#).

The Old Globe has announced the cast and creative team for the World Premiere of *A Room with a View*, a new musical based on the novel by E.M. Forster. *A Room with a View* will run March 2nd – April 8th on the Donald and Darlene Shiley Stage in the Old Globe Theatre, with Professor [Judy Dolan](#) designing the costumes, alum **Anjee Nero** (MFA '07) stage managing, and **Evangeline Whitlock** (MFA '11) as assistant stage manager. Read [more here](#).

Lear on the Second Floor, an opera composed by Anthony Davis with the libretto by playwriting professor [Allan Havis](#) will be staged as part of the Princeton One-Act Opera Project, an evening of three original one-act operas in the Roger S. Berlind Theatre at McCarter Theatre Center in Princeton. *Second Floor* is a contemporary take on Shakespeare's *King Lear*. Soprano Susan Narucki portrays Nora Lear, a prominent neuroscience researcher beset with early onset Alzheimer's. As Nora loses her bearings and her autonomy, she is increasingly at the mercy of her three quarreling daughters. Nora's dead husband Mortimer is Shakespeare's fool in this version and is her constant companion as she walks through a world where the past and present blend and reality bends. Read [more here](#).

ONSTAGE



OPENING THIS WEEK - [June Moon](#), by George S. Kaufman & Ring Lardner, directed by Guest Director [Jonathan Silverstein](#) (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. Rehearsal photos [available here](#).



[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.

[dance theatre thesisWORKS](#), featuring choreography by **Kyle Sorensen** and **Janet Hayatshahi**.

February 29th – March 3rd 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.

Check out our [entire season here!](#) Click for [Ticket Information](#).

ADMINISTRIVIA

Presidents' Day Holiday – Monday, Feb. 20th
Deadline to drop and retain financial aid – Feb. 23rd
Deadline to drop without a penalty of “F” – March 9th
Finals Week - March 19th – 24th

ALUM NEWS

Undergrad alum '08 [Whitney Anne Adams](#) is doing costume design at [the New School](#)'s New Voices: Playwrights' Festival. She's also doing costumes for the TV pilot of *Robot Apocalypse*.

Playwriting alum [Mat Smart](#) (MFA '04) is on [Elephant Island](#) in the Antarctic. (He is a janitor there for a few months, the only way he could get there.)

MFA '07 alum [Josh Tobiessen](#)'s play [Crashing the Party](#) opened at Mixed Blood theatre with [Sarah Rasmussen](#) (MFA '08) directing recently.

[Benny Sato Ambush](#) (MFA '77) is a professional SDC stage director, former producer/Artistic Director of professional theaters, educator, consultant and published commentator. He is now on the faculty at Emerson University.

From the wall - [Caleb Levensgood](#) [MFA '07]: “I recently designed the scenic elements for a new ballet, created and choreographed by Twyla Tharp, in Atlanta called "[The Princess and the Goblin](#)". It was a quite the project and looked pretty attractive, if simple.” [Teri Reeves](#): “Hey everyone! I'm from the class of erm...'06 I think? Wanted to share with you all the new show I had the pleasure of working on called 'Battleground'. It is Hulu's first ever originally scripted series and they sent the cast over to Madison, WI to shoot a full season for 3 months this fall. The pilot episode launched today so if you want to check it out it is at www.hulu.com/battleground. It's a faux documentary-style dramedy set in the world of political campaigns. I play KJ, head of media strategy, driven and successful at work, but not so much at love. I used my grad training every day on set! So thankful for the UCSD MFA community!”

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

Have news to share? Send it to us at TandDNews@ucsd.edu 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 then. 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!