

Week Four – Spring Quarter 2012

Monday, April 23rd

MEETINGS OF THE WEEK

Production meeting - Monday at 8:00am for *New Directions* in GH 144

DEPARTMENT NEWS

Head of Directing **Gábor Tompa** is directing Eugéne Ionesco's *Rhinoceros* at the National Theatre of Prague. Rehearsals have just begun. The play was translated into Czech by Ivan Zmatlik, the set was designed by Helmut Stürmer, and the costumes by Carmencita Brojboiu. Music for the play was composed by Vasile Şirli, while the play's dramaturg is Martin Urban. The performance will be presented on May 30th at the theatre's Nova Scena building, which accommodates 600 people. [Leonce and Lena](#), which Gábor also directed, has been selected as one of the top ten performances of the *Festival Iberoamericano* in Bogota out of almost 800 productions.

Professor **Jim Carmody** has posted photographs from the *Baldwin New Play Festival* online. *Hookman* and *Gas House Baby* dress rehearsal images [are here](#). More photos will be up soon.



There will be a staged reading of *Gossamer* by **Cerstin Johnson**, winner of the Sixth annual Dr. Floyd Gaffney Playwriting Competition on the African-American Experience as part of the [2012 Baldwin New Play Festival](#). Set against the backdrop of a southern town, *Gossamer* illuminates one family's struggle with love, betrayal and shame triggered by a father's infidelity. Cerstin infuses her powerful tale with the music of traditional African-American blues and with the promise of how we nurture filial injury back to life's remarkable renewal. Read more about [the author here](#).

Saturday, April 28th, at 10:30am. This is a FREE event, but seating is limited. [Ticked are required](#).

FACULTY AND STAFF NEWS



News From the Librarian – “I have arranged for UCSD affiliates to have a six-week free trial period to a new database from ProQuest entitled **Entertainment Industry Magazine Archive**, which has just been launched. It consists of the complete digitized, keyword-searchable archive of *Variety* from 1905-1990 along with archives of *The Stage* (1880-1959, 1995-2000), *Back Stage* (1960-2000), *Box Office* (1920-2000), and several other trade magazines for the film, broadcasting, and theater industries in the U.S. and U.K. Here is a [press release](#). If you are on campus or have configured your home workstation to connect to the Internet via the UCSD Proxy Server, you can access the archive using this [web address](#). The trial access is available through June 1st. I would appreciate receiving feedback from you if you think we should try to purchase this archive, stating how you would use it for research or teaching. We have limited funds to acquire an increasing number of useful databases and full-text collections, so positive (or negative) feedback is crucial. Enjoy!” Send your comments to Rob Melton, Librarian for Theatre & Dance, Geisel Library 0175R, at rmelton@ucsd.edu or 858-534-7573.

ONSTAGE NOW



Gas House Baby by [David Myers](#), Directed by **Anthony Luciano**. [Gas House Baby](#) - Cotton just got divorced, lost his job, and is living in a Motel 8. Coming back home to Shreveport, Louisiana, his life is about to change in ways he could never have predicted. In a play about fracking, fatherhood, and family secrets, one man figures out what it means to be a good father and a good son, and what happens when it's impossible to be both. [More...](#)

Santa Barbarians by [Sharif Abu-Hamdeh](#), Directed by **Joshua Kahan Brody**. [Santa Barbarians](#) - 2005: the economy in a downward spiral, Bush in a second term, the war in Iraq. Four friends graduating from college try to figure out what to do with the rest of their lives. As they play poker, wait tables, hook up, and get high, the pressures of the world grows until one fateful night when all hell breaks loose. Nothing will be the same afterwards. [More ...](#)

Hookman by [Lauren Yee](#), Directed by **Larissa Lury** [Hookman](#) - Freshman year at college is hard: your roommate is weird, you're feeling homesick, and a serial killer is slashing girls' throats. If Lexi discovers what really happened to her old high school friend on that car ride to the movies, everything will be okay. In this existential slasher comedy, Lexi and her friends learn what it means to grow up – and it's not pretty. [More ...](#)

Cry Old Kingdom by [Jeff Augustin](#), Directed by **Kate Jopson** [Cry Old Kingdom](#) - Haiti, 1964. Francois "Papa Doc" Duvalier terrorizes the island, death squads roam the countryside, and rebels plot the overthrow of the regime. In a remote village, a young man builds a boat to escape to America. A painter in hiding paints the young man's portrait, while the painter's wife joins a group of revolutionaries. As they each pursue singular dreams, their worlds intersect in dangerous ways, and the painter must make a choice that will change their lives forever. Winner of the 2012 Lorraine Hansberry Award. [More...](#)

Gossamer - Staged Reading by **Cerstin Johnson**, winner of the Sixth annual [Dr. Floyd Gaffney Playwriting Competition on the African-American Experience](#). Saturday, April 28th, at 10:30am. This is a FREE event, but space is limited. Order [tickets here](#).

The 2012 Baldwin New Play Festival runs through Saturday the 28th. The BNPF is made possible by Ken and Ginger Baldwin, whose generous support helped to establish the festival in 1999 and sustain it for more than a decade. Today, the festival is one of Southern California's premiere showcases of emerging theatre talent. Yet, additional private support from our friends is critical to ensure that the Baldwin New Play Festival continues as a tradition for our campus and our community. [Click to learn](#) how you can make a difference.

Coming Soon!

June 1st – 9th [The Underground New Play Festival](#) - written, directed, designed, managed and performed by our undergraduate students. Celebrate the artistic achievements of our undergraduate playwrights, directors, designers, and actors in a festival dedicated to world-premiere plays and work created entirely by undergrads. Every year, the Underground New Play Festival selects and mounts a full production for six to eight new short plays. New and experienced directors, designers, and actors join together to create works of art bigger than any one person could hope for; works of art that could not exist as they do in any other place, with any other artists.

June 6th – 9th [New Directions- MFA I Student Choreographers' Showcase](#) with works from our top undergraduate choreographers, directed by **Eric Geiger**, in the Sheila and Hughes Potiker Theatre. Left of center, right of left, and centered squared in between. Celebrate exciting world premiere dance and dance theatre from UC San Diego undergraduate choreographers and MFA dance theatre candidates.

ALUM NEWS

UCSD Graduate Actor Showcase - Preview Night and Alumni Reception

Wednesday, April 25th - Reception at 6:00pm; Showcase Preview at 7:00pm
Falcon Theatre, 4252 Riverside Drive in Burbank
RSVP to [Jennie Van Meter](#) '90.

The class will also present their showcase the following day, Thursday, April 26, with NYU graduates at 2:00pm and 7:00pm. These two performances are open to industry professionals. If you are interested in attending the full showcase, please contact [Mark Maltby](#). Here are directions to the [Falcon](#).

The New York showcases at NYU will be on May 7th and 8th. Contact [Mark Maltby](#) for details.



[Six UC San Diego alums](#) have joined forces to create a new theatre company, the Hungry River Theatre Company, in Ridgecrest, CA. They are staging *Hamlet* at 215 West Ridgecrest Boulevard through May 6th (Fridays and Saturdays at 7:00pm with 2:00pm matinees on Saturdays and Sundays). Tickets range from \$10 to \$15. Audiences are invited to participate with the cast and crew in talkbacks following every performance. To learn more, visit the [Company's website](#) or call (760) 495-2959. There's a nice write-up on the company in the [Daily Independent](#).

Alums **Justin O'Neill** and **Alexandra Freeman** rehearsing *Hamlet*.
Photo: *Daily Independent*.

MFA '96 alum **Matt Hoverman**'s play *Who You See Here* is headed to Broadway in early 2013 with Nelle Nugent producing and LJP's **Christopher Ashley** directing. The play has been under development at Foxboro Theatre and last fall had a directed reading with Debra Messing, Alicia Silverstone, Tom Everett Scott and Alan Tudyk. The play will be work-shopped at La Jolla Playhouse, directed by Ashley, in October. The first Broadway rehearsal is set for Monday, February 4, 2013. The show Previews March 8th and Opens Wednesday, March 27th. We found a nice [interview](#) with Matt from a while back online. Matt is also a writer for the 5-time Emmy Award-winning kids animated PBS TV show *Arthur* and is developing several screenplays for *Garage Films*.

More...

Bill Fennelly (MFA '04) will direct [Fly by Night](#) in the Kalita Humphreys Theatre as part of the Dallas Theatre Center's 2012/13 Season. The show will run April 26th – May 26th 2013.

Kyle Rudgers (MFA '01) is the Director of Operations for the [Atlas Performing Arts Center](#) in Washington, DC.

Erin Ryan Burdette (MFA '96) is a freelance writer who has written for *The Dallas Morning News* as well as various magazines and literary journals. She is the recipient of the *Wall Street Journal* Non-Fiction Prize for Literary Excellence from the Mayborn Writers Conference of the Southwest. Erin returned to Positano, Italy, in March for the [Sireland Writer's Conference](#), where she workshopped *Casting Charlotte* (her novel-in-progress). Erin teaches playwriting at The Writer's Garret in Dallas and substitute teaches in the English department at St. Mark's School of Texas. In the summer, she serves as playwright mentor to Dallas area high school students chosen to have their short plays read in [Kitchen Dog Theater's](#) annual "Pup Fest."

From the Wall – Mark Maltby writes "Jim Winker is retiring. We are having an event on May 19th, Saturday in the Potiker theatre. Probably at 7pm Please save the date. We are working on an evite and a FB invite will be coming. In the meantime let me know if you can come, and/or if any of you have any photos of/with Jim you'd like to share please email to me at mmaltby@ucsd.edu."

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

Have news to share? The Newsletter's email address is TandDNews@ucsd.edu. We're always thrilled to hear what you've been doing and to share it with our readers. Photos welcome!