

Department of Theatre and Dance • University of California, San Diego  
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## Newsletter Week 4

April 19, 2015

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### Meetings of the Week

#### Production Meeting: New Directions

Monday, April 20th @ 8:30am  
GH 247

#### Production Committee Meeting: Season Planning

Monday, April 20th @ 4pm  
GH 144

#### Chair's Advisory Committee Meeting

Wed, Apr. 22nd @ 4 pm  
GH 144

### Department News

#### 2015 MFA Actors Showcase in L.A.



(Top row, left to right: Toby Onwumere, Walker Hare, Kim Blanck, & Hannah Tamminen; Bottom row, left to right: William Hodgson, Tesiana Elie, Hannah Corrigan, & Brian Smolin)

The 2015 MFA Actors Showcase is in Los Angeles this Tuesday, April 21st @ 2:00pm & 7:00pm at the Falcon Theatre in Burbank.

**Closing this Week**



The 2015 Wagner New Play Festival at UC San Diego features world premiere productions by our talented MFA playwrights, and directed, acted, stage-managed and designed by our nationally-acclaimed MFA companies. This year's plays travel as far as Kenya and the Arctic Wilderness, while featuring everything from pro wrestling to radical plastic surgery, from timeless ghost stories to a salient critique of corporate America. With their sharp eyes and unique visions, these writers tackle subjects as familiar and universal as the relationship between mothers and daughters and what happens when you outgrow the people who know you best.

**BOREALIS**



*(Michael Turner and Katherine Ko, above)*

Thursday, April 23rd @ 7:30pm

Friday, April 24th @ 7:30pm

Saturday, April 25th @ 2:00pm

[For tickets, click here!](#)

### **3 WOMEN IN 4 CHAIRS**



*(Caroline Siewert, Lorena Martinez, and Erin Tracy, above, left to right)*

Tuesday, April 21st @ 7:30pm  
Friday, April 24th @ 7:30pm  
Saturday, April 25th @ 2:00pm

[For tickets, click here!](#)

## WIDOWER



*(Mary Glen Fredrick and MacGregor Arney, above)*

Wednesday, April 22nd @7:30pm  
Saturday, April 25th @7:30pm

[For tickets, click here!](#)

## SECOND SKIN



*(Zora Howard, N'Jameh Camara, and Zakiya Markland, above, left to right)*

Wednesday, April 22nd @ 7:30pm

Thursday, April 23rd @ 7:30pm

Saturday, April 25th @7:30pm

[For tickets, click here!](#)

## DEATH OF A DRIVER



*(Emily Shain and Keith Wallace, above)*

Friday, April 24th @ 7:30pm  
Saturday, April 25th @ 2:00pm

[For tickets, click here!](#)

### **Staged Reading of *blue heart beats***

Winner of the 9th Annual Dr. Floyd Gaffney Playwriting Competition on the African-American Experience, **Catherine Frost** will receive a staged reading on Saturday, April 25th @ 10:30am.

Set in post-hurricane Katrina New Orleans, teenage Ishelle who is new at school vanishes which creates cascading problems for her sister Jaelah and their family. Catherine Frost's memorable script examines with heightened language and poetry the responsibility a family and a community must share, and to the indelible pain of missing and abused Black women.

This event is FREE.

### **Alumni News**

#### ***Breaking the Waves* opens in Cluj-Napoca, Romania**



**2010 MFA Directing Alum, Tom Dugdale** opens his stage adaptation of Lars Von Trier's film, *Breaking the Waves*, on Friday, April 25th in Cluj-Napoca Romania at the Hungarian Theatre of Cluj.

[For more information, click here.](#)

#### **TerraNova Collective presents UNDERLAND in New York**

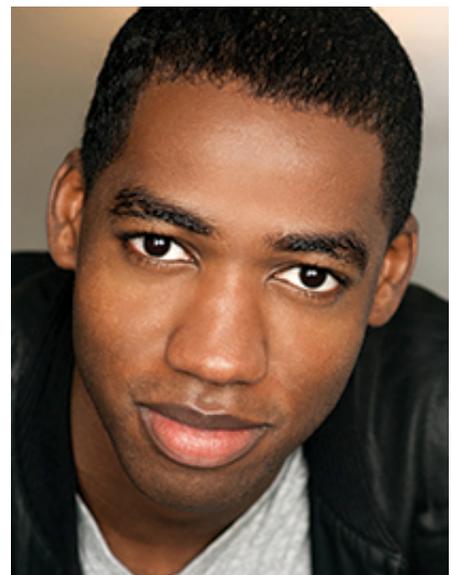
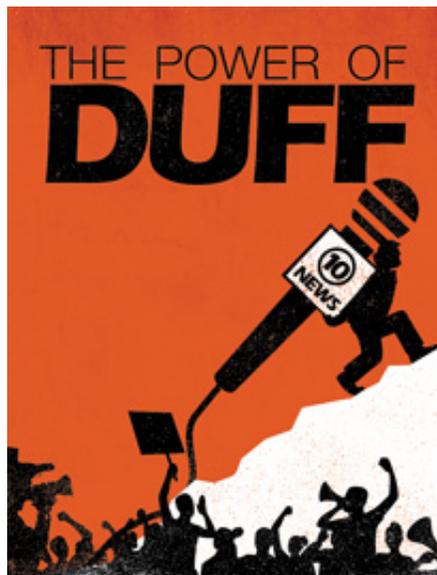
**2009 MFA Acting Alum, Daniel K. Isaac** appears in Alexandra Collier's new play UNDERLAND at 59 E. 59th St. Theatre in New York City.



Violet and Ruth are bored as hell in their small town Australian high school, where there's nothing but red earth, hurricane fences and the far off whirring of the quarry. But when a new teacher arrives, the borders of the town are no longer the limit of where a girl can go. If only they can escape to Melbourne or Paris or Tokyo before the sinister creature lurking at the edges of the town snatches them up and feeds them to the insatiable earth.

[For more information, click here.](#)

### **The Power of Duff at the Geffen Playhouse**



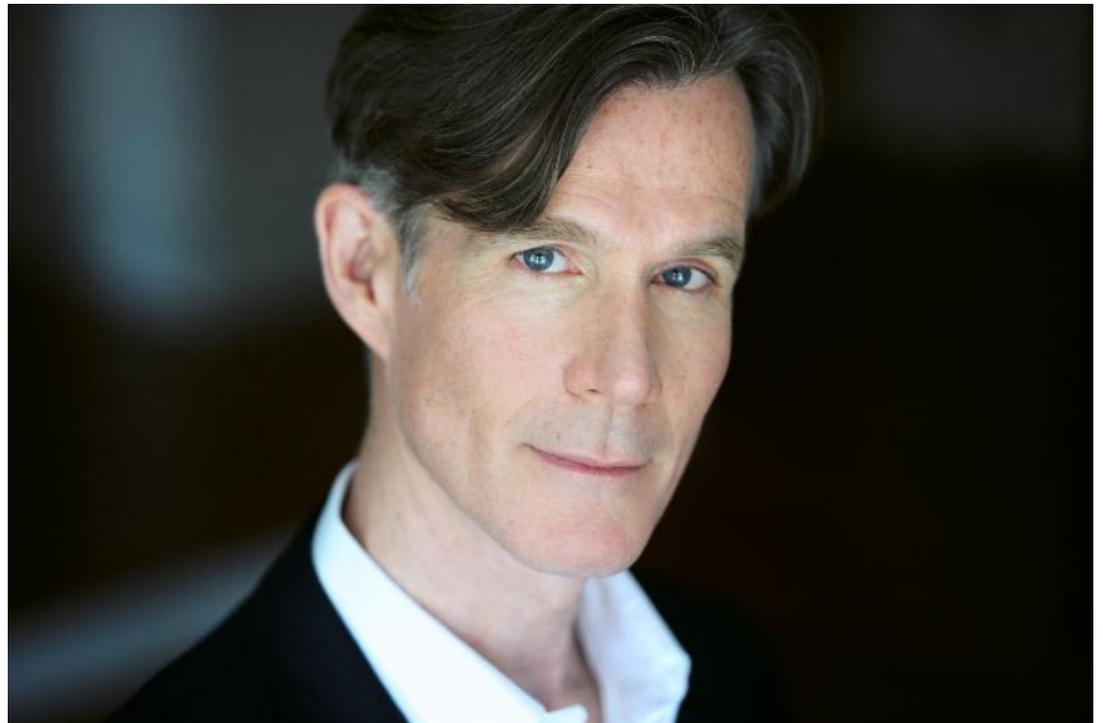
Check out **2013 MFA Acting Alum Maurice Williams** in *The Power of Duff* at The Geffen Playhouse in Los Angeles, California.

When TV anchor Charlie Duff begins to sign-off each broadcast with a prayer, a growing crowd of believers becomes glued to their TV sets - wondering when their prayers will be answered. But what the prayers do - and don't do - to those closest to Duff tests the news anchor's own beliefs. Stephen Belber's sharp new play asks if there is anything more vital than the faith we have in one another.

[For more information, click here.](#)

### **THE VISIT on Broadway**

See **1990 MFA Acting Alum Tom Nelis** on Broadway with Chita Rivera in Kander & Ebb's *The Visit*.



*A streamlined, one-act incarnation of the Kander and Ebb musical *The Visit*, starring two-time Tony Award winner Chita Rivera, will begin previews March 26 at the Lyceum Theatre, producers announced Jan. 8.*

*Tony Award winner John Doyle (*Sweeney Todd, Company*) was enlisted to bring a fresh approach to the musical, which debuted in a 95-minute version last summer at the Williamstown Theatre Festival. Doyle will return for the Broadway production alongside Tony Award nominee Graciela Daniele as choreographer.*

[For more information, click here.](#)

## **2015 IRNE Awards Announced!**



Larry Stark.

**'00 Acting Alum Michael Bakkenson** won an IRNE award last night, Best Actor, for the role of Horace Wells in *Ether Dome* in Boston.

The Independent Reviewers of New England (IRNE) Awards were founded by Beverly Creasey of the *Journal Newspapers* and Larry Stark of the *TheaterMirror* in 1997. The IRNE Awards recognize the extraordinary wealth of talent in the Boston theatre community.

The IRNE reviewers include:

Sheila Barth, Jules Becker, Al Chase, Michael Cox, Jack Craib, Beverly Creasey, Cathy Scrizzi Driscoll\*, Shirley Esthimer\*, Rich Fahey, Guy Giampapa, Nancy Grossman, Mike Hoban, Robert Israel, Beatrice Lee, and

Have news to share? Send it to us at [TandDNews@ucsd.edu](mailto:TandDNews@ucsd.edu) and we'll pass it along for you. Photos are encouraged. Please be sure to let us know what year you graduated, if you're an alum. If you've changed your name, be sure to tell us what it was when you attended UC. Miss a back edition? Visit the [Newsletter Archives](#).

Sincerely,

[UCSD Department of Theatre and Dance](#)