



Newsletter Week Four

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October 27, 2014

Meetings of the Week

Monday, 4:00pm: Faculty Meeting (MFA Director Presentations), Room 144

Wednesday, 4:00pm: Faculty Meeting (File Review), Room 144

Thursday, 10:00am: Production Meeting: Midsummer Night's Dream, Room 144

Department News

Lecture and Film Screening

This week the Theatre and Dance Department is thrilled to host a lecture and film screening, titled **THE BIONIC BODY: TECHNOLOGY, DISABILITY AND HUMANISM**, featuring Dr. Magda Romanska, Associate Professor of Theatre and Dramaturgy at Emerson College.



When: Wednesday, October 29, 2014, 3:00-4:00 p.m.

Where: Galbraith Hall, room 254

What: Lecture, preceded by a screening of Fixed at 1:00 in the same room

Lecture Description: Historically, performing the role of the disabled has been one of the surest roads to the Oscars. As evidenced by Dustin Hoffman's *Rain Man*, Tom Hanks' *Forrest Gump*, Al Pacino's *Scent of a Woman*, and Daniel Day Lewis' *My Left Foot*, portraying disabled characters has been considered one of the most challenging tasks for an actor. Yet, despite - or perhaps because of - the challenge, until very recently, the mainstream iconography of the disabled still operated mostly via stereotypes: the disabled were a plot problem that has to be either cured (in optimistic, inspirational narratives), or disposed of (in heroic, redemptive stories).

Drawing on interdisciplinary research from cognitive science, art, film, and disability studies, this project looks at how the concept of the bionic body affects representation of the disabled in contemporary culture (theatre, film, new media) and, in turn, how representation of the disabled body affects the changing boundaries of what is and what isn't considered 'human.'

In her lecture, Professor Magda Romanska provides a penetrating and in-depth look at various modern representations of the disabled, answering some of the most pressing questions on the topic. How does the concept of the bionic body affect representation of the disabled in contemporary culture (theatre, film, new media), and, in turn, how does the representation of the disabled body affect the changing boundaries of what is and what isn't considered 'human'?



Dr. Magda Romanska

Equal Opportunity and Diversity Award Nominations

Diversity of thought, perspective and background are essential components of a person's experience, and necessary for personal and academic growth, especially at a university. That is why we continuously work to enhance our diversity on campus, and why it's important that we recognize - through our annual Equal Opportunity / Affirmative Action and Diversity Awards Program - the UC San Diego community members who lead our diversity efforts.

We encourage you to submit a nomination for this year's awards program. This is an opportunity to recognize the staff, faculty, students, departments and organizational units or groups who have made outstanding contributions during the past year in the areas of equal opportunity, affirmative action, diversity, and the UC San Diego Principles of Community.

For information on criteria and how to access a nomination form, faculty, staff and graduate students click [here](#). To nominate an undergraduate student, click [here](#). If you have questions or would like to obtain a paper nomination form, contact Paul Tagliaferri in the Equal Opportunity /Staff Affirmative Action Office at (858) 534-3694 or email ptagliaferri@ucsd.edu.

All nominations must be submitted by Friday, November 21, 2014. A review committee of representatives from across the campus in all vice chancellor areas will evaluate eligible nominations. Awardees will be recognized during a ceremony on Tuesday, February 24, 2015 at 1:30 p.m. at the Price Center Ballrooms West.

News for Faculty and Staff

Annual Service Awards

The 47th Annual Service Awards Ceremony will be held on Wednesday, October 29, 2014 at 2:30pm., in the Price Center West Ballroom. This year, we celebrate 515 staff members who have reached milestones of 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35 and 40 years of service during the period from September 1, 2013 to August 31, 2014.

This is a wonderful opportunity to honor the contributions of these staff members, and supervisors should encourage awardees to attend the ceremony. For additional information about the honorees, please click [here](#).

The University has been immeasurably enriched over the years by the commitment of these dedicated staff members.

News for Students

Undergraduate Study Abroad / BADA Program

A representative from the British American Drama Academy (BADA) will be holding an informational meeting next Wednesday, October 29th at 5:00 pm in the Arthur Wagner Theatre (GH 157).

The Theatre and Dance Department encourages students to

study abroad and will accept courses taken at BADA to count towards your Theatre major/minor. Studying abroad is a once in a lifetime opportunity, don't miss out! Most of our Theatre students who study abroad go to BADA. Hope to see you at the informational!!

THE BRITISH AMERICAN DRAMA ACADEMY (BADA), based in London during the school year and at Oxford University during the summer, was founded to enable undergraduate and graduate students from around the world to study classical theater with leading actors and directors of the British stage. Working closely with members of the Royal Shakespeare Company, Theatre de Complicite and the National Theatre, students can choose from four different Study Abroad programs focusing variously on acting, directing, set and costume design or playwriting and, in the case of the London Theatre Program, perform in fully mounted productions in professional venues in London under the direction of professional directors.

Central to the student's education at BADA are regular excursions to performances by the Royal Shakespeare Company and the Royal National Theatre in London. Classes are held in London during the autumn, winter and spring, and at Magdalen College, Oxford, in July/August, depending on the program. In the case of the London programs, students are awarded the same, full credit as would be earned at UCSD and financial aid the student is currently receiving is applied to the cost of the program. The cost to a UCSD student of a term or two terms in one of the London programs is often the same as or close to the cost of a term at UCSD. Scholarships are available through BADA. Recent teachers include Alan Rickman, Sir Ben Kingsley, Kevin Spacey, Sir Derek Jacobi, Fiona Shaw, Jeremy Irons, James Bundy (Dean of the Yale School of Drama), Deborah Warner, Mark Wing-Davey (Chair of the NYU/Tisch Graduate Acting Program), John Barton (founder of the Royal Shakespeare Company), Michael Grandage (former Artistic Director of the Donmar Warehouse and director of Jude Law's West End/Broadway *HAMLET*) and others.

Calling All Filmmakers

Want some exposure for your work? Interested in inspiring student filmmakers? Submit a film to Up&Coming Wired by November 19.

A collaboration of UC San Diego ArtPower!, in partnership with UCSD TV and ACMS Media Teaching Labs, Up&Coming Wired is a quarterly online "theater" curated by UCSD students for the UCSD community and beyond. Submissions are due November 19. Click [here](#) for more information.

Alumni News

Playwriting alumni **Jeff Augustin** (MFA '15) was recently chosen to receive a commission from [Manhattan Theatre Club](#) through the [The Alfred P. Sloan Foundation Initiative](#). The Sloan Foundation has provided a grant to Manhattan Theatre Club to support the development of plays that address themes of math, science, and technology and that depict scientists, mathematicians, and engineers as major characters. The aim is to bridge the divide between the "two cultures," science and the arts. MTC first collaborated with the Sloan Foundation in 2000 with the production of David Auburn's Tony Award and Pulitzer Prize-winning drama *Proof*. [MTC's partnership with the Sloan Foundation](#) has expanded to include multiple annual commissions for emerging, mid-level, and established writers as well as a production grant to stage Sloan-related works. In addition to *Proof*, Sloan supported MTC's production of Charlotte Jones' *Humble Boy* in 2003 as well as the recent productions of Sloan commissioned writer Rebecca Lenkiewicz's adaptation of *An Enemy of the People*, Sharr White's *The Other Place*, and Nell Benjamin's *The Explorers Club*.



Alumni **Noah Levin** (BA '02) is currently in Barcelona, Spain. He is the Artistic Director of the [Barcelona Improv Group](#), Spain's largest English language improv theatre and school. In two weeks, Noah will host his second annual [Barcelona Improv Group International Festival](#) (The BIG IF) featuring 20 improv teams and 100 players from 16 countries over 4 nights with workshops from 10 master teachers from 3 continents.

Playwriting alumni **Melanie Marnich** (MFA '98) currently lives in L.A., where she's written for the HBO drama, *Big Love*, Showtime's *The Big C* and AMC's *Low Winter Sun*. Most recently she served as Co-Executive Producer on [The Affair](#) for Showtime.



Costume design alumni **Whitney Adams** (BA '08) recently worked with Baz Luhrmann (*Moulin Rouge*, *The Great Gatsby*), Catherine Martin and Gisele Bundchen on a short film for Chanel

No 5. Check out her work [here](#).

Acting alumni **Joel Gelman** (MFA '09) performed this week in *A CRAIGSLIST HALLOWEEN*, an original Craigslist story from Lauren Cook (*Radio Picture Show*) with music by Doran Danoff at the [MiMoDa Studio](#).

Have news to share? Send it to us at 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](#)