DEPARTMENT NEWS

SPRING QUARTER: WEEK 10





FAREWELL CELEBRATION FOR KYLE DONNELLY AND CHARLIE OATES

Yesterday the department celebrated the work and continued success of two longtime faculty and leading lights of the school, **Acting Faculty Professors Kyle Donnelly and Charlie Oates**, both of whom will be leaving at the end of the quarter. Marybeth Ward and Mark Maltby organized a fabulous party and many faculty, students, and alumni from throughout the country joined to toast Kyle and Charlie. **Acting Faculty Professors Eva Barnes and Ursula Meyer** presented a series of quotes and laudations from many past students of the program as well as two beautiful books of photos of their time and productions here.







2017 DR. FLOYD GAFFNEY PLAYWRITING AWARD STAGED READING

The Shank Theatre hosted a staged reading of the 2017 Gaffney Playwriting Competition winner, a.k. payne's *ain't no dead thing* this Saturday in the Shank Theatre at 2:00pm. There was a brief postshow discussion with the playwright afterwards. Shown above, **BA students Jeffery Sims, Danielle Hall, BA alumna Monique Gaffney, playwright a.k. payne, former Thurgood Marshall College resident artist Antonio T. Johnson, BA alumna Tylar Pengraft,** and **MFA student Sidney Hill**. Not shown: cast members and **MFA Acting students Janet Fiki, Yonatan Gebeyehu,** and **Kyle Hester**. The reading was directed by **MFA Directing student Dylan Key** and stage managed by **BA student Plato Seto**.

Under the leadership of **Playwriting Faculty Professor Allan Havis**, The Dr. Floyd Gaffney National Playwriting Competition on the African American Experience is open to enrolled full time undergraduate students throughout the country. The Gaffney Prize, now in its eleventh year, awards \$1000 to the winning author along with travel and lodging to participate in the play's staged reading at UC San Diego. Jurors for this year's award are La Jolla Playhouse Dramaturg Shirley Fishman, incoming MFA playwright Dave Harris, and Allan Havis, professor of theatre at UC San Diego.

LAURA DORWART NAMED FLETCHER JONES FELLOW

Congratulations to **PhD student Laura Dorwart**! She has been named the Fletcher Jones Fellow for 2017-18. The Fletcher Jones Fellowship Program, which is supported by gifts received from the Fletcher Jones Foundation of Los Angeles, offers one of the University's most prestigious and generously funded fellowships. To obtain such a Fellowship, the doctoral student must demonstrate financial need. The fellowship includes a stipend of \$25,000.





AURORA LAG'S FIRST YEAR SHOW PERFORMS SUNDAY

MFA Dance student Aurora Lag will be showing her first year show, *hOlie Luna*, at 3:00pm & 7:00pm on Sunday, June 11th in Studio 3 of the Molli and Arthur Wagner Dance Building. The performance is free and open to the public. *hOlie Luna* will then be staged on June 16th and 17th at Highways Performance Space in Santa Monica at 8:30pm!

To buy tickets for the Los Angeles performance, click her

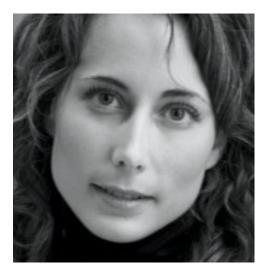
(http://highwaysperformance.org/event/auroralagattuta-holie-luna/2017-06-16/)e (http://highwaysperformance.org/event/auroralagattuta-holie-luna/2017-06-16/).

JULIE BURELLE AWARDED HELLMAN FELLOWSHIP

History and Theory PhD Faculty professor Julie Burelle was

awarded the Hellman Fellowship for 2018 to pursue her research on Indigenous theatre and dance in Québec, Canada. The fellowship will allow her to travel to multiple sites in Québec, access archives, interview artists, and attend performances. This research will then become a book that will investigate the resurgence of Indigenous artists alongside new waves of political activism in the province of Québec and in the country of Canada at large.

The Hellman Fellowship Program was established at UC San Diego in 1995 through the generosity of Chris Hellman and the late Warren Hellman. 2017-18 marks the 23rd year of this valuable program that is designed to provide financial support and encouragement to young faculty in the core disciplines who show capacity for great distinction in their research and creative activities. Funds awarded are intended as one- time support for activities that will enhance the individual's progress towards tenure. The maximum award amount is \$50,000.





INDIGENOUS DANCE AND THE ACADEMY WORKSHOP PERFORMS

On June 1st and 2nd, a group of Indigenous scholars and dancers as well as non-Indigenous scholars gathered for a two day workshop hosted by **History & Theory PhD Professor Julie Burelle**, Professor Jacqueline Shea-Murphy (Dance Department, UC Riverside), and Professor Lisa Wymore (Department of Theatre, Dance and Performance Studies, UC Berkeley). This workshop entitled "Indigenous Dance and the Academy" is part of a UCHRI-funded inter-campus working group which aims to foster relationships between Indigenous dance makers and various UC campus. In that vein, the workshop welcomed the Fancy Moccs, a Native American intertribal dance group based in Pechanga and headed by Annalisa Berrios and Kale Flores. They performed in front of Galbraith Hall and spoke about what dance can do for cultural revitalization and resurgence. Read more on the Fancy Moccs by clicking here (http://www.facebook.com/fancymoccs).



RACHEL AXLER TO HOLD Q&A ON CAMPUS

MFA Playwriting alumna Rachel Axler will be holding a conversation on campus on Friday, June 9th at 1:00pm. Rachel is an Emmy award-winning writer for her work on Veep and The Daily Show and is in town as a 2017 UC San Diego Alumni Award Honoree. The conversation will be held in the Wagner Theatre.

To RSVP, please click here (https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf73VFUViHyWdUK4YbwRR3⁻ c=0&w=1).



GRUESOME PLAYGROUND INJURIES OPENS WEDNESDAY

The Spring Undergraduate Mainstage production, *Gruesome Playground Injuries* by Rajiv Joseph, opens next week with performances in the Wagner Theatre from June 7 - 10. The production, directed by Carla Harting, features several actors playing two people whose relationship twists and turns through the seasons of life.

Directed by Carla Harting, Scenic Design by Bobbie Helland Costume Design by Brooke Rector Lighting Design by I Teng Sou Sound Design by Justin Livengood Assistant Direction by Ashlyn Barnett Dramaturgy by Kristen Tregar Production Stage Management by Mona Gutierrez Assistant Stage Management by Blake Ramirez Production Assistance from Hannah Hillman and Vera Long

with James Berardo, Alex Galan, Mrigank Khemka, Josiah Glesener, Kyros Shen, Jake Sutton, Andrew Walters, Molly Adea, Paloma Dominguez, Serina Estrada, Chloris Li, Mary Catherine Lopez, Fedra Ramirez, Hannah Reinert, Andrea von den Boogaard, Tharindu W. Fernando, Christina Chen

Get your tickets now by clicking here (http://theatre.ucsd.edu/season/Gruesome/index.htm).



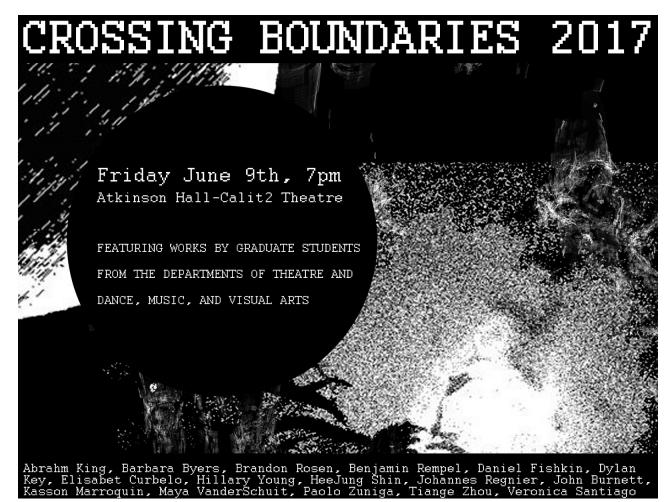
NEW DIRECTIONS OPENS WEDNESDAY

The Spring Undergraduate Dance show, *New Direction*s, opens next week with performances in the Potiker Theatre from June 8 - 10. The evening of work, directed by Eric Geiger, offers a diverse evening of performance that highlights the collaborative and interdisciplinary work of our undergraduate dance makers.

Get your tickets now by clicking here (http://theatre.ucsd.edu/season/NewDirections/index.htm).

SAVE THE DATE: UNDERGRADUATE GRADUATION FRIDAY JUNE 9TH

The Undergraduate Graduation ceremony for the Class of 2017 will be held on Friday June 9th at 4:00pm in the Potiker Theatre in the UC San Diego Theatre District. Mark your calendars now!



CROSSING BOUNDARIES COLLABORATION PERFORMS ON FRIDAY

Crossing Boundaries, the interdepartmental collaboration class taught by Music Faculty Professor Sharokh Yedageri, **Stage Management Faculty Professor Lisa Porter**, and **Design Faculty Professor Victoria Petrovich** will perform in the CALit2 Theatre of Atkinson Hall in Warren this Friday at 7:00pm. The performance is free and open to the public and will include work created and performed by **MFA Dance Student Veronica Santiago**, **MFA Stage Management Student Kasson Marroquin**, **MFA Directing Student Dylan Key**, and **MFA Lighting Design Student Brandon Rosen**.

ALUMNI NEWS

READING OF NEW ANDREA STOLOWITZ PLAY AT BARROW GROUP

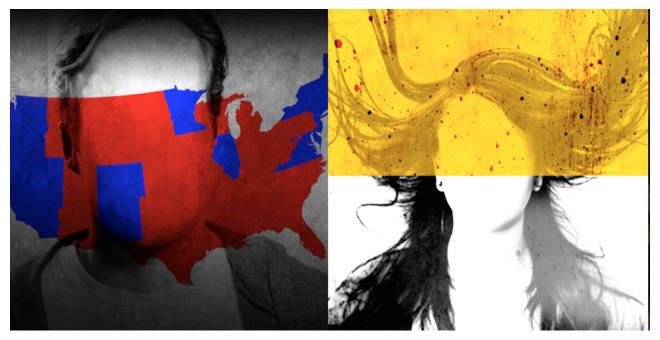
There was a reading of **MFA playwriting alumna Andrea Stolowitz's** new play *Antarktikos* at The Barrow Group's Studio Reading Series last Friday. "Somewhere between Oregon and Antarctica lie several points on a continuum: Susan, a writer at an artists residency at the South Pole; Captain Robert Falcon Scott, leader of the British Antarctic expedition of 1912; and Hilary, Susan's 21-year-old daughter. When an insomniac EMT named Alex becomes the hapless link among them, time collapses, geographies blend and destinies emerge."

Best wishes on its continued development Andrea!



JIHAE PARK PERFORMS AT BARYSHNIKOV ARTS CENTER

MFA Acting alumna Jihae Park performed her piece *HERE WE ARE HERE* at the Baryshnikov Arts Center this week as part of her Works in Progress residency through the Princess Grace Award.



TWO UCSD-DRIVEN PRODUCTIONS OPEN IN OAKLAND AT UBUNTU THEATER

Ubuntu Theater Project in Oakland opened two productions this week created by a team full of UCSD students and alumni: *Confirmation* by Chris Thorpe, and *Machinalia* by **MFA Playwriting student Steph del Rosso**. Both productions were directed by **MFA Directing alumnus Will Detlefsen**. Ubuntu's Co-Artistic Directors are **MFA Directing alumnus Michael Socrates Moran** and **MFA Acting alumnus William Hodgson**.

Both productions will perform at the Brooklyn Preserve in Oakland through June 11th. The creative team for *Confirmation* also includes **MFA Acting alumnus Michael Turner**, and **MFA Sound Design alumnus Steven Leffue**. The creative team for *Machinalia* includes **MFA Acting alumna Mary Glen Fredrick**, **BA alumnus Francisco Arcila**, **Phd Student Kristen Tregar**, **MFA Scenic Design student Anna Robinson**, **Costume Design student Annie Le**, **Lighting Design student Brandon Rosen**, **MFA Sound Design alumnus Steven Leffue**, and **MFA Stage Management student Kasson Marroquin**.

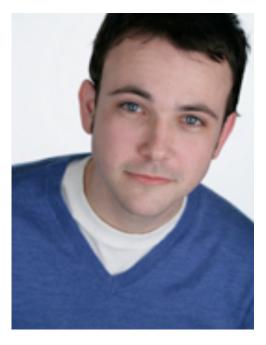
For tickets and more information, click here (http://www.ubuntutheaterproject.com/confirmationmachinalia/).

REED MARTIN'S NEW PLAY TO PREMIERE AT UTAH SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL

MFA Acting alumnus Reed Martin's latest work, *William Shakespeare's Long Lost First Play (abridged)*, will perform at the Utah Shakespeare Festival from July 28 through October 21. Co-written with Austin Tichenor, the show will also be running at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe August 3-28 and then transfer to the New Victory Theatre in NYC on February 26 and the Pittsburgh Public Theater in May 2018.

Martin and Tichenor have also co-authored, along with artist Jennie Maizels, *Pop-Up Shakespeare*, which will be published this Autumn in the USA by Candlewick Press, and in the UK and Australia by Walker Books. A video preview of the book can be viewed here (https://www.youtube.com/watch? v=Fud3WKDa8rE).





PLAYWRIGHTS UNION FIRST PEEK TO FEATURE DAVID MYERS

Next weekend the Playwrights Union in Los Angeles will feature **MFA Playwriting alumnus David Myers.** Their series of performances will include a performance of David's play *Chocolate* on June 10th at 4:30pm. **MFA Acting alumnus Andres Paul Ramacho** will be performing the following day in a performance of *Fledglings* by Brian James Polack at 2:30pm.

For tickets and more information, click here (https://www.eventbrite.com/e/first-peek-reading-series-saturday-june-10and-sunday-june-11-tickets-34637614036?aff=es2).

UC San Diego

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