

## FALL NEWSLETTER: WEEK 0

# FACULTY AND STUDENT DEPARTMENT NEWS

### WEEK 0 OF A NEW SCHOOL YEAR

Welcome to Week 0 of the fall quarter. This is the first of two newsletters this week, both full of summer updates. This first update is all about the work our faculty, staff, and students have created over the past few months with another to follow later this week about our alumni. As always, please send updates to [tanddnews@ucsd.edu](mailto:tanddnews@ucsd.edu) for inclusion in future newsletters!

### PERFORMANCES AND READINGS FOR WEEK 0

The new school year starts off with three staged readings from our incoming MFA Playwriting students. All readings are free, open to the public, and will be held at the Wagner Theatre.

Thursday, September 28th, at 5:30pm, *White History* by Dave Harris, directed by Dylan Key

Thursday, September 28th, at 7:00pm, *Deadheads* by Ali Viterbi, directed by Nicholas Rapp

Friday, September 29th, at 7:00pm, *Do You Feel Anger* by Mara Greenburg-Nelson, directed by Joe Hendel





## STUDIO PRODUCTION OF EURYDICE TO OPEN AT WAGNER THEATRE THIS WEEK

A Studio production of Sarah Ruhl's *Eurydice* will open this week at the Wagner Theatre. *Eurydice* is a modern reinvention of the classic myth of Orpheus through the eyes of his lover and muse, Eurydice. When she accidentally dies on her wedding day, Eurydice learns the rules of the underworld, is reunited with her father, and struggles to remember her lost love. This collaboration of UCSD Theatre & Dance graduate and PhD students, along with local artists, explores the musicality of Sarah Ruhl's world, communication across uncrossable boundaries, and asks which relationships are worth dying for. Performances are on Saturday, September 30th at 7:30 PM and Sunday, October 1st at 2:00 & 7:30 PM in the Arthur Wagner Theatre. Tickets are Pay What You Will (suggested \$10 donation) and can be reserved by contacting [eurydicestudioproject@gmail.com](mailto:eurydicestudioproject@gmail.com). All of the proceeds will be used to support graduate students' showcase.

Directors: Nicole Javier and Kristen Tregar

Scenic Designer: Samantha Rojas

Costume Designer: Annie Le, Lighting Designer: Minjoo Kim, Sound Designer: Justin

Livengood, Live Musician: Kyle Adam Blair, Dramaturg: Kristen Tregar, Production

Stage Manager: Bryan Runion, Asst. Stage Managers: Hannah Folk and Mona

Gutierrez



## JUDITH DOLAN ON BROADWAY EXHIBITION OPENS IN LA JOLLA

**MFA Design and Directing Faculty Professor Judith Dolan** is serving as our interim chair this quarter and is currently having much of her work from her illustrious career presented by the La Jolla Historical Society. The exhibit include designs for on Broadway and off and digs into her professional practice which includes extensive historical research, the use of collage and storyboarding, and the creation of hand-drawn sketches and renderings. This exhibition surveys Dolan's creative process across nine theater productions over two decades, accompanied by a brief survey of the history of performing arts organizations in La Jolla. The exhibit opened on Friday with a reception that was attended by many friends of the department, including **Molli Wagner** and **MFA Acting Faculty Professor Eva Barnes** (pictured at left), and runs through January of 2018.



## JUDITH DOLAN DESIGNS IN DELAWARE

This summer Judy designed the costumes for a production of *You Can't Take It with You* for the Resident Ensemble Players at the Thompson Theatre, Roselle Center for the Arts in Newark, Delaware in a production directed by Sanford Robbins with Associate Costume Design from **MFA Design alumna Danae McQueen**. The production opened last week and runs through October 8th. A production still is featured below.

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



## DEBORAH STEIN'S *THE BITTER GAME* CONTINUES NATIONAL TOUR

**MFA Playwriting Faculty Professor Deborah Stein** spent her summer working on a new play and a TV pilot, while also doing some consulting for a project with Walt Disney Live Entertainment. Her play *The Bitter Game* (written and performed by **MFA Acting alumnus Keith Wallace**) continued its national tour, with performances in July at the Kennedy Center Hip Hop Theatre Festival, and in September at the American Repertory Theatre in Cambridge. This fall, she will workshop her new play, *Princess Diana at Auschwitz*, at CalArts, directed by Jennifer Chambers.

## ROBERT BRILL DESIGNS *AIN'T TOO PROUD* AT BERKELEY REP

**MFA Design Faculty Professor Robert Brill** spent part of the summer designing the world premiere production of *Ain't Too Proud: The Life and Times of The Temptations* at Berkeley Rep in a production directed by Des McAnuff.

The show featured assistance from several MFA alumni and students, including Associate Set Designer: **MFA Scenic Design alumnus Justin Humphries**, Assistant Scenic Designer: **MFA Scenic Design student Anna Robinson**, Set Design Assistants: **MFA Scenic Design students Matt Herman, Yi-Chien Lee, and Samantha Rojas**. The production has been extended through November 5th and a production still can be seen below.

Robert begins his fall designing *Summer: The Donna Summer Musical* at La Jolla Playhouse, also directed by Des McAnuff, and a production of Chuck Mee's *Under Construction* for the Without Walls Festival which will open in October.





## NEW FACULTY VANESSA STALLING REMOUNTS SHOW AT THE HOUSE THEATRE IN CHICAGO

Before beginning her first quarter of teaching here at UCSD, **MFA Directing Faculty Professor Vanessa Stalling** has spent the summer remounting a production of *United 232*, a show she adapted from Laurence Gonzales' *Flight 232* for The House Theatre of Chicago. She also directed a workshop of *PerKup Elkhorn* at Chicago Dramatists, a new play by Isaac Gomez and will be directing a reading of the script as part of Northlight Theatre's upcoming Interplay series in October. She also completed casting for *The Wolves*, by Sarah DeLappe, which she will be directing at The Goodman Theatre - to open in February, 2018. She also served on the reading panel for Pride Films & Plays' LezPlay Screenplay and Stage Play Contest, directed a reading of Emma Stanton's new play, *June in the Parade*, as part of the Goodman Theatre's Playwrights' Unit, and directed a production of Mickle Maher's new short play, *Behold, Where Stands the Usurpers Cursed Head*, for the Cabinet of Curiosity Events Festival Surprise! Death is Not the End.

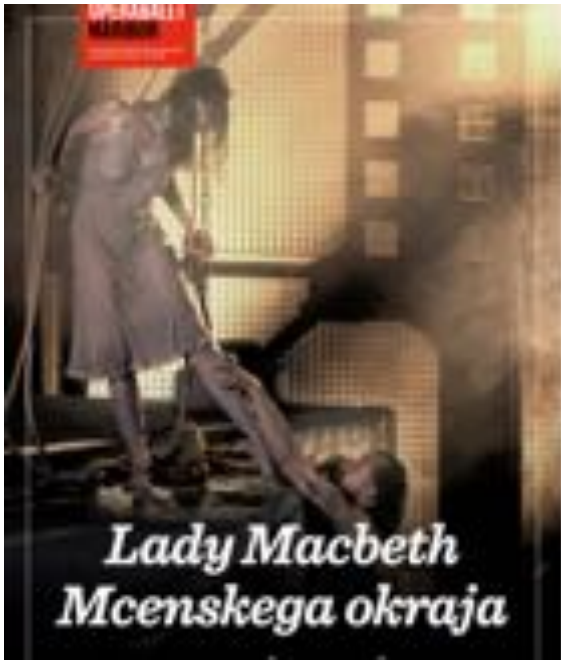
## NEW FACULTY RICHARD ROBICHAUX TO APPEAR IN NEW LINKLATER FILM

Incoming **MFA Acting Faculty Professor Richard Robichaux** spent his summer working with with Cate Blanchett on the new Richard Linklater film, *Where'd You Go Bernadette?* which will be released next year. Richard joins the acting faculty this quarter, having previously worked as the head of MFA Acting at Penn State.



## GABOR TOMPA DIRECTS *LADY MACBETH OF THE MTSENSK DISTRICT*

**MFA Directing Faculty Professor Gabor Tompa** spent much of the summer directing from crutches while recovering from knee surgery. He directed *Lady Macbeth of the Mtsensk District*, an opera by Dmitri Shostakovich, at the Slovene National Opera (pictured below left). The performance, which opened on May 31st, received the Musical Event of the Year award. In July his production of *TOYS, a dark fairy tale* by Savana Stanescu, performed at the Avignon Festival in Theatre Des Halles (pictured below right). Currently he is preparing a production of *Hamlet* at the Slovenian National Theatre in Maribor which will open just before the school year begins.



### JULIE BURRELLE WRITES NEW BOOK

**PhD Drama and Theatre Faculty Professor Julie Burrelle** spent her summer finishing writing her book as well as serving as the dramaturg for Sledghammer Theater's production of *Under Construction*, which will open at the La Jolla Playhouse's WoW Festival in October.



### MARIANNE MACDONALD PROFILED IN RANCHO SANTA FE CONNECTOR

**PhD Drama and Theatre Faculty Professor Marianne Macdonald** was profiled in a feature from the Rancho Santa Fe Connector. The piece profiled her career in the theatre and her work at the intersection of Art, Theatre, Music, Language, and Healing. Marianne will also be facilitating a Dharma recovery group this fall at the Vista Buddhist Temple.



### **KRISTEN TREGAR AND ALLYN MORIYON PRESENT PAPER AT CONFERENCE**

In July, **PhD student Kristen Tregar** and **MFA Acting student Allyn Moriyon** attended the 7th Annual Meeting of the Language Creation Society in Calgary, Alberta, Canada. They presented on the constructed language Kristen built for last Winter's production of *Taming of the Shrew(d)* and how working in a constructed language contributed to character-building for the actors. Allyn played one of the "Others" in the production, a band of men who spoke the constructed language in the play which Kristen had created.

### **ANNA MOENCH'S *BIRDS OF NORTH AMERICA* TO OPEN IN BOULDER**

**MFA Playwriting Student Anna Moench's** new play, *Birds of North America*, which premiered at the 2017 Wagner New Play Festival, will open at the Boulder Ensemble Theatre Company in Colorado. The play won their Generations Award and opens on October 19th.



### **BRANDON ROSEN ASSISTS ON *BENNY & JOON***

**MFA Lighting Design Student Brandon Rosen** assisted on the Lighting Design for *Benny & Joon*, a new musical which opened at the Old Globe Theatre. The production runs through October 22nd.





### **KIMBERLY MONKS AND DELEON DALLAS TRAIN AND PERFORM AT GUTHRIE**

**MFA Acting Students Kimberly Monks and Deleon Dallas** both received invitations to the Guthrie Theatre's summer program for MFA students, The Guthrie Experience. Through the program they took classes and devised a new musical, *Incurable: A Fools Tale*. Kim and Deleon are currently both performing in *Wild Goose Dreams* at the la Jolla Playhouse as part of their residency. The production runs through October 5th.



### **MACHINALIA BY UCSD STUDENTS AND ALUMNI PERFORMS IN NEW YORK**

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After productions at UCSD and Ubuntu in Oakland, *Machinalia*, written by **MFA Playwriting student Steph del Rosso**, performed at Jack in Brooklyn this summer. An adaptation of the Sophie Treadwell classic, the production featured several UCSD alumni and students in the production team and was played to many full houses during its run. Artists involved included (pictured left to right above):

**MFA Scenic Design student Anna Robinson, MFA Lighting Design student Brandon Rosen, MFA Acting student Enrico Nassi, MFA Sound Design alumnus Steven Leffue, MFA Directing alumnus Will Detlefsen, MFA Playwriting Student Steph Del Rosso, PhD student Kristen Tregar, MFA Acting alumna Mary Glen Frederick, and MFA Stage Management student Kasson Marroquin.**

Congratulations to all!



## **LILY PADILLA IN RESIDENCE AT THE ANDERSON CENTER**

**MFA Playwriting student Lily Padilla** spent part of her summer in Minnesota where she was in residence at The Anderson Center. She has also developed a project for the La Jolla Playhouse's WoW Festival with **MFA Directing student Dylan Key**, an installation piece called *And Then You Wait* which will open in October.

## **XAVIER CLARK STARS IN PRODUCTION OF THE FLICK**

**MFA Acting student Xavier Clark** spent his summer in Mendocino, California playing "Avery" in *The Flick* by Annie Baker, at the Mendocino Theatre Company.



## ALI VITERBI WORKSHOPS NEW PLAY IN MARYLAND

**MFA Playwriting student Ali Viterbi** workshopped her new play *Period Sisters* at the Roundhouse Theater (Education Center) in Bethesda, MD. She also wrote a new play, *In Every Generation*, while in residence at Wildacres Residency (North Carolina).



## WILLIE MAE MICHELIS WORKS ON ROBIN HOOD

**MFA Stage Management Student Willie Mae Michiels** spent her summer working as a production assistant on The Old Globe's production of Ken Ludwig's new play, *Robin Hood*.



## GRADUATE STUDENTS COMPLETE RESIDENCY ON *WILD GOOSE DREAMS* AT LA JOLLA PLAYHOUSE

Several current graduate students completed their residency at the La Jolla Playhouse this summer in their production of *Wild Goose Dreams* by Hansol Jung. **MFA Acting students Deleon Dallas, Kyle Hester, and Kimberly Monks** were in the cast, **MFA Stage Management student Ashley Martin** served as Production Assistant, **MFA Costume Design student Annie Le** was the Assistant Costume Designer, **MFA Directing student Dylan Key** was the Assistant Director, and **MFA Scenic Design student Samantha Rojas** was the Assistant Scenic Designer. **MFA Stage Management alumna Mandisa Reed** was the ASM and **BA student Samantha Wang** was also part of the cast.

## KASSON MARROQUIN ASSISTS OFF-BROADWAY

**MFA Stage Management student Kasson Marroquin** spent the summer assisting Off-Broadway on *Charm* by Philip Dawkins at MCC Theatre as the Production Assistant. Kasson also completed their residency at the La Jolla Playhouse working on *Kill Local* by MFA Playwriting alumnus Matt Smart



## APPLICATIONS OPEN FOR NEW FACULTY

The department is currently searching for applications for open positions in the Acting, PhD, Stage Management, and Sound Design Departments. The positions available are as follows:

[Assistant Professor of Theatre History / Dramatic Literature](#)

[Associate Professor of Sound Design](#)

[Assistant Professor of Sound Design](#)

[Assistant Teaching Professor of Stage Management](#)

[Assistant Teaching Professor in MFA Acting](#)

[Assistant Teaching Professor in MFA Acting](#)

Please spread the word to any interested candidates.

# UC San Diego

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UC San Diego Theatre & Dance

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