

UC SANDIEGO  
**THEATRE & DANCE**

FALL NEWSLETTER: WEEK 9

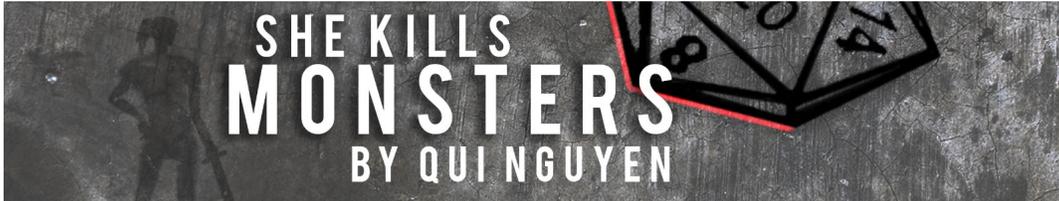
DEPARTMENT NEWS



## COMING SOON: *THESISWORKS 2017*

UC San Diego Theatre & Dance Department will continue its 2017 season with its graduate dance production, *thesisWORKS 2017: Before the horses crash into the ground, and then the ground*. by **MFA Dance candidate Verónica Santiago Moniello**. The production performs in the Potiker Theatre December 7th and 8th at 7:30pm and December 9th at 2:00pm.

*thesisWORKS* showcases the culmination of dance research over the course of graduate studies in Dance at UC San Diego. This year Verónica Santiago Moniello explores the potential of bodies and motion in space while simultaneously confronting subject material that has inspired her intellectual and scholarly pursuits over her time at UCSD in *Before the horses crash into the ground, and then the ground*.



## COMING SOON: *SHE KILLS MONSTERS BY QUI NGUYEN*

UC San Diego Theatre & Dance Department will continue its 2017 season with its undergraduate production of *She Kills Monsters* by Qui Nguyen, directed by **Undergraduate Acting Faculty Professor Jennifer Chang**. The production performs in the Shank Theatre on the following dates: December 6, 7, 8 & 9 @ 7:30pm, December 9 @ 2pm

A comedic romp into the world of fantasy role-playing games, *She Kills Monsters* tells the story of Agnes Evans as she leaves her childhood home in Ohio following the death of her teenage sister, Tilly. When Agnes finds Tilly's *Dungeons & Dragons* notebook, she stumbles into a journey of discovery and action-packed adventure in the imaginary world that was Tilly's refuge.



## **ALLAN HAVIS AND CYNTHIA STOKES TO PRESENT NEW OPERA**

On Wednesday December 6th, **MFA Playwriting Faculty Professor Allan Havis** will present a showing of his new opera, *Saint Francis De Los Barrios* in the Calit2 Auditorium of Atkinson Hall as part of the IDEAS Performance Series. The show begins at 7pm with a reception to follow. The opera is co-created with composer Joseph Waters, a professor at SDSU, and is directed by **MFA Directing alumna Cynthia Stokes** with scenic design by **MFA Scenic Design alumna Robin Roberts**. **MFA Lighting Design student Brandon Rosen** has designed the lights for the production and **BA student Monica Gutierrez** is the stage manager.

*Saint Francis De Los Barrios* is a magical realistic tale inspired by the Francis of Assisi myth set in modern day Tijuana among the poor and a community of sex workers - drugs, borders, and Pope included.



### UC SAN DIEGO FAMILY OPEN *SUMMER* AT LJP

La Jolla Playhouse opened their latest production, *SUMMER: The Donna Summer Musical* last week. The world-premiere musical charts the incomparable life of Donna Summer, the undisputed Queen of Disco, from her modest Boston childhood to international stardom. The production was created with the work of many UC San Diego Faculty, students, and alumni, including **MFA Scenic Design Faculty Professor Robert Brill**, **MFA Lighting Design student Joel Britt**, **MFA Directing alumnus Will Dettlefsen**, **MFA Scenic Design alumnus Justin Humphries**, **MFA Stage Management alumna Mandisa Reed**, and **MFA Scenic Design student Anna Robinson** (all pictured above).

The production has been extended through December 24th.

### NGOZI ANYANWU TO HOST Q&A AT UC SAN DIEGO

**MFA Acting alumna Ngozi Anyanwu** will be visiting campus this week and holding a Q&A in the Wagner Theatre on Tuesday, November 28th at 5pm. Ngozi will discuss her experiences as a playwright and actor. This past year she wrote and starred in her play *Good Grief* at the Kirk Douglas and received Center Theatre Group and Humanitas inaugural Humanitas/CTG Playwriting Prize.





## NAOMI IIZUKA OPENS *SLEEP* AT BAM

**MFA Playwriting Faculty Professor Naomi Iizuka** opens her adaptation of Haruki Murakami's *Sleep* at BAM for their Next Wave Festival this week. The production was co-created with Rachel Dickstein and stars **MFA Acting alumna Jihae Park**. The production received a feature in VICE this week.

*Sleep* is an immersive theatre work based on the short story by internationally acclaimed author Haruki Murakami. A young Japanese housewife suffers a terrifying dream and then suddenly stops sleeping. In a new nightmarish and beautiful sleep-deprived world, the constrictions of her prescribed role melt away, releasing a new self who takes risks, indulges in what is forbidden, devours Tolstoy and chocolate, and embraces what is unpredictable and dangerous. This seeming "escape" however, leads her to a world of lawlessness and danger that she never expected. *Sleep* examines how we push against the constraints of everyday life, transgress and rebel, and free fall through broken boundaries set up by society around us.

## JUDITH DOLAN ON BROADWAY EXHIBITION IN LA JOLLA

**MFA Design and Directing Faculty Professor Judith Dolan** 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 earlier this fall and is running through January 21st.





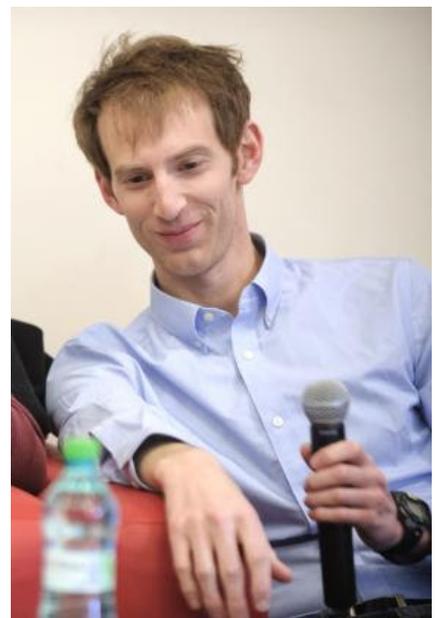
## **JUNK PROFILED IN NYTIMES**

**MFA Stage Management Faculty Professor and Department Chair Charles Means** is the production stage manager for *Junk*, the new Ayad Akhtar play currently running on Broadway. The production features **MFA Acting alumnus Sean McEntyre** among the ensemble and was recently profiled by the NYTimes Finance section in an article about junk bonds and the financial era the play explores.

## **ALUMNI NEWS**

### **TOM DUGDALE APPOINTED TO FACULTY OF OHIO STATE**

**MFA Directing alumnus Tom Dugdale** has taken up a new tenure-track position as an Assistant Professor of Theatre at Ohio State University. Tom teaches undergraduate and graduate Directing and Experimental Directing Methods. His research is primarily in contemporary directing pedagogy; multi-disciplinary performance; adaptation of nondramatic material to the stage; and international collaboration



# UC San Diego

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UC San Diego Theatre & Dance

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