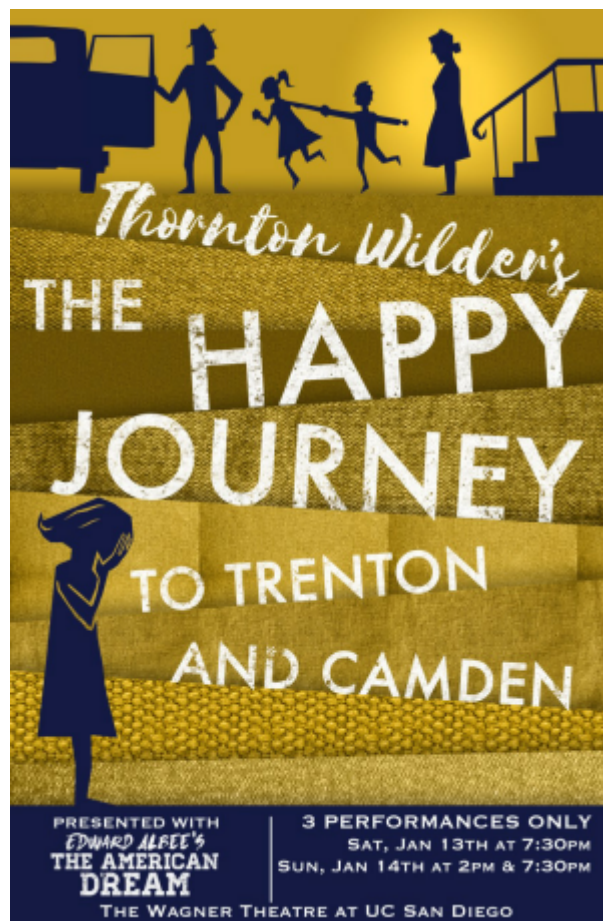
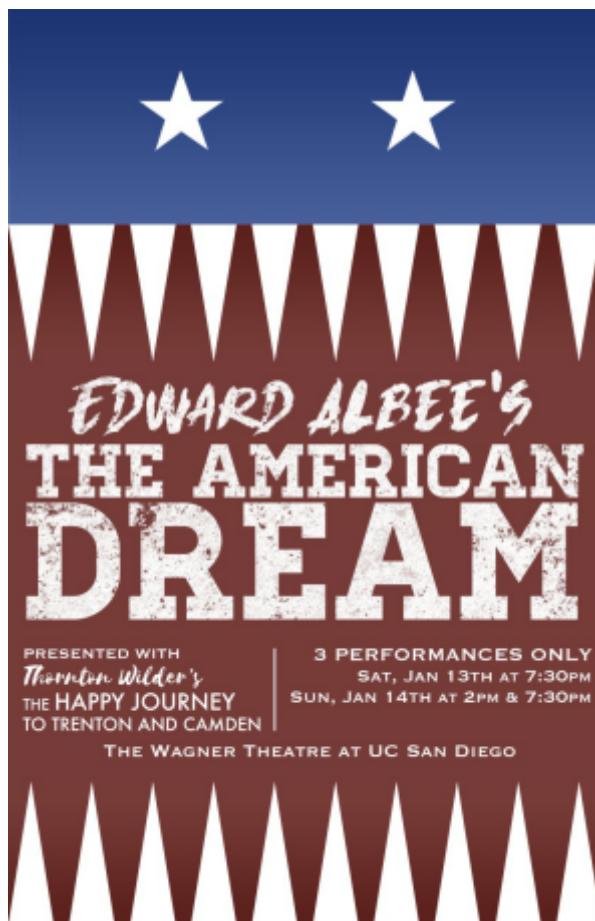




## WINTER NEWSLETTER: WEEK 1

### DEPARTMENT NEWS



## THIS WEEKEND: MFA ACTING CLASS OF 2018 TO PRESENT ONE ACTS

The MFA acting class of 2018 is putting on an evening of two one-acts: *The American Dream* by Edward Albee and *The Happy Journey to Trenton and Camden* by Thornton Wilder. The performances will play January 13th - 14th in the Arthur Wagner Theatre. Tickets will be \$15.

The cast includes: **MFA Acting students Deleon Dallas, Andrew Gallop, Yonatan Gebeyehu, Kyle Hester, Volen Iliev, Kimberly Monks, Claire Roberson, and Mo Rodvanich.**

Directed by: MFA Acting student Kyle Hester

Set Design: **MFA Scenic Design student Anna Robinson**

Costume Design: **MFA Costume Design student Amanda Bergman**

Lighting Design: **MFA Lighting Design student Joel Britt**

Stage Managed by: **MFA Stage Management student Kasson Marroquin**

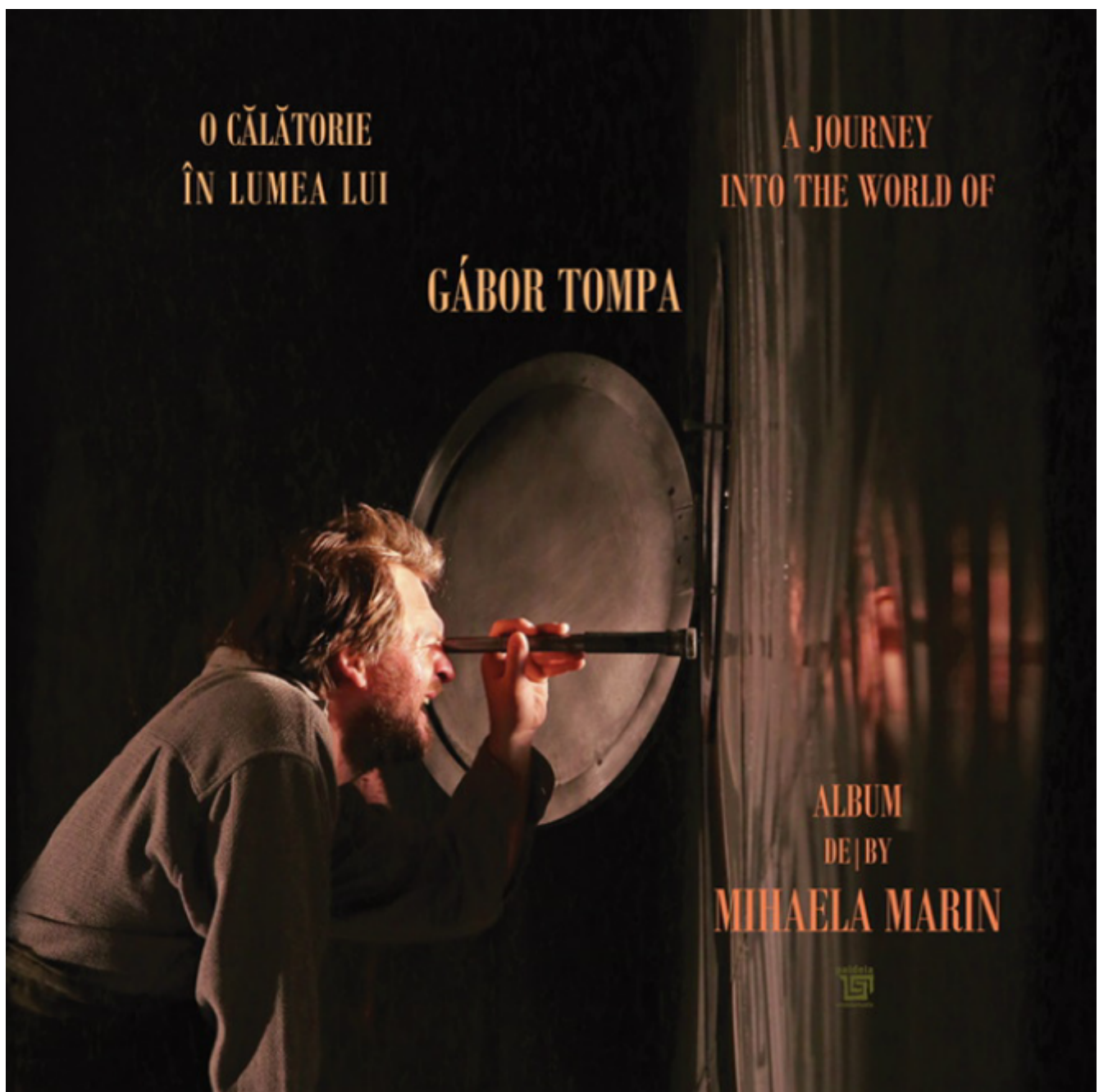
*The American Dream* by Edward Albee: Mommy and Daddy are waiting impatiently for someone, but they're a bit vague on just who exactly that someone might be and why they're coming. Mrs. Barker, who runs the Bye-Bye Adoption Service, doesn't quite seem to understand why she's there either. Only Grandma knows, but she's not telling. When a mysterious and handsome young man comes on the scene, the family's gruesome and violent past is uncovered, and the true fallout of the American Dream is revealed in all its grotesque and terrifying absurdity.

*The Happy Journey to Trenton and Camden* by Thornton Wilder: Meet the Kirbys: Ma, Pa, and their two children, Arthur and Caroline. They take a road trip from their home in Newark down to Camden to visit their eldest daughter, Beulah, who has recently suffered a miscarriage. They wave goodbye to their neighbors, they watch a funeral procession, they pick flowers, they stop for hot dogs; nothing happens, everything happens.

Presented together, these two one-act plays portray starkly contrasting snapshots of American life: its generosity and its cruelty, its simplicity and its heartlessness, its sanctity and its madness.

## GABOR TOMPA RECEIVES LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

On the 225th anniversary of the Hungarian Theatre of Cluj, **MFA Directing Faculty Gabor Tompa** has been awarded the Life Time Cultural Achievement by the office of the Romanian presidency for being the history's longest term artistic director of the prestigious company. Coinciding with this award, an album of photography covering his performances, *Journey Into the World of Gabor Tompa*, created by the world famous photographer Mihaela Marin, has been launched during the theatre's anniversary showcase.





## VICTORIA PETROVICH AWARDED BY SAN DIEGO THEATRE CRITICS WITH FELLOW ALUMS

The San Diego Theatre Critics released their annual list of awardees for exceptional work. **MFA Design Faculty Professor Victoria Petrovich** was nominated for outstanding projection design “Black Pearl Sings!,”

San Diego Repertory Theatre.

**MFA playwriting alumni Mat Smart** was nominated for best new play “Kill Local,” La Jolla Playhouse.

**MFA acting alumni Sylvia M’Lafi Thompson** was nominated for “Having Our Say,” New Village Arts

**MFA lighting design alumni Sherrice Mojgani** was nominated for outstanding lighting design “Blue Door,” Moxie Theatre

MFA sound design alumni Melanie Chen Cole was nominated for outstanding sound design “At the Old Place,” La Jolla Playhouse.

## THE WINTER QUARTER SEASON OF SHOWS

Below is the list of shows for the upcoming quarter, an exciting mix of classics and new plays!

REMINDER: Students can purchase \$5 tickets (\$6.17 w/ svc chg) the first week of the quarter using the promocode "1718Season".

***A Raisin in the Sun*** by Lorraine Hansberry

directed by Kim Rubinstein

February 7 -17

in the Mandell Weiss Theatre

***Othello*** by William Shakespeare

directed by Dylan Key

February 21 - March 3rd

in the Theodore and Adele Shank Theatre

***Revolt. She Said. Revolt Again.*** by Alice Birch

directed by Sean Graney

March 6 - 17

in the Mandell Weiss Forum

***The Skriker*** by Caryl Churchill

directed by Jon Reimer

March 13 - 17

in the Arthur Wagner Theatre

***winterWORKS 2018***

a dance performance directed by Yolande Snaith

choreographed by Grace Jun & Alison Smith

March 15 - 17

in the Mandell Weiss Theatre

# ALUMNI NEWS

## TESIANA ELIE TO PERFORM AT CBS DIVERSITY SHOWCASE

**MFA acting alumna Tesiana Elie** has been named as one of the participants in the 2018 CBS Diversity showcase. Tes will perform in six shows running January 23-26 at the El Portal Theatre in Los Angeles in a performance written by Nahreen Tarzi and Chris Eckert.



## KYLE DONNELLY TO HELM *THE GREAT SOCIETY* AT ARENA

**MFA Professor emeritus Kyle Donnelly** is currently directing *The Great Society* at Arena Stage. Robert Schenkkan's sequel to *All the Way*, *The Great Society* chronicles LBJ's second term as he seeks to maintain his relationship with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and complete a raft of impossibly ambitious social policy. The production stars **MFA Acting alumni Bowman Wright** and **Andrew Weems** and **PhD alumnus Naysan Mojjani** is serving as dramaturg. The show performs February 2-March 11, 2018 in Washington DC

## REGAN LINTON NAMED COLORADO THEATRE PERSON OF THE YEAR

**MFA acting alumna Regan Linton** is being honored as Colorado Theatre Person of the Year in Denver Center for the Performing Arts' True West Awards. She is an accomplished actor and theatre artist and is particularly lauded for saving Phamaly Theatre Company from financial instability. Phamaly specializes in producing professional plays and musicals exclusively for actors with disabilities and Regan was named the Interim Executive and Artistic Director. Apart from her administrative work, Regan continues to act, most recently appearing at Mixed Blood.



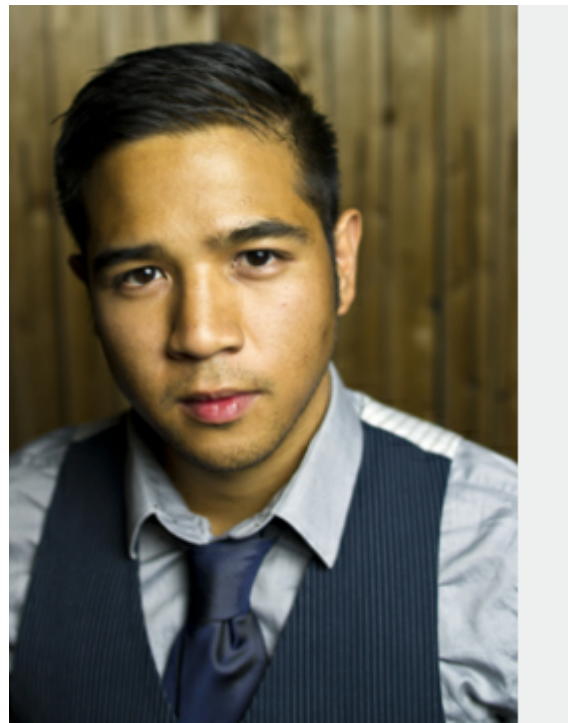


## CARMELITA BECNEL WRITES HOWLROUND STORY

**MFA Stage Management alumna Carmelita Becnel** has written a new story for the website Howlround about Fighting for Gender, Race, and Motherhood in Theatre. She discusses the gifts and benefits of having mothers in rehearsal rooms and addresses some of the intersectional challenges that institutions continue to present to support mothers in the theatre.

## LAUREN YEE NAMED HODDER FELLOW

The Lewis Center for the Arts at Princeton University has announced the selection of five Mary MacKall Gwinn Hodder Fellows for the 2018-2019 academic year, one of whom is **MFA Playwriting alumna Lauren Yee**. The Hodder Fellowship is created to provide artists and humanists in the early stages of their careers an opportunity to undertake significant new work. During her fellowship year, Lauren plans to work on several projects, including a new comedy about lost young men struggling towards adulthood in Russia after the fall of Communism.



## STEPHANIE DIAZ AND KEVIN MATTHEW REYES WORK TO REFORM CHICAGO THEATRE

There is a new story about the work that many activists are currently doing to reform standards and practices throughout the Chicago theatre scene. **BA alumni Stephanie Diaz and Kevin Matthew Reyes** are both featured in the article. Stephanie works for the Chicago Inclusion Project and Kevin is part of The Chicago Theater Accountability Coalition.



## KELLY FULLERTON WRITES SIMONE BILES BIOPIC

**BA alumna Kelly Fullerton** has written a new biopic about gymnast Simone Biles which will air on Lifetime on February 3rd. The film, *The Simone Biles Story: Courage to Soar*, details her rise in the world of gymnastics and an excerpt of which was aired on ESPN.

# UC San Diego

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Sincerely,

UC San Diego Theatre & Dance



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