Welcome to the CSUEB Department of Theatre and Dance's e-newsletter, "Mise en Scène." We will be publishing a newsletter a few times a year to keep you in the loop on all the exciting things happening within and around our dynamic department.

Please keep in touch with us and let us know if you're doing something that should be included here.

And as we do our best to weather the state budget crisis, we welcome any support you can offer to our passionate students, faculty, and alumni. Please contact us if you would like to donate, get involved, volunteer or just to find out more info.

Greetings

10/11 SEASON

The Show Must Go ON!

Outside projects

Alumni News

Fringe Festival

Archival Project

2010-2011 Performance season

XTIGONE

A Contemporary reimagining of the Ancient Greek play, Antigone

A world Premiere Written by Nambi E. Kelley

-One young woman stands alone against the gang corruption and violence taking the lives of young men in her urban community. Music, spoken word and dance are powerfully woven into this tragic tale of political corruption and its human fallout.

November 12,13,19,20 @8pm
November 21 @2pm (Univ. Theatre)
ICE
A dance extravaganza
Produced by Nina Haft and the CSUEB Dance faculty.
-This annual holiday concert introduces performers and work from across the campus and community. See the seeds of emerging work and the bold experiments of both advanced and fledging students.
December 3 and 4
(Dance Studio, PE 140)

SCROOGIE
A modern musical
Conceived by A. Fajilan and Darryl V. Jones
-This clever new musical adaptation of Dickens’ Classic promises to be in the “spirits” of the season.
December 10 @8pm, 11 @3pm & 7pm
(Univ. Theatre)

A FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY TO THE FORUM
One of the funniest Musicals ever written
Directed by Marc Jacobs & Choreography by Laura Ellis Musical Direction by Marianna Wolff
-In a devious plan to win his freedom, a crafty slave struggles to serve his young master by winning the hand of a beautiful but slow-witted courtesan.
March 4,5,11,12 @8pm
March 13 @2pm
(Univ. Theatre)

SPRING 2011
SEVEN DEADLY SINS & SINS, TABOOS, AND OTHER BODILY DELIGHTS
Seven Deadly Sins
Music by Kurt Weill, Lyrics by Bertolt Brecht
May 6,7,13,14 @8pm
May 8,15 @2pm (Univ. Theatre)
PILIPINO CULTURAL NIGHT
Produced by PASA, A. Fajilan & Richard Olmsted
May 20 @7:30pm
May 21 @6:30pm (Univ. Theatre)
PERFORMANCE FUSION
Directed & choreographed by advanced students.
May 27 & June 3

"The Show Must Go On!"
The CSU East Bay Department of Theatre and Dance is doing our best to weather the storm of budget cuts during this challenging time. Our department's faculty, students and alumni have been banding together to "keep on keeping' on!" This has included budget cut protests, appeals to our legislators, volunteering, accelerated fundraising efforts and more. Even though we face immense challenges ahead, this crisis has brought us closer together and forced us to find our collective strength.

But we need your help. The following is a list of ways you can get involved:
--Donate money and/or in-kind resources to the department
--Help publicize our productions and bring your friends to the shows
--Volunteer whatever amount of time you are able to
--CONTACT YOUR LEGISLATORS AND LET THEM KNOW HOW IMPORTANT THEATRE AND DANCE EDUCATION IS!
http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/yourleg.html
Our Theatre and Dance Faculty complement a vigorous teaching schedule with a wide-reaching collection of professional projects. Here are just a few of the projects in the works at the moment:

In preparation for the fall premiere of Xtigone by Nambi E. Kelley, Professor Darryl Jones and Ms. Kelley held a reading of the play at the Chicago Dramatists offices. In attendance were artistic staff from The Goodman, Steppenwolf, and Congo Square Theatre Companies. Darryl also worked with Angela Dean Baham on her new play based on the life of Sissereta Jones, one of the first African-American female opera singers in the United States.

The Iago Syndrome, written and directed by Assistant Professor Marc Jacobs received a meritorious achievement Award from the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival. Currently Marc is directing La Cage aux Folles for Broadway by the Bay in Burlingame.  http://www.broadwaybythebay.org/on-stage/performance-3/

Melissa Hillman’s award-winning theatre company, Impact Theatre, is into its 15th season with the Bay Area premiere of Joshua Conkel’s Off-Off Broadway hit, MilkMilkLemonade; the West Coast premiere of David Bell’s outrageous comedy about art vs. commercial success, The Play About the Naked Guy; the world premiere of Steve Yockey’s quirky serio-comedy Disassembly; and Romeo and Juliet.  Impact Theatre’s resident actors include CSUEB alums Reggie White, Jon Nagel, Seth Thygensen, Marissa Keltie, and Mike Delaney.  Impact Theatre has been featured in Variety magazine, on NPR, in Theatre Bay Area Magazine, and in every Bay Area newspaper.

“This summer I was ‘blessed’ by two of the artists I consider to be ‘saints’ of contemporary dance,” says Kupers. Anna Halprin, considered the mother of post-modern dance, gave Kupers’ project a huge boost.  “She helped to clarify how our performance could also be a transformative ritual. She also gave an introduction to the work, and led the participatory dancing that closed the piece,” Kupers enthused.  Kupers’ company, Dandelion Dance theater, was in residency at the Baryshnikov Arts Center in NYC this past August. Mr. Baryshnikov came to their showing and was very gracious and supportive.

Assistant Professor Nina Haft and her company, Nina Haft & Co., are working on a new evening-length dance performance and craft installation about landscape, rubbish, and our attempts to control nature, entitled Debris/Flow. This new work builds on Haft’s ten years of performances about place.

Laura Ellis was featured on the cover of the August edition of Theatre Bay Area Magazine.

Alumni In The News

Marissa Keltie, ’04, was featured in the September edition of Theatre Bay Area Magazine. She was the focus of the “Keep an Eye On” section in the magazine.

Craig Marker, ’02, was featured in the August edition of Theatre Bay Area Magazine. He was the focus of the “Keep an Eye On” section in the magazine.

Melissa Hillman, ’90, was featured in the August edition of Theatre Bay Area Magazine. She was interviewed for the Encore section of the magazine.

Casi Maggio, ’05, took on the role of Stella in A Streetcar Named Desire. Casi was part of Tennessee Williams in rep produced by Boxcar Theatre.

April Rodriguez, ’05, breaks into the Ranch. April assisted with the final mix of a documentary called IMUA at Skywalker Ranch.

Josie Alvite ’00, Grace Alvarez ’07, Edmer Lazaro ’02, Frances Sedayao ’04, are all performing in Debris/Flow, a new work by Nina Haft & Co.
Throughout the long history of the Theatre and Dance program at Cal State Hayward/East Bay more than 500 productions have graced the stage of the University Theatre and countless other stages around the world. Numerous memorable productions have been captured by VHS, MINI DV, Photographs, CDs, and DVDs. These past productions are not only a part of our history but are our legacy. This is why it is critically important to properly catalog and archive these materials. The goal is to preserve the material for our records and for future use by our professors and students. Tom and I need your help to assist in reaching this objective. Below is a budget that outlines our needs and their projected cost. This budget was graciously put together with the help of our school librarian and archivist specialist, Diana Wakimoto.

Phase 1: Transfer & Duplicate $1773
Phase 2: Storage of Media $715
Phase 3: Maintenance and Sustainability $250/yr

To make a donation or if you have questions please call April at the office 510-885-3118.

Fringe Festival Report

Fifteen Theatre and Dance students, alumni, and faculty recently returned from the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. The company, directed by Dawn Monique Williams, performed Shakespeare’s The Tempest for two weeks in August. The tour was produced by Professor Tom Hird, Chair of the department, under the company banner, Aces Wild Theatre. This was Professor Hird’s ninth Fringe tour and 15th show produced internationally since 1991.

While in the United Kingdom, the tour included a visit to Stratford-upon-Avon to learn about William Shakespeare’s early life and to attend the Royal Shakespeare Company’s productions of As You Like It and Julius Caesar. After Edinburgh, the group stopped in York to visit the city featuring Viking, Roman, Medieval, and Victorian history. The tour concluded with four nights in London where the company attended shows at Shakespeare’s Globe, the Royal National Theatre, and the West End.