Greetings,

Welcome to the CSUEB Department of Theatre and Dance's first 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 find out more.

UPCOMING PRODUCTIONS

THE VAGINA MONOLOGUES

VDAY CSU East Bay 2010, together with the Theatre and Dance Department, the student organization PaF ("Performing as Female"), L.A.T.I.N.A.S, and Prof. Ann Fajilan's class "Cultural Groups in Performance," present an encore benefit production of Eve Ensler's landmark work, The Vagina Monologues. All proceeds go to Building Future for Women and Children in San Leandro.

April 30 at 8pm
P.E. Room 140
$5
WAYWARD

This immersive dance/theatre event will combine a site-specific retelling of the Red Riding Hood fairy tale, directed and choreographed by Nina Haft, with work-in-progress performances of Dan Plonsey’s Bar Mitzvah, directed and choreographed by Eric Kupers. The performance will take place in unexpected journeys through the University Theatre building, offering multi-layered examinations of the nature of growing up and rites of passage.

May 7, 8, 14, 15 at 8pm
May 16 at 2pm
$15 General, $10 youth/seniors/alum/military, $5 CSUEB

PCN

A celebration and exploration of Pilipino and Pilipino-American culture through an original, student-generated script blended with traditional folk dance and contemporary pop culture. This year’s production explores the impact of gang violence on the victims’ families and friends.

May 21 at 7:30pm & May 22 at 6:30pm
Tickets sold by PASA

FUSION

The annual performance celebration directed and choreographed by advanced students.

May 28, 29, June 4, 5 at 8pm
June 6 at 2pm
$15 General, $10 youth/seniors/alum/military, $5 CSUEB

HALIE

Watch Mahalia Jackson's epic rise from humble roots in New Orleans all the way through her career as an actress, a political speaker, and the "Queen of Gospel Music."

July 29, 30, 31 and Aug 1, show times TBA
Ticket Prices TBA

THE TEMPEST

CSUEB’s Aces Wild Theatre company will be taking this show, directed by alumna Dawn Monique Williams, to the Fringe Festival in Edinburgh. Please check CSUEB Theatre and Dance web site for show dates here in the Bay Area.

Volunteer Opportunities
We are always seeking volunteer ushers for shows. If you are interested please call the Theatre and Dance office at 510-885-3118.
"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.

We are deeply disturbed by having to dramatically reduce the teaching loads of our core lecturers, many of whom have been teaching our students for more than a decade. Our current students now have little or no contact with Laura Ellis, Kimiko Guthrie, Melissa Hillman and Anne-Lise Reusswig. This is a great blow to our mission as a department and we are doing all we can to get them fully reinstated to our teaching schedule.

Meanwhile, despite class cancellations, faculty and staff furloughs and the weariness of living in constant fear of further cuts, our department’s faculty, students and alumni have been banding together to "keep on keepin' 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

For more info contact April Rodriguez at april.rodriguez@csueastbay.edu

Faculty, Lecturer and Staff Projects

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:

MIDDLE EAST TOUR
Professor Nina Haft is currently on tour with her company in the Middle East, performing in international dance festivals and a number of educational settings. For info about the company and the tour go to:
http://ninahaftandcompany.wordpress.com/

IMPACT ON NPR
Melissa Hillman is the Artistic Director of the critically acclaimed Impact Theatre. This small Berkeley company is nationally recognized for its concentration on new plays. The company was recently featured on NPR for its world premiere production of Enrique Urueta’s Learn To Be Latina. Impact opens Twelfth Night, directed by Melissa, on May 8.
CSUEB AND THE JEWISH MUSIC FESTIVAL
Professor Eric Kupers has brought together CSUEB students and alumni with his company, Dandelion Dancetheater, and avant garde music ensemble Daniel Popsicle to create an original work commissioned by the Jewish Music Festival and presented by the Contemporary Jewish Museum of San Francisco, DAN PLONSEY'S BAR MITZVAH. See excerpts of this unruly exploration of rites of passage and family events in CSUEB's Wayward, and attend the world premiere this July 8 - 11 at the Contemporary Jewish Museum.

ALL THE MORE TO LOVE
All the More to Love is that welcome rarity: a new musical. Phoenix Theatre is currently presenting the world premiere of this charming revuesical by Craig Bohmler (music), Marion Adler (lyrics) and Marc N. Jacobs (book).

All the More to Love takes its inspiration from a real-life clothing consignment store of the same name in Alameda, California. The store is a haven of protection, inspiration and refuge for plus-sized women and even some male cross dressers. The shop becomes a place of magic, where customers blossom into glamour and love, finding and accepting themselves and fulfilling their dreams.

BEACH BLANKET BABYLON AND...
April Rodriguez is one of three front of house mixers for Steve Silver’s Beach Blanket Babylon. The longest running musical revue in theatre history, Beach Blanket is a zany musical spoof of pop culture with extravagant costumes and outrageously huge hats.

April is still in production regarding the documentary about our late professor Edgardo de la Cruz. She is hoping to finish filming this June and present the documentary in September.

Alumni in the News

Alumni Picnic: All alumni, friends spouses and children are welcome to join. This is a potluck picnic. Please bring potluck items according to your last name.
A-G Appetizer
H-R Main Dish
S-Z Dessert

Castro Valley Community Park
Street: 18988 Lake Chabot Road
Time: 11:00am-9:00pm
Date: Sunday, May 23, 2010
Contact: Amber Land-Denoyer at 209-914-1247

Alumni Survey: For several years we’ve dreamed of a spotlight webpage featuring the work and lives of alumni. Your careers represent a vast wealth of experience in numerous fields. Your experience could be of immeasurable use to current students for career mentoring or even simple questions. To take the brief survey please contact Alumni April Rodriguez at april.rodriguez@csueastbay.edu or call the Theatre and Dance office at 510-885-3118.
Bong Dizon,’06, will be the choreographer for Woodminster’s Summer Musical, *Hairspray*, and will perform in *The Music Man*.

April Rodriguez,’05, was the SFX editor for the Academy Award-nominated feature documentary *The Most Dangerous Man in America*, as well as five educational documentaries regarding South African Apartheid.

Dawn M. Williams,’03, will be the director for Aces Wild Theatre company production of *The Tempest*.

James Iglehart,’98, makes it to Broadway!! James has been with the musical *Memphis* since its world premiere in 2005.

Nominated three times, graduate Scott Chambliss ’85, won an Emmy in 2002 for his art direction on the network television show, *Alias*. He also worked on the feature film *Star Trek* which earned him award nominations from the Art Directors Guild of America and the Washington DC Area. Chambliss’ latest project is production designer for the feature film *Salt*.

Please visit our web site to connect to our Alumni Network.

http://class.csueastbay.edu/theatre/Alumni.php
Graduating Students

Congratulations to the class of 2010!

Rebecca Bujko
Christopher Celeste
Lisa Delsol
Louis Ha
Lauren Herman
Rosy Hernandez
Phuong Hoang
Tyrone Lewis
Jesse Miller
Zuleeka Mohammed
Mojda Nawabi
Caitlin O'Leary
Jeanette Penley
Adam Rabinovitz
Roger Robinson
Wesley Sonido
Jocelyn Ugay
Sarah Vincent
Kristen Wadsworth
Ericka Wells
Valerine Yuzon

Partners

Following are links to a web of creative organizations and artists that collaborate with our department in multiple, invaluable ways:

African and African American Performing Arts Coalition
http://bchereandnow.com/AboutUs7.html

AXIS Dance Company
http://axisdance.org

Clausen House
http://clausenhouse.org
CSUEB Theatre & Dance YouTube channel
http://www.youtube.com/user/csuebperformer

CSUEB Theatre & Dance Facebook page
Fan page: Cal State East Bay Theatre & Dance

Dancer’s Group
http://dancersgroup.org

Dandelion Dancetheater
http://dandeliondancetheater.org/index.html

Friends of the Arts
www20.csueastbay.edu/about/foa/

Impact Theatre
http://impacttheatre.com

Jewish Music Festival
http://jewishmusicfestival.org

Nina Haft and Company
http://ninahaftandcompany.com

Notre Dame de Namur’s Summer Musical Theatre Intensive
http://musictheatreconservatory.org

Shawl-Anderson Dance Center
http://shawl-anderson.org