

Mise en Scène

Winter Edition

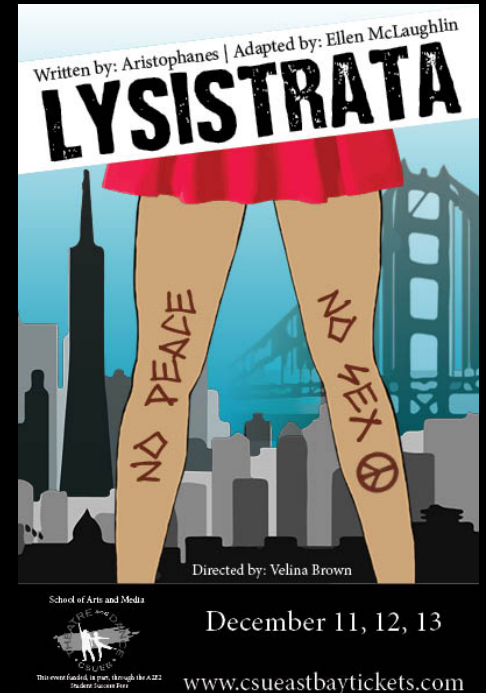
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Cal State East Bay
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Lysistrata's Guest Director

Velina Brown is so pleased to be a visiting artist this quarter at CSUEB. It has been a true pleasure to introduce students to a peek behind the scenes of the theatre making process while directing a fabulous combination of theatre majors, and mostly non-theatre majors, in Ellen McLaughlin's hilarious adaptation of Aristophanes' ever relevant call for peace Lysistrata. Velina is an award winning actress, singer/songwriter and director whose artistic home for the past 20 years has been with the Tony and Obie award winning San Francisco Mime Troupe. In addition you may have seen her at the American Conservatory Theatre, Berkeley Repertory Theatre, Center Rep, The Magic Theatre, Theatre Rhino, TheatreWorks, Shotgun Players, Central Works, SF Playhouse, and The Denver Theatre Center among many others. You may have also seen her on television shows such as Final Witness, Party of Five, Nash Bridges and Trauma and in films such as Bee Season, Maladaptive, Playing it Cool and Milk. Velina's specialty is collaborating on new work and work with a social consciousness that informs and inspires as well as entertains. Velina is also a career coach for actors. In addition to occasional feature articles for Theatre Bay Area Magazine she also writes a monthly advice column called The Business of Show Biz named after her coaching practice. And she is a proud member of the founding faculty for TBA's ATLAS Program and a contributing author to the new ATLAS Manual: Charting an Artist's Career Map. For more information please visit www.velinabrown.com.

Upcoming Productions

Our Town

Written by Thornton Wilder

Directed by Darryl V. Jones

November 13-14 & 20-21 @ 8 PM

November 22 @ 2 PM

University Theatre

ICE/ICE-X

Produced & Choreographed by Nina Haft & Eric Kupers

ICE: December 4 @ 8 Pm & December 5 @ 2 PM

ICE-X: December 5 @ 8 PM

PE 140

Lysistrata

Written by Aristophanes | Adapted by Ellen McLaughlin

Directed by Velina Brown

December 11-12 @ 8 PM

December 13 @ 2 PM

Studio Theatre

Checking In



Rebecca Soltau

After graduation in June, she hasn't had a day's rest! In July, she had the privilege to start working on a feature film called *Fair Chase*, directed by Eduardo Castrillo. The project was a dark, thrilling film about the lengths a person might go to in order to provide a better life for his family and get ahead in the corporate world. Rebecca was lucky enough to work with a number of incredibly talented local actors as well as award winning actors Tom Sizemore (*Saving Private Ryan*) and Eric Roberts (*The Dark Knight*, *Runaway Train*). It was a learning experience about the film industry like no other. She was also able to work on a short film called *UX: Beta* with a new director, Bryan Navarro, and fellow CSUEB student, Jerardo Larios. Currently, she is awaiting the DVD release of *The Last Wolf of Ezo*, another feature film she worked on with Eduardo Castrillo. She is currently in rehearsals for *One Flew Over The Cuckoo's Nest* under the direction of Michael Navarro at Ohlone College, a director and company she has enjoyed working with in the past. Rebecca has been humbled by the talent and dedication that surrounds her as part of such a phenomenal cast. It opens on November 6th and runs until November 21st, and she wouldn't pass up the chance to see it. She's been doing her best to never stop working and learning, and so far, she'd say she has kept that up!

Directors Corner

A Note from Darryl V. Jones, Director of "Our Town"

Thornton Wilder called the play "Our Town" because he wanted it to speak to all people. This is not just a play about a quaint little New England village and the simple folk who live there, but it is about all of us who live in any community in which we call "our town." I want the CSUEB production to pay homage to the past, but welcome the reality of the more cultural and ethnically diverse community in which we live today. The two primary families in the play are traditionally cast as white. Our production will break that mold with a racially mixed family. In addition the people of the town are cast to represent a multi-cultural global community.

The play is often times done on a bare stage, as requested by the playwright to engage the audience's imagination. We are holding in part to that idea but we are also adding elements to reflect our East Bay community. We are creating a non-time specific setting in which antiquity and modernity is juxtaposed to hint at the march of time. In addition, we are using live music, performed by CSUEB Theatre students, to score the circle of life and the generational march of time. When I recently asked a class to make a list of where they find community in their lives, the list included modern versions of what established community in Wilder's play. Therefore as Wilder had hoped, his play still speaks to our humanity across the years; but it does have some old fashioned ideas about gender that we hope to challenge in the production. This is a play that celebrates the pattern of life from birth to death. A play that challenges us to realize that during our lives, it would be wise to slow down and appreciate not only the high points, but the simplest of moments – the everyday human interactions large and small we all share. Wilder wrote the play as the country was considering entering WWII, and the possibility of the death of many loved ones was looming around the corner. Sadly, this is still true and now the death toll rises not only from wars in other countries but wars in our city streets as well. "Our Town" at CSUEB will embrace the plays primary theme of the shame of taking life for granted and not appreciating every moment of every day in a production of stunning magical realism that crosses generations and brings us closer to the eternal in all of us.

A Note from Eric Kupers, Producer and Choreographer of ICE/ICE-X

ICE and ICE-X are a celebratory tradition in the Theatre and Dance Department. This will be our 10th year of the showcases and they are bursting with passion, hunger and joy for exploring dance and movement of all kinds.

ICE (Dec. 4th @ 8pm and Dec. 5th @ 2pm) features two different programs of dance works by faculty, students and guest artists. Come see what students are learning in their dance classes this year, what seniors are crafting for their senior projects, what movement ideas faculty are exploring and electrifying dance by CSUEB dance clubs.

ICE-X (Dec. 5th @ 8pm) takes audiences into more experimental realms. Come see what our African Dance Class has been practicing, with live drumming! Experience the latest explorations by the CSUEB Inclusive Interdisciplinary Ensemble (IIE,) which is working with stories of creation and birth from diverse cultures. The IIE is collaborating with the Geography and Environmental Sciences class on practical use of solar power, to have a completely solar powered performance work. We'll share stories, dances and music about the sun and have all of our lighting and amplified sound fueled directly by the solar powered kits students are learning how to build and apply. Plus more experimental performance surprises. All three shows are different. Come see one, two or all three! The CSUEB Dance program invites you to come and be moved!

Department Information

Special Thanks to these creative organizations and artists who collaborate with our department in multiple, invaluable ways

African and African American Performing Arts Coalition

AXIS Dance Company

Dandelion Dancetheater

Friends of the Arts

Impact Theatre

Nina Haft and Company

Shawl-Anderson Dance Center

The Lorraine Hansberry Theatre

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We are always seeking volunteer ushers for shows. If you are interested please call the Theatre and Dance office at 510.885.31

Attention Alumni
Please fill out our catch up survey on our Theatre and Dance Alumni Page

BOX OFFICE INFO

Phone: 510.885.3118

Online Ticket Purchase: www.csueastbaytickets.com

On Campus Ticket Purchase: Hayward Campus Pioneer Bookstore