

# Mise en Scène



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.



Wayward



Vagina  
Monologues



PCN 2010



Halie!



Fusion

## 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](mailto:april.rodriguez@csueastbay.edu)

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### **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.

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## 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](mailto: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>



#### **PART 1**

**The Road to Resistance** Early resistance to apartheid leads to the jailing of Nelson Mandela.

#### **Hell of a Job**

Oliver Tambo heads the movement from exile.

**The New Generation** The Soweto Uprising causes an international response.

#### **PART 2**

**Fair Play** An international sports boycott takes shape. **From Selma To Soweto**

African-Americans push for economic sanctions.

#### **PART 3**

**The Bottom Line** Economic pressure isolates South Africa.

**Free at Last** Nelson Mandela gains his freedom and worldwide efforts topple apartheid.



## 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



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## 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://bcfhereandnow.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/](http://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>