



Mise en Scène

Volume 2, Issue 4

Spring 2012

FYI

- VOLUNTEER**
 We are always seeking volunteer ushers for shows. If you are interested please call the Theatre and Dance office at 510-885-3118.
- ATTENTION ALUMNI**
 Please fill out the catch up survey at <http://class.csueastbay.eddo/theatre/Alumni.php>

Greetings



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. Also if you have anything to add to the next newsletter for Summer please contact me at april.rodriguez@csueastbay.edu

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UPCOMING SHOWS



REFRACTIONS

These works are created with a diverse group of students and community members. They explore the relationships between light and movement—how shadow, diffusion, scattering, projection, mood, refractions, and more can work together to communicate meaning.

May 4, 5, 11, 12 @ 8pm
 May 13 @ 2pm
 University Theatre
 \$15 GEN, \$10 Discount, \$5 CSUEB ID

Pilipino Cultural Night

Produced by P.A.S.A.
 A. Fajilan and Richard Olmsted

An original, student-generated script blended with traditional folk dance and contemporary pop culture.

May 25 at 7pm, May 26 at 6pm
 University Theatre
 Prices set and tickets sold by PASA.

BOX OFFICE INFO

Phone line:
 510-885-3261

Purchase online
csueastbaytickets.com

Or at the Hayward campus the Book Store.

Performance Fusion

This year we are trying a new format with FUSION regarding the Theatre (non-dance) pieces. In the past, we had asked all graduating senior Theatre majors to direct a short piece. But we realized only a few of our majors were concentrating on directing. So we have widened the criteria for these senior projects to include; acting a major role in Fusion or outside the University, doing special research projects, or performing an internship with a professional theatre company. This allows the senior projects to be more tailored to the specific interests of each individual student.

We are also trying a new format by having FUSION shows both in the University Theatre and our Studio Theatre and deciding which piece fits best in which space. Some of these projects are films, 2-character plays, or monologues which will work better in the more intimate space of the Studio Theatre. The pieces in the University Theatre offer a wide range of subject matter from poetry jams to the plays of David Ives. And, of course, Dance is a crucial part of this program, showing off the creativity of our student choreographers who must bring their pieces from conception to fully realized performances.

There will be 3 distinct FUSION programs.

Program A: 8pm on Friday and Saturday, June 1 & 2 in the Univ. Theatre

Program B: 2pm on Sundays, June 3 & 10 in the Studio Theatre

Program C: 8pm on Friday and Saturday, June 8 & 9 in the Univ. Theatre

Program A

"Economic Meltdown" a dance piece by Joslynn Mathis, "Devastating News" a dance piece by Shawn Hawkins, "English Made Simple" by David Ives and directed by Daniel Benatao and a multi-media dance piece by Sergio Suarez called "All the Way Live."

Program B

"Cindy and Julie" a film featuring Sarah Lynn Prince, "Juliet Looks Back" a monologue of an older "Juliet" reflecting on her brief life, a scene from "A Raisin in the Sun" by Lorraine Hansberry directed by Martina Lawson Hynes, "Is It" a dance piece by Jay Lowman, "Bondage" by David Henry Hwang directed by Janelle Aguirre, "The Rabbit Hole" by David Lindsay-Abaire featuring Melanie Sutrathada and Joseph Loper, and "A Documentary on the Web Series "Theatre Class." by Karen Fokes.

Program C

"Losing My Way," a dance piece by Krystal Bates, "These Powerful Words," a poetry jam compiled by director Tiffinee Walker, "Music Love and Dance," a dance piece by Anthony Johnson, and "The Boor" by Anton Chekhov directed by Janelle Aguirre.

Student News

Allison Mathisen

Hi there! So, I've been cast as Olive Ostrovsky in The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee at Chanticleers Theatre in Castro Valley. I'm super excited! Olive is such a fun and complex role, and I'm so looking forward to this show. May 11th-June 10th, more information: <http://chanticleers.org/>



March 2-4, 2012

Eleven members of the CSUEB Dance Touring Company made their professional San Francisco debut in Nina Haft & Company's home season at ODC Theater, SF. The program, titled "this.placed" was a shared evening with Facing East Dance & Music. Alumni Frances Sedayao, Edmer Lazaro, Josie Alvite and Corissa Johnson appeared alongside two professional dance companies, and Touring Company, to packed houses and favorable reviews.



March 7-10, 2012

Dance Touring Company performed in three works at the Regional College Dance Festival (ACDFA) held at Modesto Junior College. Krystal Bates showed excerpts from her senior project, "Losing Your Way", and Antz Johnson showed excerpts from his, "...was here..." in the first adjudication concert, and were received with loud and enthusiastic cheers by students and faculty alike. Jennifer Stern showed "A Beautiful Change" in the third Informal Concert and got great feedback. Congratulations to all the dancers!



March 17, 2012

Two members of Dance Touring Company presented excerpts from their senior projects at Dance Repertory's Vision Series at the Cowell Theater at Fort Mason Center, SF. Joslynn Mathis-Reed taught a jazz/hip hop workshop and performed with her cast in "Economic Meltdown." Shawn Hawkins performed a solo from his piece "Devastating News." Once again, the students were warmly received, including a spontaneous round of applause when they entered the theater after the first act!

Currently A.V.I.D. is involved in a movie project that will be available in its entirety in July 2013. The goal of this movie project is to explore what isn't typically explored. Call it a documentary of the mind, body and soul if you will. A.V.I.D. is aiming to reach a wide audience from all over the country and eventually the world. We hope you can take the time to watch what we have worked on.

On Saturday May 12th at 12:00pm, The A.V.I.D. ladies will be performing for the 2012 Whole Earth Festival at UC Davis for the second year in a row! A.V.I.D. is also invited to close the Fashion Show event for Agi Fashion Show Productions. This is a unique fashion show that travels all over the bay area and uses spoken word, music, and dance. We will be in San Francisco this May 15th and Friday May 18th locations TBA. Also not only will the A.V.I.D. girls be performing to close the fashion show, we will be costumed by the fashion designers of the show.

~Amy LaFaille (alumna)

Please stay updated in whichever way you can!

<http://www.AVID2010.COM>

<http://www.facebook.com/avidDANCEcompany>

<http://aviddancecompany.tumblr.com/>



Alumni News: Melissa Hillman, '90,



35 years, 35 faces: Melissa Hillman Theatre Bay Area article

For the complete article:

http://www.theatrebayarea.org/editorial/35-Years-35-Faces-Melissa-Hillman.cfm?cs_forceReadMode=1

Why is theatre important? What do you think your role is keeping it a vital part of civilization? How does Theatre Bay Area help?

Human beings need stories. We need to tell them, and we need to hear them. Our stories are where we forge our culture. They're where we decide who we are, who we want to be, who we fear being, what we dream about, what our possibilities are. Our stories are where we store our collective memories of where we've been. The history of world theatre is a map of where we've been as a culture. I wouldn't say theatre is "important." Theatre IS. It always has been and it always will be, as long as there are people, because the need to stand up and tell a story, and the need to hear that story, are encoded into our very beings, and part of that encoding is the need to both tell and hear those stories in person. Recorded versions are wonderful-- don't get me wrong-- but we also need that live, human connection.

Every theatre maker and every audience member and every critic and every kid who plays a back tire in the 2nd grade play about transportation and every teacher sweating over writing a 20 minute version of the story of Frederick Douglass for her class to perform and every follow spot op and every box office person and every carpentry over hire-- all of these people and many, many more keep theatre vital, and they do it all together, and all at the same time. The magic happens because we all choose to believe in the magic, because we need to believe in the magic, because that's what humans are.

I can't adequately describe how important Theatre Bay Area is to the local theatre community. Apart from the many services it provides, which are invaluable, it serves as our central gathering place. If theatre is a community, Theatre Bay Area is our well.

Faculty, Lecturer & Staff Projects



Ulises Alcalá

Costume Designer & Costume Technician

Will be designing costumes for The San Francisco Opera production of Mozart's *La Finata Giardiniera* at the Cowell Theatre in August.



Laura Elaine Ellis

Dance Instructor:
Hip-hop, tap, and jazz

Performed with
Dimensions Dance
Theatre

Alumni



Felicia Lilienthal, '06
 Designing costumes
<http://42ndstmoon.org/sugar>



Marissa Keltie, '04,
 As Sally in Sam Shepard's *A Lie of the Mind*. Box Car Theatre

Craig Marker, '02,
 As Iago in *Othello* at Marin Theatre Company



Impact Theatre Presents *Titus Andronicus*
 Joe Mason, Amy Marie La Faille, Reggie White, Stacz Sadowski, Carlos Martinez, Joe Loper, Jon Nagel



Dimensions Dance Theatre
 Justin Sharlman, Dorcas Obidie and Noah James

Adam & Dawn Fresquez
 Welcome Baby Girl

Siena Addison Fresquez
 Born March 21st, 2012
 7 pounds 20 inches



**GOOD LUCK
 IN L.A.
 SARAH!!!**

Faculty, Lecturer & Staff Projects



(NH&Co dancers Edmer Lazaro, Frances Sedayao and Rebecca Johnson in "this.placed". Photo by Pak Han.)



Prof. Cate Retires



Regina Cate
34 years of service

Started at CSU Hayward in 1978
Dept. Chair 1986 - 1991
Started The High School Shakespeare Festival 1985-2005

Favorite Show(s): Mostly the shows directed by students, *Dream of a Common Language*, *James and the Giant Peach*. Shows I designed: *Josephine the Mouse Singer* by Michael McClure at the Magic Theatre. Husband, Don Cate designed the set.

Most meaningful aspect of teaching: Working with and learning from students.

Last thoughts: The costume shop is fabulous and students who have worked there are fabulous. And mostly, *Ulyses* is fabulous! Must also say that support from scene shop has always been amazing (from both Ed Wright, Doug Cattaneo and Richard Olmsted) and of course my husband, Don, who is my mentor.

A COMMON LANGUAGE

*Readings by Women Faculty
in Celebration of
International Women's Month*



March 1, 1994

Studio Theatre

When I think of Regina, I think of dedication and versatility. During Regina's term as Chair, the major grew. Perhaps our Lottery grants helped, but she knew how to use those funds. She also helped to make it possible for Dance to move from KPE. Regina ran the High School Shakespeare Festival for years, bringing students from across the region to campus. While Regina created costumes for the department, she also designed sets and could be found in her paint clothes working in the shop. I remember that she even reupholstered some sofas for us. Regina expanded the costume history course offerings, taught General Education classes, taught at the Concord Campus, and revived the Children's Theatre program, renewing courses that continue to serve future teachers across campus. Once she even lectured her campus colleagues on the regalia they wear at academic ceremonies. Regina's contributions represent a depth of participation that would be hard to match by any professor.

Tom Hird, Dept. Chair of Theatre & Dance

I've been struggling trying to write something fitting for Regina's retirement. It's hard to fathom the theatre department without her presence, and I don't think that my short paragraph can really encompass the impression she has made on me, let alone the hundreds of other students who have had the privilege to be taught by Professor Cate.

I wrote down the first five things that come to mind when I think of Regina: Generous, Straightforward, Knowledgeable, Friend, and Inspiration.

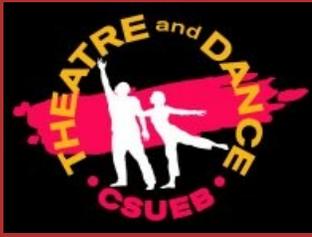
Any time an actor would make an insane complaint about their costumes to Regina one of her favorite responses would be, "Sounds like an acting problem to me." Every time I recall this statement, it brings a smile to my face and is so "Regina".

Thank you for asking me to design makeup for *The Masque of Beauty and the Beast* while I was taking your stage makeup class. It was my first quarter at Hayward, you'd just met me, I wasn't even a theatre major, but you saw that I had potential. I can honestly say that if you hadn't, I would never have known that designing was something I had a passion for and I would not be a costume designer today.

Regina, congratulations on your retirement, I know the theatre department will never be the same without you. You've contributed so much to so many people, myself included; you have a lot to be proud of!

♥ Felicia Lilienthal





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Valerie Kay Ragland, Jan 11th 1963 to Jan 25th 2012. Active in CSUH (EB) Theatre Dept roughly 1983 thru 1989 (never attended full time due to being single mom to Johnny, who appeared in CSUH productions of *The Birds* and *Caucasian Chalk Circle*). Worked extensively with Dr. Ralph Salgado, former Theatre Dept Chair, as his T.A. creating Hispanic Theatre club and class and was a protégée of Professor Edgardo de la Cruz.

Valerie's memorial celebration was held Feb 11th 2011 at El Torito in San Leandro Marina. Hosted by Valerie's sister (& former CSUH Costume Shop Manager) Alison Ragland, and CSUEB alumna & friend Tracy Hinman, Valerie's memorial was attended by (in addition to family and non-CSUH friends) many CSUH/EB alumni including Charlene Tompkins, Mark Farrell, Michael Martines, Dylan Rhodes, Amber Land-Denoyer, Brian Larsen, Berwick Haynes, Gregory Ojeda, Lisa Saaz, Steven Epperson, Steve Mannshardt, Eric Plummer, Dan Hurd, Monica Maddern. Other CSUH folks who supported the Memorial included current department chair Thomas Hird, Archivist April Rodriguez, Heather Faust, and many well-wishers across the country who were unable to attend.

Valerie was talented, generous, loving, positive, and joyful throughout her life. She is deeply mourned and sorely missed by her son John, grandson Elijah, daughter-in-law Niki, brothers Miles and David, niece Rebecca, nephews Owen and Duncan, sister Alison, step-sister Alison and countless beloved friends.

It is not lost on some of us that Whitney Houston, born within months of Valerie, passed away the day of Val's memorial. We know Whitney and Val are partying with Ralph and Edgardo now!

"When I die," Valerie told her siblings on more than one occasion, "I want everybody to have a big party." And so, in accordance with Valerie's wishes, a good time was had by all.

Donations of any size can be made in Valerie's name to CSUEB Theatre and Dance Dept. Contact April Rodriguez, Cal State East Bay Theatre & Dance Department 510-885-3118 for details.

FYI

FACEBOOK FAN PAGE

Fan Page: Cal State East Bay Theatre & Dance

- **ATTENTION ALUMNI**
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Shows Val was in:

- Ten Nights in a Bar Room
- La Ronde (Prostitute)
- Lu Ann Hampton Lavery Oberlander (Charmaine)
- Talking With (Scraps)
- The Birds (Poet)
- You Can't Take It With You (Gay Wellington)
- Caucasian Chalk Circle (Chorus)*
- The Maids (Madam)
- Hermione (Helen of Troy)
- Blood Wedding (chorus)*
- Skin of Our Teeth (Mrs. Antrobus)
- Servant of Two Masters (Beatrice Rasponi)



NEWS FROM THE DEAN

The College of Letters, Arts, and Social Sciences is taking a major step toward promoting and enhancing the arts and media through the approval of a new school at Cal State East Bay.

Grouping Art, Communication, Multimedia, Music and Theatre & Dance into one school will provide opportunities for greater collaboration in interdisciplinary curricular development and artistic production, increased use of innovative instructional models and developing technologies, and enhanced marketing and recruitment, said Dean Kathleen Rountree of CLASS.

Rountree emphasized the benefits of the new school to students, faculty and the community, noting that "... as a society, we express our identity, our values, our fears and our aspirations through the communicative and expressive arts; graduates with skills in these areas are more important to our society than ever before.

Rountree said, "I am confident that each of the disciplines involved will be enhanced and supported by a close and collaborative relationship with the other disciplines, and that, together, we can build new opportunities, offer new learning and scholarly environments, enhance our campus and community in new ways, and embrace new technologies and media."

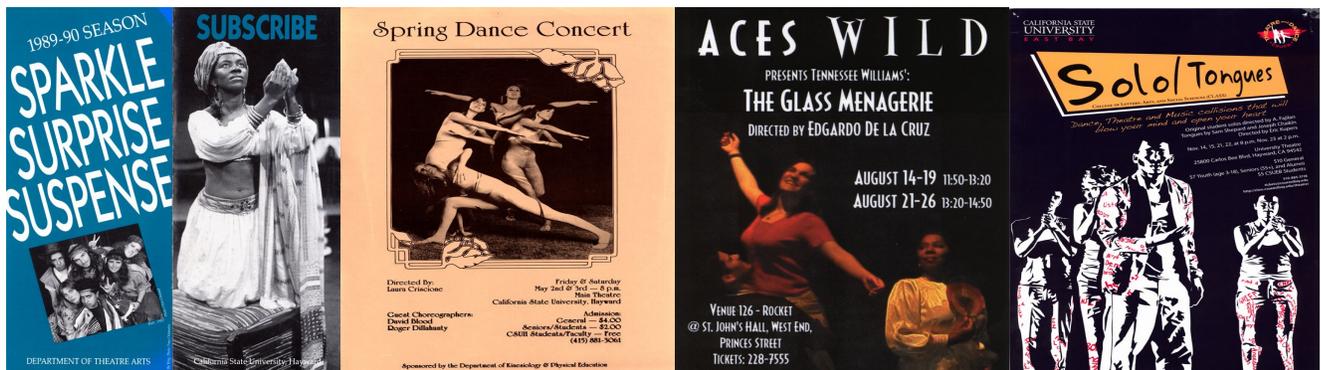
The launch of the new school will be Fall 2013

DEPT. NEWS

It's time to celebrate over 50 years of theatre & dance!!!!

We would like to host a weeks worth of workshops, lectures and panel discussions. In addition we would like to end the week with a variety show featuring our students, alumni and guest artists.

In the past similar activities have included workshops on acting techniques, audition pointers, transition to grad school, career info 101, what's it like to be a professional actor panel, what's it like to be a professional designer panel, master dance instruction, theatre professional panel, and career panel. Alumni and students are welcome to submit their proposals by summer to Tom at thomas.hird@csueastbay.edu. If you'd like to volunteer to help coordinate or do a write about your favorite memories or professor please call us at the office at 510-885-3118 . The celebration is to be held at the beginning of Fall '12.

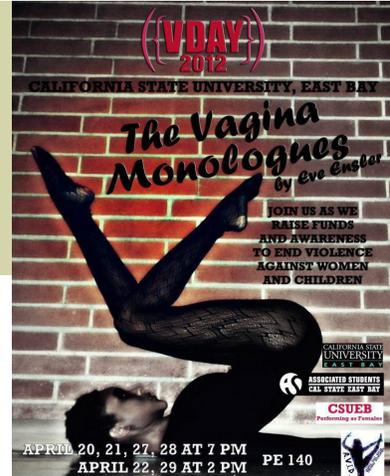


Vagina Monologues

(room P.E. 140) \$5.00 suggested donations
 Any and all donations accepted at the door, cash or check only please. All proceeds go to local shelters that serve women and children in need and as well as to V-day. This is a global movement to help end violence against women and girls.

A.V.I.D will be performing

- 4/20--7pm
- 4/21--7pm
- 4/22--2pm
- 4/27--7pm
- 4/28--7pm
- 4/29--2pm



2012 Graduating Class News

Janelle Aguirre—actor

At the moment I am in the final stages of rehearsals for the play that I am performing the title role in, *Electricidad*, written by Luis Alfaro and directed by Linda Amayo-Hassan. It is a contemporary retelling of the Greek Tragedy of Elektra and takes place in the barrios of East L.A. My Senior project is the culmination of my research into the taking on the lead role of "Electricidad", which with this play has much to do with my research into Chicano Theater and culture as well as women's issues. We run from April 12-22, at the Douglas Morrison Theater in Hayward.

Anthony Johnson—dance

I have been literally running around like a chicken with its head cut off! Full blown personification! haha. But yes, my name is Anthony "AnTz" Johnson and I am a senior who is set to graduate in June. I will be most likely continuing teaching for the City of Fremont, while also modeling, dancing, acting with agencies and choreographing for up and coming musical artists. I have also been doing casting calls for reality TV & entertainment shows so also look out for that! Also I am performing/directing in my own senior project performance in Fusion titled, "...was here..." .

Chalia La Tour—designer & actor

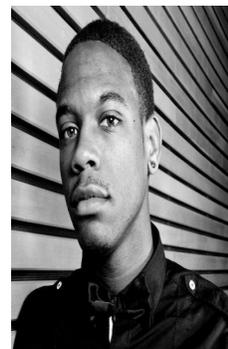
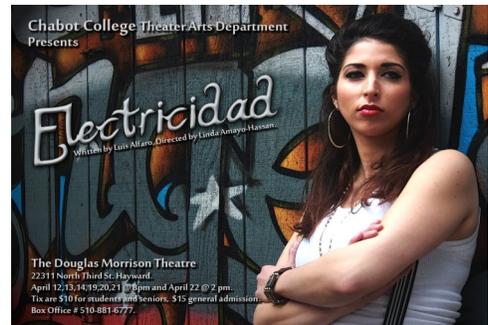
She just accepted an offer to join the Actors Theatre of Louisville as an Acting Apprentice and to work on the 2012-2013 Humana Festival!

Joe Loper—actor

It's my extreme good fortune to be headed to New York in the fall to work on my MFA in Acting at The New School for Drama. My professors at CSU, Darryl V. Jones, Marc N. Jacobs and Ann Fajilan, have been patient and persistent with me for over 2 years and you have my eternal thanks. A special shout out to Melissa Hillman for being a wealth of advice, knowledge and for being a sounding board. And casting me. To my CSU peers, we've been through a lot together and I know I've grown as a person and actor as a result. Cheryle Honerlah, Chalia La Tour, Reggie D. White to name a few. My family is the best. Period.

Melanie Sutradhada—actor

I'm headed to the Stella Adler Conservatory in New York!



2012 Graduating Class

Chalia Ayers Latour
 Krystal Bates
 Jordan Battle
 Steven Ennis
 Victoria Fadenipo
 Yakima Flores
 Cheryle Honerlah
 Anthony Johnson
 Martina Lawson-Hines
 Joseph Loper
 Janet Lowman
 Joslynn Mathis
 Haroon Noori
 Sara Prince
 Sergio Suarez
 Melanie Sutradhata

Last Minute News by Prof. Kupers

For Refractions Nina and I are each choreographing/directing original dance/theater pieces. Nina's working on pieces that take place at sites around campus, inspired by iconic movies and I'm making a dance/theater adaptation of local playwright Brad Guthrie's play, "Cooney's View," which will have its world premiere at Refractions.

I'm choreographing a piece for Croi Glan, which is a physically integrated dance company in Cork, Ireland. I went there for a week during spring break and will go again at the end of this quarter to finish the work. It is a community piece that includes professional dancers with and without disabilities, an organization for adults with developmental disabilities, a teen group and a group of elders. It will be performed as part of the Irish Performing Arts Festival at the Cork City Hall on June 28th for an audience of about 1200, including the Irish president.

Connect with us!

facebook

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Cal-State-East-Bay-Theatre-Dance/166070044703?v=wall>

Alumni

<http://class.csueastbay.edu/theatre/Alumni.php>

2011-2012 season

<http://www20.csueastbay.edu/class/departments/theatre/performances.html>

The College of Letters, Arts, and Social Sciences Mailing list

<https://adhwweb13.csueastbay.edu/friends/arts-and-culture.php>

