Reimagining Creativity for the 21st Century!

Letter from the Dean

Happy New Year 2016!—who could have imagined it would come so quickly?

We’re so glad you’re keeping in touch with us. And now that the holidays are over, we’re eager to share with you some of the wonderful things that will be taking place in the School in January, always hoping that you’ll be able to carve time out of your busy schedule to come share them with us.

You’ll see in the recent “News” sections below that our students, faculty, and alums are hard at work shaping the artsworld in a variety of ways.

And what a remarkable January it will be in CTSA:

—Two art exhibitions (in the UAG and the CAC Gallery),
—four musical events,
—a Pulitzer Prize-winning play in the Robert Cohen Theatre, and
—a remarkable multi-media performance in our Experimental Media Performance Laboratory.

And that’s just to get the new year started!

Please join us — And watch this space for much more to come.

Best new year’s wishes,

Stephen Barker, Ph.D.
Interim Dean, Claire Trevor School of the Arts

School News

UCI News - December 17, 2015 - Cathy Lawhon
The University of California, Irvine's anteater mascot, voted Mashable's 2015 Mascot Madness champion, captained the campus’s entry in the 107th Newport Beach Christmas Boat Parade, complete with live singers, and instrumental performances that won the “Best Music” award. Peter’s appearance in the parade, themed “Seas the Holidays,” is part of UCI’s 50th anniversary celebration. The UCI @ 50 craft – and Peter – cruised the harbor nightly through Saturday, Dec. 18. LINK.
New University - December 1, 2015 - Cheyda Arhamsadr
Claire Trevor School of the Arts Dance Department's annual fall quarter showcase, New Slate, returns December 3-5, providing dance students their formal performance opportunity for the year. The program, headed by artistic director Tong Wan, is made up of pieces choreographed by a number of first and second-year graduate dance students, incorporating different genres of dance and elements of the dance traditions of different cultures to form both a distinct and cohesive exhibition of the talent in the Claire Trevor Dance Department. [LINK]

New University - December 1, 2015 - Javier Burdette
The University Art Gallery's latest exhibition, A Performative Trigger: Radicals of UCI, has taken an interesting approach to promotion. Everything from the website to the enormous, informative pamphlets available in the foyer is adorned with the same image: a photograph of a "Keep Out" sign nailed to the post of a barb-wire fence. Potential visitors fear not; the image is not meant to scare patrons off, but, like the featured art, stir up a reaction and push one to think outside traditional boundaries. [LINK]

Student News

New University - November 24, 2015 - Savannah Peykani
The final bell rings as classrooms turn into a whirlwind of departure. Bags are packed with worksheets and math problems and crayons and juice boxes. Eager legs scurry to the playground, their parents' arms, soccer practice. But for 15 students at Culverdale Elementary School, school ending means it's time for rehearsal. [LINK]

Faculty News

Professor of Drama Daphne Lei recently assumed the presidency of the American Society for Theatre Research (ASTR). During this three year term (2015-2018) her vision for the society, which includes increasing diversity and transnational connections, will have great influence over theatre academia in the US. Professor Lei also recently gave a talk entitled Wrong Place, Wrong Time as part of the series What Matters to Me and Why? at UCI. [LINK]

Professor of Drama Robin Buck wrote, directed, and starred in the 2015 Long Beach Opera Gala, and also sang the lead role in workshop of The Invention of
Morel, a new opera/music theatre piece by Stewart Copeland of The Police.

Professor Holly Poe Durbin recently costumed the Gala Fundraiser for Shakespeare Center LA, featuring Bette Midler, Tom Hanks, Rita Wilson, Eric Idle, Martin Short and others. Professor Durbin also designed the costumes for Peter and the Starcatcher at PlayMakers Rep, and is publishing a chapter in The Art of Costume Design, available next summer. [LINK]

Drama Chair Daniel Gary Busby sat down with Director Leslie Ishii to discuss UCI Drama’s production of Bruce Norris’ Clybourne Park. [LINK]

Read All Faculty News

Alumni News

New University - December 1, 2015
UC Irvine drama alumni Garrett Deagon (BFA 2011) and Madisen Johnson (BFA 2015) recently returned to their alma mater to discuss their experience on the road with the national tour of “Annie,” which had local runs at OC’s Segerstrom Center for the Arts and LA’s Pantages Theatre. [LINK].

Author, performer and dance educator Sakina Ibrahim (MFA 2014) has been nominated for the 47th Annual NAACP Image Award for Outstanding Literary Work Instructional for her self-published book Big Words to Little Me: Advice to the Younger Self. Big Words to Little Me serves as a creative approach towards self-development that focuses on addressing personal and collective challenges, in order to discover the power of choice and determination. Sakina demonstrates her dedication to help young people develop the tools necessary to navigate life’s challenges, in order to lead happy and healthy lives. Sakina graduated from Pioneer Valley Performing Arts High School, received her Bachelors of Fine Arts from University of the Arts in Philadelphia, PA and a Masters of Fine Arts from University of California, Irvine. The official award will be announced on February 5th, 2016 in Los Angeles, CA. [LINK]. Books available [here](#).

Karyn Lawrence (BFA 2012) received an Ovation Award nomination for Best Lighting Design - Large Theater for her work on Ebony Repertory’s production of The Gospel at Colonus at the Nate Holden Performing Arts Center. She has also done the lighting design for South Coast Repertory’s productions The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane, A Year with Frog and Toad, Mary Poppins, and the upcoming The Light Princess. She is currently an adjunct professor at Cal State Los Angeles. [LINK].

Sheldon Chau (BA 2010) is heading to the Sundance Film Festival with the film Jungle. In the film the lines between trust, betrayal, and forgiveness are intertwined for two Senegalese vendors as they try to make a living on the streets of New York City. After graduating from UCI Sheldon won an Armed With a Camera Fellowship from Visual Communications. With the fellowship he made the film To Light. The short documentary follows the filmmaker’s own father as he recounts the conflicts he faced when his family was forced to flee Vietnam in the 1970s. He reveals for the first time, even to his son, an account of sacrifice, struggle, and in the end, true love. Sheldon recently graduated from NYU Tisch School of the Arts with an MFA in Cinematography. [LINK].

Read All Alumni News | Email Your News

Join Us

H.M.
By Kerry Tribe
January 9 to March 12, 2016
Contemporary Arts Center (CAC) Gallery
H.M. is a two-channel installation of a single film based on the true story of the amnesiac man known famously in scientific literature as, “Patient H.M.” H.M. is a 16mm film that plays through two adjacent synchronized projectors. The 20-second delay between projections performs Patient H.M.’s short-term memory recall.
Free admission. Public is welcome.

**Critical Curatorial Program Thesis Exhibition**
Curated by Andrew McNeely
January 9 – March 12, 2016
University Art Gallery (UAG)
Free admission. Public is welcome.

**Faculty Artist Series**
Trio de Janeiro
January 9, 2016
8:00 pm
Winifred Smith Hall
Members of the Trio de Janeiro first met in Fairbanks, Alaska in 1990 and have been performing together at various national and international venues since, including appearances in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Violinist Haroutune Bedelian, cellist Armen Ksadjikian and pianist Lorna Griffitt will perform trios by Mozart, Schubert and Brahms.

**Chamber Music | OC Presents: All Strings Attached**
January 15, 2016
8:00 pm
Winifred Smith Hall
Chamber Music | OC in association with the Claire Trevor School of the Arts presents the renowned Jupiter String Quartet, winners of the coveted Avery Fisher Career Grant, and Trio Céleste cellist Ross Gasworth in a special recital featuring works of Bedrich Smetana and Franz Schubert.

**EMERSE**
A Media Performance & Installation
January 20 – 23, 2016
xMPL (Experimental Media Performance Lab)
EMERSE traces relationships between humans and oceans, and in particular the contrasts and complexities of California's coastal interface, using advanced digital media techniques. Images and sound from the California coastline are interleaved with Henry visualization and sonification of ocean data. “EMERSE” refers to “emerging” understanding that develops through “immersion” in this interactive visual and auditory environment.
Free admission. Public is welcome.

**H.M. & The Aesthetics of Memory Roundtable Hosted by UAG**
Sponsored By UCI Illuminations:
The Chancellor’s Arts & Culture Initiative
January 28, 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm
Winifred Smith Hall
On the interdisciplinary subject of neuroscience and experimental filmmaking, we are proud to mount and exhibition of Kerry Tribe’s experimental film installation, H.M. in our University of California, Irvine Contemporary Arts Center Gallery. H.M. is a two-channel presentation of a single film based on the true story of an anonymous, memory-impaired man known in scientific literature as “Patient H.M.” Free admission. Public is welcome.

**Care, Cure, Corruption Series**
Clybourne Park
By Bruce Norris
January 30 – February 7, 2016
Robert Cohen Theatre
A spin-off of Lorraine Hansberry’s A Raisin in the Sun, this razor-sharp satire examines race and property in a fictional Chicago neighborhood. At the heart of this Pulitzer Prize-winning play is a house, acting as the locus reactions to the shifting landscape of a neighborhood. Two racially charged transactions explore community, disease within the broader themes of personal and national history.

**Faculty Artist Series**
Spirals
January 30, 2016

Give the gift of the Arts!
8:00 pm
Winfred Smith Hall
Join cellist Maggie Parkins and friends for an evening of music featuring works spanning several centuries. Featured performers include Genevieve Lee, Aron Kallay and Nick Terry.

REIMAGINE GIFT GIVING!
Give the gift of the Arts.
Claire Trevor School of the Arts Gift Card for Dance, Drama and Music performances of your choice.
Purchase your Gift Card at the arts Box Office or online.

Box Office / Ticket Sales Information
(949) 824-2787 | artstix@uci.edu

How to Buy

Online: www.arts.uci.edu/tickets ($3 flat service fee)
Phone: (949) 824-2787 ($3 flat service fee; Monday & Tuesday, 10am-5pm; Wednesday - Friday, 12-4pm)
Window: (Monday & Tuesday, 10am-5pm; Wednesday - Friday, 12-4pm)

Discounted Parking
Secure $7 pre-paid parking permits (vs. $10-$15) when ordering tickets at least 14 days in advance! The option is available online, by phone or in person. Some events do not qualify. For additional information, please call the Arts Box Office at (949) 824-2787 or email artstix@uci.edu.

Shuttle Service / Accessible Drop-Off Information
We will be providing complimentary shuttle service for our disabled guests, or those with mobility issues, from the Mesa Parking Structure to most of the shows throughout the season. Shuttle service will begin one hour before show-time and will meet patrons on level two (Mesa Road street level) of the Mesa Parking Structure, by the elevator. Advance notice is appreciated, but not required. For a list of supported shows and parking/drop-off tips, visit www.arts.uci.edu/shuttle. For additional information, please call the Arts Box Office at (949) 824-2787 or email artstix@uci.edu.