



Upcoming Events

Remember to Save the Date for the Grand Opening Celebration of our exciting new Contemporary Arts Center, November 9 at 5:30 p.m. We guarantee you'll have a great time! And don't miss the recent *L.A. Times* feature article about the CAC's architect,

Steven Ehrlich, who recently received the 2011 Maybeck Award for achievement in architecture from the American Institute of Architects California Council. If you missed the article, go to: <http://www.latimes.com/entertainment/news/la-ca-conversation-20110828,0,4734818.story>

Faculty & Student Accolades

Associate Professor of Drama **Daphne Lei** has completed another successful season of Multicultural Spring, with invited artists in Bharata Natyam, Chinese dance, Manipuri dance, Kabuki and others. She has also been invited to speak at Harvard University and to give a keynote speech at the UK's University of Reading.

Chair of Music **David Brodbeck** was awarded the American Musicological Society's H. Colin Slim Award for his article "Hanslick's Smetana, Hanslick's Prague," in the *Journal of the Royal Musical Association*. This prize is given annually for the best article published by a senior scholar.

Music Professor **Colleen Reardon** has received a fellowship from the National Endowment for the Humanities for her project "A 'Sociable Moment': Sieneese Opera Patronage and Performance, 1669-1704." The grant will allow **Professor Reardon** to pursue research in Roman, Florentine, and Sieneese archives and libraries during the 2011-12 academic year.

Drama Professor **Robert Cohen's** article "Pozzo's Knook, Beckett's Boys and Santa Claus," about Samuel Beckett's *Waiting for Godot*, appeared in the summer issue of *Modern Drama*.

"The Perpetual Guest: On Warren Niesluchowski," an article on *War After War*, a film by Studio Art Professor **Simon Leung**, appears in the September 12, 2011 edition of *The Nation*. Earlier in the summer Leung also performed in the concert "The Stephanie Taylor Songbook" for The Society for the Activation of Social Space through Art and Sound.



Associate Professor of Drama **Richard Brestoff** is serving as a Blue Ribbon Panel judge for the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences 2011 Primetime Emmy Awards in three categories: Best Drama Series, Best Lead Actor in a Drama Series and Best Lead Actor in a Miniseries or a Movie. He also served this summer as a Blue Ribbon Panel judge for the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences College Television Awards.

In August, Assistant Professor of Dance **Jeff Russell** used part of his CTSA Summer Research and Travel Grant to travel to the Biomechanics and Gait Lab of Gillette Children's Healthcare in Minneapolis, MN. He is also working with **Amy Quanbeck** (BFA Dance Performance, senior) and colleagues at Gillette on research to understand more about how dancers perform turnout. The first set of results, which bring a very innovative understanding to the biomechanics of turnout, will be presented by Amy in October at the International Association for Dance Medicine and Science annual conference.

Associate Professor of Drama **Gary Busby** recently directed the concert reading of *La Cage Aux Folles* for the Oregon Shakespeare Festival's 2011 "Daedelus

Project," Southern Oregon's largest HIV/AIDS fundraiser. This is the first time in the 14 year history of the play reading that it has been sold out. In addition to directing, musically staging and musically directing the concert reading, he was also the pianist in the performance.

EM & Co. Boutique in Los Angeles presents *New Bodies*, a show featuring works by current student **Aaron Valenzuela** (MFA Studio Art). The show runs from August 26 to September 21, 2011. For more information, call (323)782-8155.

Music Professor **Chris Dobrian** designed and installed a keyboard instruction lab for the Music Department. The lab is primarily for helping students develop piano keyboard skills, which is still fundamental to musicians' training, but it is also useful as a teaching space for music theory and composition.



Assistant Professor of Drama **Vincent Olivieri** just returned from a trip to Prague, Czech Republic, where he presented a couple of projects at the Prague Quadrennial. The first was an extended band performance called *The Night I Found Out I Was Adopted*, an improvisatory two-person i-device band; the second project was *Push The Button*, a long-term research project. *PTB* is a live, real-time, cloud-oriented sound design and music-making installation environment that anyone with a mobile device can control.

New on the Bookshelf

Associate Professor of Drama **Daphne Lei** has published her second book, *Alternative Chinese Opera in the Age of Globalization: Performing Zero* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2011), as well as a number of essays.

On Stage

Eric Kunze (BA Drama) reprises his Broadway role of Chris in *Miss Saigon* at Music Circus, Sacramento, CA.



Janifer Foote (BA Dance/Drama '00) will be on Broadway this fall in the revival of Stephen Sondheim's *Follies*, starring Bernadette Peters, at the Marquis Theatre.

Colleen Kollar Smith (BA Drama '00) is appearing in *Mixtape* for Lamb's Players at the Horton Grand Theatre in San Diego, CA. Colleen is a member of the Resident Acting Ensemble for Lamb's and also choreographed and co-wrote the book for *Mixtape*, a musical revue of pop songs of the 80s.



Alumni Milestones

Bryan Doerries (MFA Drama '01) was featured in the July/August edition of *American Theatre Magazine* to discuss the creation of his program "Theater of War." Through this program, professional actors and military service members perform readings from Bryan's adaptations of the ancient Greek tragedies *Ajax* and *Philoctetes*, providing avenues for community dialogue about the human costs of war.

Hope Bataclan (BA Dance Performance, senior) has joined Vox Dance Theatre, a Los Angeles-based dance company that tours both regionally and internationally.

Betsy Mugavero (MFA Drama '09) played Hermia in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and Poppy Norton-Taylor in *Noises Off* at the 2011 Utah Shakespeare Festival, winning lavish reviews for her performances.

California State University, Long Beach presents *GLAMFA 2011*. The show features current work in painting, video, sculpture, relational aesthetics and installation by 30 artists, including **Maura Brewer** (MFA Studio Art '11) and **Noritaka Minami** (MFA Studio Art '11). The opening reception will be held on Sunday, September 4, from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. The show runs from August 29 to September 8, 2011. For more information please visit greaterlamfa.com.

In August, Steve Turner Contemporary presented *Wet Paint 3: Six Young LA Artists*, a group exhibition which included current student **Yaron Michael Hakim** (MFA Studio Art). Out of over 200 artists considered, only six were selected to be in the show.

CTSA's D-Block presented *The De-Socialized Landscape*, a group exhibition produced by Foundation for Art Resources (FAR) and curated by **Grant Vetter** (MFA Studio Art '09). The exhibition featured work by other CTSA alumni, including **Nina T. Becker** (MFA Studio Art '10), **Josh Cho** (MFA Studio Art '11), **April Friges** (MFA Studio Art '10), **Dong Jun** (MFA Studio Art '09), **Joey Lehman Morris** (MFA Studio Art '08), and **Gabie Strong** (MFA Studio Art '08).



Grants & Gifts

Our sincerest thanks are extended to Irvine-based **Microsemi Corporation**, which recently made a \$25,000 gift to CTSA. Their generosity is much appreciated!

In Memoriam

CTSA mourns the passing and celebrates the life of **Gilbert "Magú" Luján** (MFA '73). Magú was a painter, muralist and sculptor whose vivid, whimsical and often slyly humorous works depicting a mythical view of Mexican American life graced museum walls and public spaces alike. A pioneer in the Chicano art movement that took root in the 1960s and 70s, this creator and activist



was a founder of Los Four, which also included artists Carlos Almaraz, Beto de la Rocha and Frank Romero. Magú participated in a seminal four-man show at UC Irvine, and subsequently in an expanded version of the show at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art in the early 1970s. "One only has to examine the barrio to see that the elements to choose from are as infinite as any culture allows," Magú once remarked. As an artist and as a man, he will be missed.