

USC School of Dramatic Arts

# **SPRING 2013 SCHEDULE**

#### M.F.A. ACTING SPRING REPERTORY\* Feb. 9 - Mar. 10 / Scene Dock Theatre SUMMERTIME

by Charles L. Mee Directed by Andrei Belgrader ARE YOU FALLING? by David Bridel and the M.F.A. Acting Class of 2013 Directed by David Bridel 'TIS PITY SHE'S A WHORE by John Ford Directed by Andrew J. Robinson

#### THE ARABIAN NIGHTS

By Mary Zimmerman Directed by Stephanie Shroyer Feb. 28 - Mar. 3 / McClintock Theatre

#### THE TAMING OF THE SHREW

By William Shakespeare Directed by Lisa Wolpe Mar. 7 - 10 / Bing Theatre

#### **BROKEN EGGS**

By Eduardo Machado Directed by Laurie Woolery Apr. 4 - 7 / Scene Dock Theatre

#### SPRING MUSICAL THE MOST HAPPY FELLA

Book, Music, and Lyrics by Frank Loesser Based on the play They Knew What They Wanted by Sidney Howard Directed by John Rubinstein Apr. 4 - 14 / Bing Theatre

#### MRS. PACKARD

By Emily Mann Directed by Casey Stangl Apr. 11 - 14 / McClintock Theatre

#### **NEW WORKS FESTIVAL YEAR TWO** THE M.F.A. IN DRAMATIC WRITING

PLAYWRIGHTS WORKSHOP\*

# Apr. 12 - 28 / Massman Theatre

MORNING VIEW By Jesse Mu-En Shao Directed by Sabina Ptasznik TALES FROM TENT CITY By Brian James Polak Directed by Larissa Kokernot MY DEAR HUSSEIN By Nahal Navidar Directed by Shishir Kurup

#### MUSEUM

By Tina Howe Directed by Jack Rowe Apr. 25 - 28 / McClintock Theatre

#### **GETTING MARRIED**

By George Bernard Shaw Directed by Robert Shampain Apr. 25 - 28 / Scene Dock Theatre

#### DANCE CONCERT THE UNITED KINGDOM OF DANCE May 2 & 3 / Bing Theatre

**NEW WORKS FESTIVAL YEAR THREE** THE MASTER OF FINE ARTS PLAY PROJECT\* May 28 - June 1 / McClintock Theatre











# **Ticket Information**

**SHOWTIMES** (except where noted otherwise) Thu. & Fri. at 7pm • Sat. at 2:30 & 8pm • Sun. at 2:30pm \*Please see website below for performance schedule

#### TICKET PRICES

PLAYS: General Admission \$10 • Seniors or USC Faculty/Staff with ID \$8 • USC Students with ID \$5 MUSICALS: General Admission \$15 • Seniors or USC Faculty/Staff with ID \$10 • USC Students with ID \$6 NEW WORKS FESTIVAL YEAR TWO: All tickets \$5

NEW WORKS FESTIVAL YEAR THREE: Admission is free and will be available at the door on a first-come, first-served basis.

For tickets and information: www.usc.edu/spectrum • arts@usc.edu • 213-740-2167

# THE USC SCHOOL OF DRAMATIC ARTS presents

# THE MFA ACTING SPRING REPERTORY

THE COMPANY

Satchel André • James Bane • Whitney Ellis • Francisco Pryor Garat

Charlotte Gulezian • Jered Hobbs • Moronai Kanekoa • Tyler King • Maria Pasquarelli

Pia Shah • Kelsey Siepser • Patrick Toth

**SUMMERTIME**BY CHARLES L. MEE

ARE YOU FALLING?
BY DAVID BRIDEL AND
THE M.F.A ACTING CLASS OF 2013

**'TIS PITY SHE'S A WHORE** 

BY JOHN FORD

Scenic Design

Scenic Design TAKESHI KATA Scenic Design TAKESHI KATA

Costume Design SARAH SCHUESSLER

Costume Design HANNAH KIM

Costume Design HOWARD SCHMITT

Lighting Design LEIGH ALLEN Lighting Design LEIGH ALLEN

Lighting Design LEIGH ALLEN

Sound Design ALMA REYES-THOMAS Sound Design ALMA REYES-THOMAS

Projection Design

NICHOLAS SANTIAGO

Sound Design ALMA REYES-THOMAS

Projection Design

Stage Manager MOLLY MCGRAW Stage Manager MOLLY MCGRAW

Stage Manager MOLLY MCGRAW

Directed by DAVID BRIDEL

Directed by ANDREW J. ROBINSON

Directed by ANDREI BELGRADER

February 9 - March 10, 2013

Scene Dock Theatre



THE M.F.A. IN ACTING CLASS OF 2013

Top row: Patrick Toth, Maria Pasquarelli, Francisco Pryor Garat, James Bane Middle row: Moronai Kanekoa, Kelsey Siepser, Pia Shah, Satchel André Bottom row: Whitney Ellis, Jered Hobbs, Tyler King, Charlotte Gulezian

#### THE MFA ACTING REPERTORY EXPERIENCE

By Andrew J. Robinson, Director of M.F.A. in Acting

Our graduating M.F.A. acting students began working on the plays that comprise our three-play repertoire – Charles L. Mee's *Summertime*, John Ford's *'Tis Pity She's a Whore*, and *Are You Falling?*, a play written by David Bridel and the company – in September 2012. This multi-play "rep" is the equivalent of their Master's thesis, and it culminates the ensemble performance aspect of the USC School of Dramatic Arts' M.F.A. actor-training program.

This rep serves two purposes in actor-training: one, it brings a group of student-actors together into a working ensemble; and two, it gives them an intense repertory experience that allows them to practically apply all aspects of their training. What the actor learns from being a working member of an ensemble is every bit as important as learning the nuts and bolts of craft. To be a true ensemble player, one develops a vital connection and a responsibility to the other players. Individual talents are brought together into a coherent and responsive ensemble that creates the potential for extraordinary theatre.

Michael Chekhov, the great Russian actor, director and teacher, believed "the purpose of all training is to create character." After more than two years of classes, workshops and performance situations, each one of these actors has now created three or more characters from three very different plays. And because they are a small group taking on this enormous challenge, they are sometimes playing roles that commercial theatre would be reluctant to hire them to play. Dean Puzo has remarked that "repertory theatre is the triumph of miscasting." Nothing stretches an actor more than to struggle with a character that's 180 degrees removed from her or his "type." It's this kind of "miscasting" that often allows for revelatory performance.

Until relatively recently, actors coming out of drama school had more opportunity to secure an apprenticeship with one of a number of resident repertory companies located throughout the country. The intensity of the rep experience (rehearsing one play during the day, playing another at night) allowed the apprentice to put recent drama school training to the test of practical application. Unfortunately, these resident rep companies have dwindled down to a precious few.

Today, the vast majority of students coming out of drama school are immediately thrown into a "freelance" situation where the work comes sporadically with a lot of "down time" in-between. The formative practical experience that professional rep companies used to provide has now, to a large extent, fallen to academy-styled university programs. And if the repertory experience is not even offered in these programs, then chances are slim that the graduated actor will ever find it in the professional world.

Multi-play rep is not for the faint of heart. It requires stamina, patience and true belief in the creative imagination. Every bit of intellectual, emotional and physical resource the actor possesses is put into play. It's an experience that strengthens and expands presence, the actor's most valuable asset, and I am deeply grateful to Dean Puzo and the School of Dramatic Arts for keeping the experience alive here at USC.

# The M.F.A. Acting Spring Repertory

PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

# **SUMMERTIME**

Saturday, February 9, at 2:30 p.m. Sunday, February 10, at 8 p.m. Wednesday, February 20, at 7 p.m. Thursday, February 21, at 7 p.m. Saturday, March 2, at 8 p.m. Sunday, March 3, at 2:30 p.m. Friday, March 8, at 7 p.m. Saturday, March 9, at 2:30 p.m.

# **ARE YOU FALLING?**

Saturday, February 9, at 8 p.m.
Sunday, February 10, at 2:30 p.m.
Friday, February 22, at 7 p.m.
Saturday, February 23, at 2:30 p.m.
Wednesday, February 27, at 7 p.m.
Thursday, February 28, at 7 p.m.
Saturday, March 9, at 8 p.m.
Sunday, March 10, at 2:30 p.m.

# **'TIS PITY SHE'S A WHORE**

Saturday, February 16, at 8 p.m. Sunday, February 17, at 2:30 p.m. Saturday, February 23, at 8 p.m. Sunday, February 24, at 2:30 p.m. Friday, March 1, at 7 p.m. Saturday, March 2, at 2:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 6, at 7 p.m. Thursday, March 7, at 7 p.m.

# SUMMERTIME

By Charles L. Mee Directed by Andrei Belgrader

#### CAST OF CHARACTERS

(In Order of Appearance)

Tessa	
James	
Francois	James Bane
Mimi	Maria Pasquarelli
Natalie	
Maria	Pia Shah
Frank	Moronai Kanekoa
Edmund	
Barbara	Charlotte Gulezian
Bob	Jered Hobbs
Gunter	Francisco Pryor Garat
Bertha	Charlotte Gulezian
Hilda	Maria Pasquarelli
Man Not In Love	Tyler King

#### TIME

Nowadays, Summer

#### PLACE

Loveland, Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts

There will be one 15-minute intermission.

#### WARNING

Please be advised that this production contains smoking, strobe effects, and male nudity.

#### **DIRECTOR'S BIO**

Andrei Belgrader has been a master teacher of acting and directing at the Yale School of Drama, a professor at UCSD and head of directing at Juilliard. He is a Theatre and TV director. For television, he has directed numerous episodes of Monk, as well as Law and Order: Criminal Intent and the sitcom Coach. He has directed at major regional theatres such as American Repertory Theatre, Yale Repertory Theatre, The Goodman, Seattle Rep, ACT- San Francisco as well as in New York. His last two productions in New York, Beckett's Endgame at BAM with John Turturro and Elaine Stritch, and Chekhov's The Cherry Orchard at CSC with Dianne Wiest and John Turturro (Lucille Lortel Award) were chosen among the "Ten Best Plays" of the year by publications such as The New York Times and New York magazine. Andrei is a Professor of Theatre Practice for the USC School of Dramatic Arts.

#### SPECIAL THANKS

Matt Walker and the Troubies, David Bridel, Center Theatre Group, Dawn Holiski, Andrew Thiels

# **ARE YOU FALLING?**

By David Bridel and the M.F.A. Acting Class of 2013
Directed by David Bridel

#### **CAST OF CHARACTERS**

(In Order of Appearance)

Sylvia Ryan	Charlotte Gulezian
Justice Richard Humphrey	. James Bane
Scott Larrabee	. Jered Hobbs
Daisy Romano	. Kelsey Siepser
Nicola	. Maria Pasquarelli
Perrera	Satchel André
Goran	. Whitney Ellis
Detective Zander Gray	. Tyler King
Piotr ("Petya") Ballayev	Patrick Toth
Agent Alvang	. Maria Pasquarelli
Dr. Polina Vorukhova	. Pia Shah
Derek Small	Francisco Pryor Garat
Yosef Balakov	. Moronai Kanekoa
Samuel ("Sami") Balakov	Satchel André
Serafina Natalia	. Whitney Ellis
Rachele Balakov	. Kelsey Siepser
Damian	Tyler King
Seymour Schilling	. Jered Hobbs

There will be no intermission.

#### WARNING

Please be advised that this production contains mature language and themes, and strobe effects.

#### **DIRECTOR'S BIO**

David is a director, choreographer, playwright, performer, and teacher of acting, movement and clown. He is the Associate Director and Head of Movement for the M.F.A. in Acting at USC.

#### **DIRECTOR'S NOTE**

Are You Falling? explores the tension between truth and perspective in the justice system, based on the true story of a murder trial that took place in New York a few years ago.

#### **SPECIAL THANKS**

Amanda Squitieri; Elmira Rahim; Vika Teplinskaya; USC Starbucks; USC Annenberg School for Communications and Journalism, Jim Yoder

# **'TIS PITY SHE'S A WHORE**

By John Ford Directed by Andrew J. Robinson

#### **CAST OF CHARACTERS**

(In Order of Appearance)

Friar	. Charlotte Gulezian
Giovanni	. Tyler King
Grimaldi	. James Bane
Vasquez	. Francisco Pryor Garat
Florio	. Satchel André
Soranzo	
Annabella	
Puttana	
Bergetto	. Patrick Toth
Poggio	. Charlotte Gulezian
Donado	
Richardetto	. Jered Hobbs
Philotis	
Hippolita	. Maria Pasquarelli
Officers	
Cardinal	
Attendants	
Banditti	. Maria Pasquarelli, Patrick Toth

#### TIME

Sometime between then and now

#### **PLACE**

Parma, Italy

There will be one 15-minute intermission.

#### WARNING

Please be advised that this production contains theatrical fog.

#### **DIRECTOR'S BIO**

Andrew J. Robinson is a Professor of Theatre Practice and Director of the M.F.A. Actor-training program for the USC School of Dramatic Arts. He directed for last year's repertory, Fortune is a Woman, as well as Twelfth Night, Fisher King and A Midsummer Night's Dream for previous reps. He is a graduate of the New School for Social Research and a Fulbright Scholar to the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art. He has worked as an actor and director all over the country in theatre, film and television.

#### **SPECIAL THANKS**

Edgar Landa; Center Theatre Group; Dawn Holiski; Andrew Thiels; Kingsmen Shakespeare Co., Michael J. Arndt, Artistic Director

# **PRODUCTION STAFF**

# **SUMMERTIME**

Vocal Coach	Natsuko Ohama, Susan Main
Choreography	Kristin Condon
Scenic Artist	Vika Teplinskaya
Assistant Stage Manager	Lea Branyan
Scenic Assistant	Dreem Qin
Costume Assistant	Amelia Brookins
Assistant Sound Design	Danielle Kisner
Properties Manager	Hannah Burnham
Crew	Elyssa Banks, Michael Bernardi,
	Alejandro Buceta, Amador Plascencia, Jr.,
	Vania Portilla, Forest Sebastian

# **ARE YOU FALLING?**

Puppet Design	. Victoria Tam
Vocal Coach	. Natsuko Ohama, Susan Main
Scenic Artist	. Vika Teplinskaya
Assistant Stage Manager	.Summer Grubaugh
Scenic & Costume Assistant	. Esther Chung
Assistant Sound Design	. Danielle Kisner
Properties Manager	. Hannah Burnham
Crew	. Andrew Buenrostro, Alex Ning,
	Patrick Pote, Elmira Rahim,
	Sedale Threatt, Jr.

# **'TIS PITY SHE'S A WHORE**

Vocal Coach	Natsuko Ohama, Susan Main
Choreography	David Zurak
Fight Choreography	Edgar Landa
Scenic Artist	Vika Teplinskaya
Assistant Stage Manager	Jennifer Caspellan
Scenic Assistant	Kate Harrow
Assistant Sound Design	Danielle Kisner
Properties Manager	Hannah Burnham
Crew	Jalen Cassell, Kimberli Flores,
	Brent Ingram, Ukamaka Izuchi,
	Danielle Larson, Victoria Pearlman

#### DEAN

Madeline Puzo

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Professor Velina Hasu Houston (Director Of Dramatic Writing)
Associate Professor Of Theatre Practice Jack Rowe (Artistic Director)

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#### PROFESSORS OF THEATRE PRACTICE

Andrei Belgrader Natsuko Ohama Andrew J. Robinson (Director Of M.F.A. in Acting)

#### **ASSOCIATE PROFESSORS OF THEATRE PRACTICE**

Paul Backer (Director Of Undergraduate Voice and Movement)
Brent Blair (Director Of M.A. in Applied Theatre Arts)

David Bridel (Associate Director Of M.F.A. in Acting & Director Of Global Initiatives)

Elsbeth M. Collins (Director Of Production)

Joseph Hacker

Duncan Mahoney (Technical Director)

Mary-Joan Negro (Director Of B.A. Acting Courses)

Stephanie Shroyer (Associate Artistic Director)

Eric Trules

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Visiting Professor of Theatre Practice & George Burns Visiting Artist: Gordon Davidson

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We hope you will consider becoming a member as well. For more information about giving to the School of Dramatic Arts, please contact Sara Fousekis at 213-821-4047 or fousekis@usc.edu.

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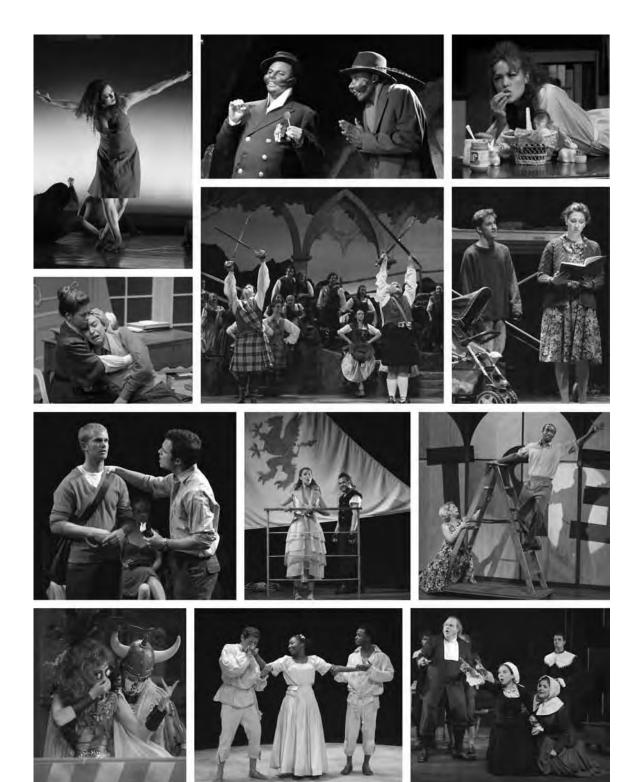
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# USC School of Dramatic Arts