

1960's

BOB GUNTON ('68) continues in his principal role of Ethan Kanin in the TV series "24". This year he also played Joe Whetstone in *The Trial*, William Thurber in *Tenure*, and Bert in *Highland Park*, and played President Roosevelt in three episodes of *World War Two: Behind Closed Doors*.

1970's

ELAINE BARNARD ('71) My recent film, *Napoleons Funeral*, a production of the American Film Institute has been making the rounds of festivals here and in Mexico City. I was delighted to play the leading role, Adela, a woman who is trying to come to terms with her mortality. Last year I spent a semester studying the history and culture of China and Vietnam. A plus was the opportunity to teach English to students at Shandong University in Jinan, China during the afternoons. Currently I'm writing a collection of short stories related to that experience, one of which, "Snow", recently placed in the Sean O'Faolain competition in Ireland and will be published this year. A second story, "Water", has been published in Apple Valley Review.

BRUCE BOUCHARD ('71) has been running a 96-year-old Historic Landmark Theatre.....a glorious Jewel Box "beautiful façade" era theatre for the past two years. Bruce has installed a state-of-the art projection system and a 29'X23' screen for a series called "Big Flicks at the Paramount" at the theatre. After 10 screenings of AFI, Bruce has had a big impact on an entire community.....still raising tons of money.

LESLEY CURRIER ('72) co-founded the Marin Shakespeare Festival with husband **BOB CURRIER** ('72), had a huge hit with the Festival's *Antony and Cleopatra* last summer, earning rave reviews from the local press; e.g., "Director Lesley Currier is a brave woman to tackle this seldom-produced historical play. Her production of this drama of love and diplomacy is very well realized with stunning performances full of deep emotion.... a production with sexiness, lightness and great wit, which counterbalance the last act's tragedy," from the *San Francisco Bay Times*.

BOB DUNKERLY ('75) Well! I finally turned 60! In the last week alone I have been surrounded by family and friends. I have also put out over \$750 in dinner checks. I don't think I can afford to turn 70 without at least some assurance from you that it will be less expensive. As for me, I teach one Acting One, two Communication 101's, and two Appreciation of Theatre's on line at Clark Community College in Las Vegas

KITTY FELDE ('76) Congratulations to winning the 2010 Los Angeles Critics Circle award for the *Gogol Project*, which was produced by the UCI-alum group,

Rogue Artists Ensemble. The Rogue Artists also won the Circle's highest number of trophies this year, taking the Circle's awards in Lighting Design, Puppet Design, and CGI/Video.

JEFF GREENBERG ('72) Is casting the new comedy hit "Modern Family". Also cast the Disney documentary "Waking Sleeping Beauty". Jeff later was nominated for an Emmy for casting "Modern Family" - with three of the actors he cast winning Emmy nominations for Best Actor in a Comedy Series, and the show itself nominated for Best Comedy Series.

DAVID GREENSPAN ('78) played Jo in the Broadway *The Royal Family* last fall, earning plaudits all around, with *Variety* calling him "the eternally droll David Greenspan," and *Hollywood Reporter* saying "David Greenspan as the butler Jo finds priceless comic bits in this usually throwaway part. When the servants are just as winning as the leads, that tells you this is one regal and enjoyable "Royal Family." David, or "Mr. Off-Broadway" as he is sometimes known, also wrote the book for the MCC musical hit *Coraline*, and co-starred (with Jayne Houdyshell) as the "Other Mother," for the production, which ran at the Lucille Lortel Theatre.

SCOTT KROOPF ('73) was the Producer of the film *The Prodigy* and Executive Producer of *The Dictator's Son*.

JON LOVITZ ('79) co-starred in Kevin Spacey's *Casino Jack*, earning high plaudits from top critics, including A.O. Scott in the *New York Times* who wrote, "Far more vivid and perhaps more securely within the filmmaker's and the audience's comfort zone [is] Jon Lovitz as Adam Kidan, a sleazy Virginia mattress salesman recruited by Abramoff as a frontman in a crooked casino deal." As we go to press, JON is preparing to be the topliner for the Playboy Comedy Club's Eve weekend festivities at Palms Resorts and Casino at Las Vegas..

DAVID MANSON ('70) was the consulting producer on six episodes of "Life".

BASIA MYSZYNSKI ('78) The WIFTS Foundation has awarded its WIFTS Foundation Best Director Award to Basia for *Modjeska Woman Triumphant*. A beautifully created film about an extraordinary woman and artist who crossed cultures and whose life represents an iconic, liberated woman of the nineteenth century.

BILL NELSON ('76) is now the owner/creative director of Bill Nelson Media Group and promoting the new film, *For Robbing the Dead*, with Margot Kidder and Edward Herrman.

1980's

JOSH FINKEL ('84) writes: I've directed three projects and am starring in *Hollywood Revisited* tomorrow and also performing at the M Bar in Hollywood with performers from my Performers' Workshop Class.

ALLISON LIDDI-BROWN ('85) won the DGA Award for Outstanding Directorial Achievement in Children's Programs (for her directing of the Disney Channel's Princess Protection Program), awarded at the 62nd Annual DGA ceremony in January.

RICHARD GOULD ('80) played Stephen Hopkins in Music Theatre World's *1776* this past summer.

PATRICK McGOWAN ('87) was nominated for *LA Weekly* annual theatre awards (Playwriting) for *2009 Film, Theatre of Note*.

ANDREA PRESS ('83) Performed at M Bar in Hollywood with three wonderful performers - Clifford Bell, Mary Pat Bowe and Kelley. We're a very diverse group of singers with a wonderful blend of voices and we're mixing it up a lot with a variety of music and vocals. We have some wonderful musicians backing us up - Tom Griep is musical directing with Tom Bowe on percussion, Nate Light on bass and my brother, Raymond, who is a fabulous guitarist, might even be sitting in on a few of the numbers. It's truly been a labor of love. I'm really excited about this show. I think it's going to be a lot of fun!

BRIAN THOMPSON's ('84) film roles this year were Samuel Clarke in *Roney's Point*, Agmundr in *The Arcadian*, Joe Grimes in *Dark Games*, Kirill in *Dragonquest*, Vardell Dueldorf in *Action Hero*, and played in the TV series "Chuck" and "Emissary."

PIPPA WINSLOW-ROLANDELLI ('83) writes: I just finished a run of James Burn's new musical, *Legacy Falls*, as Jennifer Morrison at the small London West End stage, The New Players Theatre. The musical was a huge hit with audiences and gathered 11 award nominations.

MARY WORKMAN ('87) was invited to teach an Acting Workshop with the New Actors of Bulgaria at the New Bugarian University in Sofia this past spring.

1990's

DAVID ANDERSON ('97) reports: In 2004, our son Zeddy was born. In 2006, he was diagnosed with Autism. For 6 and half years now he has been the sum total of my focus, scorching the earth in search of healing and answers. At great sacrifice, we have found a modicum of each, but at the cost of our home, our cohabitation, and our freedom. We are currently undergoing some of the most potent treatment there is for him out there, but it completely removes us from the world map.

LARRY BIEDERMAN ('92) Finally recovered from my opening enough to actually inform people that I had a show to open! The latest is *Wirehead*, a World Premiere at the Echo Theater Company, showing at Stage 52 on Washington, West of La Brea. It's a great cast and a smart imagining on a very cool topic-- wire implants that improve our brain power. Surprisingly, many of the technological depictions in

the play are based in reality and in some cases, actually in existence. Mostly it's about humanity's debatable capacity to handle technological evolution and as a result, some funny and dark stuff goes down. But aside from being so topical and so hip, it's just a really entertaining play with fantastic actors. Some blogger dude said, "For dialogue and direction that is edgy and tight, *Wirehead* is a must." That's right people. A blogger said that. 'Nuff said.

JAMES CALLERI ('90) was honored at the Epic Theatre Ensemble's 9th Gala Gathering in New York, as a casting director who has sparked the creative careers of countless theatre and film actors. James also co-authored with Robert Cohen the latest addition of Acting Professionally.

REBECCA CLARK CAREY ('93) writes that she and her husband David "with the new year will be launching a new adventure, joining the artistic staff at Oregon Shakes as resident voice and text directors for the first seven months of the year. It's meant leaving our positions at RADA, which has been kind of heartbreaking, mostly because the students there are such a joy to work with, but the principal says he wants to use us in whatever capacity he can when we're in the country, so we're hoping to have an ongoing relationship with them. And there were so many appealing things about the Ashland gig - being closer to my family for a big chunk of the year; not spending vast amounts of money, time and energy commuting; breathing clean air in a beautiful place; and good work with good friends. We finished our second book this year (we always planned two), so it seemed like a good time for a new adventure.

EUGENE DOUGLAS ('99) Still living in NYC, still coaching actors. Something new this year, however, was a return to performance. Since February, I've shot a few local commercials, performed in the 24-Hour Plays Off-Broadway at Theatre Row and did a few other projects. The road is leading back to full-time academia, I'm sure, but for now it's simply fun to audition, pound the pavement and see how far I can get on the excellent training I received from the faculty at UCI. GENE also booked a one-year contract with the American Shakespeare Center. He will be playing Leontes in WT, Oberon/*Snug in Midsummer*, and Vasquez in *Tis Pity She's a Whore*.

CHRIS DuVAL ('98) writes: I'm currently an Assistant Professor of Movement, Voice, and Acting at the University of Idaho, where I also serve as the Co-Artistic Director of Idaho Repertory Theatre. I recently became a Certified Teacher with the Society of American Fight Directors and am looking forward to attending the Fitzmaurice Teacher Certification Program in January of 2011 and 2012 in LA. I continue to return to the Oregon Shakespeare Festival - as a teacher - where I offer stage combat certification classes to the acting company.

JOEL GOLDES ('90) writes: I'm proud to announce that I'll be teaching a Master Class in New York City on "The Subject Formerly Known as Accent Reduction". It will be all about re-training your ear to be able to hear the sounds of the general American accent and learning to use some of these new sounds. I taught this master class through the Screen Actors Guild Foundation last year, and it was a big success. This is the first time I'm offering it in New York. Quick update: I coached 20

episodes of the latest season of the Fox series *24*, teaching Indian actor Anil Kapoor (*Slumdog Millionaire*) how to be better understood by the American audience, as well as coaching several Russian characters; I taught English accents to the replacement cast of the *Mary Poppins* National tour; I'm currently coaching a Russian pop star in the recording studio on his American accent for his band's first English language album; and I'll be seen this summer on E!'s *Holly's World*, coaching a client via skype for his Broadway audition.

DJ GRAY ('93) will be the assistant choreographer of the new Broadway revue, *Sondheim On Sondheim*, produced by the Roundabout Theatre Company. The production stars theatre luminary Barbara Cook, along with Vanessa Williams and Tom Wopat. The production opens this Spring and is directed by Sondheim collaborator, James Lapine.

JASON HEIL ('96) reports: Just opened *Plaid Tidings* at the Globe this weekend. Received nice nods from the San Diego Union Tribune: "Jason Heil, a wide-ranging local director-actor, has a winning Globe debut as the shambling Smudge, whose awkwardness is truly terminal" and the San Diego Reader: "...performances by Leo Daignault, David Brannen, Michael Winther, and especially Jason Heil (allowed to showcase his versatility) make for an always entertaining evening." Will be directing *Barefoot* in January and acting in *Cabaret* in the Spring.

DAVID HERBELIN ('98) writes: I'm building masks using the formula in Eli's Masking Unmasked, for a show I wrote and tour called *Theatre Through the Ages*. This course teaches K-8 grades the history of theatre. I recently moved to Chino . . .

STEPHANIE KEEFER ('90) appeared as Maria the Lion Tamer in *Circus Welt* at the Whitefire Theatre in Los Angeles. Set in a circus in Germany in 1933, just as Hitler rises to power. But who cares what's happening outside the tent, eh? STEPHANIE'S short film *One Dance* was screened in Los Angeles at the LA Femme Film Festival.

DEANNE LORETTE ('92) made her Broadway debut as Catherine de Brie in David Hirson's 17th-century-set satire *La Bête*. The production starred Tony Award winners David Hyde Pierce and Mark Rylance and BAFTA winner Joanna Lumley. Tony Award-winning director Matthew Warchus (*God of Carnage*, *Boeing-Boeing*, *The Norman Conquests*) directed the production.

MICHAEL McGOFF ('95) is a professional New York stage manager: "I had an interesting summer in the Park with the New York Shakespeare Festival's Repertory season, stage managing *The Winter's Tale* - and for two nights stepping in to stage manage *The Merchant of Venice* (with Al Pacino as Shylock) when their PSM was hospitalized. I loved the production and the company was terrific." This year MICHAEL is the Production Stage Manager for the First National Tour of the Pulitzer Prize-winning Broadway show, *Next to Normal*.

BART McHENRY ('94) is the Dean for the Division of Fine Arts and Media Technology at Saddleback College in Mission Viejo. Says, Bart, "I look forward to

assisting students who would like to transfer from Saddleback to the outstanding programs at UCI."

ALAN MINGO, JR. ('98) just booked the National Tour of *Shrek, the Musical* that opens this July in Chicago. He's playing the principal role of The Donkey!

DAVID NEVELL ('96) starred in a workshop/reading of Stephen Metcalfe's new play [*The Tragedy Of*] *The Commons* as part of The Hothouse development series at The Pasadena Playhouse. Yes, despite the recent news about their financial troubles, the lights are still on at the Playhouse. The work was directed by Art Manke and starred Beau Bridges, Jordan Bridges, Susan Dalian, Kenneth Marshall, David Nevell and Annette O'Toole.

KURT ROBBINS ('99) starred in a new musical *I'll Be Damned*, a Faustian coming-of-age tale starring Mary Testa and Kenita Miller at the Off-Broadway Vineyard Theatre. April Nickell directed the production for Jaradoa Theater. Here's how producers describe the musical: "*I'll Be Damned* is the story of a friendless, comic-book-loving homeschooler named Louis who receives a seemingly irresistible offer from Satan. Louis' mother is a little late in coming to terms with her son growing up, God seems lost in his vision of a perfect world, and Louis is discovering himself as he attempts to find just one true friend. This fresh new musical comedy asks the universal question: 'Is there a way to make people like you without having to sell your soul to the devil?'"

STACEY ROSS ('90) has been a fixture on the Bay Area stage for many years, and played the role of Annie in the world premiere of Sarah Ruhl's *In The Next Room, or the Vibrator Play* at Berkeley Rep - the show got a great reviews: "Ms. Ross imbues the smallish role of Annie with a fully human dimension, a sympathy and intuitive wisdom about her work that is affecting."

MIKAEL SALAZAR ('93) will be playing Garry Lejeune in Los Angeles' acclaimed A Noise Within theatre's 2011 revival of Michael Frayn's *Noises Off*.

SAM ZELLER ('92) As Horton the Elephant, finally gets a role that permits the musical theater star to show a softer, gentler side than Jean Valjean, Judd Fry, or Miles Gloriosus. He acts the part with warmth, lovability, and charm, and gets to sing the shows two loveliest songs, "Alone in the Universe" and "Solla Sollew," with those golden Zeller pipes. I did the post-Broadway regional premiere of Disney's *Tarzan* at Tuacahn in Ivin's Utah (playing the role of Kerchak); I did a guest star role on the TV show "Chuck"; I did a guest star role on the TV show "The Imagination Movers"; am currently playing Clifton Feddington in *1940's Radio Hour* at the Civic Light Opera of South Bay Cities; and was nominated for Best Featured Actor in a Musical for the LA Stage Alliance Ovation Awards (for my role of Jud Fry in *Oklahoma!*)-the winner to be announced on January 17, 2011.....

2000's

ADRIAN ALITA ('07) has been offered a teaching position at San Diego State University. He will begin his tenure-track career as the new Head of Acting this August. Says Adrian, "It's overwhelming. I can be more elaborate later, once my heart slows down."

COREY ALLEN ('02) is living in New York and this past summer played the title role in *Othello* and Solinus in *Comedy of Errors* at the Great River Shakespeare Festival in Winona, MN.

LEIGH ALLEN ('01) *Treefall*, was nominated for *LA Weekly* annual theatre awards (Lighting Design) for 2009.

HANNAH BORNSTEIN ('09) spent the year as a performer, cruising Alaska and the Caribbean on *Celebrity*, on the Century cruise lines.

KRISTEN BRANDT HARDIN ('05) is busy with the following: In the past year you may have seen her in TV Commercials for Sit 'n Sleep, The General Auto Insurance, Cerritos Auto Square, Collins College, and more. In the Spring of 2010, Kristen shot a short film entitled *Daddy* and starred in the hilarious musical *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change*. Lately, Kristen and **ALEXIS HENDERSON** ('04) are currently in the beginning stages of starting a singing duo called "The Sassy Songbirds" where they will be performing all around Southern California.

MEGHAN BROWN ('07) let us know that Giraffe Hunt Theater presented *This is Happening Now: A Collection of Short Plays Written by Meghan Brown*. These plays are plays of transformation. Goats turn into birds on tacky tattoos. An entire town turns animal. A simple late-night encounter shifts and shifts and shifts until it's almost unrecognizable. A woman fights against forgiving a grudge she's kept for 700 years. Sounds a lot like mask class at UC Irvine.

MEGAN BYRNE ('01) writes, "I'm really proud to be performing in the Denver Center Theatre Company's world premiere production of *When Tang Met Laika*. I feel incredibly fortunate to be part of Rogelio Martinez' beautiful play and to be working with this stellar cast & crew.

ANDREA CABAN ('07) reports: I'm doing well...my second solo show went swimmingly at Fringe Festival. Just finished DONNETTA GRAY'S play *The New Normal* last week. That also went well and got some nice exposure from that. Going back to teaching next week after taking 5 months off. It was nice being 'just an actor' for a little while, but I must say, I miss teaching. Keeps me honest, you know? And I love working with students. Clown & Mask and Shakespeare are the classes I'm choosing to focus on.

LOUIS CARAZO ('07) reports: Things are going well out here for me so far. Already in 2010 I've shot a National Mazda commercial, went to producers for the show "CHUCK", and have been teaching at UC Riverside since last Fall. But just as

important, or more so, is a scene that I did for this little acting group I joined a few months ago. Let me just say that, although working on TV and in movies is great and pays well, there is nothing like tackling a great scene from a great writer with a good actor to play off of. And doing this reminded me of the distances I have come in my process. I won't bore you with the details but I will say that it's moments like this that make you go, "wow, I have come a long way," and it's funny how it can take you by surprise. I just wanted to say thanks for the seeds you have helped plant. I take good care of them. Well, actually I ate some of them when I got hungry, but they are growing in my belly and I think they like it there. LOUIS also writes: I just shot a new movie with Will Ferrell in October. I'm basically living the dream and loving it all the way up the ladder.

CORINNE (CORY) CARRILLO ('09) our first graduate from the MFA Sound Design program, is now the resident sound designer at Laguna Playhouse.

SEAN CAWELTI ('03) was nominated for *LA Weekly* annual theatre awards (directing) for 2009 *Gogol Project*, Rogue Artists Ensemble at Bootleg Theatre.

JENN COLELLA ('02) played Sarah Little in *All Fall Down*, as part of the NY Music Theatre Festival in October. On film she played Emily in the movie *Uncertainty*, which opened in NYC and played at the Fairfax Theater in LA plus other theatres in SF and OC. She also played a singing nurse in a TV show, "Rescue Me." JENN also writes, "Thank you so much for the love and congratulations on the Sondheim gig! It was thrilling. And Zoe Caldwell & I totally fell for one another. She is special, indeed. Angela Lansbury interviewed me after the show and she said (in front of sooo many people) that I was one of the funniest women she's ever seen! Pretty cool. I've another Sondheim event fast approaching. I am performing at Lincoln Center for his birthday celebration with the symphony orchestra. Bernadette, Patti, Audra...the works. It will be filmed for PBS. I'm stoked. Simultaneously, I'm gearing up to play Amelia Earhart in Maltby & Shire's new musical *Take Flight* at the McCarter Theatre at Princeton. Also, I was on two major tv shows, "All My Children" and "The Good Wife." I had a delightful time shooting both. I learn so much with each new opportunity in front of a camera.

KRISTA COWAN ('05) Is involved with a pulitzer prize nominated play about two nuclear disarmament negotiators during the Cold War -- one Russian and one American -- and the friendship they develop over the course of these talks.

KEITH DAVID DILLON ('01) writes, "It's my great fortune to direct at Still Speaking Theatre a short excerpt from *Happily Ever After*, an exciting new Rock Opera by a young man from Nashville named Jon Wright. It's a terrific piece and the selection I'm directing demonstrates that fairly clearly. I'll also be directing two short plays by L.A. based playwrights Mona Deutsch Miller and Dale Griffith Stamos. Mona's is a play called *The Photograph*; it's a beautiful play about people coming to terms with their past. Dale's play, *Amanda Split*, is about a woman who merges her id with her superego.

RYAN FARNSWORTH ('09) writes: So, it has been a long year since graduating! I am excited to say that since I walked on to the stage there has only been a total of

three days when I did not know what my next job was, and in this market, that is really exciting to know! Even before leaving school, I signed a record deal with Alum **TED KRYZCO** ('78) and his recording company "Niagara Records." With Ted and Jeff Sheridan (his partner in crime) we have recorded four songs, three original, and one of those originals was sold to Disney/Pixar's *Up Storybook* and can be bought in stores. We are currently working on a four song EP, the next step after a demo, and the in between step to a fully funded album. In the mean time, after graduating, I was cast and performed on my first full-length feature film *Tangerine Sky* which won awards here in LA as well as the Hawaiian film festival. I played the co-lead in that picture, a 15-year-old troubled teenager. Overlapping that film, I performed as one of the co-leads in *Bare: A Pop Opera*, a production done in Los Angeles' Theatre Row, and starring almost exclusively UCI alumni. In that production I played a 17-year-old troubled teen (sense the pattern here?). Immediately following that production, I had the honor of appearing in my first national tour with Hey Dave! And Plan-B Entertainment called *Jingle Bell Rock!*, a holiday musical review with a lot of energy, and plenty of household favorites. After finishing that tour, I started singing in parades at Disneyland, specifically *Celebrate! A Street Party!*, which was incredibly fun, but short lived, lasting only two performances before I left for my current project. Right now I am working as one of the production singers on the cruise ship *Celebrity Mercury*, and have been since early February of 2010. With me on the Mercury is fellow UCI alum Armando Yearwood, who graduated with a BFA in Dance, and worked with Eli Simon in West Side Story. I only have two more weeks here on the Mercury before I take my two week vacation and start preparing for my second contract with *Celebrity*, on the Century, with fellow UCI alum **HANNAH BORNSTEIN** ('09). To be a paid performer, doing what I love is incredibly rewarding, and I have each and every one of you to thank for getting me excited about a specific aspect of performance, or making an impression on who I am as a performer.

LAUREN GIRA REEDER ('06) writes: To update you on my post college career, I have been living in Los Angeles pursuing a career in film and television. Most recently I was in the Garry Marshall film, *Valentine's Day* that came out in February of this year. That is my most recent news. Hopefully I will have more to update you on soon!

DONNETTA LAVINIA GRAYS ('02) writes: I finished the season as a regular on the NBC drama "Mercy" with 6 episodes in my pocket before its untimely cancellation. Let's not talk about that...hmpf. But, things keep trucking along as I have booked another recurring role on an excellent tv series called "Rubicon". "Rubicon" will air starting this August on AMC right after "Mad Men". I play Karla Bueller an API librarian. I am also heading up to Vassar for New York Stage and Film to do a workshop of a piece by up-and-coming playwright Bekah Brunstetter. Her play *A Long and Happy Life* is a commission by Naked Angels. I have worked with her very briefly before and have always admired her work, so this is a wonderful experience for me. There is one particular project though that I have invested a tremendous amount of my heart in. I am writing a play that will be produced by Coyote REP this Fall. It is called *The New Normal* and it is based on a blog written by my dear friend Anna Warren Schumacher. It is the story of a woman diagnosed at 32 (new baby in tow) with her life ahead of her and how, as she is a cancer survivor,

her disease has a voice in her daily life. The company has embraced this project with just as much love and passion as I have and for that I am immensely grateful.

KRISTINE N HAAG ('06) just wanted to let us know what exciting things she has been "lucky enough" to be a part of (no luck involved, just pure talent and good training): After finishing up the 2nd season of 90210 in Feb. of this year I have been working as a Costume Buyer with "Mad Men", "True Blood", "Tron Legacy", as well as a very realistic 40's period adaptation of Jack Kerouac's Classic novel "On The Road" with Costume designer Danny Glicker . . . starring Kirstin Dunst and Kristin Stewart!

I just started with ABC's "Brothers & Sisters" this past week. It's not easy but I am happy and proud of my accomplishments.

DEIDRE HAREN ('09) just booked *Hairspray* playing this fall at the Paper Mill Playhouse in New Jersey.

NATASHA HARRIS ('08) has been flying high as a professional guest artist in the title role of *Peter Pan* at the Pacific Conservatory of the Performing Arts in Santa Maria, California. Her great reviews led to a full-page profile of Harris in the Santa Maria Times.

GLENN KALISON ('02) writes: I'm understudying the lead role in the Roundabout's production of *The Language Archive* by Julia Cho, directed by Mark Brokaw. It's a wonderful play and I'm thrilled to be working on it (even in the bullpen)! Coyote Rep just ended a wonderful run of *The New Normal* written by our very own DONNETTA LAVINIA GRAYS. Also, ANDREA CABAN'S solo piece, *Questions My Mother Can't Answer*, had a hugely successful run at the NY Fringe Festival this summer. My admiration and respect for what Donnetta and Andrea accomplished with this. These pieces are beyond words. We have huge writing talent in our midst and greatly look forward to what's next. Other exciting Coyote Rep news includes a grant from the City of New York's Department of Cultural Affairs. Let's hope this leads to many others.

MARY KIMBALL ('08) is stage managing for a youth theater company called Young Artists Ensemble, which is based in Thousand Oaks. This summer she'll be stage managing her seventh show for them, their teen production of *Sweeney Todd*. She also has been working with the Ahimsa Collective, founded and run by UCI Alumna Negin Singh, stage managing productions that take place in living rooms throughout Southern California! Mary also writes: I got jobs! Yea!! In the midst of all this unemployment, I'm baffled I got not one but two awesome opportunities. My main job will be as a "Recreation Specialist" at a local Arts Center. I'll be the Box Office Manager and graphic designer. The second job is with Theatricum Botanicum in Topanga Canyon. My position there is Marketing Coordinator- plus I have the added bonus of being a PA on one of their shows this summer. I'll be earning Equity points!

KEVIN KRECZKO ('08) sent us this update: I am very happy to report that I have recently begun a new career in my life. I am currently a full time, tenure track instructor of Drama for Northeast Lakeview College in Texas. I have been tasked

with beginning the school's brand new department, which is being kicked off this year! Our 300 seat, state of the art facility is only 5 months old. I am very excited and this first week has been quite busy. I am currently teaching (6) courses, as I am currently the sole faculty. I am teaching stagecraft, acting, and theatre appreciation. I look forward to the growth of the department, as it is built on the fundamentals I learned at UC Irvine! I am in the midst of building the curriculum at the school, in which I plan to incorporate your texts! Aside from teaching, I am working on a few events around the country. I am still the events manager for Orenda International, and will begin my second year as the producer and director for the Division 1 NCAA Women's Final Four opening ceremonies. I am also working on other small events in the San Antonio area to include many condominium and hotel openings, as well as being involved in the Halloween and Christmas industry.

PETER KUO ('05) writes, "I recently became the Communications Associate at South Coast Repertory (back to Orange County!). But I've also been keeping busy as a director, most recently directing a production of *Letters to a Student Revolutionary* by Elizabeth Wong which commemorated the 20th Anniversary of the Tiananmen Square Massacre and received two encore performances as well as a school tour. Recently I was hired to direct a well-reviewed production of *Songs For A New World* in Little Tokyo. I've also started to dabble in the world of writing. Although I don't qualify myself as a professional writer, I had a great time doing a workshop that **PATTY RAMSEY** ('06) directed the reading of my play *The Amazing Wedding Race*. Right now I'm collaborating with an award-winning composer to develop a new musical. It's been a great few years and I'm very appreciative of my education at UC Irvine for preparing me for this."

BETH MALONE ('00) played the starring role of Hope Springfield in the Musical Theatre Guild production of *Fade In/Fade Out* at the Alex Theatre in Glendale this November. BETH also writes that she is preparing a new musical play about herself, *Beth Malone: So Far*, which is being produced and staged by Disney veteran Peter Schneider. "We've been work-shopping it around LA and I'll do it in Denver, then Aspen this summer and in the fall, Austin, NY and back in LA this September. It's about my journey from rural Colorado to ... lots of places. Funny and moving and sort of walking the line between cabaret and book play. I've really had a blast creating it. At the time she wrote, Beth was playing in Amazing Wonderettes in Aspen and heading off to the University of Northern Colorado to direct *Spelling Bee*.

BEN MATHES ('08) was in the film *City Island* which opened in LA at the Landmark Theatre and in NYC at The Angelika Film Center. It was directed by Raymond De Felitta, and stars Andy Garcia, Julianna Margulies, Emily Mortimer, Steven Strait and Alan Arkin. The film won the Audience Choice Award at Tribeca and got rave reviews everywhere.

ASHLEY MONIZ ('08) reports: So exciting RANDOM news... I just got word that I am going on tour with *9 to 5 the Musical*. It literally happened over night. They asked me to fly in to audition, I said I couldn't because flights were too expensive from Toronto (where *Legally Blonde* is right now), so they asked if I could send a video, I did, and the next day I got a call with an offer. So I will be an ensemble member who covers Judy (the Stephanie J Block role from Broadway... aka the Jane Fonda role in

the movie). ONLY 2 TRACKS!!! So that will be a nice break after the 9 tracks with *Legally Blonde*.

MICHAEL DEAN MORGAN ('05) writes: See me on "Law and Order": I am in the first two minutes of an episode playing a high priced lawyer for a bad guy! I'm on for just a second, so don't blink or you'll miss me. I am adding up my 15 minutes of fame 5 seconds at a time. I should be good by 2085. Also, MICHAEL booked a Mary Poppins tour. He covers Mr. Banks and will have a great featured character role. Says Michael, "I have been auditioning for this role for years at it finally worked out!"

BESTY MUGAVERO ('09) played Juliet in *Romeo and Juliet* at Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival.

AKI NAKAMURA ('03) won the Seventh Ken Kaidaka prize for her book, *Morning of the Impala: 684 Days of Eurasian and African Continents*. The Kaidaka prize is one of Japan's most prestigious awards for non-fiction, and Aki's success has led to speaking engagements across Japan in which she shares more of her adventures as a solo traveler and ambassador between cultures.

JEFF PARVIN ('03) is now the Production Manager at Dodger Properties, managing Jersey Boys Globally.

STEPHANIE PHILO ('09) writes: This past summer of 2010 I spent at PCPA, performing as Sylvia in *SYLVIA*, which was so thrilling. Besides being my first Equity show, the cast and crew made it so much fun and PCPA gave me a very warm welcome. Coming back to LA refreshed, I split my time between auditions for commercials and TV and filming short films for a great group of people I met through a student film. Finishing off the year with a family trip to Maui made me really appreciate this year and all the wonderful things that have been lining up: including being cast as the female trio in *THE 39 STEPS* for January, and then Julia in *TWO GENTLEMEN OF VERONA*. The lovely Tira Palmquist is using me for one of her play readings. I'll also be teaching a mask class next year, which I'm sure delights Eli as I'll be putting his new book, *Masking Unmasked* to good use! Overall, the most extraordinary part of this past year has been how many UCI alumni I see and meet-- from LA auditions and shows, to visiting Oregon Shakes and PCPA, to my classmates all being a short drive away. I'm amazed and proud of the alumni I see doing such great work and in so many places (including on my TV!). Here's to another great year, and another round of artists becoming alumni with us!

DARCY PREVOST ('09) designed the scenery for *Something Happened* for Pacific Stages, a new theater company in El Segundo. In addition to the set design, she also helped the company convert their space into a working theater! Also, DARCY has her first scene design credit at the Odyssey Theater in Los Angeles, creating a glamorous space for Noel Coward's *A Song at Twilight*. The reviews are terrific, saying that "Darcy Prevost has done a superior job in designing the elaborate private suite in an elegant Swiss hotel."

VALERIE RACHELLE ('05) Moved back to LA a year ago after four years as Casting Director/Resident Director at PCPA Theaterfest. Currently teaching Advanced Movement in USC's School of Theatre, Valerie has also been freelance directing/choreographing at Utah Festival Opera and in Los Angeles. Shows include: *Show Boat, Into the Woods, Guys and Dolls, Urinetown, and Spelling Bee.*

EMILY ROGGE ('06) writes: I am thick into my first tenure-track year here at West Chester University of PA and can't quite believe it! I am loving the teaching and still getting the opportunity to act and now direct. Believe it or not, I am directing *The Pajama Game* as we speak- no small task indeed.

MOLLY LAUREL ROTTMAN-HIPPS ('05) This Spring I played Janet Weiss in *The Rocky Horror Show* at the Underground Theatre in Hollywood. After that I spent 5 months at Cornwell's Theatre in Michigan doing back to back runs of Johnny Cash's *Ring of Fire* and the gospel show, *Smoke on the Mountain* where I played Denise Sander, singing and playing piano, guitar and ukulele.

ERIN ROUSH ('08) Signed another year long contract at Walt Disney World in *Finding Nemo: The Musical* as Nemo and Squirt. Decided to venture out to other theme parks in the area: playing a "Catfish" at the Halloween event at Orlando Seaworld called "Spooktacular" so I could practice my improv/streetmosphere skills, and Busch Gardens Tampa in one of their Christmas shows so I can play a girl, even wear a dress, and wear faux eye lashes!! (it's been a long time since I've played a girl, furthermore a grown-up!) Erin also performed in the world premiere of *Halloween: The Musical* at the Orlando Shakespeare Center, which is a satire based on the Michael Myers Halloween movie, written by John DeHaas. I even starred in my first commercial: The Florida Lottery! Have also been busy doing convention and voice over work, and being a part of a new group called "Sing" (similar to Glee) that gets booked all over the country for conventions, cruise ships, opening acts for singers, and even the super bowl! Who knew Orlando had so much to offer??!

ANDREW SAMONSKY ('03) reprised his co-starring role as Lieutenant Cable from the multiple Tony-Winning Lincoln Center production of South Pacific on "Live from the Lincoln Center" on PBS this past August.

CHRIS SECOR ('01) writes: My newest full length play, *Jesus Is Gay* is opening January 14th and running for 5 weeks at The Monkey Wrench Collective in downtown Fullerton directed by Dave Barton. The first rehearsal is tonight! I'm very excited and already organizations like GLAAD have requested seats to attend the play. YAY!

TYLER SEIPLE ('09) My first feature film, *Separation Anxiety* (produced by Glass City Films), is set for its premiere. I'm tremendously excited to share my first professional screen acting gig, especially after the wonderful education and enrichment I received at Irvine. Thank you for making this experience possible, as each and every one of you has made me the artist and person I am today. This film is but the first, and I look forward to sharing my successes with you who have allowed me to pursue my passion.

MARK VALDEZ ('00) was elected to the Board of Directors for Theatre Communications Group and as the National Coordinator of the Network of Ensemble Theaters, has created NET Microfests in Atlanta, Los Angeles, and Philadelphia to address race culture, and aesthetics; new play development; and genre-defying work generated by ensemble companies across the nation.

QUINN VANANTWERP ('08) Having just closed the two year run of *Jersey Boys* in Toronto, QUINN will reprise the role of Bob Gaudio in a new production for Philadelphia's Forest Theatre.

KENNETH VERDUGO ('01) Assistant Professor of Scenic Design at University of North Texas, designed *The Misanthrope* for director Dr. Andrew Harris. KENNETH also exhibited at Los Angeles Center for Digital Art and will be showing video works at the Richland College exhibition *Water More or Less*. He published one article for USITT *Sightlines*; and served as session chair at USITT; and is set to chair a panel at TETA, *Photoshop for Theatre* – and co-chair a session on *Projections* at USITT.

AYSHA WAX ('08) reports: I have been producing a musical concert of the show "Glory Days" to benefit the Trevor Project at the Hudson Theater in Los Angeles. And my improv group the Associates of Awesome recently performed at the Del Close Marathon in New York. The group includes UCI alumni: **GARRETT MENDEZ** ('09), **JULIAN CLARK** ('08), **ANDREW DELMAN** ('09), and **SAM THORNTON** ('08).

ERIKA WEINHEIMER ('09) reports: Last month I finished another busy summer with Summer Repertory Theatre in Santa Rosa where I assistant stage managed *The Full Monty* and *Peter Pan* and performed the role of Emilie in *Dangerous Liaisons...with Vampires*. I didn't sleep much, but I learned a lot and, of course, met some amazing people. That brings me to my next adventure. I leave on Saturday for New York City to work with ArtsPower National Touring Theatre. I will be stage managing musical version of *The Rainbow Fish* that will tour around the East Coast. Now it is not too glamorous: It will be four (adult) actors and I driving a large van packed with all of our sets, costumes, props, and sound equipment from city to city. Although I will be responsible for the van and the set up of the stage, the actors are all technically hired as my assistants so each can (and will) take part in the driving, and each has a specific duty for the set-up (microphones, set, taping the floor, costumes, props, etc.). It will be based in NYC, so I will be back there sleeping on friends' couches a few days here and there. The company has already planned our itinerary including where we perform and at which hotels we stay. Not a bad way to make a living, right? It will be exciting to not only see parts of America I have never seen (even if it is driving through them on my way to an elementary school at 7am) and to experience living in NYC (even if it is for only a few days at a time, in between traveling days).

TEAL WICKS ('05) is now playing Elpheba, The Green Witch, in *Wicked* on Broadway. She also starred in the new musical *The Blue Flower* at American Repertory Theatre.

CONWELL WORTHINGTON ('00) writes, "Just wanted to keep you updated

with my stage management career. I just finished up the National tour of Billy Crystal's *700 Sundays*. I'm now heading out to serve as an ASM on the National Tour of *The Lion King*. It's been a great last couple of months!

ERIC WEAVER ('09) Got offered to be a principle singer on the Regent Seven Seas, the Navigator, through Jean-Ann Ryan Productions!! He starts in the Caribbean, goes around through the Panama Canal to San Diego and San Francisco. Then up to Vancouver and Alaska for most of the summer, then around to Russia, along the east coast of Asia down to Thailand, Australia, and then ends in New Zealand. Eric also has his own solo cabaret act to perform in the Lounge with a piano, bass, and drums.

BENNY WILLS ('09) was in *The Good Woman of Setzuan* at the Open Fist Theatre in L.A.

JOANN YARROW ('00) reports: Life is as speed lighting as ever, had a wonderful year with Prometeo Theatre, touring to Peru, graduating the first class of the Professional Program we created and ending the year producing a film for the program. Then off to NYC for the new year to host Roberta Carreri of the Odin Theatre for a performance demonstration at La Mama as well as her week-long workshop and the official launch of my 15 year-old company A Laboratory for Actor Training, etc. In February we're off to Boston with Prometeo Theatre to perform in the New England Russian Theatre Festival with a new piece called Chejov vs Chejov (in Spanish). Last year I was interviewed to be included in a new volume series on Hispanic Directors. Each volume covers a different country and my interview will be included in the volume from the US.

2010's

JEFFREY LO ('10) has been busy since graduating last June. In addition to working as a stage manager and sound designer at small, black box theaters in San Jose, he served as the Assistant Director for TheatreWorks' production of Tracy Letts' *Superior Donuts* and is now assisting director Laurie Woolery as a fellow at the Oregon Shakespeare Festival.

IAN MICHAL STUART ('10) appeared in *Cabaret at the Lounge* at Live at the Lounge in Hermosa Beach. IAN also received a Broadwayworld nomination for *Tick, tick, BOOM!* as best actor.

CHRISTIAN TABOADA ('10) has worked non-stop in Hollywood since his June graduation. Stage performances have included: *Dark Side of the Moon* (with an eight week run!), the MadKenzie Theatre's *Love Letters to Mary Jane* and *Graigslit*, plus television and film appearances in *12 Corazones*, *What to Bring to America*, *Leave It All on the Dance Floor*, *Sweet 18*, *A Better Place*, and *For the Love of Money*. Clearly there IS life after UC Irvine!

RYAN WELSH ('10) performed in Moby Pomerance's play *The Good Book of*

Pedantry and Wonder at The Theatre @ Boston Court in Los Angeles. This was a co-production with Circle X

IN ADDITION:

ROBERT COHEN: Received an "Excellence in Theatre Education" placque from the Kennedy Center: American College Theater Festival. Other than that, it's keeping my nose to the grindstone as I correct page proofs on my ninth editions of *Theatre* and *Theatre: Brief Edition*, due out this summer.

Rogue Artists Ensemble founders **TYLER STAMETS** ('03), **SEAN CAWELTI** ('03), **MEGAN OWINGS** ('04) (now Megan Wallace after being married), **JENNY OWINGS** ('04), **KERRY HENNESSY** ('05) and **MILES TABER** ('03) continue collaborating with other ensemble members and guest artists creating Hyper-theater in Los Angeles. Over the years the Rogues have grown to include non-UCI students and artists and now they frequently tour throughout California and Nationally having presented at The Geffen and the Orange County Performing Arts Center this past year. Their latest project was *HYPERBOLE: origins* which played at [Inside] the Ford Theatre and was developed at UCI in a three week long residency with students who then traveled to Hollywood to present the in-progress work as part of the Hollywood Fringe Festival. Up next for the Rogues is an original adaptation of *Pinocchio* in celebration of their tenth anniversary since being founded in 2001.

GARRETT DEAGON, SEAN GARNER, ANNIE NELSON, and MAZIE WILSON appeared in *Cabaret at the Lounge* at Live at the Lounge in Hermosa Beach.

DAN OLIVERIO has written a new play, *Man Verses Moon*. LA WEEKLY wrote, "Scintillating... with exotic appeal... Writer-director Dan Oliverio's collage of Lorca's play, his poems, classical mythology and homegrown surrealism sends Lorca and his company into netherworlds ...a dreamscape of cascading sheets and kaleidoscopic lighting ...a collision of texts and styles."

DAVINA FERREIRA wrote a book of short stories and poems, *Take Me With You* (Llévame Contigo), including one story having to do with her performance as Soledad in UCI's production of *Pedro Gynt*.

We have 4, count 'em, 4 alumni in La Jolla Playhouse upcoming world premiere musical, *Limelight: The Story of Charlie Chapin*. MFA actress, Jenn Collela ('02), plus BA/Music Theatre alumni Kürt Norby ('04), Carly Nykanen ('06) and Jessica Reiner-Harris ('07).