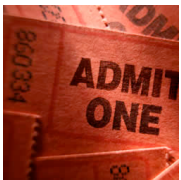


~The Marquee~

The Newsletter of the Department of Performing Arts, Elon University

Volume XIII, Issue 3 – Winter, 2010

The Marquee, 2800 Campus Box, Elon, NC 27244; e-mail: rubeck@elon.edu



Winter Performance Schedule

Don't Miss These Great Shows!

Location Guide: MCT= McCrary Theatre; YRH= Yeager Recital Hall; BBT= Black Box Theatre; DSA=Dance Studio A;WMA = Williamson Ave.

February

11, 12, 13 – *110 In The Shade* – 7:30, MCT
14 - *110 In The Shade* – 2:00, MCT
26, 27 – *DanceWorks* – 7:30 – BBT
28 - *DanceWorks* – 2:00 – BBT

March

14, 15, 16 – *MTE Senior Show* – Time TBA, BBT

April

9, 10 – *Grand Night* – 7:00 & 8:30, YRH
11, 12, 13 – *Dance Senior Concert* – 6:00 & 8:30, BBT
22, 23, 24 – *Love's Labor's Lost* – 7:30, MCT
25 – *Love's Labor's Lost* – 2:00, MCT
Tapped Out – 6:00 & 7:30, McKinnon
26 - *Tapped Out* – 7:30, McKinnon
27, 29 – *I.D.* – 7:30, BBT
28, 30 – *Jake's Women* – 7:30, BBT

May

1 - *I.D.* – 7:30, BBT
Jake's Women – 7:30, BBT
6, 7, 8 – *Elements* – 7:30, MCT
8 - *Elements* – 2:00, MCT
9, 10, 11 – *Acting Senior Show*

Professional Master

Classes



December 4th through the 6th, Elon was graced once more with a visit from the legendary actress **Olympia Dukakis**. It has been two years since her last visit and she was very excited to

work with our students again. 20 students were selected to work with Ms. Dukakis for the weekend master class; they were given the opportunity to workshop a prepared scene of their choice. It was a memorable weekend for the select few who received guidance Ms Dukakis and left each student feeling like they have a new understanding of their craft. Ms. Dukakis left with the promise to return and expressed hopes of furthering her relationship with the Elon Performing Arts community.

Paul Russell, professional casting director and author of *Acting: Make it Your Business*, will be on campus for three days of Master Classes, February 26th through the 28th. He will be offering a class on auditioning to the entire Performing Arts Department as well as a series of classes with the Senior Acting Majors. In those classes he will explore auditioning and marketing skills for the professional actor.

On March 1st, NYC casting director **Dave Clemmons** will be returning for his annual Master Class- the class is open to the entire Performing Arts Department. In addition to the Master Class, he will be meeting occasionally throughout the Spring

with the Senior MTE class to prepare them for their post-grad experience.



Performing Arts Student Receives Exciting Opportunity

Stuart Richie, a Senior Theatre Design & Production Major, has recently been awarded a competitive internship with the famed entertainment company

Cirque de Soleil in Las Vegas! The internship will begin in early March and last through the end of Spring Semester. She has been assigned to *Mystere*, the longest running Cirque show in Las Vegas. We sat down with Stuart to hear about the details of this amazing opportunity.

TM: How did you find out about this internship?

SR: Two summers ago I worked with a person who was applying for the same Internship. He was accepted the following spring and then another friend of mine went through the program the summer after. From them I learned about the availability of the internship and where to look for it online.

TM: What does getting this opportunity personally mean to you?

SR: It means that Elon has prepared me to go out and pursue my dreams. I started planning for this internship a year ago, and working for Cirque was a professional goal I hoped I would reach "someday." My acceptance to the program has made me feel that despite pitfalls and desperate times, hard-work, good ethics and true dedication will prevail.

TM: What does this mean for your career?

SR: For the immediate future, I'm unsure. I do know that this experience will allow me to work with some of the most talented artists in the world, and I can only hope that the eight weeks I spend in Vegas will direct me to spend many more years working with talented performers and technicians. This experience is allowing me to work with some of the best Stage Managers in the world, and I hope to learn from them to become a more effective Stage Manager. I look forward to discovering how Cirque defines that art of Stage Management, and I hope to be able to use this experience through-out my artistic endeavors.



Stuart will be keeping a blog through the duration of the internship; follow her on <http://stu-cirque.blogspot.com/>

Charity Benefits

The Spring Season will now be doing more than just bringing great entertainment to the community! When you come to see a department production, you now have the opportunity to donate to a very important charity. In return you will receive a free ticket to the next show on the calendar. The donations from each production will benefit a different cause. We hope that you join us this spring for some great shows and take advantage of this opportunity to give to some very worthy causes.

The Time of Your Life - Loaves and Fishes

110 in the shade – Partners with Haiti

Love's Labor's Lost - Crossroads Sexual Assault Response and Resource Center

Elements - Humane Society

Faculty News and Notes

Jack Smith was recently awarded a sabbatical; he will be traveling to Paris next Fall to study the evolution of 18th century middle class clothing.

Professors **Catherine McNeela** and **Lynne Kurdziel Formato** presented at the Music Theatre Educators Alliance International Conference held January 7-10, 2010, at NYU Steinhardt in New York City. McNeela moderated the Alumni Panel, which featured successful graduates of a number of BFA Music Theatre programs including two Elon alumni: Lindsay Northen (*Wicked*) and Daniel Watts (*Memphis*). Formato, who was serving as Conference planner in her second term as Vice-President for the Conference, presented a lecture titled "Thoughts on a Theatre Dance Curriculum".

Catherine McNeela will be presenting a seminar on auditioning and healthy vocal production at Duke University at the end of February. The seminar will be a part of an all-day workshop titled: Vocal Health in Musical Theatre: Singing on Broadway.

Professor **Kirby Wahl** just served as the dialect coach for the production of Conor McPherson's *The Seafarer* now playing at Burning Coal Theatre in Raleigh, NC.

Lauren Kearns was invited to present her dance piece "hush...touch...move" in the Green Hill Center for NC Artists dance concert featuring award winning NC choreographers. She was also the 2009-2010 guest artist for the Winston-Salem All County Dance Consortium. Lauren taught a master workshop for secondary dance educators and set her dance piece "CUBED" on twenty six dancers. Lauren's article about the technique she is developing "I feel Three-Dimensional and Real: How Somatics in Action Improves Dance Training" was published in the February issue of *The Journal of Dance Education*.

Jane Wellford will be teaching daily liturgical dance seminar classes, workshops and performing at the National Montreat Music and Worship Conference in Black Mountain, NC, for two weeks this summer, June 20-July 3, 2010. Jane has also been selected as one of 4 featured teachers for the International Sacred Dance Guild Conference at Connecticut College, New London, Connecticut, July 26-31st.

Support the Department of Performing Arts

Your kind donation can help us "make the magic!"

Your Name: _____

Email: _____ Phone Number: _____

Mailing Address: _____

\$ _____ Amount of Donation – *Thank You!*

Please tell us how you would like your gift applied

_____ Annual Gifts (to support Performing Arts' operation & productions)

-or-

_____ Talent Scholarships (please specify which program)
___ Acting ___ Music Theatre ___ Dance ___ Design & Production

-or-

_____ Endowed Scholarship Funds (please specify which fund)

_____ Catherine H. McNeela Music Theatre Scholarship
(in support of worthy Music Theatre majors)

_____ Sam White Scholarship in honor of Professor Mel Wooten
(in support of Senior Theatre and Music Theatre majors as they pursue internships, study abroad, conferences, professional auditions, etc.)

Please Contact Me to Discuss:

_____ I would like to establish a new endowed Performing Arts scholarship.

_____ I would like to include the Performing Arts in my estate planning.

Please send this form and your check, payable to Elon University, 2600 Campus Box, Elon NC 27244

Questions?

Contact Fred Rubeck, Department Chair @ 336-278-5695;
rubeck@elon.edu

In Memoriam



We are saddened to report the passing of Anna Lea Johnson, wife of Theatre Arts Adjunct Professor Chip Johnson on December 2, 2009. Chip said of Anna Lea "I met my wife when I auditioned for her for a play back in the early '70s and she had been giving me directions ever since."

We were also saddened by the passing of Fine Arts Custodial staff member, Millard Lee on December 10, 2009. Mr. Lee worked the afternoon shift and evening performances in our building. We shall miss his calm presence and always friendly greetings that helped brighten our building each day.

PROFESSIONAL COMPANY AUDITIONS ON CAMPUS

- **Flatrock Playhouse** auditions will take place on February 25th.
- **The Lost Colony and Broadway Theatre Project** will be on campus February 28th.
- **Stiletto Entertainment** will join us for their auditions on March 13th.
- **Roundabout Theatre Company** auditions will take place on March 18th.

Alumni News & Notes

Matt Shingledecker and **Taylor Trench** are currently touring with *Spring Awakening*.

Daniel J. Watts is performing in *Memphis* on Broadway.

Daniel Marin was just cast in a recurring role on the daytime drama *The Bold and the Beautiful*.

Matt Leckenbusch is the Technical Director/ Production Manager at the South Carolina Governors School for Arts and Humanities.

Alex Ellis has been cast in Cirque du Soleil's new show *Vaudeville*. The show plays in Chicago and then NYC.

Jay Briggs is finishing up his Directing Internship at the Actors Theatre of Louisville with the Humana Festival. During the Festival he will be assisting with the new plays *Fissures* and *The Cherry Sisters Revisited*. Earlier this year he assisted on *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Christmas Story*, and *A Christmas Carol*. He has directed several new works with the Acting Apprentice Company, and is submitting the new play, *Tiny Geniuses* by Emily Feldman, to the major fringe festivals to be produced this summer.

Bree Sherry just earned her equity card by Stage Managing for Yale Repertory's *The Servant of Two Masters*. She will be graduating from Yale School of Drama in May with a MFA in Stage Management.

Victoria Tucci is finishing her second year of professional actor training at the Circle in the Square Theatre.

Lauren Patton & Anna Kimmel are touring with *The Wizard of Oz* in the Ensemble, Check out if they are coming to a city near you! <http://www.wizardofozontour.com/>

Katharine Lowery is now the Second Assistant Lighting Director for American Ballet Theatre at the Metropolitan Opera House in NYC.

Phillip Ward recently finished shooting the film *HellPhone* in NC with fellow alumni **Nathan Moore**. Phillip's three short films *SapSucker*, *The Darling*, and *Ophelia and Joe* are making the film festival rounds and doing very well. He is working on two screenplays *The Legend of Jucas Craig* and *Ginson Twist*.

Sam Noble is living and working in Boston and will be moving to NYC in the near future. She has been doing extra work on movies that are filming in the area and recently appeared in a Visa commercial. She was cast by the Museum of Science in Boston as a host at their Harry Potter Exhibit.

Ben Seay recently shot a Geico commercial 'with the famous Gecko' and has an indie film *Cupids Arrow* in screenings.

Amanda Sox has been hired as a Stitcher and design assistant at Actor's Theatre of Louisville and Costumes Coordinator at ZFX Flying Effects.

Brittany Susko was recently on two episodes of the Lifetime show *Army Wives*.

Matt Milikin was recently assistant stage manager for a Nike concert benefiting the fight against AIDS in Africa. He is stage manager for *The Play of Daniel* and *Gotterdammerung* at LA Opera.

Susan Slotoroff is excited to be in her second year touring with the Central Park Zoo's Wildlife Theatre.

Tara Sissom is a Company Member and Art Director of The New Colony, an original works theatre in Chicago. Her play, *11:11*, just opened at the Victory Garden's Biograph Theatre in Chicago to wonderful reviews. Tara is a member of Friendshipsoulmateporno, a sketch comedy group and studies improv and writing at IO and The Annoyance Theatre.

Jess Barbour was recently cast as Babe in *Crimes of the Heart* which opens in April at the North Raleigh Arts and Creative Theatre.

Mirai Booth Ong recently wrapped up *The Sound of Music* where she played Maria. She is currently shooting a Pilot with

USC Grad Students. Look out for her new Assurant Health commercial airing now!

Hannah Campbell is the new host for New Filmmakers LA. She is the moderator and Q&A host of the live monthly event at Sunset Gower Studios. In addition, she has been filming one-on-one interviews with filmmakers that will be launched on MoviemakerMagazine.com.

Danielle B. Tolly just booked a TV pilot where she will be the co-host for a new talk show called "Green Living".

Bekah Lashof recently moved to NYC where she is starting an internship with the Roundabout Theatre Company. She also recently worked for the Fulton Opera House in Lancaster, PA.

Andrew Frace is currently performing as a Swing in *Jersey Boys* in Las Vegas. Visit his website for details:

www.andrewfrace.com

Kevin Hoffmann is in the midst of rehearsals for *Whisper House* a new Duncan Sheik Musical directed by Peter Askin. After the run he will move on to play Old Lady Languish *The Country Wife*. He is in the graduate acting program at the Old Globe in California.

Christina Caravella is in the Ensemble on the National Tour of *The Wedding Singer*. Check their website to see if they are coming to a location near you: WeddingSingerOnTheRoad.com

Brandon Weeks recently shot two films *Return to Sender* and *Sunday Afternoon*.

Lauren Adams was currently cast in a WeTv webseries called "Bridal Breakdown" and has a commercial for Regus running on NYC Taxi TV.

Turn Yourself In!

Please send your alumni news and notes to Fred Rubeck – rubeck@elon.edu and we will include you in the next edition of *The Marquee*. You may also send items via USPS: Fred Rubeck, *The Marquee*, 2800 Campus Box, Elon, NC 27244.

Want to Join Us?

Here's How....

We are currently looking for the next great generation of students to join us in the Department of Performing Arts!

- Students wishing to major in **Acting, Dance, or Music Theatre** must audition to be accepted to those programs.
- Students wishing to major in **Theatrical Design & Production** must complete an interview/portfolio showing to be accepted to that program.
- No audition or interview is required for those wishing to enter the **Theatre Studies program**.
- No audition or interview is required for those wishing to minor in **Theatre Arts** or in **Dance**

Audition Dates and Application information for the 2011-2012 school year will be available summer 2010.

Please contact our Audition coordinator, Kimberly Rippy at (336) 278-5600, or via email: krippy@elon.edu for more information, including audition forms.

Please be advised that all department forms and fees must be **RECEIVED** by mail at least two weeks prior to your desired audition date.