



~The Marquee~

The Newsletter of the Department of Performing Arts, Elon University

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

Announcing Our 2011- 2012 Season!

One-Day Plays (short original plays, written and produced within a 24-hour period) September 10, Yeager Recital Hall.

Improv Performance with Scott Eck (Improvised comedy led by a master improvisation artist) September 17, Yeager Recital Hall

Collage (Music Theatre revue) September 23-24, Yeager Recital Hall

Dancing in the Landscape (Site specific dance concert) September 25, Lindner Pavilion Commons

Getting Out (Marsha Norman drama) October 5-11, Black Box Theatre

Dance Salons I & II (New works in progress) October 20-21, Dance Studio A

Hair (Classic 60's musical) October 27-29 and November 3-5, McCrary Theatre

Dancing in the Black Box (Student & faculty choreography) November 10-12, Black Box Theatre

Acting Major Senior Productions (Capstone projects from Acting Seniors – Titles TBA) November 17-20, Black Box Theatre

First-Year Acting Showcase (scenes and monologues) November 21, Black Box Theatre

Music Theatre Senior Production (Capstone projects from Music Theatre Seniors – Title TBA) December 4-6, Black Box Theatre

Elon Cares (Fund raising performance) January 14, Yeager Recital Hall

Macbeth (Shakespeare's classic tragedy) January 19-23 and February 1-4, Black Box Theatre

Tapped Out (Student and faculty tap concert) January 20-22, McKinnon Hall

She Loves Me (*Jerry Bock musical*) February 9-12, McCrary Theatre

Alpha Psi Omega One Act Play Festival (Student-directed works – Titles TBA) February 16-18, Black Box Theatre

Dance Senior Productions (Pieces produced and choreographed by Dance Seniors) February 23-26, Black Box Theatre

International Commedia Day Performance (Celebrating the classic Italian Theatre tradition) February 25, Location TBA

DanceWorks (Student choreography) March 10-11, Black Box Theatre

Grand Night (Music theatre revue) March 30-31, Yeager Recital Hall

Pride and Prejudice (Based on the classic novel by Jane Austen) April 19-22, McCrary Theatre

Alpha Psi Omega Student-Directed Full-Length Play (Title - TBA) April 25-28, Black Box Theatre

A Man of No Importance (Stephen Flaherty musical) April 25-28, Black Box Theatre

Fused Moves (Spring dance concert) May 3-5, McCrary Theatre

PERFORMING ARTS RECEIVES SEVERAL GRANTS

Our department has many reasons to be grateful this spring! We have been fortunate enough to receive grants to support equipment and programming needs that will help us continue to improve our classes and productions. Over the last few months we have received funding for the following: a dye vat and additional washer and dryer for the costume studio, new lighting equipment for the Black Box Theatre, a wireless headset system, enhanced storage spaces in the dance studios, equipment for our new scene shop, a special designer/actor collaboration in mask making, funding for the new musical project in 2011, a scale model lighting design lab, enhanced AV equipment for the acting studio, and starter funds for a special kick off event for our new Summer Theatre (*watch for more news on that in a future edition!*) We are very grateful to our Dean, Alison Morrison-Shetlar, our Provost Steven House, our President, Leo Lambert, the Faculty Research & Development Committee, and the Center for Teaching and Learning for their ongoing support of our work.

Elon University Performing Arts: Proud Host of the 2011 ACDFA Dance Festival

Our department was the proud host of the American College Dance Festival Mid-Atlantic Region Conference March 23-26, 2011. The conference theme was *The Intersection of Dance, Theatre and Multimedia* and featured an opening day panel and performance of our esteemed adjudicators and NYC artists - - Claire Porter, David Parker and Gabri Christa presented samples of their work and offered their unique artistic approach to the conference theme. Adding to the distinctive first day offerings, we were honored to have Jon Lehrer and his company, LehrerDance as our opening guest concert and guest teacher. Dance Magazine has written about the company "Jon Lehrer's strikingly original choreography transformed the stage into an energy

field of super-charged particles." We were particularly proud of Elon alumni Immanuel Naylor who is both a dancer with and Associate Director of LehrerDance. The conference also featured 435 participants from 22 universities, over 100 classes, panels and workshops, and seven concerts. The Elon Dance Majors and Theatrical Design & Production Majors chose to spend their spring break working (and performing) in the conference. For nearly a year the faculty, staff and students of the Department prepared for the conference and our hard work paid off! All of the comments we received post-conference were glowing - - this was a very successful "coming out party" for the Elon Dance Program and the conference put us prominently on the national dance scene!

Fall Master Classes

Each year we bring in several industry professionals to teach and interact with our students. We feel this is a vital component of the training we strive to give our majors. This fall we are fortunate to have three "old friends" returning to share their experience and wisdom with us.

Scott Eck, (right) an old friend of the Acting Program, will return on September 16th through 18th for his ever-anticipated Improvisation Mastery workshop. Mr. Eck is the founder of The Laughingstock Company, a New York based improv troupe. The weekend will begin on Friday with a department-wide workshop on the basics of improv. On Saturday, a selected group of students will participate in an improv intensive, culminating in a public performance. On Sunday, Mr. Eck will leave us with a thoughtful discussion on life as a theatre artist.



Craig Carnelia (left) will be with us once again on November 11th and 12th. Mr. Carnelia is a Music Theatre composer of such Broadway shows as *Working* and *Sweet Smell of Success*. He is also a highly sought after vocal coach in New York. A group of Music Theatre majors will be selected to participate in the Master Class during which Mr. Carnelia will work with each individually on their vocal performance technique.

Paul Russell, (right) NYC casting director and author of *Acting: Make it Your Business*, will make his third visit to our campus for three days of Master Classes, December 2nd through the 4th. He will be conducting open sessions with our entire student body as well as specific classes with our BFA Acting Seniors as they prepare to graduate.



Professional Summer Activities

We place a high value on our students having professional opportunities during their time as Elon Performing Arts majors. They gain valuable experience, make great professional contacts, and start building their professional resumes – all of which help give them a real edge as they enter the profession after graduation. This year over 50% of our Performing Arts majors are working, interning, or honing their craft with further study – in 23 states, the District of Columbia, and on National Tours and Cruises!

Ad Deum Dance Intensive, TX

- Julie Crothers

American College Dance Festival, NC

- Anastasia Windeler
- Jen McAllister
- Liz Stillerman

Artpark, Lewiston, NY

- Clark Kinkade
- Em Laudeman
- Jared Loftin
- Leela Rothenberg
- Lucy Werner
- Maddie Franke
- Rafe Andrews
- Sean Ronayne
- Tanner Wilson

Bigfork Summer Playhouse, MT

- Garrett Henson
- Tayler Mettra

Brevard Music Center, Brevard, NC

- Dorothy Noel

Broadway Artists Alliance at Ripley

Grier, New York, NY

- Kristen Sandler

Broadway Dreams Foundation,

Atlanta, GA

- Kat Nardizzi

Burning Coal Theatre, Raleigh, NC

- Logan Sutton

Central Piedmont Summer Theatre,

Charlotte, NC

- Lucy Werner
- Kyron Turner
- Alex Pepper

City Ballet, Raleigh, NC

- Sarah Beacham

CityDance Professional Summer

Intensive, Bethesda, MD

- Erin Fitzgerald

Class Act Prod., The Woodlands, TX

- Keith Hale

Community Theatre of Greensboro,

NC

- Rebekah Carmichael

The Dance Cure, Raleigh, NC

- Kelsey Herbst
- Erin Fitzgerald

Dance Innovations, Chatham, NJ

- Kristen Sandler

Dance Plance, Washington D.C.

- Kassi Matterna

Dancers Studio, Knoxville, TN

- Abby Williams

David Parsons Dance Company, New

York, NY

- Jessica Duffy

Eastern Connecticut Ballet, CT

- Kristina Mazzola

Elon in LA (each includes internship)

- Alyson Wells
- Kabby Borders
- Jayme Mantos

Elon in NYC (includes Internship)

- Hollace Jeffords

Flat Rock Playhouse, Flat Rock, NC

- Adam Kaplan
- Aliyana Stewart
- Ginna Claire Mason
- Patrick Clanton

Fran Kirmser Productions, NYC

- Alex Stevenson

Hangar Theatre, Ithaca, NY

- Andrew Keeler
- Chris Kalfas
- Kaila Merrill
- Lyndsay Burch
- Ryan Burch

Heritage Theatre Festival, VA

- Grant Collins

Hershey Park, Hershey, PA

- Amy McNabb

Holland America Cruise Line

- Sabrina Bradley

Howard Fine Studio, Los Angeles, CA

- Alyson Wells

Jacob's Pillow, Becket, MA

- Meg Ralston-Asumendi

Kate Weare Company, NYC

- Jessica Duffy

Kearns dance project, NC

- Erin Fitzgerald

The Kennedy Theatre, Raleigh, NC

- Jeffrey Todd Parrott

Kinetics Dance Theatre, MD

- Kassi Matterna

Lehrer Dance Intensive, Buffalo, NY

- Abby Williams

The Lost Colony, Manteo, NC

- Will Sanborn

Love, Cirque du Soleil, Las Vegas, NV

- Daniel Higginbotham

Mac-Hadyn Theatre, Chatham, NY

- Brittany Weir

Magna Physical Therapy and Sport

Medicine Clinic, CT

- Bridgett Kelly

Maples Rep Theatre, Macon, MO

- Colin Gardner

Mark Morris Dance Center, NY

- Colette Dong

Mount Washington Valley Theatre

Company, North Conway, NH

- Chris McNiff

The Muny, St. Louis, MO

- Michael Callahan
- Matthew Meigs

Naganuma Dance, New York, NY

- Colette Dong

Nancy Mosser Casting, Pittsburgh, PA

- Alexa Magnotto

National Theatre Institute - Eugene

O'Neill Theatre Center, Waterford, CT

- Devin O'Connell
- Logan Sutton

New London Barn Playhouse, NH

- Britney Caughell

North Carolina Theatre, Raleigh, NC

- Charlie Johnson

Opera Theatre of St. Louis, MO

- Kate Conway

Parsons Dance, New York, NY

- Andi Work
- Kara Griffin
- Jessica Duffy
- Katie Yahner
- Lauren Renck

Post Playhouse, Chadron, NE

- Ethan Anderson

Powerhouse Theater, NY

- Carl St. Goar

The Prizery, South Boston, VA

- Em Laudeman

Production Resources Group, NY

- Dan Koch

Radio City Rockette Summer Intensive,

New York, NY

- Lauren Renck

The Second City, Chicago, IL

- Mal Marcus
- Sean Liang
- Julia Gallagher

Signature Theatre, Washington D.C.

- Kristen Sandler

(“Professional Summer... Cont’)

South Pacific National Tour

- Alex Pepper

Stages St. Louis, Kirkwood, MO

- Chad West

Stephen Foster Drama Association, KY

- Taylor Aucott

Stella Adler Studio for Acting, NYC

- Claire Manship

Street Child Project, Indian Trail, NC

- Jessica Rexroad

Interlakes Summer Stock, NH

- Stephanie Scribner

Terra Nova Dance, NC

- Erin Fitzgerald

Theatre IV, Richmond, VA

- Dylan Moon

Theatre West Virginia, Beckley, WV

- Michael Moore

Trumpet in the Land, OH

- Ben Morris

Urbanity Dance, Boston, MA

- Simone Bernstein

Vanderbilt Dance Festival, TN

- Julie Crothers

Vineyard Playhouse, MA

- Carolyn Hight

Warner Brothers, Burbank, CA

- Sara Snyder

Weathervane Playhouse, Akron, OH

- Nonye Obichere

West Virginia Public Theatre, WV

- Katie Chung

Weston Playhouse, Weston, VT

- Matt Artigues

Wicked, Broadway, NYC

- Paige Carter

Wild Waves, Seattle WA

- Jill Vanderoeff

Woodstock Playhouse, Woodstock, NY

- Kenny Francoeur

Zachary Scott Theatre, Austin, TX

- Chet Norment

Faculty and Staff News

Jason Aryeh will be joining us as a full time assistant professor in dance this fall. Professor Aryeh is originally from Ghana, Africa and recently completed his MFA at SUNY-Brockport. He brings valuable skills and expertise in Choreography, World Dance, and Afro-Jazz fusion to our department. Welcome, Jason!

Lauren Kearns attended the national board of directors meeting of the American College Dance Festival Association in CA and was named the incoming Regional Director for the Mid-Atlantic Region. She also was one of three national panelists to select the 2011 ADF 16th Annual International Screendance Festival, premiering this summer at ADF. Professor Kearns will be spending the rest of her summer writing two articles for the *Journal of Dance Education*, editing her new screendance “End Game” and starting a new piece for her professional dance company, the kearns dance project. Please visit <http://kearnsdanceproject.com> <<http://kearnsdanceproject.com>> for more information.

Lynne Formato has another busy summer lined up. She begins in Denmark, directing and Choreographing *Chicago* for the Danish Musical Academy, performing at the Fredericia Theatre, opening June 21, 2011. Check out their website: www.musicalakademiet.dk. She then will teach master classes in Theatre Dance for the Dance Masters of America National Convention in Orlando June 30 through July 5, followed by a short research trip to NYC from July 13 – 17. Then she is off to the Dance Masters of America National Teachers' Training School to teach Theatre Dance for the core curriculum as well as an Intensive held at the University at Buffalo, Amherst, NY, July 25 – 29. Finally, she will be choreographing *Fame* for Artpark in Lewiston NY (director, Randy Kramer) -- the cast includes many Elon students and alumni, and opens on August 12.

Richard Gang recently performed the role of Don Quixote in *Man of La Mancha* at the Open Space Café Theatre in Greensboro, NC. The production featured several of our performing arts majors who were also in the cast.

Natalie Hart, after being our interim scenic designer for a year, is now joining our faculty full time! Welcome, Natalie! Natalie will be spending part of her summer working at the New York Shakespeare Festival.

Fred Rubeck will be attending the Association for Theatre in Higher Education Conference in Chicago in August. Fred serves on the Governing Council for this organization.

Jack Smith will be working in Missouri at Maples Reparatory Theater where he will costume design *A Closer Walk With Patsy Cline*, *The Foreigner*, *George Washington Slept Here*, and *The Pirates of Penzance*. He will also be designing *The Importance of Being Ernest* in September in Orlando at the Orlando Shakespeare Theater.

Michael Smith is designing sound for *Church Basement Ladies*, *Becky's New Car* and *The 39 Steps* at the Nebraska Repertory Theatre.

Karl Green will be going to France to begin research for future projects involving dance on camera with Marisa C. Hayes. Marisa is currently an associate artist of the National Theater in France and has recently presented live performances at diverse venues such as the Grand Palais in Paris during the Foire International d'Art Contemporain, the Centre Pompidou for Contemporary Art (Paris), and Tanzhaus (the state-sponsored dance theater of Dusseldorf). Karl will also design a dance piece for the Starr Foster Dance Project in Richmond, VA and work with her on a ten-year retrospective of her work with will take place in October.

Bill Webb will be teaching with the *Elon in NY* program in July.

Catherine McNeela will present a Master Class at the National Association of Teachers of Singing National Summer Workshop at The University of North Carolina at Charlotte on July 28th-30th. Other Presenters include: Craig Carnelia, Five-Time Tony Award Nominee, Actor, Composer and Teacher.

Kirby Wahl will again be participating in Greensboro's chapter of the International 48 Hour Film Project in June. He will also be returning to teach a master class in Fitzmaurice Voicework for the Burning Coal Theatre Company's 2011 Summer Conservatory.

Kevin Otos directed the American premier of British playwright Simon Stephen's 2005 play *Pornography* at Burning Coal Theatre in Raleigh. He also presented a poster session on this production's creative process at this year's SURF Day at Elon.

Alumni News & Notes

Jay Briggs & Amanda Sox were married at the Sox home in SC with many Elon friends in the wedding party and in attendance at the ceremony.

Jess Barbour is appearing in *Dog Meets God* at the Raleigh Ensemble Theatre.

Jeff Masters is the assistant for the 2011 Elon in LA program. He was also recently cast as Slender in *Merry Wives of Windsor* at the Long Beach Shakespeare Company.

Stuart Richie is a Stage Manager for the North American tour of *Allegria* for Cirque du Soleil.

Maggie Henry recently performed in *Matt and Ben* at the Hollywood Fringe Festival

Sarah McAvoy will be playing Jean in *August: Osage County* at American Stage in Florida.

Matthew Masten is working as Executive Assistant for Broadway Producer Darren Bager (*Long Day's Journey Into Night, Sweeney Todd, Company* and many others!)

Hannah Campbell is proud to announce she recently starred in, and co-produced a feature length comedy that will soon be shopped for distribution. She also co-stars on an episode of NBC's new comedy LOVE BITES, watch for her (fake) pregnancy bump, and curly hair! Check out her new website at:

www.hannahbcampbell.com

Caitlin Graham is currently an Artistic Direction & Development Intern at La Jolla Playhouse in CA.

Sarah Nutt moved to Chicago to enroll in advanced scene study class with Steppenwolf and Profiles Theatres. Reach her via email at: sarah.nutt.11@gmail.com

Ian Frazier has been performing at the Fireside Theatre in WI in *Annie, Joseph...Dreamcoat, Cinderella, and Hairspray!*

Dan Belmont is the Reservations Sales Manager & Maitre'D of Primehouse New York.

Marisa (Moss) Elliott is one of the founding members of a new NYC theatre company called The Hive -check it out on Facebook and their website, www.thehive theatre.com. Marisa has been performing/ producing/ jack-of-all trades for them for about a year now. And the really big news – Marisa and husband Jon are expecting their first child in early November!

Joanna Bateman is working as a member of the Will Geer Theatrum Botanicum 2011 company in LA performing in a new play, *The Gallerist, A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and Mariane in *Tartuffe*. Joanna also starred in one Indie short film titled, "Downward Spiral" (with fellow Elon Alum **Bonnie Bower!**) She also starred in a music video for up and coming rocker, Erica Chase.

Heather Gilbert has been accepted to the prestigious HB Studio Core Training Program in NYC!

Rachel Perlman is currently performing as a dancer for Stiletto Entertainment onboard Holland America Cruise Line's MS Zaandam, traveling to Hawaii, Alaska, and Mexico.

Lyndsay Northen is in the ensemble (and Glinda U/S) in *Wicked* on Broadway.

Alexandra Ellis is in the ensemble of *Catch Me if You Can* on Broadway.

Sarah Glover was recently hired to be one of the hosts for a web series for Rosenthal Auto (a luxury auto company) in Washington DC. You can check out her first clips on YouTube in the near future.

Bethany Goodell is living and working in Fairfax, Virginia as well as appearing on stage and designing for various productions in the Washington D.C. area. She will begin classes in the fall at Regent University for a Master of Arts in Theatre Ministry.

Karena Thacker is joining Code F.A.D. and The Dance Cure (this summer), professional dance companies based in Raleigh.

Ben Seay recently wrapped the indie film "Two De Force" This summer he will be shooting "Phoenix" (short film) in the lead role and his web-series "You Don't Know Dick" is in pre-production. He also *finally* got his demo reel on YouTube.

Michelle Micca is presenting her choreography in The Young Choreographers Festival June 11, at Symphony Space New York, NY.

Allie Lochary is performing with Michelle Micca. Allie is also dancing with NYC dance company Summation Dance.

Meredith Wood has been performing in *The Dinner Detective*, an interactive murder mystery show. She also recently performed the role of Jenny in Neil LaBute's *The Shape of Things*.

(Alumni News & Notes Cont')

Elyse Rodriguez is celebrating the birth of her first child in March! She (Elyse, not the baby!) will be performing in this summer's Shakespeare on the Green production of *Much Ado About Nothing* in Wilmington, NC.

Casey Castine is performing on The Legend, Carnival Cruise Line

Juli Palchinsky is working in the Development Department of the Carolina Ballet

Mirai Booth-Ong recently wrapped a supporting lead role in a feature film - psychological thriller "No One Will Know" - on location near San Francisco. Another recent project is the lead in the new TC Boyle book trailer "When The Killing's Done", which you can view on Amazon.com. She is also celebrating her recent engagement!

Danielle (Buynak) Tolley is the host of a new web TV show called "News for Blondes" on www.TangoDango.com. It's a smart, funny, compassionate look at weekly news. She also just screen tested for a lead role in a Colombian soap opera from the creators of the original "Ugly Betty" and is performing improv and sketch comedy regularly at The Magnet Theater and is half of the sketch duo FIRECRACKER. Check out their videos up on Funny or Die and Danielle's website: www.danielletolley.com

Want to Join Us? Here's How....

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

- An on-campus audition is required for our BFA programs (Acting, Dance, Music Theatre)
- An interview/portfolio showing is required for our BA Theatrical Design & Production program.
- No interview or audition is required for the BA Theatre Studies program, or for our Minors in Theatre Arts or Dance

Contact:

Kimberly Rippy

Auditions & Interview Coordinator

(krippy@elon.edu) or 336-278-5600

Performing Arts Alumni

Turn yourself in!

*We would love to hear from you and share your news in an upcoming edition of *The Marquee!**

Email your updates to: Fred Rubeck, rubeck@elon.edu