

Dance Visions 2009

Concert of Premieres Featuring Faculty Choreographers

This year's concert is dedicated to Claire Trevor Professor **Donald McKayle**, honoring his 60 years in dance and 20 years with UCI's dance department. Professor McKayle premieres a new work to an original score jointly composed by **Kei Akagi** and **Alan Terricciano** and performed by Kei Akagi & The Tokyo Trio and the UCI Symphony Orchestra, conducted by **Stephen Tucker**.

Mr. McKayle has been the recipient of honors and awards in every aspect of his illustrious career, including being named "one of America's Irreplaceable Dance Treasures: the first 100." His choreographic masterworks *Games*, *Rainbow Round My Shoulder*, *District Storyville* and *Songs of the Disinherited* are considered modern dance classics and are performed around the world.

He has choreographed over 90 works for dance companies in the United States, Canada, Israel, Europe and South America. The Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, the Cleo Parker Robinson Dance Ensemble, Ballet San Jose Silicon Valley, the Dayton Contemporary Dance Company, and the Lula Washington Dance Theatre serve as repositories for his works. He has been honored with five Tony Award nominations for his Broadway musical theater choreography.

His autobiography, *Transcending Boundaries: My Dancing Life*, was honored with the Society of Dance History Scholar's De La Torre Bueno Prize. A television documentary about his life and work, *Heartbeats of a Dance Maker*, has aired on PBS stations throughout the United States.

Other Faculty Contributing to Dance Visions 2009 include:

- **Lisa Naugle**, chair of the School's dance department, serves as artistic director of Dance Visions 2009, along with Donald McKayle.
- Distinguished Professor **Yvonne Rainer**, an avant-garde choreographer and filmmaker, will present a re-staging of her signature work, *The Mind is a Muscle Part 1*, or *Trio A*.
- UCI professor of dance **Jodie Gates**, a professional choreographer and principal ballerina with more than 25 years of international experience, will present an excerpted version of *Artifact Suite*, choreographer William Forsythe's neo-classical masterpiece.
- **Molly Lynch**, an assistant professor of dance at UCI, teaches ballet, pointe, partnering, and ballet repertory. At Dance Visions, her choreographed work "*Starry Night*" will be presented.
- **Sheron Wray**, the newest member of the School's faculty, is an artist whose primary focus is dance. Wray is the custodian of a seminal work, *Harmonica Breakdown*, which she will present at Dance Visions 2009, and she was the artist depicted in the film of this classic work that was choreographed by Jane Dudley.

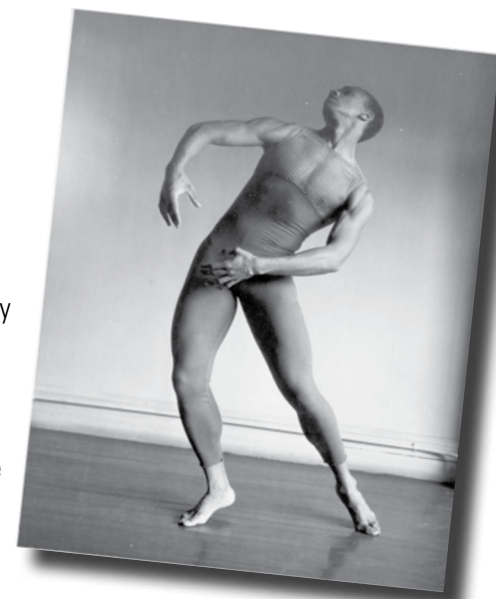
SAVE THE DATE !

Dance Visions 2009

Feb. 5 - 7 8:00 p. m.
Feb. 7 & 8 2:00 p. m.

Irvine Barclay Theatre,
\$16/\$14/\$9

Tickets available through the
Arts Box Office (949) 824-2787
or ticketmaster.com.



Leo Freedman's Interest in the Arts Lives On

When Leo Freedman emigrated from London, he made a home for himself in Canada before moving on to the warmer climate in Southern California. He purchased several large plots of land, especially in the Anaheim area, and proceeded to develop large commercial and residential projects. Years later, other developers began building a "little" amusement park across the street from one of Freedman's parcels. It was to be called *Disneyland* after it's creator.

Needless to say, Freedman's fortunes grew.

Leo Freedman died in 1989, but his appreciation for Orange County and his love for the arts live on thanks to the Foundation that bears his name. Overseen by his great niece, Sharon Lesk, the Leo Freedman Foundation has helped support Orange County outreach and educational programs, as well as provide scholarships for arts students.

"I recently attended a University luncheon and was able to meet the two current recipients of my uncle's scholarship," said

Lesk. One of those receiving a Freedman Scholarship is **Jenny Jacobs**, a third-year graduate student in the School's stage management program. This Orange County native discovered her love for working



Lorraine Shaw-Welling (L) and Jenny Jacobs

behind the curtain after suffering a bout of "stage fright" when she tried appearing on the other side! Shortly after earning her bachelor's degree in Theatre at Cal State Long Beach, Jenny was accepted into UCI's graduate program to complete her MFA in Theatre with an emphasis in Stage Management.

The scholarship has been "instrumental

in helping me get through the program, as it helps me pay for my living expenses, books and other necessities." Jenny, who also works as a production assistant during the school year, hopes to find a job as a stage manager, production assistant or college instructor once she completes her degree.

The other recipient of the Leo Freedman Foundation's largess is **Lorraine Shaw-Welling**, who graduated in 2002 from Cal State Fullerton with a bachelor's degree in Music in Vocal Performance. She embarked on a career in music, teaching high school choirs and performing with the Pacific Chorale and John Alexander Singers.

"I came to a point where I realized I needed more education and musical knowledge," she said. "I reached a crossroad and it led me back to school."

The Leo Freedman Graduate Fellowship allowed Shaw-Welling to choose UCI and continue her education. As a Vocal Performance major, she has enjoyed many different experiences, including performing in last year's UCI Opera, *The Medium*.

After graduating, Shaw-Welling is considering staying to earn her teaching credentials. She also plans on pursuing her love for early music as both a performer and in musicology.

UCI Arts

CLAIRE TREVOR SCHOOL OF THE ARTS

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University of California, Irvine

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From the Acting Dean



Dear Friends and Colleagues,

This is often the time of the year when we take stock of where we are as individuals, as organizations, as nations and as a global community. During the recent holiday festivities, we have gathered with family and friends and taken some time to reflect on the year that has passed and on the one that lies ahead.

The uncertainty and anxiety that have characterized the last months of 2008 have correspondingly increased the pace of change at universities throughout the country. No doubt there will be more changes to come.

Still, in the midst of it all, the Claire Trevor School of the Arts remains a dynamic community of artists, dancers, actors, musicians and scholars. Positioned within the wider academic research university, our School will continue to provide students with the unique opportunity to work at the intersection of culture, the arts and technology.

Our students not only work hard in their studios and classrooms, they also collaborate with each other and with their talented colleagues across campus and around the globe. This type of broad exposure is critical for their development as professionals.

Our outstanding faculty consists of leaders in their chosen disciplines, and they are actively engaged in exhibiting, writing, performing and other professional endeavors. They are teachers, but they also inspire, advise and support our students as they develop their creative visions. The faculty is passionate, and their passion is contagious, pushing students to think critically and openingly about other points of view.

As we embark on this new year, let us not forget that we have much to be thankful for. Being at the crossroads – both as a campus and as a nation – provides us with many opportunities to seek out new solutions and make positive changes. I am deeply grateful for your efforts, support and contributions, and I am hopeful for the year that lies ahead.

Alan Terricciano
Acting Dean

Studio Art Puts Focus on Painting

Painting is one of the most ancient art forms. Early humans left their handiwork in their caves; ancient Hawaiians and others depicted their worlds in petroglyphs; the works of the great masters have been acclaimed for centuries.

Before 2000, when **Kevin Appel** joined the Studio Art faculty, students flocked to classes that concentrated on video, photography and new media. Since he was hired to develop and oversee the painting program, student interest has grown and enrollment in the School's new concentration has literally doubled.

An illustrious faculty – each with his own perspective and area of expertise – broadens the scope of what the students are being exposed to and provides a different approach than many other universities whose programs were established in the past.

"We've found a way to communicate painting in a cultural way," explained **Monica Majoli**, assistant professor of painting. "This doesn't necessarily change what a painter is doing, but it provokes a different way of thinking and ways in which they are asked to introduce conceptual material into their work."

For students, experimentation is integral to honing their instincts and intuition. Through a combination of one-on-one faculty mentorships, seminars and regular comprehensive peer critiques, students have an optimal intellectual setting for fostering creative development and critical thinking.

"Because UCI's painting program is not as massive as those at some other universities, we are able to take a real interest in each student," Majoli said. "We follow their careers and try to help them as they move along."

The MFA painting program is designed to provide thorough and intensive professional training for independently motivated students

create the work," Majoli explained. "They want to have their work appreciated and exhibited, and they recognize that this does



Monica Majoli (center) meets with students.

wishing to pursue careers in the field of contemporary art. The three-year studio curriculum is designed to help students develop intellectual and theoretically positions relevant to their art practices.

As professionals themselves, the Studio Art faculty know the challenges of making a living as an artist. They try to make sure their graduate students are prepared for the rigors ahead and have a realistic perspective of their futures without lofty expectations.

"We were delighted to find that our students' primary motivation for being in the painting program was the opportunity to

not always equate to monetary gain. Our graduates are well-prepared to make their way in the world."



UCI Arts
CLAIRE TREVOR SCHOOL OF THE ARTS

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Building Topped-Off with Signed Beam

Faculty, staff and honored guests were welcomed by Chancellor **Michael V. Drake**, M.D., and School of the Arts' Acting Dean **Alan Terricciano** to the Topping Off and Beam Signing for the New Media Arts Building. The group (far right) watched with eager anticipation as the signed beam was finally strapped securely to a crane and whisked skyward to take its place atop the steel-framed building.



(L to R) Todd Meier from Meyer Sound Laboratories, Chancellor Michael V. Drake, and Acting Dean Alan Terricciano

UC Irvine Visited by Chinese Opera Troupe

Thanks to the connections and efforts of Drama Associate Professor **Daphne Lei** and the financial support of the California Institute for Chinese Performing Arts, UC Irvine was selected as the only Orange County venue to host a performance by the 80-yr.-old Mei Lanfang Opera Troupe. Named for China's legendary opera star and led by his youngest son, Mei Baojiu, the 30-person troupe filled Winifred Smith Hall to capacity for its two-hour performance.

Elaborate costumes, make-up and hair are trademarks of Chinese opera, whose mostly male actors perform in roles they began rigorously training for as youngsters, just like the country's Olympic athletes. Also integral are the orchestras, which typically are situated on stage and visible to the audience.



There are four main types of characters in Chinese opera – female, male, clown and painted face. Although there are many storylines and plays, the actors train to portray one specific type of character for their entire careers. The character each is trained for depends on their talent, body type and voice.

Dr. Lei, devoted to a multicultural curriculum in theatre studies, launched Multicultural Spring in 2007, a new program that reflects her desire to integrate multicultural performance in the drama department's regular curriculum. "I want to challenge students to open their minds and to think critically and globally."

In the Spotlight

FACULTY

Studio Art Professor **Catherine Lord** was one of 10 women awarded \$25,000 from the *Anonymous was a Woman*, a program of the FJC-A Foundation of Philanthropic Funds. The "no strings" grant enables women over 40 and at a critical juncture in their lives or careers to continue to grow and to pursue their work. Lord was acknowledged in the category of Visual Art and Writing.

Antoinette LaFarge, director of academic computing, is part of a group of UCI faculty and graduate students involved in the Arts, Women's Studies and Informatics that has founded a new blog on feminism and technology. Anyone interested in these areas is invited to add their voices to the mix by logging on to www.differenceengines.com.

Claire Trevor Professor in Drama **Robert Cohen** had his translation of Molière's play, *The Misanthrope*, published. He also taught "Shakespeare and Acting Theory," a week-long seminar in acting for graduate students at the Shanghai Theatre Academy in China.

Drama Assistant Professor **Frank B. Wilderson III**, (right) whose book *Incognegro: A Memoir of Exile and Apartheid* was published this summer by South End Press, also won the American Book Award bestowed by the Before Columbus Foundation. The book is a gripping account of his role in the downfall of South African apartheid as one of only two black Americans in the African National Congress (ANC).



Chancellor **Michael V. Drake** (third from left) hosted a luncheon at his home for the School's production team, which was a recipient of the 2008 *Living Our Values Award*. The awards honored UC Irvine faculty, staff and students whose actions best embody the university's values of respect, intellectual curiosity, integrity, commitment, empathy, appreciation and fun.

Diane Diefenderfer, who is celebrating her 20th anniversary with the dance department, was guest speaker at Orange Coast College dance department on the topic "Bringing Out the Dancer in Everyone." She also taught company classes for the National Choreographers Initiative that was held at UCI and culminated in a performance at the Irvine Barclay Theatre.

Amy Bauer, assistant professor of music, gave the paper "Time is the Essence: The Split Subject of Lost" at the 2008 Film & History conference in Chicago.



ALUMNI

Claire Trevor School of the Arts alums seem to have taken over the "great white way!" **Andrew Samonsky** (MFA Drama, 2003) has the leading role of Lt. Cable in the Lincoln Center production of *South Pacific*, currently the biggest hit on Broadway. Down the street a bit, **Beth Malone** (MFA Drama, 2000) plays B. J., one of the four leads in the huge off-Broadway hit, *Marvelous Wonderettes*. The biggest news is that **Allison Case** (MFA Drama, 2005) will be returning in February to re-create Crissy for the Broadway re-opening of *Hair*.

Sue Murray (BFA Dance Performance 2007) appeared in the Crystal Cathedral's holiday presentation "Glory of Christmas."

Alicia Okouchi-Guy (MFA Dance 1998) is an assistant professor of dance at Chapman University.

Drama alum **Courtney Harper** (BA June 2008) is now the company manager at the Pasadena Playhouse.

Creative Connections Gets Connected Creatively

Director of Outreach Programs **Ana Halland** reported that arts education outreach will expand this Fall into middle schools and high schools. Nine scholars will be working in middle and high schools in Irvine, Costa Mesa and Santa Ana, bringing programs in dance, drama, music and digital arts to a total of 200 students.



Halland was excited about two donations that Creative Connections has recently received. The Pacific Life Foundation is donating \$15,000 to help continue arts outreach programs in Orange County's underserved school districts. The other was a \$1,000 donation to the program's scholarship fund from the School's own Production Team, which recently received the same amount from Chancellor Michael Drake upon winning this year's *Living Our Values Award*.

Winter 2009 Events

January

Jan. 8 - Feb. 7
 Studio Art *Major Works of Art Series*
Steve Fagin:
The Surfing Memory Syndrome
 University Art Gallery*
 Opening Reception: Jan. 8, 6:00 - 9:00 pm

Jan. 8 - Feb. 7
 Studio Art *Emerging Artist Series*
A Just Noticeable Difference,
a Solo Project by Kenny Berger
 Room Gallery*
 Opening Reception: Jan. 8, 6:00 - 9:00 pm



Jan. 9 - Mar. 14
Scalable Relations
 Curated by Christiane Paul
 Beall Center for Art + Technology**
 Opening Reception: Jan. 8, 6:30 - 9:00 pm
 The exhibition brings together works that explore digital media's capability of representing a growing amount of data in constantly evolving relations. Addressing a range of issues, from the construction of visual worlds to self-representation and socio-cultural and political issues, the projects in Scalable Relations illustrate the complexities and shifting contexts of today's information society.

Jan. 23 - 31, 8:00 pm
 Jan. 24 & 31, 2:00 pm
 Department of Drama Stage 2
Twelfth Night
 by William Shakespeare
 Beth Gardiner, director
 Winifred Smith Hall
 A shipwreck.
 A survivor.
 A strange and distant country.
 A new beginning.
 One of Shakespeare's most beloved comedies, "*Twelfth Night*" tells a story of loss and love in the land of Illyria. Stranded on an unfamiliar shore, Viola of Messaline must re-invent herself and make her way among strangers. What follows is a delightful and poignant tale of bravery, foolery, risk and wonder.
\$11 general/\$10 seniors/\$9 students

February

Feb. 5 - 8, 8:00 pm
 Feb. 7 & 8, 2:00 pm
 Department of Dance
Dance Visions 2009
 Irvine Barclay Theatre
 This year's concert featuring faculty choreographers is dedicated to Claire Trevor Professor Donald McKayle, celebrating his 20 years in the dance department. Also presenting works are Molly Lynch, Jodie Gates, Sheron Wray and Distinguished Professor Yvonne Rainer.
\$16 general/\$14 seniors/\$9 students

Feb. 11, 8:00 pm
 Department of Music
 Gassmann Electronic Music Series
Reinventing Tradition: Violin and Computer plays the East and Beyond
 Mari Kimura, violin and computer
 Winifred Smith Hall
Free

Feb. 12 & 13, 8:00 pm
 Department of Music Chamber Series
Kei Akagi & The Tokyo Trio
 Winifred Smith Hall
\$13 general/\$11 seniors/\$9 students

Feb. 14, 8:00 pm
 Department of Music
Men In Blaque - Valentine's Concert
 Joseph Huszti, conductor
 Winifred Smith Hall
\$13 general/\$11 seniors/\$9 students

Feb. 19 - Mar. 6
 Department of Studio Art
2nd Year MFA Review
 University Art Gallery & Room Gallery*
 Opening Reception: Feb. 19, 6:00 - 9:00 pm

Feb. 20 - 28, 8:00 pm
 Feb. 21 & 28, 2:00 pm
 Department of Drama Mainstage
The Bacchae Trilogy
 by Euripides
 Mihai Maniutiu, director
 Claire Trevor Theatre
 Dynamic like a detective story, bloody like an Elizabethan text, inviting to meditation and debate like any play grasping the dimension of the sacred, "*The Bacchae*" provides a vivid incursion into the ambiguous and vast domain of the Dionysian. Euripides' voice has very modern accents when it talks of wild exaltation and euphoria as liberation from any limits—and, equally, when it addresses the risks or dangers of such a boundless freedom. His is the voice of modernity formulating questions that we ourselves ask about the world in which we live today.
\$18 general/\$16 seniors/\$9 students

Feb. 26 - 28, 8:00 pm
 Department of Music UCI Opera
Gilbert & Sullivan's Trial By Jury Disorder in the Court
 Robin Buck, stage director
 Winifred Smith Hall
 Gilbert & Sullivan's first hit is expanded to include music from a variety of operetta and opera in this whimsical romp about a bride seeking justice after having been left at the altar by her philandering fiance. Legal briefs abound in this topsy-turvy world of G&S.
\$13 general/\$11 seniors/\$9 students

March

Mar. 3, 8:00 pm
 Department of Music
UCI Jazz Orchestra Winter Concert
 Charles Owens, conductor
 Irvine Barclay Theatre
\$13 general/\$11 seniors/\$9 students

Mar. 4, 8:00 pm
 Department of Music
UCI Wind Ensemble
 Kevin McKeown, conductor
 Winifred Smith Hall
Free



Mar. 6 - 14, 8:00 pm
 Mar. 7 & 14, 2:00 pm
 Department of Drama Stage 2
The Book of Tink
 by Erik Ehn
 Jim Knipple, director
 Studio Theatre
 "*The Book of Tink*", from visionary playwright Erik Ehn, is a phantasmagorical re-imagining of the Peter Pan story. When the very fabric of Never Never Land is threatened by a manipulative and controlling Wendy, a band of fairies—led by Tinkerbell and aided by Captain Hook and a chorus of Mermaid Prostitutes—mount a defense. Nana, the Darling Children and the Lost Boys take on new lives in this highly poetic, visceral, and visually stunning exploration of "the savagery of innocence" and the necessity of the imagination.
\$11 general/\$10 seniors/\$9 students

Mar. 7, 8:00 pm
 Department of Music Chamber Series
Galanterie: The Twilight of the Lute
 Winifred Smith Hall
\$13 general/\$11 seniors/\$9 students

Mar. 8, 8:00 pm
 Department of Music
UCI Choir and Men In Blaque
 Joseph Huszti, conductor
 Winifred Smith Hall
\$13 general/\$11 seniors/\$9 students

Mar. 12 - 14, 6:30 pm
 Department of Dance
Dance Film Festival 2009
 Winifred Smith Hall
 The UCI Dance Film Festival 2009 presents three days of dance films by leading choreographers and directors from around the world.
 Student Showcase, Mar. 14, 2:30 pm
\$5 Admission

Mar. 12 - 20
 Department of Studio Art
Senior Exhibition
 University Art Gallery & Room Gallery*
 Opening Reception: Mar. 12, 6:00 - 9:00 pm

Mar. 13 & 14, 8:00 pm
 Department of Music
UCI Symphony Orchestra Legacy
 Stephen Tucker, conductor
 Claire Trevor Theatre
 Pre-concert Conversation, Mar. 13, 7:00 pm
\$13 general/\$11 seniors/\$9 students

*University Art Gallery & Room Gallery
 Hours: Tues. - Sat., noon - 5:00 pm
 (949) 824-9854
 www.ucigallery.com
 Admission is Free

**Beall Center for Art + Technology
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 Thu. - Sat., noon - 8:00 pm
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 www.beallcenter.uci.edu
 Admission is Free

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