



PERFORMANCE STUDIES ALUMNI NEWSLETTER
June 2005

Dear Performance Studies Alumni,

If you would like to contribute to the July edition of the alumni e-newsletter, please email performance.studies@nyu.edu with your submissions by July 15, 2005 . We look forward to hearing from you!

This e-newsletter contains the following listings:

***DEPARTMENTAL NEWS**

***ALUMNI NEWS**

Diane Borsato (MA '03); Sarah Cervenak (PhD '05); Meron Langsner (MA '00); Blagovesta Momchedjikova (MA '98); Luis Carlos Sotelo (MA '01)

***ALUMNI ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Cabaret (Michael Colby, MA '74); Big Voices NYC (Holly Golden, MA '01); AGE LESS and GLIMPSE at the Ontological Theatre (Beth Kurkjian, MA '01; Leigh Garrett MA '05)

***OPPORTUNITIES**

National Endowment for the Humanities funding

D E P A R T M E N T A L N E W S

Congratulations to our recent MA and PhD graduates, and welcome to our alumni community! We encourage you to stay in touch with us, and with your fellow classmates, by sending updates and announcements for inclusion in this newsletter. If you would prefer to receive this newsletter at a different email address, please just email performance.studies@nyu.edu to let us know.

A L U M N I N E W S

***DIANE BORSATO (MA '03)**

Congratulations to Diane on her new position as Assistant Professor of Interdisciplinary Studio at Brock University in Toronto! She will be teaching performance and video installation, beginning this fall.

***SARAH CERVENAK (PhD '05)**

Congratulations to Sarah on her postdoctoral teaching fellowship with Stanford University's "Introduction the the Humanities" Program!

***MERON LANGSNER (MA '00)**

Meron's play, "b'Shalom," has been invited to the Last Frontier Theatre Conference Playlab in Valdez, Alaska in June, and he has received grants from various organizations including the Center for Jewish Culture & Creativity to make this trip possible. The same play also recently won 4th place in ATHE's Stageworks contest. The play is about the Israeli/Palstinian conflict playing out between immigrants in post 9/11 NYC. For an article about Meron's upcoming participation in this event, please see: http://www.jewish-theatre.com/visitor/article_display.aspx?articleID=1337

*BLAGOVESTA MOMCHEDJIKOVA (MA '98)

Blagovesta will have an essay on tourist studies included in the 2005 textbook for Tisch School of the Arts writing students, alongside works by Stephen Greenblatt, Tim O'Brien, and George Orwell.

*LUIS CARLOS SOTELO (MA '01)

Luis recently presented an installation, in collaboration with Chris Dugrenier, at the the Queen Victoria Road Carpark in Coventry, UK. Presented in association with the Coventry City Council, the installation concerned itself with the the constantly shifting urban landscape and the parallel mutations that art itself must undergo in order to adopt more fluid forms, and thereby truly reflect life in the city.

A L U M N I A N N O U N C E M E N T S

* CABARET (MICHAEL COLBY, MA '74)

Always the early bird, I want to give you advance word on the cabaret show I'm doing two Saturdays this summer. The fantastic Audrey Lavine ("La-VINE") will be singing in an evening of songs with my lyrics, accompanied by masterly maestro Michael Lavine ("La-VEEN"). Emboldened after playing "the hero" in my Temple's HELLO MUDDAH, HELLO FADDAH, I'll be singing with them. We'll be performing songs from current projects such as the theme from the new movie HEART OF THE BEHOLDER. We'll be premiering new songs including one about my "growing up at the Algonquin." We'll also do some favorites from such past musicals as CHARLOTTE SWEET. The dates are August 6 and 20 at 9:30 PM. The place is the legendary NY nightspot, The Duplex (61 Christopher Street NYC).

*BIG VOICES, NYC (HOLLY GOLDEN, MA '01)

For the last few months, I've been working with Mark Russell on presenting a group of talented spoken word and theater artists, BIG VOICES NYC, at the Apollo Theater Soundstage. The show is a part of their New Works series, which they hope to expand next year. BIG VOICES NYC: Thursday June 23 & Friday June 24, 8pm. Apollo Theater Soundstage, 253 West 125th Street, 3rd Floor. Tickets \$10, call 212-531-5306

*AGE LESS and GLIMPSE at the ONTOLOGICAL THEATRE (BETH KURKJIAN, MA '01 and LEIGH GARRETT, MA '05)

The Ontological Theatre presents Beth Kurkjian's dance theater solo piece AGE LESS July 12-July 17 with a ten-minute opening solo by Leigh Garrett, GLIMPSE. AGE LESS, a 45-minute solo, journeys into the mysterious cultural scripts that females address during their life cycle: get ready for catwalks, girl scout songs, beach vacations, and bridesmaid dramas, with a dash of osteoporosis. Kurkjian meshes theatrical vignettes together to create a non-chronological life cycle of a female: from weddings, to summer camp, to retirement. In GLIMPSE, Garrett uses original text, soft-shoe styling, and bluesy torch singing to bring to life a woman who has used her self-deprecating humor to propel her forward. Influences include: Judy Garland, drag queens hither and yon, and midwestern fantasies of stardom. The Ontological Theater at Saint Mark's Church (Second Avenue and 10th Street); July 12-17: Tuesday through Sunday at 8 p.m. Admission: \$15. Reservations: 212.533.4650 and www.ontological.com

O P P O R T U N I T I E S

*NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES RESEARCH FUNDS

Please visit the below link for information on research funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities. International students and scholars who have been in the country 3 years are also eligible, as are projects for research abroad.

<http://www.neh.gov/projects/fpiri.html>

...JULY ISSUE: Again, please email announcements or listings for inclusion in the July 2005 e-newsletter to: performance.studies@nyu.edu by July 15, 2005. Also, if you have any questions, comments, or suggestions about the newsletter, please feel free to email either Masi Asare (masi@nyu.edu) or Jason Beckerman (jason.beckerman@nyu.edu), PS-ALUM List Managers.