

SONOMA STATE UNIVERSITY

Department of Theatre Arts & Dance presents

**SUPER MEGA
MOLTEN
HOT LAVA
NEW PLAY
FESTIVAL**

NOVEMBER 12-14

Artistic + Production Team

FESTIVAL DIRECTOR Scott Horstein

DIRECTORS Dean Dawkins, Gabe Fernandez, Rosemarie Kingfisher, Laura Millar, Doyle Ott,
John Ruzicka, Annaliese Van Sickle

STAGE MANAGER Julianna Hakopian

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR Theo Bridant

PRODUCTION COORDINATOR Francelle Mariano

STAGE MANAGEMENT MENTOR Hannah-Jane Dakin

POSTER DESIGN Natasha Radocker

FESTIVAL DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Imagine this little band of explorers, lost in wonder, on the shore of an unknown ocean. See their faces as the vision of a new world bursts upon them. A scene on the stage should give us the same sense of incredulity and wonder and delight. As we enter the theatre we too are on the threshold of a new experience. The curtain rises. The vision of a new world bursts upon us as it burst upon these voyagers of an earlier day. A new powerful life pervades the theatre. Our hearts beat with a wild hope. Is this what we have waited for? we ask. Shall we see at last? Shall we know?

- Robert Edmond Jones, *The Dramatic Imagination*

Welcome to this 2021 edition of the Super Mega Molten Hot Lava New Play Festival!

The Mega Hot festival consists of readings of the work from our Playwriting I and II classes (THAR 376 and 377). It's the moment when the work, having incubated for many weeks, is finally born, when it bursts out into stage light and takes its first breath.

Readings like those you'll hear tonight are just a step in the script's journey, as writers draft and re-draft until they get a script to the point where it is ready for a full production. Based on everything they will learn this weekend, the playwrights will revise their plays yet again before our work for the semester comes to a close.

The theater field has created many hybrid forms of live/digital performance during this pandemic. Tonight's streamed readings will be performed LIVE online, a model now common throughout the professional play development sector.

Twenty-six students from many majors, along with four faculty and guest directors, form the cast, creative, and production teams for this year's festival. We're delighted that this rich company of artists can come together in this act of communal storytelling.

You are the first audience these plays will ever have. Thank you for joining us on this voyage of discovery.

- Scott Horstein, Festival Director and playwriting instructor

PROGRAM A

FRIDAY NOV. 12 AT 7:30 PM

SUNDAY NOV. 14 AT 3 PM

ALL ICE CREAM PLANETS EVENTUALLY MELT

BY Avery Flasher-Duzgunes

DIRECTED BY Laura Millar

SHERBETIA Maya Pratt-Bauman

ROCKY Armando Ramos

VANILLALANA Stormi Martin

STAGE DIRECTIONS Robert Wiles

Content advisory: play contains some discussion of suicide

THE TITAN

BY Rylan Valdepena

DIRECTED BY John Ruzicka

SHI'KARA Annaliese Van Sickle

DESTRA Luis Escobar

SEAN Tyson Miller

STAGE DIRECTIONS Alice Tikoibau

FIRE 101

BY Tiffani Lopez

DIRECTED BY Rosemarie Kingfisher

EMMA Daisy Galeana

REDBUD Tiffani Lopez

FIREMAN/POLICE SHERIFF Lukas De Bel

STAGE DIRECTIONS Josiah Pel

NO ERA

BY Sean Wilson

DIRECTED BY Gabe Fernandez

MYRA Stormi Martin

KOA Luis Escobar

THE CAPTAIN Avery Flasher-Duzgunes

STAGE DIRECTIONS Robert Wiles

CONFESSIONS

BY J.P. Lloren

DIRECTED BY Dean Dawkins

WALT/STAGE DIRECTIONS Robert Wiles

NIKI/STAGE DIRECTIONS Alice Tikoibau

REN/STAGE DIRECTIONS Josiah Pel

MIZU Tiffani Lopez

THE AIRPORT

BY Ian Donohue

DIRECTED BY Rosemarie Kingfisher

WILL Robert Wiles

MEGAN Maya Pratt-Bauman

STAGE DIRECTIONS Josiah Pel

Content advisory: play contains some discussion of violence

PROGRAM B

SATURDAY NOV. 13 AT 7:30 PM
SUNDAY NOV. 14 AT 7:30 PM

A MOONLESS SEA

BY Kat Anderson

DIRECTED BY Doyle Ott

ASTRID Annaliese Van Sickle

NISHA Maya Pratt-Bauman

THEROS Tyson Miller

STAGE DIRECTIONS Josiah Pel

THREE FRIENDS

BY Cassidy Lieberfarb

DIRECTED BY Annaliese Van Sickle

HANK Avery Flasher-Duzgunes

HENRY Sean Wilson

OLIVIA Stormi Martin

STAGE DIRECTIONS Luis Escobar

Content advisory: play contains depictions of physical violence

ON TOP OF THE WORLD

BY Julianna Hakopian

DIRECTED BY Laura Millar

GREG Lukas De Bel

MOM Alice Tikoibau

KELLY Annaliese Van Sickle

STAGE DIRECTIONS Luis Escobar

AN OVERDUE DRINK

BY John Ruzicka

DIRECTED BY Dean Dawkins

AMBER Alice Tikoibau

BENEDICK Lukas De Bel

ESMERALDA Tiffani Lopez

STAGE DIRECTIONS Robert Wiles

Content advisory: play contains references to sexual situations

ENVOI

BY Gabe Fernandez

DIRECTED BY Doyle Ott

TOBY Armando Ramos

VERONICA Maya Pratt-Bauman

DANNY Tyson Miller

STAGE DIRECTIONS John Ruzicka

Content advisory: play contains some discussion of suicide

GUEST DIRECTOR BIOGRAPHIES



DEAN DAWKINS

Dean is a creative by nature. He's made a home for himself on the stage, having been in concert band and choir before settling into theatre. In his six-year educational career, Dean wore many different hats. From light designing, soundboard operation, and stage crew, to production research, writing, and directing, he has always managed to be working on a show or project. While obtaining his B.A. at Sonoma State University, he had a hand in several productions, but the stand-out was assistant directing the premiere run of *Origin Story* in 2019. Dean sees an empty theatre, full of potential, as his favorite place, and is elated to finally return.



ROSEMARIE KINGFISHER

Rosemarie Kingfisher (she/her) has been acting in the Bay Area since she graduated from Sonoma State University in 2017. Since then she has acted with theatre companies including the San Francisco Shakespeare Festival, Bay Area Children's Theatre, Ross Valley Players and Playground SF. She has gained further experience training with Shakespeare and Company's Actor Training program in Lenox, MA and graduated from San Francisco Circus Center's 7-month Clown Conservatory, a professional circus training program in 2020. Rose now has performed in over 5 'Zoom' style productions with various companies in the Bay Area and beyond in the last year. Some of her favorites include Mercutio in *Romeo and Juliet* and the Clown in *All's Well that Ends Well* with Lake County Theatre Co. and Angelique from *The Imaginary Invalid* with The Actors Ensemble of Berkeley. Rose is very excited to explore the world of Zoom Theatre, this time through a director's lens, with the students of SSU with a project that she remembers acting in during her time in the same theatre program.



LAURA MILLAR

Laura Millar is an SSU Alumna (go Seawolves!). She is so excited to be back for her third round of Mega Hot! Since graduating, she has been working as an actor, director, teaching artist, and dramaturg in the Bay Area. Recent dramaturgy credits include *Rhinoceros* and *Mr. Burns* at The Actors Space (Zoom productions), and “microurgy” (fast paced, short-term dramaturgy for new works still in development, usually during a workshop or festival setting) with FoolsFURY during their Fury Factory festival. Recent directing credits include a St. Patrick’s Day Cabaret at The Actors Space. Before the pandemic, she performed in *Camelot* at Sierra Repertory Theatre, *A Christmas Carol* with CenterREP, *One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest* at Lucky Penny and *Angel*, a short film. She has taught with The Actors Space, Transcendence Theatre Company, Marin Shakespeare Company, and as a private coach. Outside of the theater world, she loves reading and learning new things! Whether it’s a new recipe, a new language, or the answer to one of life’s many burning questions (such as “what is a group of jellyfish called?” A smack. A smack of jellyfish. Now you know!).



DOYLE OTT

Doyle Ott is a performer, director, dramaturg and theatre and circus scholar. Career highlights include work with Make A Circus, Splash Circus Theatre, Prescott Circus, San Francisco Shakespeare Festival, San Francisco Circus Center, Bay Area Children's Theatre, Foolsfury, Antenna Theatre, Golden Thread, and the San Francisco Playwright's Foundation, where he served as dramaturg for Pulitzer Prize winner Jackie Sibblies Drury, and many other playwrights.

As Artistic Director at Children's Fairyland in Oakland he has overseen the creation of two new performance spaces, written and directed over 30 plays for children, and developed the Bay Area's first professional Theatre for the Very Young. He directs and produces the park's annual summer circus performance. He also produces events for young audiences at the park, including performances by Axis Dance, Oakland Ballet, and the Bay Area Childrens Theatre.

Recent publications include *Believing Impossible Things: Alice in the Circus Ring*, about circus adaptations of Alice in Wonderland, and *Extreme Embodiments: Shakespearean Circus Performance*, about the use of circus in producing Shakespeare.

In addition to his work at SSU he He performs and directs regularly as company member of the Medical Clown Project and of Playground. He is a member of Actors Equity and a certified Feldenkrais practitioner. Doyle holds a Ph.D. in Theatre (concentration in Theatre for Youth) from Arizona State University, an MA in Interdisciplinary Arts Education from San Francisco State University, and a BA, University of California, Irvine where he studied with Jerzy Grotowski.

Welcome to the Department of Theatre Arts & Dance



EVERT B. PERSON THEATRE is an extraordinary learning laboratory, a fully-equipped live performance space containing professionally staffed costume and scene shops, where SSU students learn skills essential to the art of live dance, music and theater performance. For today's show, through performance-related coursework, the students have spent weeks in this building hammering, harmonizing, acting, welding, stitching, and cabling, under the mentorship of professional staff, designers, and faculty. We hope you enjoy the product of the students' learning and skill-building process.

2020-21 EVERT B. PERSON SCHOLARSHIPS

ACTING Maya Pratt-Bauman

DANCE Abigail Eissman, Alessandra Balestrieri-Jennings, Zara Labbe, Jennifer Martuscelli

TECHNICAL THEATRE Elise Clark, Sabrina Hick

THEATRE STUDIES John Ruzicka

Christine Cali, Department Chair
Dr. Hollis Robbins, Dean, School of Arts and Humanities

Acting

Marie Ramirez Downing Program Director

Introduction to Acting, Advanced Scene Study, Voice,
 Movement, Devised Theatre Workshop

Danielle Cain Voice, Scene Study, Comedy of Manners, Shakespeare, Audition,
 Drama Ensemble

Laura Odeh Beginning Acting, Career Prep and Planning, Physical Theatre

Doyle Ott Critical Thinking, Children's Theater, Humanities Learning
 Community, Commedia dell'Arte, Feldenkrais, Theatre History

Paul Draper Professor Emeritus

Dance

Christine Cali and Kristen Daley Dance Program Co-Directors

Christine Cali Contemporary Dance Forms, Choreography, Global Perspectives in Dance,
 Improvisation/Somatic Practices, Theatre in Action, Critical Thinking, Actor/Dancer
 Collaboration, Dance Ensemble, Spring Dance Choreography, Dance for Everybody

Kristen Daley Contemporary Dance Forms, Anatomy for Dance, Choreography,
 Dance History & Criticism, Yoga, Dance Conditioning, Actor/Dancer Collaboration,
 Dance Ensemble, Spring Dance Choreography, Global Perspectives in Dance

Jennifer Jaffe Ballet

Nancy Lyons Professor Emeritus

Farrah McAdam Dance Ensemble, Dance for Everybody, Hip Hop

Byb Chanel Bibene African Dance Forms, Contemporary Dance Forms

Technical Theatre

Anthony Bish Program Director

Scene Design, Light Design, Prop Design, Stage Management, Portfolio

Robyn Spencer-Crompton Costume Instruction

Hannah Dakin Stage Management Instruction

Theatre Studies

Scott Horstein Program Director

Dramaturgy, Contemporary Theatre, Playwriting, Research Methods,
 Theatre History, Humanities Learning Community

Judy Navas Professor Emeritus

Guest Speakers

Olivia Bowman-Jackson

Abdur-Rahim Jackson

Farrah McAdam

Logan Marshall-Green

Guillermo Aviles-Rodriguez

Rulan Tangen

Oswaldo Ramirez

Beowulf Boritt

Adam Versényi

Jamie Nakama

Mestre Espaço

Nakissa Etemad

Uzoamaka Nwankpa

Joti Singh

Lourdes Guzmán González

Brenda Muñoz Salazar

DEAN, SCHOOL OF ARTS AND HUMANITIES Hollis Robbins, Ph.D.

CPA Professional Staff

- ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGER** Tai Russotti
- ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST, DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC** Brooke Tester
- ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST, DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE ARTS & DANCE** Douangta Sorenson
- ASSISTANT TO THE DEAN** Leigh McTaggart
- COMMUNICATIONS AND OUTREACH ANALYST** Linda Eichhorn
- PUBLIC AFFAIRS/COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST** Jana Duncan
- COSTUME SHOP SUPERVISOR** Teresa Kopaz
- TECHNICAL DIRECTOR** Theo Bridant
- PRODUCTION COORDINATOR** Fancelle Mariano

