



Chair's Update, Winter 2012.

January 13, 2012

Welcome to 2012! I hope everyone had a good winter break and is now ready for new beginnings and a positive, productive new year.

This past Fall 2011, we welcomed numerous events that greatly reflected the diversity and mission of the department - - beginning with the **Center for Intercultural Performance (CIP)** week-long residency of *Water is Rising* music and dance with the islanders of Kiribati, Tuvalu, and Tokelau, and speakers from campus partners of the **UCLA Institute of the Environment and Sustainability (IoES)**; and *Global Flashpoints*, a multi-departmental conference organized in part by faculty **Anurima Banerji**, in partnership with UCLA's Center for Performance Studies, Center for the Study of Women, UCHRI, and UC Mexus. We exhibited of the works *Art as Witness* by **Partiv Shah** (visiting Fulbright Scholar during the Fall) and by the end of the quarter, his students' *Photography and Human Rights* works. In between we had the launch of *Exhibiting Africa 2011* series by **Al and Polly Roberts** with three contemporary artists engaged in conversation with curators to consider dynamic approaches to Africa's representation in museum and exhibition contexts of the 21st century); **Sheetal Gandhi** guest artist (MFA alum, and recent recipient of the highly competitive arts agency, New England Funding for the Arts); **Malcolm Purkey** guest presentation on *The Market Theater in Post-Apartheid South Africa...* (Artistic Director of the Market Theater of Johannesburg, South Africa); **Ngyuen Ngyuen's** MFA3 Concert *Lại Nói Nói Lại: Retelling*. Also by the end of Fall, we presented **Culture Crossing** works by students and faculty, **Art | Global Health Center's 48 Hours to Action** on World AIDS Day performances by the "Sex Squad" (directed by Bobby Gordon), and the Make Art Stop AIDS students' exhibition enlivening the walls of Kaufman Hall, and finished with our community partner, **Project HeArt's** presentations of their high school students' visual and performing projects that include an encore performance of the "Sex Squad."

I look forward to seeing you during this Winter Quarter at the many events and activities featuring the diverse talents and interests of our students and faculty members. Bridging Fall into this Winter is **Peter Nabokov's** curated exhibit "Occupy Wall Street/Los Angeles – October – November 2011" featuring photography by Margaret Molloy, located in Kaufman Hall's Rainbow Lounge. **Dan Froot's** puppet theater project, *Who's Hungry – Santa Monica*, in partnership with Dan Hurlin, will premiere January 27 (runs Jan.27-28, Feb.3-4) at Highways Performance Space in Santa Monica. During January and February we will conduct the graduate MFA admissions auditions and the undergraduate dance concentration majors' auditions alongside the MA/PHD and undergraduate WAC concentration admissions processes. *Thank you to all our volunteers assisting the admissions processes!* During that time period we will have our second **MFA3** Concert with **Heather Coker** and **Sarah Price Wilbur** (January 20-21); followed with our undergraduates' annual production **WACSmash!** (Feb.10-12) and the **MFA2** concert that will take place March 2. Guest artist **Miguel Guterrez** provides a week-long

workshop/residency during 9th week (March 5-9 – look for additional announcements), and to finish up the winter quarter we'll have our 10th week **Pau Hana and Culture Crossing** presentations. **Project HeArt's** student presentations will also return during Finals Week. In between there will be guest lectures/master-classes in our various courses, the "**Chew on This**" presentations by our graduate students and faculty (Tuesdays at noon), **David Gere's Art and Global Health Center** project, **Amp It Up!** going into LAUSD high schools, and **WACUS'** undergraduate presentations of their "**Bite Size**" and "**Open Marley**" forums.

Later in the winter announcements about Spring Quarter events will be posted – please look for **Dan Froot's** announcements of the April 16-21 **Regents' Lecturer** week-long activities in the department with world-renown artist **Meredith Monk** whose residency includes her company members – a project in partnership with **UCLA Live**. There will also be **David Roussève's** announcement of faculty choreography projects (guests and faculty: Lynn Dally, Michel Kouakou, David Rousseve, and Ros Warby) for students to perform in the spring with auditions taking place during winter quarter. **MFA3 Concert (Sarah Leddy and Herbbie Moore)** and other events will also take place in the spring as will our **Senior Projects** presentations.

Looking forward also into the Spring: as noted in my Fall highlights, the department has received substantial contributions (the **Dorskind Family Fd.**, **Morris A. Hazan Family Fd.**, **Beverly Loan Company**, **Jaclyn & Sydney Rosenberg Fd.**, **Ralph and Shirley Shapiro**) to launch the pilot residency of the donor-funded dance series spearheaded by the vision and generosity of **Brad Tabach-Bank and Dee Dee Dorskind**. Under the direction of **Victoria Marks** (Vice Chair of Undergraduate Affairs), the project will bring performer **Faye Driscoll's** newest work, "**Not...Not (if you pretend to be drowning I will pretend I am saving you)**" to UCLA's Kaufman Hall for a west coast premiere. Workshops with our students and outreach into LA schools in under-served areas will take place before and after the performances. For more information on how you can play a role in this exciting initiative, contact UCLA Arts Development, development@arts.ucla.edu. We have raised a substantial amount but still need more in order to fulfill the vision of this project.

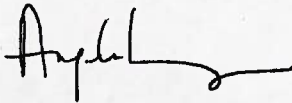
Welcome to new part-time faculty members for this winter: **Nick Duran** and **Kevin Williamson** who will teach the intermediate and advanced modern/post-modern dance courses respectively, and **Shel Wagner Rasch**, who will teach a newly designed partnering course (Dance 116). And, a warm welcome also goes to new staff members: **Mark Goebel**, who started mid-Fall quarter, serving as our Sound Technician; **Will Oloughlen**, who replaces Tony Arias in the Video Lab area; and **Hayley Safonov**, who will serve as our new Student Affairs Office counselor. We are fortunate to have the expertise of our former SAO counselor **Wendy Temple** and the assistance of **Carol McDowell** continuing to work in the department during our new admissions processes period and to provide training and transition for our new SAO counselor!

We welcome back continuing part-time faculty members: **Bob Een**, **Sabela Grimes**, **Michel Kouakou**, **Jackie Lopez**, **Adam Meckler**, **Viji Prakash**, **Carolina San Juan**, **Natsuo Tomita**, **Jason**

Tsou, Hesen Weiren, as well as extend our continued appreciation to our graduate Teaching Assistants/Associates for their work with our students and faculty members.

As you can see, there is much to look forward to this coming quarter and beyond. And, while the department (the UC in general) continues to have budget cuts and increased expenses affecting its programs, we are all trying to make a difference to ensure its well-being. Many thanks go to our staff members who are more than doing double duty in supporting our many needs, making up for positions lost to budgetary cuts. Unrestricted contributions create opportunities to meet the department's greatest needs, including student support and program improvements. I thank those who have made that contribution and I encourage all to do so.

Wishing all the best for your new year,



Angelia Leung, Chair

HOT OFF THE PRESS! The department very recently received a generous gift from **Martha and Dan Cliff and family**— designated to assist in restoring our budget to hire live musicians for our dance practice courses. As you may know, recent years of budget cuts reduced our budget severely, cutting over 50% of our musician staff. With this generous gift the department will be able to have at least all our advanced classes covered and partially our intermediate level classes for the remainder of the year. The department also received generous gifts from the **Li Zhu and Ronald Lee, and family**, and **Lori and Joseph Fonzi and family**, whose designation for the Chair's Discretionary Fund will provide much needed scholarships and programmatic support for the coming year. The department thanks these wonderful parents of our students for their support! Please add to their gifts so that we can provide for full funding of all our classes, and further grow our scholarship and program support fund. This would be a most welcomed gift!

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