



# Theatre Newsletter

Fall 2011

Volume 14, Issue 1

## About This Issue

The Fall 2011 issue of the Theatre Newsletter is about people. We begin by welcoming everyone back for special events during Homecoming. Next we introduce the newest additions to the theatre faculty. Also in this edition you meet the outstanding theatre students of 2010. On page three we offer many thanks to those who have supported us over the last year. Don't miss the back page for the exciting 2011-2012 Season: Fight or Flight.

### 2011 Theatre Homecoming Events

In collaboration with the Loreman family, we will be holding a sale of Ron Loreman's book collection to benefit the Loreman Scholarship/Prize fund. The sale will take place over the course of the weekend on the Second Floor of HFAC. More information about the sale will be available at Homecoming registration.

**Saturday, October 14**

**Noon-3pm:** Theatre Advisory Board Meeting, HFAC 100

**8-10pm:** Theatre Alumni Homecoming, Friederich Theatre

*Join us back in the space we all shared for tours of recent facility upgrades, introductions to new faculty, and conversations with current students.*

## Meet the New Faculty



### Renee M. Bell

I was excited to get the news that I would be working at Marietta College. In May 2010, I went through the application and interview process and was asked to join the Marietta College faculty. I'd previously taught at the University of Iowa, Cornell College, and the University of Texas at Austin but this is my first permanent position. The first position where I could really make a difference on a day-to-day level.

Within days of accepting my new position, my first major task as a new faculty member was presented to me. When I came for my interview, Jane Wilder-O'Connor and I discussed our individual visions of the costume shop and where we would like to see the shop in the future. Together we came up with a great design that allows us to open the space up and give the room more light. It also meant knocking down a wall, moving everything around, and reorganizing the current stock of costumes. With help from our summer intern, Sara Raddell '10, we came up with a great new space that is getting rave reviews from students and teachers alike. The costume shop is well organized, bright, and a highly functional working environment. We have already built great new costumes for *Romeo & Juliet* and *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*. We have gotten new mannequins and hope to get more in the near future. Everyday we are making our shop more practical and efficient but there is still a lot of work to do.

Everyday I'm challenged to make myself a better teacher, designer, and costumer. I returned to London this summer for two weeks to attend a five-day millinery workshop, explore the Victoria and Albert Museum, and attend West End theatre shows. This fall, I am teaching an Advanced Topics class in Millinery for which the Pedagogy Committee has given the class a grant of \$800 for class supplies.

*Update: Renee Bell was awarded a professional development grant for the millinery workshop in London during the summer of 2011. This fall, she also made her Marietta College directing debut with Harold Pinter's Ashes to Ashes.*



### Andy Felt

Luck played a huge part in my finding a home here at Marietta College. I had just finished my MFA in Directing from Ohio University but my wife Casiha had one more year in their MFA Acting program. We are from sunny Riverside, Calif., (about an hour outside of LA) and if I moved home I was faced with the daunting prospect of spending a year on the other side of the country from Cas. Toward the end of the 09/10 school year I was contacted by Jane Wilder-O'Connor about an emergency search Marietta College was conducting to find someone to fill in with Acting and Directing classes for one year... (in one of those "theater is such a small world" coincidences Jane and I attended CSU San Bernardino together as undergraduates). I was lucky enough to be offered the one-year position and this allowed me to live in Marietta during the school-week but spend weekends in Athens with my wife. It wasn't long before I recognized the fascinating connection I have with Marietta College's Theater department. My mentor (and the head of my program at Ohio U) is Dennis Lee Delaney, who is a graduate of Marietta College...he undoubtedly passed on to me lessons and tenets of theater that he first learned in the building with the brick arches. My plan was always to work here in Marietta for a year and then move back to the Golden Coast where I thought I belonged. By the time the application deadline for the full-time position rolled around, I realized that not only was I going to submit my name for consideration but I fiercely wanted the job. I don't know exactly when I fell in love with this crazy place. It might have been the first time I had a major breakthrough with a student in my Acting I class. Or maybe it was the moment I realized my colleagues were quickly becoming my friends. It could even have been the first time I finished grading papers at 2am after an evening performance of *The Illusion* last fall and walked through a darkened but strangely quiet and eerily comforting Hermann Fine Arts Center. Regardless of the reasons (of which there are many more) this Southern California kid has accepted the fact that Disneyland and my beloved Lakers are now a five-hour plane ride from my home...Marietta, Ohio.

*Update: Andy Felt, in addition to directing both of last season's Mainstage productions, directed Rip Tide for the 2011 Seabury Quinn, Jr. Playwrights' Festival. He was also seen internationally as Ghost/Claudius in Hot House Theatre's production of Hamlet this summer.*

## From the Students



**Stephanie Tett,**

### **2010 Loreman Prize Winner**

The training at Marietta's theatre department has given me a head start in the world of graduate school. Through the volume of acting opportunities available and the stellar teaching from the members of Marietta's Theatre department, I was given a solid foundation to build upon. In my senior year I had the honor of receiving the Loreman Prize. This support and recognition of my progress gave me a real sense of pride as a theatre artist. The prize helped me pay rent as I embarked on my life in highly priced Boca Raton, Fla., and while this may seem like a simple act, going out on your own is difficult and the simple reminder of the support I had at Marietta helped me to stay positive when finances were dwindling and one forgets why we do these things. Throughout my time at Marietta I engaged in a rigorous course of study that allowed me to gain specificity in acting and take the next step in my process. I entered the professional world with confidence. I truly hit the ground running and, true to Marietta's Pioneer style, I intend to continue.

*Update: Stephanie Tett has started working with the Front of House staff for the Caldwell Theatre. She is excited to enter this year's round of regional auditions.*



**Andrew Wind,**

### **2010 Outstanding Senior**

I am extremely thankful for the wonderful opportunities and training that I received at Marietta College. Already they have served me immensely in my professional career as an actor and I will always remember what I learned in and out of class. In my short time here in South Florida I have been able to break into the theatre market, sign with a TV/Film agent, and begin my trek to becoming an Equity actor: all-in-all it has proven to be a great place to get my feet wet professionally. I have acted in a run of *Clybourne Park* by Bruce Norris at the Caldwell Theatre in Boca Raton, and then I moved straight into a world premiere script at The Alliance Theatre Lab in Miami Lakes. Looking ahead, I am very eager to tap into the larger markets, i.e. D.C., New York, and Chicago. And as my future unfolds I hope that I will continue to grow as an actor and as a man, constantly drawing from my successes and failures at Marietta College.

*Update: Andrew Wind is completing his run in Rising Action Theatre's production of As Bees in Honey Drown. He recently wrapped shooting on the ABC reboot of Charlie's Angels which will air in mid-October. He has been receiving points toward Equity membership with the Caldwell Theatre.*



**Lauren Berry,**

### **2010 Loreman Scholarship Winner & Outstanding Junior**

I graduated with a BFA in Musical Theatre and a certificate in vocal pedagogy. I was very involved in the theatrical productions at Marietta, as well as playing "Maureen" in *Rent* at The Actors Guild of Parkersburg. My final Mainstage project at Marietta College was "Philia" in *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*. I attended several unified auditions this spring for opportunities to work professionally post graduation. My experience with Marietta has been wonderful. The professors and students are so supportive and over the past four years I have grown so much because of that support. I

know the theatre faculty are very in tune to the needs of each student and we all work together to find our own specific journeys to success. I am eager to continue the Long Blue Line and make Marietta proud in my future endeavors and am so grateful for my education and experiences. Without them I would not be the performer I am today.

*Update: Lauren Berry graduated with a BFA in Musical Theatre Spring 2011 and was the Senior Capstone Prize for Theatre winner for Blond Ambition: A Senior Capstone Recital. Lauren is currently teaching private lessons in voice, acting, dance, and cheerleading.*



**Thomas Daniels,**

### **2010 Outstanding Sophomore**

The last couple of semesters have been frighteningly illuminating for me. Without descending too far into clichéd musings, I have been "discovering myself." Taking on roles ranging from a comedic caricature of Senex in *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* to the tragic intensity of Romeo in the Bard's classic love story, I have been growing in ways that I never would have predicted. The tragedy is that as that growth continues (and it feels good) it is becoming increasingly apparent how close the "real world" is and all of the difficulties it brings. While I continue to focus on acting, I have realized a need to develop my technical resume if I plan on supporting myself in theatre. And as I reflect on Marietta and all of the experiences I have had here, it is frightening. School is safe. School is where you sign up for Stagecraft and you are guaranteed to work on tech for a show. School is where you climb to the top of a fairly short totem pole just by sticking around. And school is where failure is celebrated as an educational experience. When you graduate the jobs come harder, the totem pole grows to mammoth proportions, and if you fail there's no teacher there to pat you on the back and say "Next time, you'll know." But as we continue to learn and grow, there comes a time when we have to accept that we are ready, that we can contribute, that the totem pole is not as big as it looks. And it is frightening. But so is performing live theatre.

*Update: Thomas Daniels was the 2011 Loreman Scholarship winner. He is currently working on an Honors project entitled Studies in Methods of Performance Pedagogy for Acting and will be directing Edward Albee's At Home At the Zoo in November.*



**Justine Schneider,**

### **2010 Outstanding Freshman Scholar**

I have only been a student here at Marietta four semesters, yet I feel I have accomplished and gained years' worth of knowledge already! Ever since the first day I walked into Hermann, I was immediately welcomed with open arms and given many challenging experiences to grow from. Our theatre department here is a lot more than just another branch of the college; it has truly become a family to me. My goal, as a BFA Theatre Major, is to treat each student that comes into the theatre with the same warmth that I was given in hopes to spread the love of theatre to the entire campus. I'm truly proud to be a member of this college, and I'm glad that I will be able to help in continuing to contribute to it through both Alpha Psi Omega and being a member on the Theatre Alumni Board.

*Update: Justine Schneider was the 2011 Loreman Scholarship winner. This year, she will be working as assistant set designer with guest set designer Ana Milosvic, MFA Yale University, for The Seagull and Arms and the Man.*

## Brett Michael Fauver, '94

In the spring of 2010, the theatre department was honored with gifts made in memory of Brett Fauver. These gifts were used for two special projects, the 2010 One-Act Festival and *Romeo and Juliet* in the fall of 2010.

The 2010 One-Act Festival royalties were entirely funded by gifts made in memory of Brett and the festival was dedicated to him. During the festival, eight student directors each received their first chance to direct a one-act for the public. In addition to the eight directors, another 40 students were involved in the festival as actors or technicians.

The remainder was used to underwrite part of the production costs of *Romeo and Juliet*. The department was able to purchase stage weapons for the fight sequences in *Romeo and Juliet*. With funds granted from the Marietta College Office of Student Activities, we were able to bring in a certified fight choreographer to choreograph the *Romeo and Juliet* fight sequences and teach a master class open to the entire campus. Over the course of a seven-week rehearsal period and a 10-performance run, *Romeo and Juliet* involved 19 student actors, 34 student technicians, and nearly 1,300 audience members.

Many thanks to Brett, his family, and his friends for helping to make these two projects possible by sharing Brett's passion for theatre.

## The Royalty Earmark

To offset annual royalty expenses, the royalty earmark for donations to the Friederich Fund was established. Earmarked donations allow the department to devote more of its budget to enhancing production values. At the same time, these donations allow you to see concretely the effect of your donations. Your gift literally ensures that the show will go on and, in recognition of that support, your name will be listed in the program of the play(s) for which you earmarked royalties. Please see the back page for production details.

## Current Royalties

\$35—Underwriter for the New-Plays-in-One-Day Festival or the One-Act Festival

\$75—Performance of a full-length play for either the Studio or Mainstage season

\$150—A day of Repertory Performances

\$300—A weekend of Repertory Performances (Feb. 18 or Mar. 3)

\$375—Entire run of a Studio Series full-length play

\$450—Entire run of a Mainstage full-length play

*Thank You!*

## Theatre Donor Recognition (7/1/10-6/30/11)

### Producer (\$1000 + )

### Artistic Director (\$750-\$999)

### Director (\$500-\$749)

*Mr. & Mrs. Timothy O. Cooper*<sup>§</sup>

### Assistant Director (\$250-\$499)

*Mr. Jeffrey M. Cordell*<sup>§</sup>

*Mr. Michael A. Gigante, III*<sup>§</sup>

*Mr. G. Robert Jackson*<sup>§</sup>

### Stage Manager (\$100-\$249)

*Mrs. Janet Matthews Cohen & Mr. Neal P. Cohen*<sup>§</sup>

*Mr. & Mrs. Charles E. Howell, III*<sup>\*</sup>

*Dr. Tonya J. Loreman*<sup>△</sup>

*Mrs. Janet McLean Rabin & Mr. Richard A. Rabin*<sup>§</sup>

*Mrs. Julie Friederich Sarton & Mr. H. Michael Sarton*<sup>§</sup>

*Ms. Amber E. Vanwy*<sup>△</sup>

*Dr. Ruth C. Gilbert-Whitner & Mr. Michael S. Whitner*<sup>§\*</sup>

*Mrs. Mary Estes Zywar & Mr. John J. Zywar*<sup>§</sup>

*Saint-Gobain Corporation Foundation*<sup>§</sup>

### Cast and Crew (\$50-\$99)

*Ms. May M. Coryell*<sup>§\*</sup>

*Mrs. Marcia Davies Key*<sup>§\*</sup>

*Ms. Heather Glunts Kaval*<sup>§</sup>

*Mr. Osmon J. Ramsey*<sup>§</sup>

*The Krasik Consulting Group*<sup>\*</sup>

### Usher (\$1-\$49)

*Mrs. Dorothy O'Neill Burns*<sup>§</sup>

§ The Friederich Fund

△ The Royalty Earmark

\* The Ronald L. Loreman Scholarship and Prize

To submit your donation, cut out and mail to: **Marietta College Advancement Office**, 215 Fifth Street, Marietta, OH 45750.

Yes, I wish to continue my support of the Theatre Program and the College with the following tax deductible gift.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ to the Friederich Theatre Fund.

I wish to earmark (circle one) **all / part** of that amount for royalties. Partial amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to sponsor the following show(s) and date(s) through my gift: (leave blank if you prefer us to allocate)

\_\_\_\_\_

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ to the Ronald L. Loreman Theatre Scholarship/Prize Fund

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ to the Marietta College Annual Fund

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Total amount enclosed

Name as you would like it to be listed in programs or newsletters (please print):

\_\_\_\_\_

To use your American Express, Discover, MasterCard, or Visa, call toll-free: 1-800-274-4704, or locally: 740-376-4704.

On-line giving: [www.marietta.edu/advancement](http://www.marietta.edu/advancement)

# The Theatre at Marietta College

## 2011-2012 Season: "Fight or Flight"

All animals share a pair of primitive, automatic survival instincts: fight or flight. What will we pick when faced with danger, death, injustice, greed, lust, or love? Full commitment and engagement at all costs? Or escape into ourselves or to another place? So much can change in an instant of crisis. Our inborn drives may conquer our better angels. We hope the six powerful plays in this 65<sup>th</sup> season will start a conversation for our audiences about how we — as human animals responding individually and collectively — act under stress and make choices when challenged.

### The 7<sup>th</sup> Studio Series

**And Then** by Amelia Arenas, dir. by TianQi Jin

**& Ashes to Ashes** by Harold Pinter, dir. by Reneé M. Bell  
Already closed.

Two challenging plays about gender, power, and violence. In *And Then*, inspired by Euripides' *Medea*, five women involved in recent news confess their actions and dark motivations. *Ashes to Ashes* questions the nature of reality, relationships, and communication. Nobel laureate Harold Pinter makes these concerns political by examining the Holocaust as history, memory, and as an international trauma.

**The Woman in Black** adapt. by S. Mallatratt from the book by S. Hill, dir. by Sara Gable

Oct. 21 @ 8pm / Oct. 22 @ 2pm & 8pm / Oct. 23 @ 2pm & 7:30pm

A chillingly theatrical English ghost story perfect for Halloween! Witness the tale of a young solicitor sent to settle funeral affairs at isolated Eel Marsh House who becomes haunted by its tragic past. With the aid of a professional actor, he hopes to exorcise his ghostly memories . . . but can anyone ever escape her? Will you? This play continues to spook London audiences since opening in 1989. (a BFA capstone project)

**Edward Albee's At Home at the Zoo** dir. by Thomas Daniels

Nov. 18 @ 8pm / Nov. 19 @ 2pm & 8pm / Nov. 20 @ 2pm & 7:30pm

A ferociously personal drama. Peter lives the American Dream: a steady job, a good home, a wife, 2 daughters, 2 cats, 2 parakeets. But is Peter only sleepwalking through life? His wife, Ann, wakes him up. Then a complete stranger in Central Park shatters the dream. Edward Albee, America's greatest living playwright, returns to and expands upon "The Zoo Story," the critically acclaimed one-act play that launched his career fifty years ago. (a BFA capstone project)

**The 65<sup>th</sup> Mainstage Series:** On the main stage, we present two modern classics in a repertory format. Actors, designers, and theatre technicians will swap roles as the shows alternate performances over three exciting weekends. You won't want to miss either of these great plays about fighting for, fleeing from, and figuring out what it means to be in love.

**The Seagull** by A. Chekhov, trans. by C. Rocamora, dir. by Jeffrey M. Cordell

Feb. 17 @ 8pm / Feb. 18 @ 2pm

Feb. 23 @ 8pm / Feb. 25 @ 8pm

Mar. 2 @ 8pm / Mar. 3 @ 2pm

During a dreamlike summer on a lakeside estate, a young playwright pines for his muse, yet she falls in love with a famous writer, but he is the lover of the young playwright's actress mother. Chekhov's characters feel the tragic sting and comic futility of unrequited love in this 1896 masterpiece that forged new directions in stage realism.

**Arms and the Man** by G. B. Shaw, dir. by Andy Felt

Feb. 18 @ 8pm / Feb. 19 @ 2pm

Feb. 24 @ 8pm

Mar. 1 @ 8pm / Mar. 3 @ 8pm / Mar. 4 @ 2pm

When a soldier who would rather carry chocolates than cartridges seeks refuge in a young girl's bedroom, her romantic ideals and her household are turned upside-down. Shaw's timeless satire on war and romance has delighted the world since its 1894 premiere.

**Theatre Box Office: 740-376-4678**

**6<sup>th</sup> Annual New-Plays-in-One-Day Festival** Dec. 3 @ 8pm

New plays written, rehearsed, and performed in just one day!

**2012 One-Act Festival**

April 12 - April 15

Final projects for the Directing 2 class presented in three alternating programs.

Visit the Theatre Department website for contact information, special announcements, and more! [www.marietta.edu/~thea](http://www.marietta.edu/~thea)

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