From the Chair and the Editor:
Our latest newsletter arrives a little late, but rich in content. We’ll keep our comments short so we can pack in as much news as possible. A reminder, please send your most recent address and e-mail to the Department or the Editor. A new Alumni Directory is in the works, but we need updated addresses NO LATER THAN APRIL. While on the subject of addresses, it has been our policy to publish them when included in a response. If you do not want your address in the newsletter, please indicate so in your response. Thank you once again for your support, and Happy New Year to you all! — Downing Cless, Department Chair and Chris Romano, Editor.

From the Cast and Crew:
Garnett Bruce ('90) is at the Houston Grand Opera assisting on a new Macbeth. He’s pretty booked, directing Madam Butterfly for the San Diego Opera in March, Turandot at the San Francisco Opera next fall, and La Fille Du Regiment for Opera Pacific in Orange County, CA, in April of 1999. You can reach him via e-mail at Garnettbru@aol.com.

Alexandra Irvine ('93) is working as a production technician in Boston. She can be reached at 14 Colborne Rd., #2, in Brighton, MA 02135.

Nan Siegmund ('82) is working at Broadway Video, Lorne Michaels post-production/editing house. Reuben is 4 and Jeanette is 7. She is at 275 West 96th Street, #6E, New York, NY 10025. E-mail her at pep@interport.net.

Carine Montbertrand ('90) finished a successful run of Henry V in the role of Katherine at the Utah Shakespeare Festival. She is at 143 Ludlow St., #4, New York, NY 10002. E-mail her at 05133@udel.edu.

Clare Melley Smith ('65) produced and directed A Keane Irish Christmas for the Irish Bronx Theatre Company. She is at 69 Joralemon St., Brooklyn, NY 11201.

Jane (Stern) Walmsley ('68) runs a TV and film production company in London called JAN Pictures. They are co-producing a movie for television with Viacom and in August produced their first ever stage play, Killing Time, which opened in Windsor, just outside of London. She is at 26 Belsize Road, London NW6 4RD, England.

Alice Bennett Dates ('74) is self-employed as a book compositor in Hartford, VT. She keeps active in community theater and has appeared in the film, Paris Hill. She also appears as a soloist on the First Revels North CD, to be released shortly. She and husband Geoff perform professionally as members of the Wilder Singers Vocal Group. Contact her at RRI Box 209, Hartford, VT 05048. E-mail to awbenn@aol.com.

Maxine (Hoffman) Neuhauser ('76) is a partner in the law firm of Epstein Becker & Green, P.C. She represents management in employment related matters. She is married to Brett Neuhauser and they are the proud parents of ten year old Alan and seven year old Jordan, and the owners of the family dog. Reach her at 5 Jacob Lane, Scotch Plains, NJ 07070.

Curtis Houlihan ('82) was named Director of Corporate and Foundation Relations at Polytechnic University in Brooklyn, New York. He says he’s still fund raising, but now for education. Reach him at 329 West 21st St., #1R, New York, NY 10011. E-mail to chouliha@poly.edu.

Joy (Bruskin) Spadafora ('90) is freelancing as a graphic designer in the metro Boston area. She married John Spadafora, Jr., in November of 1995. They were expecting their first child in August of 1997. Contact her at 5 Blossom St., Arlington, MA 02174.

Susan Poffrath (Mazzucchelli) ('77) recently moved to Westchester from Providence, RI where she was Treasurer of the Board for the Perishable Theater. She is now raising two daughters and looking for ways to be involved in supporting alternative theater in her new neighborhood. She sees lots of Yasmine Hemati ('76) since her move. (Ed. note: Susan, say hello to Yasmine for me. She directed me in my first Cup & Saucer). You can reach Susan at 12 Park Hill Lane, Larchmont, NY 10538. E-mail her at lmazzny@aol.com.

Joan H. Lautman ('76, MA '81) is nearing the 20 year mark as a theatre critic/arts reporter, writing for the Washington Post-owned Gazette Newspapers. She moonlights 40 hours per week as a professor of English-Theatre at Montgomery College, where she also chairs the Tech Prep College Program. She is the proud grandmother of eight! Contact her at 408 Philadelpha Ave., Takoma Park, MD, 20912. E-mail to jlautman@umd5.umd.edu.

Bethany Gladhill ('89) is back in school getting a Masters in Historic Preservation. She can be found at 627 Ashland Ave., St. Paul, MN 55104. E-mail her at bethany@yerkes.com.
Alexandra (Sasha) Penner Nahr ('90) is back in New York from Berlin and is now working as the U.S. Editorial Correspondent for French Vogue magazine. She is in the Big Apple at 45 Wall Street #1110, New York, NY 10005. E-mail to alexandra_nahr@condenast.com.

Minette Norman ('82) is a technical writer for a Silicon Valley software company. She says it involves daily high drama, but not the kind she studied at Tufts. Drop her a line at 262 Alexander Ave., Daly City, CA 94014. E-mail to minette@8paws.com.

David H. Cohen ('81) lives and works in La Jolla, CA as an Administrative Assistant to the Director of ITER, an international project to design the world’s largest fusion reactor. He ushers at most of San Diego’s theatres, including the 3,000-seat Civic. E-mail him at cohend@iterus.org.

Marianne Kubik ('89) is completing her MFA program in Theater Education at Boston University’s School for the Arts, where she is specializing in theater movement. She choreographed a musical adaptation of Jack London’s Call of the Wild and White Fang for BU in November. You can reach her at 9 Frederick Street, Newton, MA 02160. E-mail to markubik@bu.edu.

Ethan Krasnoo ('97) performed in the Firehouse Center for the Arts’s production of She Loves Me during November and December of 1997. He plays Jake in the up-coming feature horror film Drainic ("the only male character left alive at the end"). He plans to head for the Big Apple in 1998.

Eric Pliner ('97) was recently appointed the School Program Coordinator for the Safe Schools Program for Gay and Lesbian Students at the Massachusetts Department of Education.

Robert O’Hara ('92) won the Oppenheimer Award for best New York Debut by a Playwright for his script Insurrection. He also received the NEA/TCG $25,000 Playwriting Fellowship for a residency at the American Conservatory Theatre. Robert is currently developing scripts for an upcoming film by Spike Lee, his own feature film directing debut, and a stage play, Brave Blood, which premiered in a workshop production at Columbia, featuring fellow Tufts alums Heather Simms ('92) and Connie Hall ('93).

Heather Simms ('92) appeared in episodes of "Homicide" and "The Guiding Light" this past year. During the summer of 1997 she was featured in a new play by Kia Cothorn at New York Stage and Film.

Heidi Crooker ('96) directed Edward Albee’s Seescape for Chicago’s Step Right Up Theatre Company, which also includes Tufts alums Molly Erdman ('96) and David Nathanielsz ('95). Heidi plans to pursue her interest in outdoor education and will complete her Outward Bound instructor training this winter.

Greg Abate ('92) spent the summer of 1997 working on a documentary with the survivors of the Shoah Visual Foundation (look for it in theaters in the Spring of 1998). He plans to return to graduate school in the coming year to pursue his interests in television and film.

Jake Woland ('95) is pursuing a Masters in Landscape Architecture at the University of Washington, where he recently won a merit award from the Washington Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects.

Sarah Brown ('88) spent the summer of 1997 in Seattle working on an internship with the US Geological Survey--a project which will contribute to her ongoing Masters in Geology studies in Vermont.

Arun Venkataraman ('94) is completing his MA in Law and Diplomacy from Fletcher and his JD from Columbia--simultaneously! Last summer he worked at the firm of Sherman and Sterling.

J. Mitch Adair ('92) works as an Assignment Editor for VH-1 in New York.

Mark Mishkin ('94) serves as the assistant to L.A. producer Kathryn Sommer Parry and as a Sectional Bridge Master.

Matthew P. Garcia ('95) just finished USC film school after completing his sitcom pilot "Common Ground," to rave reviews. He plans to pursue work in television.

Michaela Goldhaber ('93) is completing her MFA in Directing at UCLA, where she directed The Tragedy of Tragedies, or The Life of Tom Thumb the Great.

Missy Gerson ('94) is in the second year of her Masters of Education program at UCLA.

Elissa Barrett ('92) spent the summer interning in L.A., and is currently completing her law degree.

Andrew Leary ('94) has been teaching drama at Friends Academy for the past few years, and has returned to Boston to get his MFA in acting from Brandeis University.

Greg Skura ('93) spent the summer shooting the independent film "The Bad Thing." A member of the 42nd Street Workshop, Greg appeared in their recent production of Julius Caesar. He studies at the Michael Howard Studios, and has been seen on "The Guiding Light."

Craig Glantz ('93) is in the middle of his third year at Northwestern Law School.

Molly Erdman ('96) currently lives in Chicago, where she is a member of the Step Right Up Theatre Company and the Close Call Theatre, and performs with three different improv troupes. During the summer of 1997, Molly
appeared in James Lapine’s Table Settings. She works in the Art and Design Department at Columbia College.
Jon Kisch (’95) is currently living and traveling in Australia where he is working on a television series and some film scripts (and missing Ben & Jerry’s ice cream!).
Tara O’Brien (’90) appeared on Broadway in Victor/Victoria this past year.
Judy Bowman (’92) works as an Assistant Casting Director at Richlin Casting.
Adam Lerner (’90) acts as a voice-over agent at SEM&M.
Allan B. Present (’72) writes in from Kansas City, Mo. that his firm (Present Architects) designs and manages construction for a variety of buildings throughout the country, including a new Performing Arts Center in Kansas. He and his wife, Adrie, are the proud new parents of Nicholas.
Michael Carroll (’90) teaches at the American Conservatory Theater’s Studio and the California Shakespeare Festival’s conservatory and outreach programs, and performs with Shakespeare Santa Cruz, the Berkeley Repertory Theater, and Theatre de la Jeune Lune. He is a member of the Rough and Tumble Theater company, dedicated to performing modern and classic comedic material. He also works as a screenwriter and script-doctor in Hollywood.
Pat Diamond (’91) is starting his second season at the Dallas Opera, now as an assistant director.
Melissa Cahnmann (’92) is moving to Philadelphia where she will complete her Ph.D. in Educational Linguistics. She spent the past three years teaching in a bilingual school in South Central L.A. In her spare time, Melissa is a National Poetry Slammer/Performer for the Santa Cruz National Team.
Jacqueline Reid (’96) is working at Boston College as a Master Electrician/Theater Technician.
Stephen Webber (’87) is a member of the Saratoga International Theater Institute in New York, which is co-directed by Anne Bogart and Tadashi Suzuki.
Rosemary Garrison (’97) is in the MFA Acting Program at the University of California, San Diego.
Jason Gingo (’97) attends the MFA Acting Program at the University of Washington.
David Nelson (’95) is pursuing an MFA degree in film at the University of Southern California.
Rich Canzano (’97) has kept busy since his graduation. This past summer he appeared with fellow ’97’s J.C. DeVore, Ethan Krasnoo, and Maren Montalbano in Shipwrecked, with Boston’s Tall Ship Theatre. He played Balthasar in Commonweal Shakespeare’s Romeo & Juliet. In the Fall, he appeared in the SpeakEasy Stage production of Balm in Gilead. This January he will get his Equity Card working in the Merrimack Repertory’s production of Over the Tavern, playing Eddie. He plans to return to NYC later in 1998.
J.C. DeVore (’97) played Michael in Pine Manor College’s production of Dancing at Lughnasa this past Fall. He is currently appearing in The Bacchae at the American Repertory Theatre and is featured in the independent film Starving Artists.
Maren Montalbano (’97) appeared as the Baker’s Wife in a recent production of Into the Woods.
Amy Rhodes (’97) is working with Improv Boston, and together with Rich Canzano, J.C. DeVore, and Ethan Krasnoo were in With Trotsky In Vienna by Gerald Nash, for Playwright’s Platforms in Boston.
Julia Lichtman (’97) works as a production assistant in NYC.
Michelle Six (’95) has completed her graduate studies in acting at the American Conservatory Theatre, and is currently living and working in NYC.
Andrew Polk (’84) is the Artistic Director of the Cape Cod Theatre Project, which enjoyed a busy summer season and is continuing its year-round association with Falmouth Academy.
Andrea Stulman Dennett (’80) is the author of Weird and Wonderful: The Dime Museum in America. Since receiving her Ph.D. in Performance Studies from NYU, Andrea has worked as a teacher, actor, director, and author. She has written on many aspects of popular entertainment from television talk shows to disaster spectacles.
Adam Grosswirth (’97) is at the box office of the Joyce Theatre in New York, and working as a PA on Brides of the Moon at the New York Theatre Workshop (Artistic Director James Nicola, ’72).
Braden Rhett (’97) continues at the Asia Society in New York and has recently been to India.
Katie Kreisler (’97) is pursuing her MFA at Juilliard.
Stephanie Weiss (’97) is teaching piano, voice, and music theory, and singing at four churches.
Nick Salamone (’77) performed in Oscar Comes Out at a Wilde jail-leaving centennial benefit for ONE Institute in May of 1997 in Hollywood.
Lolly Susi (’72) is on her way to Hawaii to direct Blood Brothers.
Cindy Carver (’76) made her directing debut with two one-act plays at the Trilogy Theatre in New York, and has just finished a run in Fassbinder’s Blood on the Neck of the Cat at the Museum of Modern Art.
Steven Calvot (’95) is a "star" of Chinese television. He has his own show, Internet Cafe Television Series, which began airing in November. Anthony Cornish (cornish@mindspring.com) will forward a five page e-mail to anyone
who wants to know lots more news from a very busy Steven.

An impromptu celebration of 30 years of Tufts in London was held at the recent Arena production of Peer Gynt, directed by Anthony Cornish. Early seventies alums Mary Ryan, Sheila Brachfeld, Steven Harris, Stephen Benson, Randall Merrifield, Craig Sturges and Kyle Rennick all showed up to wish Anthony well.

Kate Levy ('82) is back from the Portland Stage where she played in David Hare’s Skylight and is rehearsing a revival of The Normal Heart.

Stephen Benson ('74) is rehearsing to play Salieri in Amadeus at The Firehouse in Newburyport, and is getting ready to direct Cat on a Hot Tin Roof at Middlesex University.

Julie Nathanson ('95) is in the movie Lucid Days, to be released this year, and she played Debbie in Tom Stoppard’s The Real Thing for Fleetwood Stage in New Rochelle. She shot a pilot called Paramour for American Movie Classics, and her latest play had a reading in New York, where fellow alums Jesse Pennington, Kathryn Vaughan, Michelle Six and Jennifer Plante were in the cast.

Robertson Dean ('76) is with the Los Angeles classic rep company A Noise Within, playing Buckingham in Richard III and Trissotin in The Learned Ladies. He will next appear as Trigorin in The Seagull. He was also heard in a radio version of The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari, directed by Yuri Rosovsky.

Tom Connolly (Ph.D. '91) was appointed Fulbright Professor of American Literature and American Studies at the University of Ostrava in the Czech Republic. He directed Israel Horovitz’s Line and his own play, Two Women Off Color: A Black Comedy, for the English Language Theatre of Ostrava, and both productions toured the country and were part of Monrovia’s National Theater Festival. You can reach him at 318 Tappan St., Brookline, MA 02146, but Tom says he liked Ostrava so much he has accepted a renewal of the Fulbright grant. E-mail him at tconnoll@acad.suffolk.edu or connolly@algernon.osu.cz.

Anne Fletcher (Ph.D. '92) married Blair Beasley last December, a fellow theatre professor at Winthrop University in South Carolina. She loves life and work in South Carolina, and you can reach her at 737 Hawthorne Lane, Rock Hill, SC 29730. E-mail her at fletcher@winthrop.edu.

Chris Newton (Ph.D. '89) is at the National University of Singapore, in the middle of a year-long collaboration with the National Theatre of Japan’s Kabuki Division. Other projects in the works for Chris include a performance project with the Singapore Art Museum and research into popular culture and performance in Southeast Asia.

Laurence Senelick passes along the information that the Department Ph.D. program was well represented at the annual meeting of the American Society for Theatre Research, held in San Antonio in November. Faculty members Barbara Grossman, Laurence Senelick and Judith Williams were present, along with emeritus professor Kalman Burnim. The Asian theatre seminar was chaired by Chris Newton, and the African American theatre seminar was chaired by David Krasner, now at Yale. Daphne Pu-Wei Lei gave an impressive paper on popular Chinese theatre form. A reception for Tufts alums and friends produced the aforementioned, who were joined by Noreen Barnes-McClain, Anne Fletcher, Cindy Rosenthal, Barry Witham and Marti LoMonaco.

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Name:

Address:

News:

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