

SPRING PRODUCTIONS

NEXT TO NORMAL

Music by Tom Kitt
Book & Lyrics by Brian Yorkey
Directed by Noe Montez
Balch Arena Theater
February 18-20 and 25-27, 2016 at 8:00 pm; February 27, 2016 at 2:00 pm

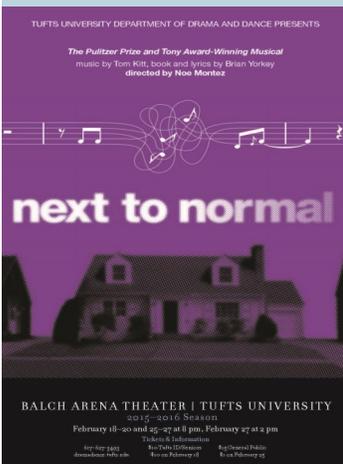
"Much more than a feel-good musical: it is a feel everything musical"
The New York Times

Diana Goodman has a seemingly-perfect suburban life complete with a loving husband, son, and daughter. While the family appears to be the typical American family on the surface, their lives are anything but normal as they cope with the effects of bipolar disorder. *Next to Normal* is a modern rock musical about the devastating toll of psychiatric disorders and the decisions a family makes to keep their world intact. Winner of the 2010 Pulitzer Prize in Drama and three Tony Awards, *Next to Normal* is a groundbreaking American masterpiece that explores the psychology of grief, ethics in modern psychiatry, and the shared joys and heartaches of family life.

Talkbacks

Friday, February 19, Post-Show: "Demystifying" mental health services. The three panelists will highlight the services offered by Tufts CMHS, discuss access to these services, and explore and debunk prevalent myths related to mental health. Panelists include three Clinicians at Tufts Counseling and Mental Health Services: **Stephen Buck, Psy.D., Susan Mahoney, APRN, BC,** and **J. Sophia Nam, Ed.M.**

Thursday, February 25, Post-Show: Productive, student-centered conversation about mental health at Tufts and beyond. The student panelists will discuss their own experiences related to mental health. They will address topics such as how they discovered access to the resources that Tufts has available, and how they found support around mental health issues from within and beyond to Tufts community. Panelists include three current Tufts' students: **Jeremy Caldwell, Kristopher Siy,** and **Kayla Williamson.**



Friday, February 26, Post-Show: Focus on stigmas around mental health and mental illness. The panelists will describe how they've seen and encountered these stigmas in their professions, and how people can work to deconstruct these stigmas in their daily lives. Panelists include **Jennifer Allen, Sc.D., MPH, MSN, RN,** Associate Professor of Public Health and Community Medicine at Tufts, Director of the Department of Community Health at Tufts; **Kimberly Martin-Conley, M.Ed, LMFT,** Program Director at The Guidance Center, Cambridge MA; and **Joy Richmond-Smith, LICSW, LICSW,** Site Director at Children's Friend and Family Services, Lynn MA.

AN INVITATION FROM THE PRESIDENT OF 3Ps

3Ps, Tufts' student-run theater group, would love to have you join us! As a community built on peers teaching and learning from each other, we welcome anyone with an interest in theater, be it acting, directing, writing, painting, working with lights and sound, building, and oh so much more - no matter your skill level or experience! Please join us on Mondays at noon in Balch Arena Theater to learn more about how to get involved! - Thanks, Artoun Festekjian, 3Ps President (www.tufts3ps.com)

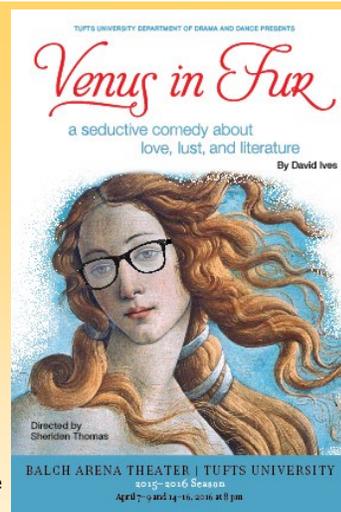
VENUS IN FUR

By David Ives
Directed by Sheriden Thomas
Balch Arena Theater
April 7-9 and 14-16, 2016 at 8:00 pm

As *Fifty Shades of Grey* takes both bookstores and cinemas worldwide by storm with its SM-shaded romance, it is the perfect timing to reimagine Masochism, a term derived from the Austrian writer Leopold von Sacher-Masoch, and his classic erotic novel *Venus in Furs*, in a modern context.

In David Ives's seductive, darkly funny *Venus in Fur*, a playwright-director, Thomas, has written an adaptation of Sacher-Masoch's novel, the story of an obsessive relationship between a man and the mistress to whom he becomes enslaved. At the end of a long day in which the actresses Thomas auditions fail to impress him, in walks Vanda, very late and seemingly clueless, but she convinces him to give her a chance. As they perform scenes from Thomas's play, the lines between writer, actor, director, and character begin to blur. An unsettling drama, a playful comedy, *Venus in Fur* also constitutes a masterful exploration of the art of acting—onstage and off.

Post-Show Talkbacks to be announced.



DANCE EVENTS

Spring Dance Concert

Friday – Saturday, April 15-16, 7:00 PM
Jackson Dance Lab
\$5 available at the Box Office (617)627-3493

Join our graduating minors as they share performance projects alongside the work of fellow students in Dance Repertory & Performance, under the direction of Dance Program Faculty.

Choreographer's Showcase

Sunday, April 24, 7:00 PM
Jackson Dance Lab
Open to the Public, Free



A showcase of original choreography created by students in Choreographer's Workshop. *Some of the most experimental ideas on campus.*

And don't miss another great season of **Dances at Noon!!!**

Friday, March 11 at 12:00 pm

Featuring Jimena Bermejo-Black, Santiago MacLean and Sarah Mae Gibbons

Friday, April 8, at 12:00 pm, featuring James Morrow, Olivier Besson, Jody Weber

Jackson Dance Lab
Open to the Public, FREE

BALCH ARENA THEATER LOBBY

If you haven't paid a visit to our Balch Arena Lobby in a while, please stop by and view the updated photos from previous shows, which are now on display. While you are there, enjoy a snack from our new vending machine, which was a big hit with students, especially the ones who work late into the evening in the theater!

SPRING STUDENT GROUP MAJORS

AFTER THE REVOLUTION

Presented by 3Ps

By Amy Herzog, Directed by Blair Nodelman

March 10-12 at 8:00pm- Balch Arena Theater

1999. An East Coast family gathers in the matriarch's house. There is joy and laughter, maybe some healthy banter. However, instead of Bibles in the nightstand drawer, the *Communist Manifesto* sits proudly on the coffee table. The brilliant, promising Emma Joseph proudly carries the torch of her family's Marxist intergenerational tradition, devoting her life to the memory of her blacklisted grandfather. But when history reveals a shocking truth about the man himself, the entire family is forced to confront questions of honesty and allegiance they thought had been resolved. Emma is forced to reevaluate her ideals, the relationships she has within her family, and come to terms with this new reality. Each character learns to listen to one another while examining their personal histories as well as history itself.

URINETOWN

Presented by Torn Ticket II

Book and Lyrics by Greg Kotis, Music and Lyrics by Mark Hollman

Directed by Yuval Ben-Hayun

March 31- April 2 at 8:00 pm

Cohen Auditorium

A terrible water shortage, caused by a 20-year drought, has led to a government-enforced ban on private toilets. The citizens must use public amenities, regulated by a single malevolent company, Urine Good Company (UGC). To control water consumption, the people must pay in order to exercise one of humanities most basic needs. All those who try to pee for free, are sent to a penal colony called "Urinetown", never to return. Amidst the people we see Bobby Strong, a hero that plans a revolution to freedom, where the people pee for free, because the people are free! This uproarious story satirizes the legal system, class divide, corporate mismanagement, and even musical theatre as a whole. What we're left with is an outrageously funny and engaging show that never takes itself seriously all while discussing some very serious topics.

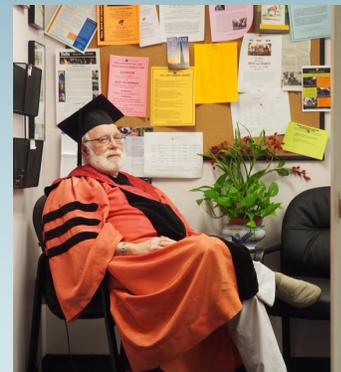
For more information on student group events, please visit the 3Ps website: www.tufts3ps.com

FACULTY NEWS

Daniel McCusker served as the Project Manager and Rehearsal Director for the Boston Conservatory's Cunningham Project which has had performances in the galleries where the Black Mountain College exhibit: "Leap Before You Look" is installed. Performances took place in October, November, December, and January. In addition, he has been invited to show work in an ICA program of Boston choreographers, *Dance Dance Dance*, with performances in the ICA theater on February 12 & 13, 2016, at 8PM.

Cristina Rosa begins a book tour for *Brazilian Bodies and Their Choreographies of Identification* at UCLA, on January 5; Reed College on February 26, and Columbia College Chicago on April 15. She also participated in the dance workshop "Embodying the Polycentric and Polyrhythmic Body" for the Collegium for African Diaspora Dance's second conference *Dancing the African Diaspora: Embodying the Afrofuture* at Duke University, February 8-10, 2016. Her lecture "From Rennie Harris to Kyle Abraham: the New Wave of African American Choreographers in the US" is open to the public on February 25 at Reed College.

During the Fall 2015 semester, **Laurence Senelick** was awarded lifetime honorary membership in the American Theatre and Drama Society; appointed to the Editorial Advisory Board of the journal *Early Popular Visual Culture*; and served on the American Academy of Arts and Sciences selection committee for new fellows in the Performing Arts. He published his translation of *The Ghost Sonata* by August Strindberg (Broadway Play Publishing) and an article "Offenbach, Wagner, Nietzsche: the Polemics of Opera," in *New Theatre Quarterly*. He delivered the 2015 Annual Shakespeare Lecture of the Harvard Institute for Learning in Retirement, "'Nothing will come of nothing'. What *Much Ado* Is About."



DEPARTMENT ACADEMIC NEWS AND UPCOMING ACADEMIC EVENTS

In conjunction with our Winter Major, *Next to Normal*, Tufts' Department of Drama and Dance welcomed Broadway Stage Director, **Michael Grief** and Actor and Tufts Alumni, **Joel Perez**. Both visited the Drama department and participated in a number of events including a Q&A session with students and the teaching of a Master Class. Faculty, staff, and students were privileged to benefit from their shared experiences and expertise!

Black Bodies in Motion: Choreographing Resistance across the Americas

Wednesday, March 30, 1:00 PM—8:00 PM

Alumnae Lounge & the Jackson Dance Lab

Aidekman Arts Center

40 Talbot Ave, Medford, MA 02153

Free and Open to the Public

Tufts University Department of Drama and Dance invites you to attend the interdisciplinary conference: **Black Bodies in Motion: Choreographing Resistance across the Americas**. Keynote address by Dr. Paula Barreto (Federal University of Bahia, Brazil). Highlights include a screening of the documentary *Favela Rising* (2005), academic panels, and a capoeira workshop.



Broken Box Mime Theater @ Tufts University

Saturday March 12, 2016

10:30 AM-1:00 PM; Session One: Games and Exercises for Ensemble Devising

1:15 PM-2:15 PM; Lunch Q&A

2:30 PM-5:30 PM; Session Two: Collaborative Creation Process

6:00 PM-7:30 PM; Dinner Q&A

Free and Open to ALL Tufts' Students

Come play with Broken Box Mime Theater! This full-day workshop will focus on the devised, ensemble-driven creation process through the lens of mime. BKBX company members will guide participants through a range of applied exercises including individual and group "writing" tasks, on-your-feet physical brainstorming, collaborative revision processes, and ensemble-driven narrative making. All exercises can be adapted to serve any devised ensemble process, whether utilizing language or physical theater. Each session functions as a stand-alone master class, but we encourage participants to join us for the full day!

For more information about these and other upcoming events, please visit our website or Facebook page!

Tufts University Department of Drama and Dance

Aidekman Arts Center

40 Talbot Ave, Medford, MA

617-627-3524

Website: <http://dramadance.tufts.edu/>

Facebook: [TuftsUniversityDepartmentOfDramaAndDance](https://www.facebook.com/TuftsUniversityDepartmentOfDramaAndDance)

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