What’s new and what’s next: VPA is fixing our environment, ‘elongating the thread,’ drawing discourse, and performing nonstop.

January/February 2010

1_Top stories

VPA design students compete to create best ‘fix’ for their environment_Cross-disciplinary teams made up of 280 students majoring in advertising design, fashion design, industrial and interaction design, and interior design participated in a charrette facilitated by VPA’s COLAB January 20-26 to become the top finalists and have their entries submitted to the 2010 Metropolis Magazine Next Generation Design Competition. Read more.

Sculpture Workshop offers art-making facilities to University, Syracuse communities_The sculpture program in the School of Art and Design’s Department of Art has announced the creation of an open workshop for the local community that provides time, space, and equipment in the program’s facilities in Comstock Art Facility (ComArt). Read more.

Visit vpa.syr.edu for more news stories and events.
2_Happenings

Work by VPA fiber, textile alumni to be featured in the exhibition ‘Elongating the Thread’ Feb. 3-28. On view at XL Projects in downtown Syracuse, the show will feature the diverse work of nine alumni artists and include a reception and panel discussion on Thursday, February 18, beginning at 4 p.m. Read more. Image: work by Barbara Jean Weingart G'03

SU Opera Theatre to present ‘Die Fledermaus’ Jan. 29-31. The production will be fully staged in English with a reduced orchestra. Featured soloists will be Setnor School of Music seniors Robert Brotherton, Leila Gheitu, and Emily F. Wells and juniors David Arzt, Abigail Ottenjohn, and Gabrielle Traub. Read more.

‘The Two Gentlemen of Verona’ comes to the Department of Drama Feb. 19-28. In this early comedy, Shakespeare cheerfully parodies love and friendship, as two best friends fall for and fall out over the same woman. Directed by Elizabeth Ingram, associate professor of drama. Read more or purchase tickets.

‘Recovered Voices’ project to honor music suppressed by the Nazis. This special concert performance on Saturday, January 30, is a collaborative effort of SU’s School of Education, the Syracuse Symphony Orchestra, the SU Oratorio Society, and the Syracuse International Film Festival. The concert includes the works of composers Maurice Ravel, Erwin Schulhoff, Alexander Zemlinsky, and Franz Schreker. Read more.

Find our complete events listings, including live Setnor School of Music concert audio and video streaming, at vpa.syr.edu.

3_Take note
Susan D’Amato, associate professor of foundation in the School of Art and Design’s Department of Foundation, has work in Drawing Discourse: Contemporary Drawing Exhibition at the S Tucker Cooke Gallery at the University of North Carolina at Asheville through February 2. The juror of the exhibition is artist and author Deborah Rockman. Image: Gape, charcoal and pastel, 42”x31” (2009)

Philip MacArthur, instructor in the Setnor School of Music, retired at the end of the fall 2009 semester after an incredible 48 years of service, the longest tenure in the history of the Setnor School. He began teaching oboe at VPA in 1962 after graduating from SU. At that time he also served as principal oboe with the Syracuse Symphony Orchestra, from which he retired in spring 2009. In addition to teaching, he also coached the SU Woodwind Quintet.

Kimi Takesue, visiting assistant professor of film in the School of Art and Design’s Department of Transmedia, will have her feature-length documentary Where Are You Taking Me? have its world premiere at the Rotterdam International Film Festival in February. The film was shot in Uganda and was commissioned by the Rotterdam Festival as part of a special series on Africa.

The college’s visiting artists and speakers in December and January included designers Paul Seymour ’83 and Paul and Sandra Tsang; Adam Kornfeld ’82, senior vice president of Artist Group International (AGI); Dan Weisman, president and founder of Elitaste, Inc.; Frank Woodworth ’01, general manager of the Eleven Seven Music Group; and Richard Cohen, Team 8 Management (Tokyo Police Club, Passion Pit).

Read more faculty and student news and notes here.

4_For alumni
Alumni spotlight: Doug Shapiro ’92
Since graduating, Doug has toured the U.S. with a 1940s Big Band, performed on television and in film, and organized a benefit performance, singing the works of the many composers and lyricists with whom he has worked over the years. Read more.

Reconnect in Chicago!_ VPA will host a reception in conjunction with the College Art Associate Conference on Thursday, February 11 from 5:30-7 p.m. at the Hyatt Regency Chicago Hotel. Visit our alumni events page for location and R.S.V.P details.

Calling all drama alumni_ A documentary is being made about The Actors Workshop, a weekly group held at the Department of Drama for community members with disabilities and for drama students. The department is interested in connecting with alumni who are past members of this group to find out if you have continued with this work in any way (for example, starting your own groups in other cities). Contact Professor Elizabeth Ingram at ejingram@syr.edu.

Host a University Singer_ The University Singers will be embarking on a tour February 11-14 that includes stops in Fort Lee, N.J.; Warrington, Pa.; and Ardmore, Pa. They are asking for assistance in housing students, particularly in Fort Lee. If you are interested, please contact Professor John Warren, director of choral activities in the Setnor School of Music, at 315-443-4106 or jfwarr01@syr.edu. Visit our calendar of events for more information on the concert tour.

Save the dates!_ SU and VPA will host several events of interest to alumni in March and April. Mark your calendars and visit our web site to learn more about an alumni reception in Los Angeles on Tuesday, March 16; an alumni reception in Seattle on Thursday, April 1 (in conjunction with the Seattle Repertory Theatre’s production of August Wilson’s Fences, directed by Timothy Bond, Syracuse Stage producing artistic director); and our Second Annual Design Career Event at SU on Friday, April 9.

Connect with us! Visit the alumni section of the VPA web site to find VPA alumni events; our showcase page of alumni exhibitions, shows, and more; and career resources and job postings. Help us go green by sharing this e-mail with fellow alumni who don’t receive our e-mails. If they fill out our online form, they will receive future issues of Momentum, alumni event e-vites, and other college information of interest.
Find VPA alumni on Facebook and LinkedIn. Visit SU News 2.0 for a complete list of links to follow VPA and SU people and activities via social media, including Facebook, YouTube, and Twitter.

Momentum is published by the VPA Office of Communications under the leadership of Dean Ann Clarke. Send comments to Erica Blust, Director of Communications and Media Relations, at esblust@syr.edu. For more information about the college, visit our web site at vpa.syr.edu.

The College of Visual and Performing Arts at Syracuse University is committed to the education of cultural leaders who will engage and inspire audiences through performance, visual art, design, scholarship, and commentary. We provide the tools for self-discovery and risk-taking in an environment that thrives on critical thought and action.