

**What's new and what's next: VPA is exploring the Los Angeles art scene, honoring the legacy of a civil rights activist, telling an 'American Soldier's Tale' with music, and working as a scenic designer for film and television.**

# VPA MOMENTUM

March 2010

## 1\_Top stories

**VPA to launch Ginsburg-Klaus Art in Los Angeles Practicum Week** On Saturday, March 13, eight students from the School of Art and Design will travel to LA to spend a week exploring museums, galleries, and studios and learning from prominent artists, curators, and gallery owners, many of whom are accomplished SU alumni. Funded through a gift by VPA alumna and Advisory Council member Marylyn Ginsburg-Klaus '56, G'57 and her husband, Charles Klaus, "Art in LA" is led by Stephen Zaima, professor of painting. [Read more.](#)



**Kendall Phillips named VPA associate dean of research and graduate studies** In this new position, Phillips will promote and facilitate more opportunities for individual faculty members and faculty research teams to garner sponsored research grants and other forms of external funding for research/creative work. He will also assume responsibility for oversight of the college's graduate programs. He is currently

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professor and chair of the Department of Communication and Rhetorical Studies. [Read more.](#)

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**Light wall emphasizes motion at The Warehouse** \_An installation by Studio Mercury of New York City on the first floor of SU's Warehouse, which houses the School of Art and Design's Department of Design and VPA's COLAB, creates a visual environment that suggests a diverse range of design processes. Studio Mercury created six nine-foot-tall Plexiglass panels that consist of both a still image and motion-tracked line work that depicts the action distilled by the photography. [Read and view more.](#)

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**VPA students, Syracuse Opera collaborate on unprecedented multimedia concert production of 'The Flying Dutchman'** \_The February premiere of Richard Wagner's opera featured a video developed by 14 VPA students that served as projected scenery for the production. The students worked with Adam Brown '09, an instructor in VPA and producer of the Connective Corridor's Urban Video Project. [Read more.](#) *Video still by Alex DeFulvio '10*

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Visit [vpa.syr.edu](http://vpa.syr.edu) for more news stories and events.

## 2\_Happenings

**12th annual Sojourner Storytelling Conference honors late civil rights activist and SU faculty member George Wiley** \_ The legacy of Wiley, who began teaching organic chemistry at SU in 1960 and later worked as a local and national community organizer until his death in 1973, inspired organizers to select the theme "The Activist Story" for the conference, which will be held March 24-25. The Department of Communication and Rhetorical Studies is a co-sponsor. [Learn more](#) about the keynote speech event, which is open to the public.

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**Iconic American fashion designer Mary McFadden to visit VPA March 9-10** \_The internationally renowned textile, clothing, and jewelry designer will give a lecture on Tuesday, March 9, as well as take part in “An Evening with Mary McFadden,” which includes a fashion show of McFadden Couture and a book signing. Both events are open to the public; tickets are required for the evening event. On Wednesday, March 10, she will spend the day in private critiques with senior fashion design students. [Read more.](#)

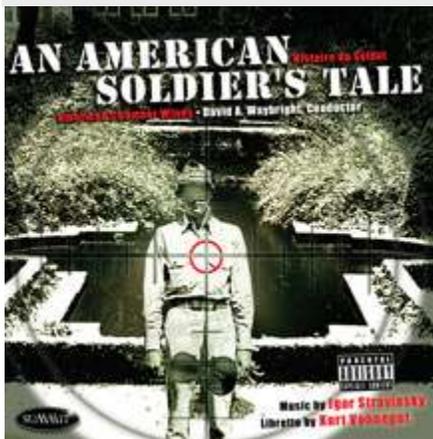
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**Order ‘Room Service’ from the Department of Drama March 26-April 3** \_This comic delight from the 1930s is a real treat for anyone who loves theater and especially for those who love the people who make theater. Directed by Robert Moss. [Read more](#) or [purchase tickets.](#)

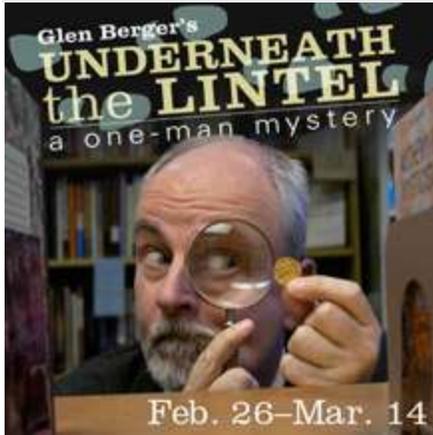
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Find our complete events listings, including live Setnor School of Music concert audio and video streaming, at [vpa.syr.edu](http://vpa.syr.edu).

## 3\_ Take note



A group of Setnor School of Music faculty led by **John Laverty**, professor and director of University Bands, were involved in *An American Soldier's Tale*, *Histoire du Soldat* (Summit Records), the first recording of Kurt Vonnegut's libretto written for the music by Igor Stravinsky. The album, which features the American Chamber Winds, was recorded on the SU campus in the Belfer Audio Laboratory and Archive as well as Setnor Auditorium in Crouse College. Laverty served as producer; **James S. Abbott** engineered, mixed, and mastered the recording, and **Jill Coggiola** (clarinet), **Edward Castilano** (bass), and **Michael Bull** (percussion) performed as part of the American Chamber Winds. [Read more.](#)



**Craig MacDonald**, associate professor in the Department of Drama, is starring in Glen Berger's one-man mystery *Underneath the Lintel* through March 14 at [TheatreSquared](#) in Fayetteville, Ark.

**James Haywood Rolling Jr.**, associate professor of art education in the School of Art and Design's Department of Art, is the author of *Cinderella Story: A Scholarly Sketchbook About Race, Identity, Barack Obama, the Human Spirit, and Other Stuff That Matters* (AltaMira Press). He also created the book's cover art and original art.

**Barbara Marble Tagg**, instructor of music education and conducting in the Setnor School of Music, will be honored Saturday, March 6, by the Syracuse Children's Chorus (SCC) as she passes the baton after 29 years leading the ensemble. Tagg is also the founder and artistic director. The concert will feature SCC alumni; works performed will exemplify the chorus's mission to artistically challenge young singers. For tickets and more information, visit the chorus's [web site](#).

The college's visiting artists and speakers in February included **Andrew Scanlon**, organist; **Thai Nguyen**, fashion designer and reality television star; **Chuck Chao**, independent concert and special events promoter; **Jim Griffin**, adviser to Warner Music Group and founder of Choruss; **Loren Chodosh**, entertainment law attorney; and **Jibz Cameron**, performance and video artist.

[Read more faculty and student news and notes here.](#)

## 4\_For alumni

**Alumni spotlight: Deb Fishman Cutler '80**\_Deb, a scenic designer, began her career in theater and now works in film and television. She recently completed work on Ben Affleck's *The Town*. [Read more.](#)

**Celebrate with us in Los Angeles on March 16**\_SU will host an alumni reception, gallery viewing, and student cabaret on Tuesday, March 16, at 6 p.m. at the Museum of

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Contemporary Art. The event will feature VPA students participating in Sorkin Week in LA and the inaugural Art in LA (see “Top Stories”). Visit our [alumni events page](#) for more information and R.S.V.P details.

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**Alumni volunteers needed for admitted student events in April**\_The VPA Office of Recruitment and Admissions seeks alumni volunteers to participate in events for admitted students in April in Philadelphia; Washington, D.C.; and Boston. If you live in one of these areas and would like to be considered, please contact Jenny Saluti, assistant director, at [jssaluti@syr.edu](mailto:jssaluti@syr.edu). More detailed information, including dates, will be sent once we hear from you.

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### Upcoming alumni events

Visit our [web site](#) to learn more about:

\_April 1: August Wilson’s *Fences* performance and alumni reception with director Timothy Bond, Seattle Repertory Theatre

\_April 9: Second Annual Design Career Event for current design students, The Warehouse, SU campus

\_April 29: Industrial and interaction design alumni reception at SU’s Lubin House, New York City

\_April 29: Fashion design alumni brunch (prior to Annual Fashion Show matinee), Schine Student Center, SU campus

\_October 15-17: SU Homecoming + Reunion, SU campus

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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; alumni career highlights (Winter 2010 edition); 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.

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environment that thrives on critical thought and action.



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