

THE NEW SCHOOL FOR DRAMA

### Fall's First Look Series *a Success!*

Photo: Scotty Wynn



Nina Burns '10 and Julia Chan '10 in *Stage Door*

This fall, The New School for Drama completed another successful FIRST LOOK workshop performance series. FIRST LOOK features classical and contemporary works staged in a final rehearsal atmosphere, using minimal sets, lights, costumes, and props.

“With the production values of a play stripped away, both the actors and the audience are freer to embrace the play

and the characters,” said Robert LuPone, director of The New School for Drama. “We’re all able to enter the world of the play more effectively—unencumbered by additional forces—and will have a more personal theatrical experience.”

The season included Henrik Ibsen’s *The Pillars of Society*, directed by Johanna McKeon; Edna Ferber and George S. Kaufman’s *Stage Door*, directed by Hal

Brooks; and William Shakespeare’s *All’s Well That Ends Well*, directed by Stephen Fried. To prepare for the production of *All’s Well That Ends Well*, students participated in a series of workshops led by Acting faculty member Paul Rudd. In the weeklong experience, participants explored acting approaches to working with Shakespearean text and reviewed dramaturgical and textual analyses of the play. ♡

## ALUMNI NEWS

Send your news to [alumni@newschool.edu](mailto:alumni@newschool.edu) and see more complete, up-to-the-minute news submitted by your fellow alumni on the Class Notes page at [www.newschool.edu/alumni](http://www.newschool.edu/alumni).

### 1998

**Kevin Allen Jackson** and **Andres Faucher '00** are creators of the short film *El Pasajero*. The film's accolades include Best International Short at the 2008 Queens Film Festival, Best Narrative Short at the Athens International Film and Video Festival, and Best Screenplay and Best Ensemble Cast at the 2008 Breckenridge Festival of Film.

**Charlotte Cohn** (see 2001)

**M.J. Karmi** appeared in the films *Moonlight Sonata* and *Julia*, and in an episode of *Brothers & Sisters* on ABC Television.

### 2000

**Tom Cavanaugh** won FirstStage's twelfth annual One-Act Play Contest in Los Angeles, and received the Irene Bashore Award for Playwriting for his play *Wonder*.

**Bradley Cooper** starred in *Yes Man* opposite Jim Carrey. Other recent and upcoming films include *He's Just Not That Into You*, *New York, I Love You*, *All About Steve*, and *Case 39*.

**Andres Faucher** (see 1998).

**Kimberly Yates** appeared in **Carey Lovelace's** new play, *Couples Counseling*, at Manhattan Repertory Theatre in NYC.

### 2001

**Graeme Gillis** (see 2007).

**Traci Hovel** appeared in a principal role on *Lipstick Jungle*. She finished shooting *What Would You Do?* and *Kingdom of Gravy* and appeared in Motorola and State Farm print ads; a national voice over for Kleenex; and commercials for AT&T, Playtex, and American Express.

## Message from the Director

BOB LUPONE

Dear Alumni and Friends,

This spring semester has been a busy one at The New School for Drama. Last fall, we welcomed esteemed actor and director John Turturro as our artist-in-residence. John taught two master classes to our graduating actors; this semester he will conduct a town hall and teach a master class to our directors. His generosity toward Drama and his willingness to share his exemplary acting and directing experience with our students is greatly appreciated.

I want you all to know that I am very proud of the class of 2009. They have endured some of the toughest assignments that we as an educational institution have devised to prepare them for a life in theater. They come into this semester having gained experience in last semester's performances of *All's Well That Ends Well* and *The Pillars of Society*, and they have one final semester of challenges ahead. I have confidence that they will meet these challenges and excel as a result. A note of thanks to Nova Thomas, chair of Voice and Speech; Tom Vasiliades, chair of Movement; and instructors Marcia Haufrecht, Alba Quezada, and Dr. Chris Roselli, who spent hours supporting these productions and preparing our graduates for their transition into the industry.

In February we began production on our signature program Random Acts! One-Act Play Festival. Jamie Richards, artistic director of the festival, in conjunction with our directing candidates, has not only selected original plays by our playwrights, but also works from familiar playwrights Brian Friel, Thornton Wilder, and Horton Foote and contemporary playwrights Stephen Adly Guirgis, Romulus Linney, and James Saunders. I have confidence that this will be a memorable festival displaying the fine talents of our graduating actors, directors, and playwrights. A heartfelt thanks to Jamie, her fellow instructors Chris Shinn and Robert Walden, and the entire artistic team for their hours of effort in bringing the Random Acts! festival to fruition.



Photo: Matthew Sussman

I also want to thank Mary Hastings, now in her third year as our development director, for accomplished, measured, and constructive financial growth. Our mailing lists have tripled and our foundation funding continues to attract both new and longstanding supporters, including Dodger Properties and The James Love Scholarship for Theater, The Litwin Foundation, The Harold and Mimi Steinberg Charitable Trust, The Lucile Lortel Foundation, The LCU Foundation, The Ted Snowdon Foundation, and The Tony Randall Theatrical Fund. Additional thanks goes to New School President Bob Kerrey for his unwavering support for The New School for Drama, and our growing donor base of alumni.

As you can see, we have many supporters who deserve recognition for their commitment to creating the finest drama program in New York and to fostering a legacy of training and talent. The New School for Drama's faculty consists of working professionals, and we collectively feel our graduates reflect our standards and passions. Our students continue to challenge themselves, their instructors, and the very principles that we as faculty and staff have based our professional lives on. Our students and alumni are the future of this industry, but they also represent a legacy—they honor us, and most importantly, they honor our instructors who remain vivid in our memory. I can think of no better representation of The New School for Drama.

Sincerely,

Bob LuPone  
Director

## The New School for Drama is grateful to the following donors for their recent contributions:\*

These contributions provide a valuable resource for student scholarships, program development, and operating support.

We are extremely grateful to our donors for their generosity.

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We would like to take an opportunity to note with special appreciation our alumni donors:

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\*As of December 2008

**Kari Jenseg (Feilberg-Jacobsen)** wrote, produced, and performed in *Hvem er norskest?*, a one-act play which premiered at Twist '08, a theater festival in Oslo.

**Lloyd Suh** (see feature story on page 5).

**Jason Odell Williams** appeared in the film *The Hindenburg Omen*, which premiered at the Queens International Film Fest. He starred in *Picture Day*, which was screened in the Big Apple Film Festival and nominated for a 2008 Student Academy Award. His play *Baltimore in Black and White* was selected for the Baltimore Playwrights' Festival, where it was directed by **Charlotte Cohn** '98 and featured **Kristen Cerelli** '02 and **Nedra McClyde** '05. The play featured **Ross Beshear** '08 and **Tai Verley** '08 when it was presented in the Drama Alumni Play Development Project.

### 2002

**Kristen Cerelli** (see 2001).

**Michele Best** and **Cooper Shaw** '04 performed in "Nerve," an evening of improvised scenes and monologues, at The Duplex in NYC.

### 2003

**John Patrick Bray**'s play *As We Speak* was presented by the (Re:) Directions Theatre Company at the 14th Street Y Theatre in NYC. He and his wife Danielle are the proud parents of Daniel Patrick, born December 3, 2008.

**Elizabeth June (Sewer)** released the video to her single "Freedom." June wrote the song, sang all vocals, and helped with the video's production.

**Jacques Maroun** appeared in Barry Levinson's film *What Just Happened* with Robert De Niro, Sean Penn, Stanley Tucci, Bruce Willis, and John Turturro.

## What's New ALUMNI OFFICE

Become a part of the New School online alumni community. Friend us on Facebook by searching for NewSchool AlumniRelations and see what nearly 1,800 New School alumni are up to. To network with alumni, join the official New School alumni group on LinkedIn ([www.linkedin.com/groups?viewMembers=&gid=116886](http://www.linkedin.com/groups?viewMembers=&gid=116886)), and search for alumni in your field. For more information, contact us at [alumni@newschool.edu](mailto:alumni@newschool.edu) or 212.229.5662 x3784, or visit our website at [www.newschool.edu/alumni](http://www.newschool.edu/alumni).

# An Open Letter from New School President

BOB KERREY



Photo: Buck Emmlis; licensed from Crain's

**The New School takes seriously its responsibility to communicate with our alumni, parents, and friends.** In that spirit, I am writing to respond personally to the issues that have put The New School in the news recently and to inform you about how our university is weathering the economic downturn.

I am pleased to report that, despite the current economy's negative impact on fundraising and investments, The New School's financial position is secure. We expect to meet our enrollment and revenue goals this year and next. In addition, I assure you that the administration and faculty remain committed to building our university's future and providing an outstanding education to our students.

**The New School Will Increase Institutional Financial Aid:** As a bright spot in the economic gloom, the university plans to increase institutional financial aid by nearly \$9 million to help new and returning students. We will also increase stipends to graduate assistants and teaching fellows. I am also very gratified that the economic stimulus bill just signed into law by President Barack Obama provides significant new funding for Pell Grants to compensate for state budget cuts.

**The New School's Endowment and Fundraising:** While our endowment income has suffered a decline similar to other institutions of higher learning, The New School depends on its endowment for just four percent of annual expenditures. Our students and faculty have reminded us that our investment choices matter. At their request, I have recommended to the board of trustees that an ad hoc committee of trustees, faculty, students, and staff be set up this semester to work towards establishing a Socially Responsible Investment Advisory Committee.

Since 2001, when I arrived here, The New School has raised more than \$255 million in gifts and pledges from the private sector. Fundraising has been challenging this year, and we have currently raised 35 percent of our \$32 million annual goal. Although the total number of gifts to the university has increased by 27 percent this year, the average amount of the gifts has decreased. This experience is shared by many universities and is attributable to the economy.

**Shared Governance and Open Communication:** I take seriously the vote of no confidence issued by the faculty in December. My office has responded quickly and strongly to address the concerns voiced. To improve shared governance and open communication within the university, I am meeting regularly with the deans, the student body and student senate, and the general faculty and faculty senate. At the request of our student senate, a committee will be set up to explore the possibility and protocols for adding a student and a faculty non-voting representative to the board of trustees.

**Strengthening the Role of the Provost:** It is with great pleasure that I announce the appointment of Tim Marshall, Dean of Parsons The New School for Design, as Interim Provost. Tim will begin his new assignment on March 16, 2009 and serve through June 2010.

Tim's appointment has the strong and enthusiastic support of the Interim Provost Search Committee, the Deans and Officers, the faculty, and the Board of Trustees. As our community knows, the Deans, faculty, and I have come to an agreement on the authorities of the office of Provost. Tim's charge, in part emanating from this agreement, will not be an easy one, especially during this very difficult economic climate. He will need the ongoing support and cooperation of everyone at The New School to help him rebuild and strengthen the Provost's Office and advance the academic mission and vision for The New School. We will implement a search committee to identify an interim Dean of Parsons to serve during Tim's term as Provost as well as initiate a search for a permanent Provost further into Tim's tenure in that role.

**Expanding Academic Offerings:** The New School will continue to develop and extend its academic offerings, in particular making new connections between and among graduate and undergraduate programs in design, liberal arts and social sciences, and the performing arts. We recently launched a new major in environmental studies and expect to begin an undergraduate program in international studies in fall 2010. Many other new academic programs are in planning stages.

**Faculty Growth and Tenure:** The New School is justly proud of its faculty. I am pleased to note that we will continue hiring additional full-time faculty members to support new and existing programs. We began this effort in earnest six years ago and have seen the number of full-time faculty members double to 340. The number of tenured faculty members has nearly tripled since I first came to The New School, and we continue our effort to extend tenure to all academic programs.

**Building for the Future:** The growth of our community places increasing demands on our facilities. To meet these demands, we are moving forward with plans for a new building at 65 Fifth Avenue. As we improve our campus, we remain committed to lessening our environmental impact. The New School has signed up for the Mayor's Challenge to Universities, which encourages local universities to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions by 30 percent.

Thank You and Best Regards,

  
Bob Kerrey

## Artist-in-Residence John Turturro *meets with acting students*.....

This fall, award-winning actor and director John Turturro, artist-in-residence at Drama, met with third-year acting students for a series of master classes. This once-in-a-lifetime opportunity gave students the chance to receive feedback and further develop character and scene work.

“Never once did John make us feel we were in the presence of a ‘star,’” remarked Nate Faust, third-year actor. “He related to us as fellow artists, giving us practical advice based on his experiences. What I liked most about working with him was his ability to pull the best out of us—he spoke to us in a language we understand because of the training we’re getting here at Drama. It was all about the craft.”



Photo: Matthew Sussman

Third-year actor Bridget Ori concurred, “It was very much like our acting classes here at Drama. His approach was very similar to our teachers; he asked what we were trying to achieve, he commented on what did and didn’t work...then gave us suggestions on how to fix them.” Bridget went on to explain that Turturro emphasized that his pointers were meant as guidance only. Ultimately, the students were responsible for creating their own work.

This spring, as part of his yearlong residency, Turturro will speak to Drama’s entire student body in a town hall meeting and conduct a master class for the directing students. ↻

## NEA New Play Development Honor *awarded to Drama playwright*

The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) recently announced the first of seven selections for the NEA New Play Development Program, which includes a new work from Drama alum **Lloyd Suh** '01. Suh will collaborate with the Children’s Theatre Company in Minneapolis on his play *Happy End to Everything*, which will receive \$20,000 to support early development activities including workshops and staged readings. Administered by Arena Stage in Washington, DC, this new initiative is intended to help the nation’s non-profit theaters produce full productions of new plays.

“Every year the NEA supports about 135 new theatrical premieres, but the NEA New Play Development Program, in partnership with Arena Stage, is something special. It creates a small but superb national network

to develop new works from across the country,” said NEA Chairman Dana Gioia.

*Happy End to Everything* uses comedy, fantasy, science fiction, and manga (Japanese comics and cartoons) to create a parable about every child’s discovery that his or her uniqueness is not a stigma, but the key to creativity and joy. The play was developed in partnership with Ma-Yi Theater Company in New York City.

Suh is the author of *American Hwangap*, *The Children of Vonderly*, *The Garden Variety*, and *Masha No Home*, and several shorter plays, including *Happy Birthday William Abernathy*, *Not All Korean Girls Can Fly*, and *With A Hammer & A Nail*. He serves as artistic director of Second Generation and co-director of the Ma-Yi Writers Lab, the largest resident company of Asian-American playwrights ever assembled. ↻

### 2004

**Holly Lynn Ellis** film *Nailing Jello* premiered at the Vine Shorts Festival in Santa Monica. Ellis wrote the screenplay and produced the film with **Brian W. Seibert**. It features Ellis, Seibert, **Chantel Cherisse Lucier**, **Jake Lipman**, **Cooper Shaw** (see 2002), **Katie McConaghy** '07, and **JC Vasquez** '07.

**Beth Manspeizer** appeared in *Approaching Union Square* on the Sundance Channel. The film was screened in the Montreal Film Festival and the Breckenridge Film Festival.

**Moti Marolin** performed the title role in *Uncle Vanya* with The Space Ensemble in NYC. He also translated the production with director John Knauss.

### 2005

**Melissa Attebery** directed *Venus & Mona* by Leslie Bramm with Emerging Artists Theatre at The Spoon Theatre in NYC. The production featured **Nedra McClyde** (see 2001).

**Bernardo Badillo** appeared on the Showtime series *Dexter*.

**Ted Clement** appeared in *X-1* with Counter-Productions Theatre Company in Boston.

**Grant Kretchik** directed Tennessee Williams’ *Summer and Smoke* at Pace University in NYC.

**Laura Rohrman** interviewed playwrights Adam Rapp, David Lindsay Abair, and Tina Howe for an article in the *Dramatist*. Her play *Reporter Girl* had a reading at the Dramatist Guild as part of the Friday Night Footlights series. She has been developing *Hoboken* with The Fold and Emerging Artists Theater. In December, Laura performed in *Who Put the Ex in Xmas?* at the Algonquin Theater.

**Sari Wagner** (see feature story on page 7)

## 2006

**Sara Michelle Bickweat** coaches Neutral American Speech/Accent Reduction privately and rewrote the curriculum for New York Film Academy's Voice and Movement Department.

**Djola Branner's** play *Sash & Trim* premiered at New World Stages in Amherst, Massachusetts; he also performed in the piece.

**Amy Miller-Brennan** appeared in *She Loves Me!* with the Caldwell Theatre Company in Boca Raton, Florida.

**Lloyd Watts** completed a special tour for the U.S. Marines with his one man show *You the Man* in Hiroshima, Japan.

## 2007

**Bekah Brunstetter** had a workshop of her play *Miss Lilly Gets Boned* by Babel Theatre Project at the Atlantic Theatre in NYC. Last season, Babel produced the premiere of *You May Go Now*, which won the 2007 Innovative Theater Award for best full-length play.

**Darcie Champagne** appeared off-Broadway with Red Bull Theatre in Thomas Middleton's *Women Beware Women*.

**Nandita Chandra** appeared in *Around the World in Eighty Days* with the Irish Repertory theater in NYC.

**Karen M. Dabney** directed *Onward, Forward* at American Theatre of Actors' Beckmann Theatre, NYC; the production featured **Rachel Dorfman**.

**Adam Kee** performed in "An Evening of Music and Comedy IV" at Don't Tell Mama in NYC.

**Robin LeMon** is in a commercial for Cablevision's "Optimum Business." She appeared in *Ghosts with Insomnia: Smoke Flying Above a River* with Prometheus Fire Productions in Stamford, Connecticut and in *King Lear* with Take Wings and Soar Productions at the National Black Theatre in Harlem.

# Jon Robin Baitz and Jo Bonney Join Drama Faculty in Spring 2009

Two award-winning artists, playwright Jon Robin Baitz and director Jo Bonney, have joined the New School for Drama faculty for the Spring 2009 semester. Baitz is teaching playwriting with the second-year playwrights, while Bonney is teaching a course for first-year directors on directing short plays.

"Baitz and Bonney are examples of the high caliber professionals that The New School for Drama is able to attract through its strong ties to the New York theater world," said Robert LuPone, director of The New School for Drama. "Their success proves that there is still room in the theater for imaginative, risky, and, most importantly, original plays. For our students, this is an outstanding opportunity to learn from shining lights in the field. We look forward to having them join us this spring."

Baitz's plays include *The Film Society*, *The Substance of Fire*, *Three Hotels*, *A Fair Country*, *Ten Unknowns*, *Mizlansky/Zilinsky*, and *The Paris Letter* as well as a new version of Ibsen's *Hedda Gabler*, which was produced

on Broadway in 2001. He is the creator of the hit ABC Television show *Brothers & Sisters*, which he also produced for the first two seasons. He is a Pulitzer finalist, a Guggenheim and NEA fellow, an American Academy of Arts and Letters award winner, and a founding member and former artistic director of New York's Naked Angels theatre company. His new play, *Love & Mercy*, will be produced next season on Broadway. In New York, his work has been produced by Playwrights Horizons, the Roundabout Theatre, Lincoln Center Theatre, and Second Stage.

Bonney has directed *Top Girls*; *A Soldier's Play*; *On the Mountain*; *Fat Pig*; *Living Out*; *Anna in the Tropics*; *Slanguage*; *Fifth of July*; *Adoration of the Old Woman*; *References to Salvador Dali Make Me Hot*; *Humpty Dumpty*; *SubUrbia*; *Funhouse*; *Sex, Drugs, Rock & Roll*; *Pounding Nails into the Floor with My Forehead*; and *Wake Up and Smell the Coffee*. Other credits include Philip Ridley's *The Fastest Clock in the Universe*, Seth Zvi Rosenfeld's *The Flatted Fifth* (The New Group), and Warren Leight's *Stray Cats* (Naked Angels). She is the recipient of a 1998 Obie Award for Sustained Excellence of Direction and is the editor of *Extreme Exposure: An Anthology of Solo Performance Texts from the Twentieth Century* (Theatre Communications Group, 2000). ♡

## Faculty News .....

**Laura Maria Censabella** (Playwriting) had readings of her play *Carla Cooks The War* (formerly *Three Italian Women*) in Ensemble Studio Theatre-L.A.'s First Look Series at the Mark Taper Auditorium in Los Angeles this past November, and at Rogue Machine in Los Angeles this past December. Both readings were directed by Brendon Fox.

**Marcia Haufrecht** (Acting) directed *The Daughters of Eve* at The Cherry Lane Studio Theatre in New York City in December for The Speranza Theatre Company. The production featured Drama alums **Francesca Bove** '08, **Rachel Cornish** '08, and **Heather Wahl** '08.

**Karen Ludwig** (Acting) directed "Love, Loss and Limbo," an evening of new one-act plays, including one of her own, at the HB Studio in New York City. She also performed in an original one-act called *The Questioning* by Elizabeth Primamore at HB, and directed her own play, *Dr. Donner*, this winter.

**Dr. Christopher Roselli** (Voice) performed last summer with the Israel Philharmonic in Tel Aviv, Jerusalem, and Haifa, Israel. In the fall, he performed with the San Francisco Symphony at Carnegie Hall, Voices of Ascension at Zankel Hall, and Musica Sacra at Rose Hall, and performed at Jazz at Lincoln Center and Carnegie Hall. Upcoming performances include Sir Jonathan Miller's staged production of Bach's *St. Matthew Passion* at the Brooklyn Academy of Music and *Don Giovanni* at the Verbier Festival in Verbier, Switzerland.

## Drama Alum to make major film debut.....

**SARI (WAGNER) LENNICK**

**Sari (Wagner) Lennick** '05 recently completed filming Ethan and Joel Coen's new movie, *A Serious Man*, along with Adam Arkin, Richard Kind, and Michael Stuhlbarg. A black comedy set in 1967, the story centers on Larry Gopnik (Stuhlbarg), a midwestern professor who watches his life unravel when his wife, Judith (Lennick), prepares to leave him because she has fallen in love with one of his colleagues. Gopnik must also contend with his inept brother (Kind), who won't move out of the house; his son, who has a discipline problem; and his daughter, who is stealing money from him.

In August 2006, a year after graduating from Drama, Lennick and her husband moved to Minneapolis. "In February 2007, I was at the Guthrie Theater seeing a show with **Jonathan Howle**, Playwriting '03, and we ran into my agent," she explained. "She called me the following week and said that the Coen brothers were shooting their next film [in Minneapolis]. She sent me the script and I geared up for the usual disappointment



that comes with prepping for an audition, pouring your entire soul into it, and then not getting the part."

Lennick auditioned in March, and in June was called back to audition for the Coens. "I read for them once. My callback was only 12 minutes, but they laughed at all my jokes," she remembered. She got the call in August that she got the part.

"From the moment I met Joel and Ethan, they made me feel totally comfortable," she recalls. "They are truly astounding in that they trust their actors and believe we have the answers. They treated me as though I knew Judith better than they did, as if I were an expert on her. They are remarkable directors, and their confidence in me allowed me to be my absolute best and surprise myself."

What's next for her? "I don't know what will happen with this film or my career, but I can say...I have had the opportunity and experience of a lifetime and I am so, so grateful." ❧

**Christopher Shinn** (Playwriting) has written an adaptation of Ibsen's *Hedda Gabler*, which recently opened on Broadway with the Roundabout Theatre Company. The production is directed by Ian Rickson, and features Mary-Louise Parker and Michael Cerveris.

**Arthur Storch** (Acting) was a panelist at the Acting Teachers of America symposium at City University of New York's Graduate Center. Other panelists included Lee Grant, Olympia Dukakis, Marian Seldes, Kristin Linklater, Gregory Abels, and William Esper.

**Michael Weller** (Playwriting) received the 2009 Carl Djerassi Distinguished Fellowship in Playwriting at the Wisconsin Institute for Creative Writing at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He will be a playwright-in-residence at UW-Madison during the spring semester and will receive a \$45,000 stipend.

**Shelley Wyant** (Movement), collaborating with Rufus Muller, directed the Opera Workshop Production in February at The Performing Arts Center at Bard College in Annandale-on-Hudson, NY.

**Katie McConaghy** (see 2004).

**Florin Penisoara** appeared in *The Inexistent Theatre—Romania's production of *Zelda Was Not From Here** at The Producers' Club in NYC.

**Brian Schlanger** appeared in *30 Rock* on NBC Television.

**JC Vasquez** (see 2004).

**DeLora Whitney's** play *The Visit* was performed as part of Ensemble Studio Theatre's Octoberfest in NYC. It was directed by **Graeme Gillis** '01.

### 2008

**Estelle (Collins) Bajou** performed in John Patrick Shanley's *Savage in Limbo* with Flying Swine Theater Company in Beacon, New York.

**Jenni Banerjee, Julie Cavaliere,** and **Mike Keller** appeared in a workshop of Martin Crimp's *The Country* at The Barrow Street Theatre in NYC.

**Francesca Bove, Rachel Cornish,** and **Heather Wahl** presented *The Daughters of Eve*, the premier production from their company The Speranza Theatre Company, at The Cherry Lane Studio theater in NYC. It was directed by Drama faculty member Marcia Haufrecht.

**Ross Beshear** will tour in *The Color of Justice* with Theatreworks. (See 2001.)

**Andrew Rosendorf** recently received a ten-month playwriting residency with Florida Stage through the National New Play Network (NNPN).

**Tai Verley** (see 2001).

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# THE NEW SCHOOL FOR DRAMA

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## NEWS | Spring 2009

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## Annual Drama Alumni Event: *NetWorks*

On October 28, 2008, The New School for Drama held its second annual NetWorks event at Automatic Slim's in New York City. More than 40 alumni attended, and each graduating class was represented. The event allowed Drama alumni to develop new professional and working relationships within the industry. Over cocktails and hors d'oeuvres, participants connected with new colleagues and exchanged business cards, email and web addresses, comp cards, and résumés.

Special guests included agents Clay Smith and Eric Faber; career strategist Brian O'Neil; and headshot photographer Robin Gentile, who raffled off a free photography session.

*To view more photos from alumni events, visit: [www.newschool.edu/alumni/pastevents.html](http://www.newschool.edu/alumni/pastevents.html)*



Eleanor Handley '08, Apoo Kale '08, Malinda Sorci '08, and Gina Leon '08



Robin Gentile, Sarah Bisman '08, and J. Jilian Christopher '05

Photos: Rachel Denny



Tiffany Tang '01, Heather LeBlanc '00, Phillip Schmiedel '01, and Stefanie Bubnis '00



Janine Nabers '08 and Caren Skibell '07



Jane Tarica '08 and Tim Capalbo