New plays by Rutgers students featured in **Student-Directed One-Act Play Festival**

World premieres of two student-written plays will highlight the annual **Student-Directed One-Act Play Festival** presented by Rutgers–Camden Theater. Admission is free.

*The Walk*, by senior English major Matt Fulton, dramatizes the story of America’s first mass shooter, Howard Unruh. Unruh gunned down 13 people in Camden, NJ in 1949. “We’re looking to create a conversation,” director Hunter Smith, a senior theater major, explains. “This man has so many ties to themes we talk about today: PTSD, sexual/mental abuse, homosexuality, bullying, and so many more, and through this play we not only look at the murderer, but at society as well.” Unruh is played by senior theater major Anthony Diaz.

Tensions rise at an Italian restaurant when a young woman confronts her parents with dramatic news in **The Dinner** by Starla Blatcher, a junior filmmaking major. Directed by Courtney Miller, a junior filmmaking major, the cast features Rachel Aspen, a sophomore double major in theater and childhood studies, as Jennifer, the young woman with a secret.

The tone of the festival is lightened by two short comedies directed by Doaa Ouf, a senior double-majoring in art and filmmaking. **Murder by Midnight** by Jeff Goode, spoofs the classic themes of film noir as hotel detective Dick Piston, played by senior theater major Josh Feinbaum, has only ten minutes to crack a murder case. In **Film Appreciation** by David Susman, a young woman, played by senior accounting major Sarah D’Agostino, explores the ups and downs of her relationship with a man who is obsessed with the movies.

**December Concerts and Events:**

- **Madrigal Concert**  
  **When:** Wednesday, Dec. 4 at 11:20 AM  
  **Where:** Mallery Room

- **Sounds of the Season**  
  **When:** Sunday, Dec. 8 at 2:00 PM  
  **Where:** Walter K. Gordon Theater

- **RU Choir-Choir Meeting**  
  **When:** Tuesday, Dec. 10 at 12:30 PM  
  **Where:** Walter K. Gordon Theater

- **The RU Messengers-Jazz Ensemble**  
  **When:** Tuesday, Dec. 10 at 7:30 PM  
  **Where:** Black Box Theater

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Ben Panter: In Residence
Continues through Dec. 6
This SWG exhibition features photographic works from Panter’s residencies since 2011. Panter is an alumnus and current part–time lecturer in photography for the Department of Visual, Media, and Performing Arts.

The Art of Critique
Dec. 10–20
VMPA professors move their final class critiques of the fall semester to the SWG. The work on the walls will change multiple times during the show.

Student Works Gallery hours:
Monday–Friday: 9:00 AM–10:00 PM
Sunday: 12:00 PM–6:00 PM
Follow us on Instagram & Facebook @studentworksgallery for future updates and opportunities!

Faculty spotlight: Chinghsin Wu

Congratulations are in order for Dr. Chinghsin Wu, assistant teaching professor of art history, whose book, Parallel Modernism: Koga Harue and Avant-Garde Art in Modern Japan, was recently published by the University of California Press.

This significant historical study recasts modern art in Japan as a “parallel modernism” that was visually similar to Euro-American modernism, but developed according to its own internal logic.

Using the art and thought of prominent Japanese modern artist Koga Harue (1895–1933) as a lens to understand this process, Dr. Chinghsin Wu explores how watercolor, cubism, expressionism, and surrealism emerged and developed in Japan in ways that paralleled similar trends in the west, but also rejected and diverged from them. (ucpress.edu)

Pre-College Arts Program now open for spring registration

Registration is now open for the Rutgers Pre-College Arts Program. These 8–week courses are designed for high school students who are interested in studying with Rutgers faculty. This year’s program offers the following courses in Art, Music and Theater: Animation, Portfolio Prep, Acting on Camera, and Pop Meets Jazz.

When: March 14–May 2, 2020, every Saturday from 10:00 AM–1:00 PM
Where: Rutgers University campus in Camden, NJ
Register now at: https://vmpa.camden.rutgers.edu/precollegearts/

Happy Holidays from VMPA!