

ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF THE ARTS

March, 2018

Dear School of the Arts Alumni,

Before making our monthly announcements, I'd like to acknowledge what a difficult month this March has been at the School of the Arts, especially for our Writing Program. As you heard from Dean Carol Becker, our beloved [Lucie Brock-Broido](#), professor and director of the Poetry concentration, passed on March 6, 2018. Three days earlier, on March 3, first year poetry student [Laure de Montbello](#), also deeply loved, passed as well. Thank you all for your thoughts for the School and each other as we mourn the loss of Laure and Lucie. We will miss them.

David Kidd '92 received a Humanitas Prize nomination for his screen story for the Fox/Blue Sky animated feature, [Ferdinand](#). The animated film was also nominated for an Academy Award in the category of Best Animated Feature. Sophie Finkelstein '13, [Revival](#), is now available on DVD and VOD. The film follows a closeted preacher in rural Arkansas. Imelda O'Reilly's '08 feature screenplay, [We're the Kids in America](#), was selected for the *Cannes Cinéfondation Atelier*. A film by **Rachel Israel '13** and **Kurt Enger '07** titled *Keep the Change* has been called a "landmark motion picture" by the [New York Times](#) that "deserves to be widely seen." For more information and for tickets, see the Quad Cinema's [website](#).

On the stage, **Paolo Lazaro-Munez '13** received the first round of [Audible grants](#) for playwrights to write one- or two-act plays. At The [Lark](#) **Christina Quintana '13** shows her new play, [Mr. San Man](#). The play centers on a Latinx sanitation worker who grapples with the decision to transition and faces the end of their relationship with their long-time girlfriend. **Karin Coonrod '88** directs [Babette's Feast](#), now performing at St. Clement's Theatre. The production received [critical acclaim](#) in its previous run at Portland Stage. **Ryan Bogner '15**, alongside co-producer **Victoria Lang**, announced the launch of [Off Broadway Touring, LLC](#) boutique theatrical booking agency dedicated to the promotion, booking, and management of Off Broadway productions. With ten productions debuting this summer, including *Afterglow* and *Mad Libs Live!*, the agency will focus primarily on presenting productions that can tour in smaller venues. **Darko Tresnjak '98** will enjoy his Metropolitan Opera debut with [Samson et Delila](#). The production kicks off the 2018-19 season on September 24, 2018.

Allison Janae Hamilton '17 debuts her [solo exhibition](#) at MASS MoCA. Hamilton will present an ensemble of old and new works, including a new installation that looks to the legacy of the turpentine industry. The show opens March 24, and will run through February 2019. **Julia Phillips '15** will participate in the New Museum's [2018 Triennial: Songs for Sabotage](#) through May 27, 2018. If you find yourself in Terminal E at Philadelphia Airport before July 2018, look for the installation [Between Seeing and Knowing](#) by **Nancy Cohen '84**.

Caitlin Macy '96 published her new book, [Mrs.](#), last month which *The Wall Street Journal* labeled as a must read book for this winter. Next Spring, **Zalika Reid-Benta '14** will have her debut story collection, [Frying Plantain](#), through Transatlantic Agency. The poem, Happy Birthday, Heod, written by **Aaron Poochigian '16**, will appear in the *Best American Poetry Anthology 2018*. It was originally published in *The New Criterion*.

To keep receiving news and updates, make sure we have your most recent [contact information](#). If you know a fellow alum who is not receiving emails from us but would like to, have them email us at artsalum@columbia.edu.

As always, please continue sharing your news and achievements via artsalum@columbia.edu, like and follow our [Facebook page](#), and add [Columbia University School of the Arts](#) to your LinkedIn profile to start connecting with fellow School of the Arts alums.

Best,

Laila Maher
Dean of Student and Alumni Affairs

Are you showing at **Tribeca 2018**? We are still gathering information. If so, please email us at artsalum@columbia.edu.

ALUMNI BENEFITS

- +[Artists' Resource Center \(ARC\)](#)
- +[Update Your Information](#)
- +[Email Forwarding & CU Address](#)
- +[Online Alumni Community](#)
- +[CAA Arts Access](#)
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