



News and updates from Music, Theatre and Dance

<https://www.oakland.edu/mtd>

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Working In The Arts: Alumni Dancing In California & Singing In Texas



Matt Wagner

Matt Wagner, who graduated from our dance program with a BFA in spring 2015, knew just what he wanted and where he was headed. In July he moved out to Los Angeles where he is "working, taking class and auditioning." Yes, he's making it as a dancer!

He works primarily with Diavolo as a member of their Institute program. "This means I'm an apprentice as well as an instructor," said Matt. "We teach workshops and master classes around LA and perform a one hour show that's a condensed version of what the touring company does." He performed in his first show in September.

Matt first saw Diavolo at the Detroit Opera House in December 2013. He loved the show and felt the company would be a good fit for him. In 2014 he took their summer intensive. He auditioned in March 2015, just before he graduated, and was offered his current position. "Being in a professional company is great!" said Matt.

Read more (<http://www.oakland.edu/mtd/news/2015/working-in-the-arts-alumni-dancing-in-california-and-singing-in-texas>).

Celebrating 40 Years Of World Music At OU



World Music, Fall 1975

Come to one of our two World Music 40th Anniversary Concerts on November 6 and you may find yourself wanting to follow-up with a study abroad trip to Ghana this summer! And why not?

So what exactly was happening 40 years ago in the fall of 1975? We asked **Professor Emeritus Marvin (Doc) Holladay**, who established both the jazz and the world music programs at OU, to share his recollections of the day of that inaugural concert, when Ghanaian master drummer **Abraham Adzenyah** blessed the new drums and helped usher in the inspired and flourishing program we all cherish today.

"We were all elated to unpack the cases of drums and all of the paraphernalia that came with them. Getting them into the room where we had been holding the classes with Conga drums and other drums that we used to approximate the sound of the African drums, was a very exciting moment for all of us. It made a very big difference to the students, realizing the incredible difference they could not only hear, but feel, when they began to play the patterns on the real drums."

Read more. (<http://www.oakland.edu/mtd/news/2015/celebrating-40-years-of-world-music-at-ou>)

Working In The Arts: Alumni News



The Crucible at CPH

Among our most accomplished alumni is **Esau Pritchett**, who is spending the fall at the Cleveland Play House playing the lead role of John Proctor in Arthur Miller's modern classic *The Crucible*. The Play House, which is celebrating its 100th anniversary, was the recipient of the 2015 Regional Theatre Tony Award. In her review of the *The Crucible* in the *Cleveland Plain Dealer*, **Andrea Simakis** gave Esau a review that any actor would cherish. She wrote, "Esau Pritchett as Proctor . . . is a marvel and the molten core of . . . Crucible. He is so very right for the role . . . it would be hard to sit through another production without him. (Sorry, Daniel Day Lewis – you were a mighty fine Proctor, but Pritchett might just be finer.)" And there is more! We really recommend you take the time to read the whole review, **which you can do here.** (http://www.cleveland.com/onstage/index.ssf/2015/10/cleveland_play_house_anchors_i.html)

Alexa Moffo, who is living in Chicago, was happy to announce that she has booked a network television show. Unfortunately, she is sworn to secrecy and that's all we can tell you for now, but when we know more, we will give you all the details.

Read more. (<http://www.oakland.edu/mtd/news/2015/working-in-the-arts-alumni-news>)

OU World Music 40th Anniversary Concert w. Bernard Woma
11/6/2015
(<http://www.oakland.edu/mtd/events/2015/110615-oakland-university-world-music-ensembles-40th-anniversary-concerts-featuring-bernard-woma>)

OU World Music 40th Anniversary Concert w. Bernard Woma
11/6/2015
(<http://www.oakland.edu/apps/events/event.aspx?sid=532&EventID=12267>)

Richard Stoltzman, clarinet w. David Deveau piano
Chamber Music Society of Detroit at OU
11/8/2015
(<http://www.oakland.edu/apps/events/event.aspx?sid=532&EventID=12260>)

Guitar Ensemble Concert
11/10/2015
(<http://www.oakland.edu/apps/events/event.aspx?sid=532&EventID=12292>)

Equus
11/12 -11/22/2015
(<http://www.oakland.edu/apps/events/event.aspx?sid=532&EventID=12271>)

Oakland Jazz Singers & the Oakland Jazz Quartet
11/12/2015
(<http://www.oakland.edu/apps/events/event.aspx?sid=532&EventID=12293>)

OU Chamber Ensembles Concert
11/15/2015
(<http://www.oakland.edu/apps/events/event.aspx?sid=532&EventID=12294>)

As You Like It
 11/16 -11/21/2015
<http://www.oakland.edu/apps/events/event.aspx?EventID=12295>

OU Chamber Orchestra
 11/17/2015
<http://www.oakland.edu/apps/events/event.aspx?sid=532&EventID=12299>

Clarinet Studio Recital
 11/18/2015
<http://www.oakland.edu/apps/events/event.aspx?sid=532&EventID=12300>

John Sampen, Saxophone
 11/19/2015
<http://www.oakland.edu/apps/events/event.aspx?sid=532&EventID=12301>

University Chorus & Oakland Chorale
 11/20 & 11/21/2015
<http://www.oakland.edu/apps/events/event.aspx?sid=532&EventID=12282>

Oakland Symphony Orchestra
 11/22/2015
<http://www.oakland.edu/apps/events/event.aspx?sid=532&EventID=12261>

Wind Symphony & Symphonic Band
 11/22/2015
<http://www.oakland.edu/apps/events/event.aspx?sid=532&EventID=12302>

Love's Labour's Lost
 11/30 & 12/1/2015
<http://www.oakland.edu/apps/events/event.aspx?sid=532&EventID=12303>

Oakland Dance Theatre & OU Repertory Dance Company
 12/3, 12/4 & 12/5/2015
<http://www.oakland.edu/apps/events/event.aspx?sid=532&EventID=12284>



Jocelyn Zelasko

November 2015 News

The fall is always such a busy time and we have lots of news to share with you.

Music education doctoral student **Jocelyn Fekel Zelasko**, who already has two degrees from OU, a BM in vocal performance and a BS in economics, performed at the Strange Beautiful Music Festival at the Fisher Music Center in September to great acclaim. **Larry Dunn**, who is a blogger for International Contemporary Ensemble wrote, "Soprano Jocelyn Fekel Zelasko . . .[is] a stunning discovery . . . She tore into George Crumb's *Madrigals Book I* and *The Yellow Moon of Andalusia* with verve, vigor, and commitment." Jocelyn performed alongside **Vicky Chow** and OU jazz professor **Miles Brown**, as well as percussionist **Chris Sies**.

Jocelyn's fellow doctoral student **Shinko Kondo** defended her dissertation on October 29. She's been researching Musical Communication in Scaffolding of Young Children's Musical Learning. Congratulations to our music education program's newest scholar. Well done Dr Kondo.

Read more. (<http://www.oakland.edu/mtd/news/2015/november-2015-news>)

 (<https://www.facebook.com/OU.MTD?ref=hl>)
  (<https://twitter.com/oumtd>)
  (<http://instagram.com/oaklandu>)
  (<http://www.youtube.com>)

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Opera Workshop
12/5/2015
(<http://www.oakland.edu/apps/events/event.aspx?sid=532&EventID=12305>)

OU Jazz at Cliff Bell's
10/29/2015
(<http://www.oakland.edu/apps/events/event.aspx?sid=532&EventID=12306>)

The Theory of Relativity
12/6 & 12/7/2015
(<http://www.oakland.edu/apps/events/event.aspx?sid=532&EventID=12307>)

Percussion Ensemble Concert
12/7/2015
(<http://www.oakland.edu/apps/events/event.aspx?sid=532&EventID=12309>)

Our 2015-2016 Season Brochure is available as

a Z-Mag publication
(<http://viewer.zmags.com/publication/5f1eaa2c#/5f1eaa2c/1>)