

dear aged scotch

A Scotch'n'Soda Theatre Alumni Newsletter

it's alive!

Halloween Slot frightened and delighted, welcoming back veterans and inviting a talented freshmen class to the org





mainstage

themes of home, and life vs. death

The 2017-2018 season kicked off with **Young Frankenstein**, directed by Michael Wagner (CIT 18) and Heather Graci (DC 19), a new Mel Brooks musical about Frederick Frankenstein, the grandson of Mary Shelley's Victor Frankenstein. The musical – which paid homage to classic big Broadway – focused on Frederick's journey back to Transylvania, sparking an internal journey towards self-realization and heritage-embracing.

This show featured a number of impressive feats, including a large tap dance number, choreographed by sophomores Jamie Slomka (DC 20) and Izzy Vendetti (CIT 20), incredible sci- inspired props, and great publicity efforts and social media documentation, spear-headed by Jacqui Fashimpaur (SCS 20). The show was extraordinarily appropriate for Halloween slot, and was a wonderful season starter for many freshmen and veterans alike.

December slot's dark comedy **The House of Yes** welcomed director Maxine Ewing (DC 21) (assisted by Adam Lerner (TSB 19)), and featured intense, compact drama. The show welcomed newcomer Jennifer Flores (DC 21) in the lead role, and took the audience into the twisted world of one wealthy, insular family's Thanksgiving gone wrong. Featuring a beautiful faux-marble oor by veteran Paint Charge, junior Sarah Bender (DC 18), and subtle sound design by Emily Broude, The House of Yes expanded Scotch's abilities in dark comedy and twisted, arthouse drama.

workshopping, who?

a new name for an old tradition

Welcome to the New Works Coffeehouse - may we take your order?

Workshopping has a new name! Led by chairs Guthrie Scrimgeour (DC 20), Maxine Ewing (DC 21), Jordan Romah (DC 19), and Remy Davison (CFA 19), what was once known as Workshopping is now **The New Works Coffeehouse!**

The New Works Coffeehouse hosted a wealth of events this semester, holding writing workshops as well as a read-through of an original play by Maxine, **The Fire Escape**. With new leadership and new branding, Scotch can't wait for The New Works Coffeehouse to jump start new student works and act on the founding traditions of Scotch'n'Soda Theatre.



tisbert sketch comedy

performance troupe, the pink scare, a new stuco? oh, my!

Tisbert Sketch Comedy continues to flourish and evolve with each passing semester. Led by Artistic Director Ben Hecht (DC 18) and Head Writer Will Walters (SCS 19), Tisbert premiered its performance troupe this semester. The Tisbert performance troupe debuted as an opener for Scotch'n'Soda's annual **Cambridge Footlights** show, and plans many future performances on Carnegie Mellon campus and in the greater Pittsburgh community.

The Pink Scare, a play on Tisbert's signature color and the Red Scare that dominated 1950s America, opened in November as Tisbert's Fall 2017 sketch comedy show. Featuring Tisbert performance newcomers Emily Schneider (MCS 21), Quincy Eaton (CIT 20), and Jacob Spence (CIT 20), as well as veterans junior Heather Graci (DC 19), sophomore Abby Pfingsten (DC 20), and Brianna Hudock (DC 18), The Pink Scare continued Tisbert's growing capabilities with video sketch comedy, and framed the show within an overarching authoritarian "Big Brother" universe.

Tisbert: The Stuco is now a reality! Starting in Spring 2018, Hecht and Walters are leading a weekly stuco similar to the now- famous NPP stuco. With the hopes of increasing campus interest in sketch comedy and potentially driving Tisbert recruitment, this stuco is an incredible opportunity for Tisbert and Scotch overall.



no parking players

big things ahead

The No Parking Players (NPP) have had a wonderfully successful Fall semester, putting on bi-weekly shows in the Cohon University Center's black box theater and drawing impressive crowds. Led by senior Artistic Director Brianna Hudock (DC 18), the No Parking Players continue to draw dedicated veterans and curious newcomers alike to their weekly Stuco gatherings.

The improv comedy troupe also has big things planned for Spring 2018. As the troupe grows and expands, they've begun hosting other improv groups (for example, My Privacy in May 2017). Over the weekend of March 3, NPP plans on hosting an improv comedy festival, inviting several improv troupes from universities across the nation to a single event on Carnegie Mellon campus. Keep your eyes peeled for more event info!

more cool stuff...

we're pretty busy these days

directing workshops

we're a teaching org!

Our Auxiliary Board has been hard at work! Director of Artistic Training junior **Michelle Wiedmann** (CIT 19) has been hard at work this semester hosting bi-weekly workshops on all things directing, from how to run auditions, script analysis, blocking, and more.

With help from Artistic Director **Sydney Roslin** (CFA, DC 19), Wiedmann has helped new and budding directors in the org learn the ins and outs of directing, including William Liu (CIT 20) and Kai Huizenga (CIT 21).

Wiedmann plans to continue these workshops into Spring 2018, and ultimately stage a production of **Almost Maine**, giving new directors their own scenes to direct using the skills they've learned during workshops. We can't wait to see the final product, and hope to continue this tradition of teaching long into the future!

who's in charge?

the board members

President – Alexandra Halberstadt

Vice President – Michael Wagner

Artistic Director – Sydney Roslin

Managing Director – Emily Broude

Secretary – Malaika Handa

Public Relations Coordinator – Bernice Yu

Technical Coordinator – Shinjini Ray

General Membership Coordinator – Dalia Laredo

Executive Board Member – Thomas von Davier

up next...

an agatha christie classic

Keep your eyes peeled for our next mainstage production! Agatha Christie's **The Mousetrap**, directed by Will Walters (SCS 19), will hit the stage in February 2018. Featuring an eclectic cast of characters, this classic murder mystery will be sure to stir up intrigue!

Can't make it to The Mousetrap? Stop by for our biggest show of the year, Carnival slot! For Carnival 2018, we will be putting on **Chicago**, directed by Adam Lerner (TSB 19) and Maxine Ewing (DC 21), and music directed by Caleb Glickman (CFA 19) and Emma McAlister (CFA 20). This glitzy, glamorous, loud and proud show will be sure to t right in with all your favorite things about Carnival. We can't wait to see you there!

