

Fine Arts Annual Report 2006-2007

Associate Dean, Dan Dressen

Theatre Department Annual Report 2006-07

In 2006-07, 58 students were majors in the department. 319 students were part of the major productions in the 2006-07 St. Olaf Theatre season of plays presented to the community. Courses were full and many intro and level 2 courses had sizeable waiting lists.

Academic and Performance Program Highlights

The 2006-07 St. Olaf Theatre Season:

Action and Cowboy Mouth, Haugen Theater, October 4-8.

Urinetown, the musical, November 10-12 & 16-18.

The Persians, Kelsey Theater, February 9-11 and 15-17.

The Maids, Haugen Theatre, March 7-11

The Taming of the Shrew, Kelsey Theatre, April 11-15

The Quade One-Act Play Festival, May 11-14

Other productions: There were six independent student productions performed for public audiences during the year. A St. Olaf Theatre Faculty Recital of Eugene Ionesco's *The Lesson* was performed.

Overview of Activity:

- The department established a new student internship in publicity and marketing. This position will offer opportunity for applied learning in these areas for an upper class student from Media, Theatre or Management. The focus of the position will be publicity and marketing for the Theatre season.
- The department conducted reviews for the following faculty: Dona Freeman- 6th year Artist in Residence review; Jeanne Willcoxon and Barbara Evans- 3 yr adjunct teaching review.
- Space needs: The department forwarded current space needs to Pete Sandberg early in the year and also completed and forwarded space needs to the college planning group in the spring. No information about possible solutions have been received.
- Production Scheduling for the 2010 year to accommodate the dance department hosting of ACDF was completed.
- Staffing study for the current years and into the future was done in response to course enrollments, high waiting lists for Intro courses, and FTE dilemmas. Possible cutting of "GE service courses" needs to be considered to maintain the courses in the major. A meeting with the Associate Dean for discussion of FTE increase was held. Challenges in these areas are ongoing.
- A summer Theatre Camp for High school and younger students was proposed and will be offered for the first time in summer of 2007.
- A comprehensive health/ safety inspection was completed of our facility and resulted in projects to correct safety concerns in many areas of the building. A sizeable list of smaller projects were funded and completed during the academic year. Larger projects received support for planning and estimates. These projects continue to receive active attention.

Visiting Artists

Andrew Wade, director of voice and text at the RSC, England	Mariana Aroz- Director and Mask Specialist, Paris, France
Tracey Maloney/, actor, Guthrie Theatre	Peter Moore, actor, director and fight choreographer
Matthew Howe/, director, Minneapolis Children's Theatre	

Wendy Knox/, artistic director, Frank Theatre	Ron Peluso/, artistic director, Minnesota History Theater/
Sarah Goia/, casting director, Minneapolis Playwrights' Center	Doug Scholz-Carlson of the Great River Shakespeare Festival

Curricular Changes and Innovations

- Revisions of Theatre Ed licensure process
- Production program analysis
- TD/ Design position revision & hiring of new staff/faculty member in this position
- Creation & implementation of the Anna K. Bonde Career Advancement program for St. Olaf alumni.
- Innovations and strengthening in Acting courses in Intro to Acting, Intermediate Acting and Topics courses. Exploration of new course material for senior acting students through IS coursework.

Faculty & Staff Accomplishments

Dona Freeman: Director- *Taming of the Shrew*, Guest Lecture in St. Olaf IDFA and English classes & Carleton Directing class. Presenter at CTAM and attended the National Theatre Communications Group conference. Awarded two course special leave for academic year '07-08. Produced and acted in a St. Olaf Theatre Faculty Recital of Eugene Ionesco's *The Lesson*. Performed the lead narrative role for a video project based on life in Northfield during W.W. II, produced for the Northfield Historical Society. Facilitated Alumni dinner for majors.

Karen Wilson: Director- *Urinetown*, the musical. Member of CTAM (elected Secretary and on the Board of Governors and Executive Council). Invited adjudicator for the MN Scholars of Distinction in Theater (a state wide program for outstanding high school students in Theater). Certified judge of MSHSL one act festivals. Outside evaluator of the dossier for a candidate who was up for promotion to Full Prof at another university. Creator and designer for the new Bonde student Career Advancement positions in the department. Continued work on the St. Olaf Theater Archives Project, originally supported by a Nygaard Foundation Grant.

Brian Bjorklund: Design projects: Scenery Design for *Urinetown, the musical*; lighting design for *The Maids*. Conference attendance (Phoenix, AZ) and officer- United States Institute for Theatre Design and Technology. Lighting Design for Red House recording artists, *Neal and Leandra*, December 2006 concert. Newsletter editor for USITT NBS (4 issues). Invited lecturer at Univ. of Mn- department of Theatre: VectorWorks for Theatrical Design. Department Chair.

Gary Gisselman: Director- *Persians*, St. Olaf College; Production Director- *Lost in Yonkers* and *Christmas Carol*, Guthrie Theatre.

Jeanne Willcoxon: Presented paper, "Marking the Moment of Indecorum or How the Performer Fails the Performance," at the Mid-America Theatre Conference. Directed the faculty recital performance of *The Lesson* at St. Olaf in March of 2007. Performance Review "Dark Nights: The Museum Soliloquies," Theatre Journal (forthcoming). Book Review, "Women on Stage in Stuart Drama," Theatre Journal (forthcoming). Performance Review "Reeling" Theatre Journal, December 2006. Completed dissertation and received doctorate in August of 2006.

Facility Changes/ Additions

Dye Vat/ Laundry area planning (continued from previous year)
Health and Safety renovations and planning in the production spaces.

Music: Annual Report 2006-07

Dan Dressen, Chair

Curriculum: In 2006-07 the Music Department administered the first year of the new keyboard proficiency requirement and put in place four levels of Piano Class to better address this fundamental issue in musicianship studies. In addition it approved a new Interim course (also approved by CEPC) titled *Theatrical Music*. Alice Hanson proposed this course to be taught during the Interim terms. The music program also won approval for a new FLAC course in Music. It will be a German course connected to Music 242-Music History and Literature II. Kent McWilliams will teach the FLAC component of this course. The music faculty forwarded to the CEPC a proposal to make more evident in college literature the double degree option, where students would pursue both a Bachelor of Music degree and a Bachelor of Arts degree in a field other than music. Pursuit of the double degree option will frequently require a fifth year of study but student access to financial aid will continue in the fifth year. The St. Olaf faculty approved this recommendation in its April meeting. The music faculty over the final months of the academic year began study of a new major within the Bachelor of Music degree. This degree would be called a Bachelor of Music with Elective Studies. The elective studies would be in fields other than music. Though still a professional degree, this degree would require fewer curricular requirements in music than most Bachelor of Music degree programs. The goal of such a degree is provide some flexibility in the way students apply the professional degree and take advantage of the curricular riches available in the college. Expanded resources dedicated to lyric theater supported a first ever season of three lyric theatre productions in 2006-07.

Personnel: Justin Merritt began his tenure track appointment, after completing two years as an interim faculty member. In addition, Kurt Claussen (saxophone) and Michelle Gilman (Theory/Aural Skills) taught in their first year in the music program. Dana Maeda taught her first year in a term appointment. She had been an adjunct music faculty prior to 2006-07 and Paul Ousley was moved from adjunct to term in preparation for 2007-08. The department and college performed a tenure track search for a new clarinet professor and offered the position to Jun Qian, who will begin his teaching in the fall. Three faculty were on sabbatical leave during 2006-07 (Marty Hodel, Gerry Hoekstra and Nancy Paddleford). In addition Dave Hagedorn was on a professional leave after a successful 6-year review in 2005-06. Anton Armstrong was gone much of the spring semester with teaching responsibilities at Baylor University, part of the obligations from his receipt of the Foster Cherry Award for Excellence in Teaching from that institution. Craig Hella Johnson ('85) returned to campus for the second half of the term to prepare the St. Olaf Choir for a performance in Boe Chapel in early May. The college reviewed two music faculty for tenure and/or promotion (Kent McWilliams – tenure and promotion to Associate Professor and Robert Smith – promotion to Associate Professor). Both faculty were successful in these reviews. In addition successful 6-year reviews were performed for Sigrid Johnson and Catherine Rodland as required by their special appointments. The college reviewed as well Christopher Aspaas and Christopher Atzinger in their second year of a tenure track appointment.

Capital: Due to the college's need for capital resources to complete more of the Boe Chapel renovation than originally planned, the Music Department delayed a significant proportion of its capital investments in 2006-07. Nonetheless, it was able to purchase a new piano lab for Class Piano and a new grand piano for one of the Ytterboe practice

rooms. It also proceeded with plans for renovating the Band Room (CHM 138), which should be completed by the time the 2007 fall semester begins. The completion of the Boe Chapel renovation and installation of the new Holtkamp organ was certainly was one of the highlights for the whole college in 2006-07. It is a transformed space both aesthetically and acoustically and supports worship much more successfully than before the renovation.

Miscellaneous: Two technological changes challenged the music faculty this year but whose promise should make departmental operations ultimately much more efficient. When creating the new Student Information Service (SIS) the programmers worked closely with the personnel in the music office to create a system that will greatly aid music faculty and staff in tracking various music requirements student needs to complete. Such requirements include performance attendance (Pink Cards), recitals performed, ensemble participation, keyboard proficiency and general education requirements for Bachelor of Music students. There is no question that SIS will save a lot of faculty and administrator time with these technological improvements. The other technological challenge, to which the faculty verdict is still out, is the application of Resource-25 for scheduling of all music events and music spaces.

The summer of 2006 saw the first annual Summer Piano Academy. It was held simultaneously to the annual Music Camp and proved to be very successful. The music faculty, in the spring semester, approved a new student chapter of the American String Teachers Association (ASTA) and with it a third orchestra to be run and conducted by students, primarily music education students looking for more conducting experience.

DANCE ANNUAL REPORT 06-07

The dance department had an exciting and diverse year. The department hosted eight performances series, utilizing approximately 210 student performers with audience numbers surpassing 2,500. Speaking to the quality of faculty in the dance department two faculty had large reviews completed. Heather Klopchin received tenure and was promoted to Associate Professor. Anthony Roberts was positively reviewed in his position as Artist in Residence.

The North Central Region American College Dance Festival Conference was held at the University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee from March 16-20, 2007. Twenty-four St. Olaf students attended, along with faculty member Heather Klopchin and staff members Kyle Carson, Sean Wesche, and Jeremy Anderson. Conference participants attended dance master classes and performances, taught and accompanied classes. Three dances were performed by St. Olaf College students at the regional conference:

In October three students and three faculty members attended the National Dance Educators Conference. This annual event brings dance educators together to share new ideas, teaching strategies, and generally to acknowledge the great work that teachers from pre-school through graduate programs are doing all across the country. The Conference theme this year was "Celebrating the Whole Person"---an appropriate focus for St. Olaf types!

The dance department hosted guest artist Ellen Keene, a Minneapolis based choreographer, to set a new work on Companydance. The new work presented the opportunity for the dance department to collaborate with the St. Olaf College Taiko Drummers and tap dancers from our program. Keene also taught a master class during her residency.

The dance department completed a successful residency to allow St. Olaf dance students and faculty to learn a piece about the Holocaust. Faculty Janice Roberts and Heather Klopchin co-wrote a national grant to bring Lorry May, the director of the Sokolow Foundation and reconstructionist of the work, to St. Olaf to set Anna Sokolow's historical masterwork, "Dreams", in Fall 2006. The "Dreams" residency was made possible through the American Masterpieces: Dance - College Component Grant, a program of the National Endowment for the Arts that is administered by the New England Foundation for the Arts along with Dance/USA. St. Olaf College was the recipient of one of only 28 national grants awarded nationally. Lorry May also visited classes in the History and Theater departments during the residency to discuss the interdisciplinary relevance of "Dreams."

The dance department successfully completed the re-certifying process for all the dance classes offering ALS-A and SPM general education credit. This process was an opportunity for each faculty member to revisit the objectives of their classes to insure that these objectives continue to comply with and support the intent of the current GE guidelines for ALS-A and SPM. One new course--Power Play--was certified for both SPM guidelines and student outcomes.

For many years the department has been committed to an ongoing conversation, which gives a particular focus to the academic year. This year we have spent a portion of each weekly department meeting talking about the varying dance/movement languages we use in our classes. We have discussed how these languages ground students in their understanding of the structural, functional and expressive areas of the broad world of dance. The department's long-range goal is to collectively establish a common language foundation applicable in all areas of dance, utilized across the dance curriculum, and assessed in our dance majors.

The Department of Art and Art History

Chair: Meg Ojala

The tenured and tenure track members of the Department of Art and Art History started the academic year by meeting with an outside mediator to improve communication within the department. We agreed upon norms and guidelines for discussions. The chair implemented a new structure for department meetings, scheduled meetings for faculty to share their work and discuss articles, established and worked with a space sub-committee, and began work on long term planning. She worked with the mediator through the year develop skills for having productive discussions of controversial and substantive issues.

The studio faculty met for a three-day workshop before the school year started to work on a new foundations curriculum in studio art. Art historians joined us for many of the sessions. Initiated by Mary Griep, and co-directed by Irve Dell and John Saurer, this intensive workshop started the process of revising the curriculum to be more interdisciplinary and incorporate new media at the foundation level. We began to plan a move toward full-credit rather than half-credit courses in studio foundations courses. Work on the curriculum continued through the academic year. We hope to implement it in 2008-09.

Faculty members created five-year plans with coaching from Jeanne Narum, director of the Independent Colleges Office. Mary Griep and Meg Ojala wrote a proposal for a tenure track position in New Media that was submitted to the Dean's Council. The request will be resubmitted next year.

Henri Doner-Hedrick taught studio classes as a sabbatical replacement for Wendell Arneson. She was hired through the Consortium for Faculty Diversity at Liberal Arts Colleges. Christine O'Malley taught Art History as a sabbatical replacement for Nancy Thompson. She will continue next year as a

replacement for Matt Rohn and will teach one of Nancy Thompson's courses. John Saurer was granted tenure and promotion to Associate Professor. Patrick Kelley is leaving St. Olaf after teaching digital media here for 7 years. He accepted a tenure track position in New Media at St. Mary's College in Maryland.

Visiting lectures and workshops this year included:

Clifton Ellis, Assistant Professor, College of Architecture, Texas Tech University
"Unconsidered Factors: Gender, Race and Class in America's Greek Revival" and faculty Colloquium, invited by Christine O'Malley

The Flaten Memorial Lecture Series

Henri Doner-Hedrick-Painting
Angela Strassheim-Photography
Sandy Winters-Installation, Painting-week long residency
Diane Willow-Prints
Chip Shilling-Book Arts,-All day workshop
Long-Bin Chen (Lung-Pin Chen)-Sculpture, Book Art
Paul Dresang-Ceramics

Flaten Museum Exhibits 2006 – 2007

A Collector's Legacy: Richard N. Tetlie '43.

New Ways and Means with Christine Conley, painter, Tennessee, and Michael Hopkins, photographer & painter, Chicago. Both of these artists use traditional materials in new ways.

Apprentice exhibit by Mary Coffey '06, Whitney Hall '06, Amy Aaron '06, Chris Schommer '06, Chelsea Gordon '06, and Laura Schwartz '06.

Ceramics Today: local, regional, and national talent (Co-curator, Ron Gallas)

Sandy Winters, NYC, mixed media installation.

Senior Shows and All-Senior Show

Faculty and Staff Professional Activity

Dave Ryan's work has been selected as part of a compilation DVD produced by the Experimental Television Center (may 2007). He finished a new video piece, "AngerStone" , which has shown at several festivals and took 2nd prize in Three Rivers film fest (Pittsburgh, PA, Nov. 2006). He exhibited "The Hungering Deep" installation in the Soul Searching exhibition at Concordia College in Moorhead (Sept 2006). He also attended the Transcultural Exchange conference in Boston to gather information about international opportunities for artist residencies (April 2007).

Nancy Thompson headed up the grant from FaCE to hold the Teaching Art History Conference in April 2008. She had an article accepted for publication: "'Reviving the past greatness of the Florentine people': Restoring Medieval Florence in the Nineteenth Century," forthcoming in *Medieval Art and Architecture After the Middle Ages* (Cambridge Scholar's Press, 2008), eds. Alyce Jordan and Janet Marquart. And an article published last fall: "Architectural Restoration and Stained Glass in Nineteenth-Century Siena: The Place of Light in Giuseppe Partini's Purismo," in *The Year's Work in Medievalism XIX* (2006): 41-53.

"Quick" a puppet and object theater piece by Kira Obolensky and **Irve Dell** was presented at the Prague International Fringe Festival. Irve taught a new interdisciplinary course during interim called "Creating Visual Spectacle."

Mona Wesslemann attended a workshop sponsored by the Midwest Art Conservation Center "Writing and Updating Disaster Plans for Cultural Collections" on October 25, 2006.

Mary Griep's activities include an exhibit at Rochester Art Center, the Richardson Art Museum, Tulsa, OK and an upcoming exhibit at Minneapolis Institute of Arts, MAEP summer 2007. She received a grant from the Minnesota State Arts Board and an ACM Face Grant for professional work. She was a finalist for Howard Foundation Grant and Guggenheim Grant. She served as a member of ACM Taskforce on Academic Advising and gave a lecture at Carleton for the Medieval and Renaissance Studies Dept.

John Saurer's activities include:

Invitational Exhibition: Summer Celebration for the Arts, Anderson Center, Red Wing, MN

Invitational Exhibition: Alumni Art Invitational, Hope College, Holland, MI

Juried Exhibition: Many, Many Prints, Ohio University, Athens, OH

Juror: Rochester Area High Schools

Juror: Northfield Arts Guild

Planning Committee: 2010 Mid-America Print Council Conference

Solo Exhibition: "Shadow Casting" Phipps Center for the Arts, Hudson, WI

Sculpture Commission: Martha Miller Center for Global Communication, Hope College

Matt Rohn published "Clement Greenberg and the Postwar Modernist Canon: Minimizing the Role of German and Northern Europe" in Patrizia C. McBride, Richard W. McCormick, and Monika Zagar, eds. *Legacies of Modernism: Art and Politics in Northern Europe, 1890-1950*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2007.

"What's So American About American Landscapes?" *Vesterheim* 4:2, 2006, 20-26.

"Opportunities and Perils of Global Art History Surveys": Professor Heather Brooks-Shirey and Matt organized and collaboratively gave the talks for this session at the Collaboration for the Advancement of College Teaching & Learning, conference, "Transforming Student Learning for a Global Society" February 16, 2007, Bloomington, MN.

"Art of the Cold War: Art, Poetry, and Politics" Teachers Institute seminar at the Minnesota Humanities Center, July 24-25, 2006. He organized this and gave the art history lectures.

Co-organized (with Jill Ewald) and moderated the symposium "Collections and Museums: the interactions between them" Sept. 15, 2006 (in conjunction with the exhibition "A Collector's Legacy: Richard N. Tetlie '43").

Professional Development

Freeman Foundation 2006 Summer Institute on Japan participant, May 21-June 11, 2006, Honolulu Hawaii.

Cows Colleges and Curriculum: Sustainability Issues in the Classroom participant, June 19-20 & Aug. 28, 2006 (a joint St. Olaf and Carleton College workshop).

Ron Gallas exhibited his work in the following shows:

Clay Today, Flaten Art Museum, St Olaf College (Ron was the Co-curator)

One Person Exhibit, One On One Bikes, Minneapolis, MN

MMM III GO FIGURE, Duluth, MN

Summer Arts Celebration, Anderson Center, Red Wing, MN

Hung Up, Ironman Gallery, Corona CA.

Group Exhibit, Birchwood Cafe, Minneapolis, MN

He attended the International Wood Fire Ceramics Conference & Workshop

Lake Superior College, Duluth, MN and juried the Northern Clay Center Resident Artists Exhibit and the Rochester Area High School Art Exhibit

Meg Ojala and colleagues were awarded a Lancy Foundation Grant, (NCUR) National Conferences on Undergraduate Research, "Re-imaging Joseph N. Nicolle's 1838 mapmaking expedition through the Undine region", with Paul Jackson and Charles Umbanhowar, Project Director.

Exhibitions:

McKnight Photographs, Rolvaag Library, St. Olaf College

Winter Show, Groveland Gallery, Minneapolis, MN

Holiday Celebration of the Arts, Anderson Center, Red Wing, MN

Midwestern Views: Contemporary Photography in Minnesota, *Pingyao International Photography Festival*, China

New Photography: McKnight Fellowship Show, Katherine Nash Gallery, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN

Soul Searching, Cyrus M. Running Gallery, Concordia College, Moorhead, MN

National Council of Arts Administrators, New Chairs Workshop and Conference, Toronto

ACM. FaCE, Chairs Workshop, Macalester College

Cows Colleges and Curriculum: Sustainability Issues in the Classroom Workshop

Pat Kelley took part in first week of John Schott's class in NY; collaborative google earth project with students followed. He was a visiting artist at Middlebury (2 lectures, one to electronic music class, one to general public).

Christine O'Malley was elected to the board of the Vernacular Architecture Forum for a three-year term. She gave a paper ("The Signposts of Progress: Raymond Loewy Associates and the Standardization of International Harvester") at the annual meeting of the Society of Architectural Historians.

Jill Ewald took part in the following activities:

- 1 "Soul Searching", invitational art exhibit, Concordia College, Moorhead, MN, 2006
- 2 "Minnesota Celebrates the Arts," Anderson Center Invitational art exhibit, Redwing, MN, 2006
- 3 Art-Zany Radio interview regarding the Richard N. Tetlie exhibit, October, 2006
- 4 Panelist, "Art Museums Into the Future," Carleton College, October, 2006
- 5 President, Northfield Arts Guild Board of Directors, 2006 - 2007
- 6 Conference, "Creator, Collector, Catalyst: The University Art Museum in the Twenty First Century" co-organized by the Wolfsonian Art Museum--Florida Int'l University, and Princeton University Art Museum, December 2006.
- 7 Lecture on abstract art, Minnesota Artist Association, February, 2007.

Karil Kucera has articles forthcoming:

"Re-contextualizing Kanjingsi: Finding Meaning in the 'Emptiness' at Longmen",

Archives of Asian Art, vol. XVI, forthcoming 2007

"Early Buddhist Art", "Nalanda", "Islam and Buddhist Art in Central Asia", World History Encyclopedia, ABC-CLIO Publishers, forthcoming 2008.

She has been awarded the following grants:

CILA Teaching with Technology grant, fall 2007 course release to pursue work on developing modules of multi-media materials to integrate into the Asian Conversations curriculum.

Japan Study Grant, summer 2007, travel grant to continue research on memorials at Hiroshima and Nagasaki