V MP A NEWS

Visual, Media, and Performing Arts at Rutgers University-Camden

February - March 2025

Sophie Treadwell's *Machinal* Set to Electrify the Rutgers-Camden Stage



Designed by Ari Lopez

Machinal, a 1928 expressionist masterpiece by the pioneering American feminist playwright Sophie Treadwell, will be presented by Rutgers—Camden Theater for one weekend only, February 13-16, at the Walter K. Gordon Theater on the Rutgers—Camden campus. The plot centers on a young woman who marries her boss; it appears to be a happy marriage—until she murders him. Based on a true crime story that shocked the nation, Machinal is the journey of a woman who revolts against the machinery of conventional expectations and ends up in the electric chair.

The production is directed by Shamus, who is the producing artistic director for Philadelphia's Shakespeare in Clark Park and who recently directed the Barrymore Award-nominated revival of the musical Two Gentlemen of Verona. It will be a labor of love for Shamus, who said, "Machinal is my favorite play. It's a tragedy that the story of societal oppression of women is as relevant today as when it was written 100 years ago." He added that the play "resonates deeply in today's world, where conversations about societal expectations, individual freedom, and systemic oppression are more relevant than ever. The play's exploration of a woman navigating a mechanized and patriarchal society mirrors current struggles around gender equality, workplace autonomy, and mental health advocacy."

The cast of Rutgers students is led by Nallely Pineda Turcios of Brooklyn, NY as the "Young Woman." The large ensemble is rounded out by Emmalee Accetta of West Windsor, Caden Adams of Washington, D.C., Aubree House of Philadelphia, Morgan Meloy of East Greenwich, Charlies Baliban of Haddon Township, Alana Rivera-Mills of Raleigh, NC, Damien Rodriguez of Milmay, Rithika Mothukri of Hyderabad, Telangana, India, Ethan Santi of Brooklawn, Michael Cramer of Delran, Christina Segarra of Manalapan, and Cory Yhap of Franklin Township, all playing multiple roles.

February 13 – 16, 2025 Thursday – Saturday at 7:30 pm Sunday at 2 pm Walter K. Gordon Theater



Stedman Gallery celebrates 50th anniversary with collected artworks

Selections from more than 700 artworks in the Rutgers–Camden Collection of Art are on display in the current exhibition, *Emerging: The Stedman Gallery 50th Anniversary Show*, which runs through April 10 in the Stedman Gallery. The campus's permanent art holdings include collector-donated artworks, gifts from friends of the gallery and artists' estates, purchase prizes from the Stedman's national competitions, and purchase prizes from Visual, Media and Performing Arts graduating classes. *Emerging* highlights abstract photographs by Joe Clementi, Eric Porter, Tatiana Parcero, Ken Hohing, and former VMPA photography students, leading us on a journey through visions of our host city of Camden, New Jersey. Featuring both long treasured and recently acquired collected artworks, *Emerging* honors the Stedman Gallery's past, present, and future as a site for meaningful visual arts programming and collecting.



Photograph by Joe Clemen

The Stedman Gallery is located of the lobby of the Gordon Theater in the Fine Arts Complex.

Hours: Monday through Saturday, 10 am – 5 pm **Exhibition:** December 14, 2024 – April 10, 2025

Closing Reception: Thursday, April 10, 2025, 5 – 8 pm

VMPA welcomes prospective students to our spring open house



Designed by Naely Fajardo '.

During this event, prospective students will learn more about our many undergraduate programs that include Animation, Art Therapy, Graphic Design, Painting, Photography, Sculpture, Art History, Museum Studies, Music, Theater, Musical Theater, and Filmmaking, among others.

Saturday, March 29, 10 am - 2 pm.

Learn more and register at vmpa.rutgers.edu/ArtsDay

Lunchtime classical music series delights with free concerts

The spring Mallery Concert Series kicks off on February 5. Under the direction of Prof. Joseph C. Schiavo, the series brings professional musicians to campus for free concerts each Wednesday during free period, 11:20 am - 12:20 pm in the Mallery Room on the second floor of the Fine Arts Building.

Talukder/Trenk,
Oboe and Piano

February 5

Gabriel Schaff, violin Emilie-Anne Gendron, violin David Tisbert, piano

February 12

Anastasia Seifetdinova, piano

February 19

Copeland Quartet

February 26

Liana Paniyeva, piano

March 5

Joe Magnarelli Quartet

March 12

Pyxis Piano Trio

March 27

Alighieri Duo

April 2

Visiting Artists Program explores video and digital art

Nationally and internationally acclaimed visual artists and art collectives visit Rutgers—Camden campus to present lectures about their work and professional practices. The theme of this lecture series is *Video and Digital Art*.

February 13 - David Hartt

March 13 - Nadia Hironaka & Matthew Suib

All lectures are free and open to the public, and will be held from 12:45 pm to 1:45 pm (free period) in the Fine Arts Building, Room 110.

Introducing Festival Mahogany

As part of "The Year of the Arts," Rutgers University–Camden presents Festival Mahogany, a celebration of classical music featuring award-winning conductor Marlon Daniel, who will lead the Camden-based Symphony in C orchestra in two spectacular concerts on February 28 and March 1 with renowned virtuoso cellist Ifetayo Ali and scintillating soprano Karen Slack.

Extraordinary classical musicians of color have been and continue to be marginalized and underrepresented. Many artists of African descent do not have the opportunity to advance within the field of classical music and, therefore, the public does not have the chance to recognize the abundance of talent already present.

Tickets are free, and can be reserved here: camden.rutgers.edu/festival-mahogany

There is art in the Campus Center-visit our Campus Gallery!

Only Child by De'von Downes



Artwork by De'von Downe

Only Child is a collection of watercolors, drawings, and mixed media pieces reflecting on artist De'von Downes's idea of "living memory," now through March 14 in the Campus Gallery, located in the Campus Center. This living memory stems from a desire to honor their families, communities, and ancestors by honoring oneself. For as much as we receive and give love to others, we can't truly know their minds. So take in the colors from the pages of another's journey and contemplate your own, as an Only Child.

Exhibition: January 21 – March 14, 2025

Watercolor Workshop: Wednesday, February 12, 5 – 8 pm

Closing Reception: March 12, 5 – 8 pm

Digital Photo II Class Exhibition

Works from Prof. Alejandro Lorenzo's Digital Photo II class.

Exhibition: March 24 – 28, 2025

Join Prof. Demaray's seminar on art and science collaboration



Prof. Elizabeth Demaray with her artwork

Artist Elizabeth Demaray programs listening stations for birds that play human music, cultures lichen on the sides of skyscrapers in New York City, and creates "floraborgs," which are AI supported robotic supports that allow potted plants to move freely in a domestic space. Her focus is trans-species giving and non-anthropencentric design. Demaray is also a founder of LABitate, which is a platform for art and science collaboration in Camden, NJ.

Her work can be viewed at elizabethdemaray.org

When: February 27, 12:45 pm at the Joint Health Sciences Center seminar room on the 1st floor.