***Mid-May...***

...And the heat is rising! Cool off in the dark of the theater, with many opportunities for stunning, exciting theater this month! By none other than a slew of Instigators!

**UPCOMING LA FPI EVENTS:**

**Saturday, July 20th, 1pm-4pm, LA FPI's Next Gathering at Samuel French**! Keep your eyes peeled for reminders in future Blasts, but this is the next LA FPI Powwow, and we want you there!

**Thursday, May 30th, 7:30pm, The Vagrancy's Next Tactical Read: *A Song For A Surfer***, by Callan Stout at Son of Semele in Silverlake. Come on out for this one!

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**LA FPI Instigator Lily Mercer Seeking Stage Manager for *Before A Fall*,**which she’s directing, and which will open June 9th at the Hudson Theaters. Rehearses weeknights (7-10) and weekends (12-6), Mondays generally off.  The SM will be responsible to be on book for rehearsals, help with the coordination and scheduling of people, and general support. Seeking someone with experience SMing shows with large casts. If interested, please Contact Lily ([**Llymercer@aol.com**](https://email09.secureserver.net/webmail.php?login=1))! And [**check out her play**](http://www.beforeafalltheplay.com)!

**LA FPI is supporting women participating in the Hollywood Fringe Festival June 13th – 30th in a big way!**Check out LA FPI’s [**Women on the Fringe**](http://lafpi.com/about/women-at-work-onstage/women-on-the-fringe) web page. In addition to women posting their productions on this page, LA FPI is doing a lot more:

1. This year we're excited to feature video interviews with Women on the Fringe! Stay tuned for more details, but if you're interested, contact documentary filmmaker Sue May at**lafpi.videos@gmail.com**.
2. We also hope to feature the female-authored Fringe productions in playwright Alyson Mead's [**LA FPI Podcasts**](http://lafpi.com/events/podcast-archives/), "What She Said," in May and June
3. Our [**Persons of Interest**](http://lafpi.com/about/blog/) bloggers will again cover shows
4. We're giving out FPI's Most Wanted Awards again to femme-friendly theaters
5. We invite you to connect with us/post on our [**Facebook**](http://www.facebook.com/lafpi) page, and join our conversation on Twitter [**@TheLAFPI**](https://twitter.com/TheLAFPI)  (I'm personally [**@jenniewebbsite**](https://twitter.com/jenniewebbsite) and we've got other people on board as well!)
6. We're also opening [**@TheLAFPI**](https://twitter.com/TheLAFPI) up to Women on the Fringe guest tweeters, so if you're interested contact **lafpi.twitter@gmail.com**.
7. For some cross-promotion, please include our [**Logo**](http://lafpi.com/about/the-logo) on your programs, websites and materials - flashing the badge makes it quick and easy to take positive action.

So if you’re participating in this year’s Fringe, take advantage of all these great opportunities – and LA FPI Instigators – let’s get to these productions!!

**New LA FPI Instigator Ariana Howell** is offering her services for a summer internship with a theatre company. “I am earning my BFA in theatre at SMU. I am also pursuing a minor in Arts Entrepreneurship. I worked for Jewish Womens’ Theatre last summer. I will be home in Los Angeles again this upcoming summer.” **Contact Ariana** if interested or have lead.

**LA FPI Instigator Laura Shamas' new blog HIT AND MYTH** is now on Huffington Post. Check out the first post, [**"The Trickster and Twists of Fate"**](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/laura-shamas-phd/hit-and-myth_b_3147409.html): Comments welcome! Her 2012 book POP MYTHOLOGY may be found at Amazon and Barnes and Noble.

**LA FPI Instigator Wendy Graf has two new productions! BEHIND THE GATES**, running May 15th–26th at the Jobsite Theatre, Shimberg Playhouse, Straz Center for the Performing Arts in Tampa, Florida AND the 2012 GLAAD Award winner **NO WORD IN GUYANESE FOR ME** opened April 26th at Bread and Water Theatre in Rochester, NY. Congrats Wendy!

**SUBMISSION OPPORTUNITIES:**

**To avoid repetition and keep the EBlast readable, check out the**[**EBlast Archive**](http://lafpi.com/news/eblasts/)**for previously posted submission opportunities!**Please send new ones you come across to be included in the EBlast to **Submission Opportunities**.

**Director Holly Derr seeks new plays for a summer reading series in LA.**Large casts (7+), non-Aristotelian structure, writing still in process. More info at [**Holly’s Facebook**](http://www.facebook.com/holly.derr.7/posts/10151457226054261) page or write to **Holly’s e-mail****.**

**Play Sought for September Tactical Reads.**Submission Window May 15th- 30th for the next staged reading in late September. Female playwrights based in LA are invited to submit PDF of full-length script, along with short synopsis, character breakdown, and development history. Tactical Reads is presented by LA FPI in association with The Vagrancy. Send to: **tactical.reads@gmail.com**. For more info, please visit us at:[**http://lafpi.com/events/#Tactical**](http://lafpi.com/events/#Tactical)**.**

**WOMEN AT WORK ONSTAGE:**

**Saturday, May 18, 3pm, *Crazy Bitch*, a reading of the brand new play by Instigator of all LA FPI Instigators Jennie Webb!**The reading is part of this year's Playwrights Union Reading Festival. The play is: Crazy Bitch - a play about genealogy and jellyfish and rogue taxidermy. Crazy Bitch opens the Fest, which continues on Sat & Sun with other hot new plays by fellow PU writers Jihan Crowther, Deron Boss, Lolly Ward, Eva Anderson, Larry Pontius and Jami Brandli.  It's at Son of Semele, 3301 Beverly Bl (e of Virgil) in LA.  $5 suggested donation and stick around for the Saturday night party!

[**Check out the event here.**](https://www.facebook.com/events/540020346044839/) More PU info: [**http://playwrightsunion.com/**](http://playwrightsunion.com/) In a world where unbelievable brutality happens, every day, three women in Los Angeles find themselves suspended between the extraordinary and real life expectations.  So what happens next?

**Saturday, May 18th, 2 pm, Reading from selections of *BODYTEXT*** by LA FPI Instigator Jan O'Connor.BODYTEXT is a spoken word performance of work by members of the QueerWise workshop conducted by Michael Kearns. Taking place at the LA Gay and Lesbian Center, 1125 N. McCadden Place, Hollywood 90038. Free reception at 1:30pm; performance at 2pm. (also free!)

**Friday, May 17th, 7:30 pm, Opening of *A Fried Octopus***, a surreal night of theater that dives into a pool of absinthe to find the divine feminine bubbling up with joy, tears, and fears as the male ideal of art surrenders to the forces that influence us all. An assemblage of text and movement provides the inventive canvas that reminds us all of the beauty that can be found in ugly places. Runs through June 8th; Thurs-Sat, 7:30 pm at the Bootleg Theater.

S**aturday, May 25th, 8:00 pm *THE HEBREW HILLBILLY***Solo show by singer Shelley Fisher. Buy your half-priced tickets today on [**http://www.goldstar.com**](http://www.goldstar.com)and bring your friends along. Location: Main theatre at Santa Monica Playhouse, 1211 4th Street, Santa Monica, CA 90401.  Shelley says tickets are going fast, so be sure and buy your tickets now!

**Open – May 19, 2013  *THE ANATOMY OF GAZELLES***by Janine Salinas Schoenberg, Directed by award winning Jon Lawrence Rivera. On the eve of a great storm, a mysterious teen arrives at a transitional house for young women run by a charismatic Evangelical leader. [**Tickets:**](https://www.brownpapertickets.com)  Special Discount for LA FPI members, code RAIN.  Location: [**Atwater Village Theatre**](http://www.ensemblestudiotheatrela.org/atwatervillagetheatre.html). Running Fridays & Saturdays 8pm, Sundays 3pm.

**June 15, 2013, 2:00 pm Reading of *KING’S GAMES***: A Memoir of Richard III by LA FPI InstigatorNance Crawford. More info at [**King’s Games Facebook Events Page**](https://www.facebook.com/events/245787545550159). Location: Prince of Peach Church, 5700 Rudnick Ave., Woodland Hills, CA 91367.

**June 5 - 30, 2013  *DEAD MAN’S CELL PHONE*** by MacArthur "Genius" Grant recipient, two-time Pulitzer Prize finalist, and one of America's hottest new playwrights, Sarah Ruhl. An incessantly ringing cell phone in a quiet cafe. A stranger at the next table who has had enough. And a dead man - with a lot of loose ends. So begins this wildly imaginative and off-center comedy. **GROUP Discounts** beginning at $10 off regular ticket prices, and you only need a group of 10 to qualify. Location: International City Theatre, 110 Pine Avenue, Suite 820, Long Beach, CA 90802.  For more information, call 562.495.4595, ext. 11.

**Sunday, June 23rd, 2 pm, *Goddess Intervention*,**a play by Instigator Marguerite Fair. It's a funny story about four obsessive Goddesses on the comical path to self-realization!  This is a special one day fund-raiser for another of Marguerite's plays to be produced in 2014.  LOCATION: SpiritWorks Center - 260 N. Pass Avenue, Burbank, CA 91505.  Free parking in the parking lot and street. This is not just a play, it's a party! Tickets are available here: [**GoddessIntervention.com**](http://www.goddessintervention.com/)  and LA FPI can get the special disconnected ticket! Or feel free to contact Marguerite directly: **margueritefair2009@yahoo.com****.**

**Check out LA FPI’s self-submitted listing of work by women all over Los Angeles**next time you plan to see a play!  LA FPI’s [**Women at Work Onstage**](http://lafpi.com/about/women-at-work-onstage/) web page.

**OPPORTUNITIES FOR INSTIGATORS!:**

**Thursday, May 16th, 7:30 pm –**[***SHINE***](http://www.smywca.org/womens-girls-programs/the-womens-partnership/shine.html)**at the YWCA Santa Monica/Westside.** This month SHINEstorytelling event, explores stories about MOVING ON - life transitions and the aha moments that lead to change.

***SHINE*** is a monthly storytelling series featuring professionals and amateurs coming together on the third Thursday of every month to share inspiring true stories.  Professionals are chosen from some of the nation’s top award-winning storytellers and writers.  Guest storytellers are of all ages and walks of life and are selected from audience members through a random drawing. A new theme is announced each month.  Audience members and participants enjoy a relaxed community feeling, powerful stories, live music, and friendly pre- and post-show refreshments and mingling.

***SHINE*** is produced by Jen Bloom and Isabel Storey and presented by Santa Monica Repertory Theater, Storey Productions and the YWCA Women’s Partnership.  More info at [**www.smywca.org**](http://www.smywca.org) or 310-452-2321. Those interested in becoming a Guest Storyteller are encouraged to visit [**http://www.storiesbloom.com/**](http://www.storiesbloom.com/)  [www.StoriesBloom.com](http://www.StoriesBloom.com) in advance for monthly theme and guidelines.

[**The Vagrancy**](http://www.thevagrancy.com) is accepting **director submissions for TACTICAL READS**, which pairs LA based female playwrights with female directors to read/develop a new play.

How does it work?

1. We choose a script.

2. We send the script to a few directors we think are a good match.

3. After reading, if the director is interested, they e-mail us a few sentences describing what they would like to develop with the text. This is what we call the "Target".  The Target will appear on the program, is the focus of the rehearsal process and the audience talkback post the reading.  The idea is to make the short process as specific as possible by assigning a reachable goal.

This Target is sent to the playwright for approval.

4. The short rehearsal process (4 rehearsals) with Vagrant actors culminates in a staged reading and a talkback with the playwright/director team.

If you are interested in being considered as a director for TACTICAL READS please send your resume to tactical.reads@gmail.com with TACTICAL READS DIRECTOR in the subject line. Please feel free to attach links to your website and/or reel.  This is a non-paying gig.

More info on The Vagrancy at [**our website**](http://www.thevagrancy.com) and/or contact Co-Artistic Director **Caitlin Hart**.

**EBLAST CONTRIBUTION DEADLINES:**

The next EBlast comes out June 1st, 2013.  Please submit any contributions to **info@lafpi.com** by May 31st. Thanks!

**ONGOING LA FPI REMINDERS:**

**Let Everyone Know About Your Upcoming Productions**

If you've got a show in town, we'll feature it on [**Women at Work Onstage**](http://lafpi.com/about/women-at-work-onstage/). Click here to send the info: [**Women at Work Submissions**](http://lafpi.com/about/women-at-work-onstage/women-where-are-you-working).

**Please add LA FPI mentions to your bio**

In your productions’ programs, don’t forget to add: "(Your name here) supports the Los Angeles Playwrights Initiative." Or "(Your name here) is an Instigator with the Los Angeles Playwrights Initiative."  Plus, if possible, have the cool LA FPI badge printed near your statement.  Select the one you like best here. [**LAFPI Badge**](http://www.lafpi.com/about/the-logo/la-fpi-logos/).  It's a free, personalized way to help get our message across.

**Forward Notices for Future E-blasts**

If you've got news, info about submission opportunities and/or other things to share with your fellow LA FPI Instigators, please forward them to me.  Thanks!

**As Always, Support Fellow LA FPI Productions!**

The Los Angeles Female Playwrights Initiative is an LA-based movement working toward fair representation of women playwrights on stage. We encourage the involvement of theatermakers and theatergoers who support our goals. We also aim to connect female playwrights living in Los Angeles to other women theater artists, organizations, and the theater community in LA and beyond.

The best way to accomplish our goal of seeing more plays by women staged in LA is to have the ones that are do really well!  Therefore, the most important thing we can do is attend plays written by women and help get others to do the same!

**And Finally**

Keep up with LA's [**Women at Work Onstage**](http://lafpi.com/about/women-at-work-onstage/), visit our [**Persons of Interest Blog**](http://lafpi.com/about/blog/), and see what we got going on Twitter **@TheLAFPI**& [**Facebook**](http://www.facebook.com/lafpi).

**Lynne Moses & Rebecca Robertson**

**LA FPI Communications Co-Editors**

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Are you with the FPI?

Find out how you can be a part of the movement at[**lafpi.com**](http://lafpi.com)

Join us on [Facebook](http://www.facebook.com/lafpi) and [Twitter](http://twitter.com/TheLAFPI)