

## New Salisbury Players at Festival Fringe

Tom Anderson, Theatre and Dance Department, is no stranger to Scotland's acclaimed Edinburgh Festival Fringe.

This year, however, he saw the arts festival from a new angle when he debuted his original play *Sins of Seven Tables*.

The production provides a modern look at the seven deadly sins – wrath, greed, sloth, pride, lust, envy and gluttony – as embodied by patrons at seven tables in a restaurant. Diners depicting the best and worst of human behavior include swinging couples, vengeful and violent housewives, and slacker college students.

The *Fringe Review* gave a four-star rating to the New Salisbury Players' premiere production of the play and said SU's student and alumni actors "absolutely know their stuff."

The actors who earned those accolades include SU students Michelle Cassel, Eleni Lukaszczyk, Ide Owodiong-Idemeko and Alex Scoras, and alumni De'Vonte Perry and Dayton Young.

The play was performed 20 times during its three-week run at the acclaimed festival, which sold over 2.1 million tickets for nearly 3,200 shows overall.

Anderson is a seven-year Festival Fringe veteran and founder of the New Salisbury Players. He has directed and produced four previous offerings at the event: *tits and blood* by Neil Labute (sic, 2006), *The Meeting* by Jeff Stetson (2010), *Andrea's Got Two Boyfriends* by David Willinger (2011) and *Land of the Dead/Helter Skelter*, also by Labute (2012).

## English Faculty Publish

Engaging stories and film soundtracks are the subjects of two English Department faculty new books.

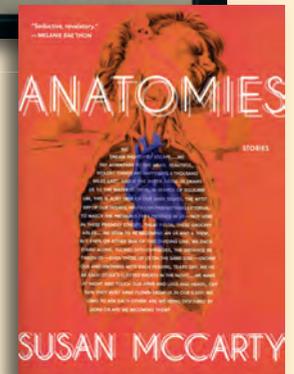
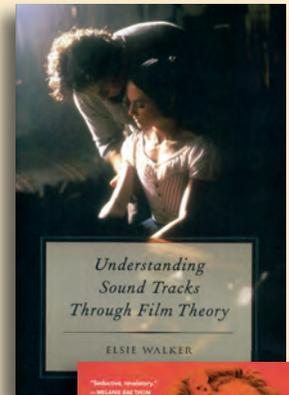
Dr. Susan McCarty's inaugural short story collection *Anatomies* received the following assessment from *Esquire* magazine: "The author seems like the type of person who would laugh at a funeral." (The magazine assured its readers it was a compliment.) The book was one of just nine to make the magazine's Summer Reading List, "guaranteed to sweep you away – and make you forget you've been roasting under the sun."

McCarty's collection of fiction tells stories about ordinary people – from an aging tutor, to New York transplants, to a married couple in the midst of a spat, to a teenager struggling with love during her parents' divorce – whose lives sometimes take unexpected turns.

Dr. Elsie Walker, the editor of SU's international journal *Literature/Film Quarterly*, spent five years researching her new book, *Understanding Sound Tracks Through Film Theory*.

"My research is on the importance of hearing cinema, especially as it allows us to experience others' lives from a position of empathy," said Walker. "I was inspired by filmmakers like Michael Haneke, who are unafraid of making unfashionably broad claims for the capacity of art to enlighten humankind."

She was inspired to create the book after teaching courses on sound tracks at SU. Since beginning her research in 2009, she has presented on the topic at 12 international conferences.



## Ratti Earns Fellowships

Dr. Manav Ratti, English Department, earned prestigious fellowships at two of the world's leading universities – Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) in India and Australian National University (ANU). During his fellowship at JNU, Ratti not only was able to conduct research and present lectures, but also used the experience to create a new SU course, Literature of India. He had similar experiences at his fellowship at ANU. The institution boasts six Nobel laureates and two Australian prime ministers among its alumni. Previous fellowship recipients there include leading postcolonial studies scholars from Oxford, Columbia and Duke universities.



## Stock Studies In Denmark

Dr. Timothy Stock, Philosophy Department, spent a month researching the influence of the theatre on the delivery of the philosophy of Søren Kierkegaard at the Kierkegaard Research Center at the University of Copenhagen.

Though he concedes that some may disagree, he believes Kierkegaard saw theatrical philosophical performance as a way to involve and inform the public. "He thought that's what philosophers should be doing – dramatically addressing the day's issues," said Stock, likening the philosopher to an early version of Stephen Colbert.

At the Kierkegaard Research Center, all of its namesake's writings – including published and unpublished works, and three books of notes – are collected in 28 volumes, along with another 28 volumes of criticism of those works. Stock researched many of those original sources in developing his theory.

While in Denmark, Stock conducted research outside the center, visiting the Court Theatre Museum and historic Royal Theatre to research the 19th-century theatre practices that would have been in effect during Kierkegaard's lifetime.

**Curriculum Reform:** In 2008, the Fulton School went through an extensive curriculum reform, shifting from a three-credit to four-credit course model. Courses now provide students with enhanced educational opportunities characteristic of exclusive private liberal arts colleges.



### Communication Arts Faculty Publications

Three faculty members from the Communication Arts Department published scholarship nationally.

Dr. David Burns contributed two chapters to the Society of Professional Journalists Education Committee's new book *Still Captive? History, Law and the Teaching of High School Journalism*. Burns' contributions included "Recommendations Then and Now" and "Teaching High School Journalism in the 21st Century."

The book takes a look at history and legal issues for high school journalists, as well as recommendations for the future teaching of high school journalism.

Drs. Chrys Egan and Andrew Sharma tackled the question "How has advertising changed now that traditional television content is available on digital and mobile devices?" with a chapter in *Communication Basics for Millennials – Essays on Communication Theory and Culture*, edited by Kathleen Roberts of Duquesne University. Their chapter, "Hashtag TV Advertising: The Multistep Flow of Millennial Television Usage, Advertising Commercial Viewing and Social Media Interaction," explores the Multistep Flow Model. That model examines how messages overflow from the mass media into interpersonal conversations with influential people, shaping public opinion.



Burns



Egan



Sharma



▲ New Salisbury Players in Edinburgh

▼ Stock Researches Kierkegaard In Copenhagen