



Arts: June 11, 2010

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## Culture Class

### *The 2009-2010 Austin Critics Table Awards*

By Robert Faires

On Monday, June 7, the Austin Critics Table handed out its annual awards for outstanding achievements in the Austin arts in a ceremony at Cap City Comedy Club. This year's ceremony, the 18th such presented by this informal association of local arts writers, began with the induction of JoAnne Christian, James Dick, Alan Pogue, and Maria Salinas into the Austin Arts Hall of Fame.

In the awards themselves, this was not a year for sweeps. The most honored works were Forklift Danceworks' *The Trash Project*, which won three awards and a special citation, and Tutto Theatre Company's *Black Snow*, which was honored in four categories. Nine other productions or works received two awards each. Overall, 41 productions, exhibitions, or works were recognized.

Critics participating in this year's awards, covering the period from May 3, 2009, to May 2, 2010, were the *Austin American-Statesman's* Michael Barnes (arts), Claire Canavan (theatre), Clare Croft (dance), and Jeanne Claire van Ryzin (arts); ... *might be good's* Claire Ruud (visual arts); and the *Chronicle's* Elizabeth Cobbe (theatre), Jonelle Seitz (dance), Avimaan Syam (theatre), and Robert Faires (arts). Obligatory ethical note: Critics refrained from voting in any category in which the critic or a family member was nominated.

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## THEATRE

### **Production, Drama**

*Dionysus in 69*, Rude Mechanicals

### **Production, Comedy**

*Killer Joe*, Capital T Theatre

### **Production, Musical**

*John & Jen*, Penfold Theatre Company

## **Direction**

Beth Burns, *The Taming of the Shrew*

Mark Pickell, *Killer Joe*

## **Acting in a Leading Role**

Pamela Christian, *Mary Stuart*

Ryan Crowder, *The Taming of the Shrew*

Joey Hood, *The Atheist*

Gabriel Luna, *Black Snow/Orestes/Endgame*

## **Acting in a Supporting Role**

Michael Amendola, *Our Town* (Zach Theatre)

Smaranda Ciceu, *Black Snow*

Sean Martin, *Mary Stuart/Three Days of Rain*

Jose Villarreal, *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*

## **David Mark Cohen New Play Award**

*House of Several Stories*, A. John Boulanger

## **Ensemble Performance**

*Black Snow*, Tutto Theatre Company

*bobrauschenbergamerica*, Mary Moody Northen Theatre

## **Music Direction**

Lyn Koenning, *The Difficulty of Crossing a Field*

## **Movement**

Madge Darlington/Shawn Sides, *Dionysus in 69*

## **Touring Show, Theatre**

*Paved Paradise Redux*, Fusebox Festival

## **DESIGN**

### **Scenic Design**

Lisa Laratta, *Murder Ballad Murder Mystery/Black Snow*

### **Costume Design**

Alison Heryer, *The Trojan Women/ The Difficulty of Crossing a Field*

### **Lighting Design**

Stephen Pruitt, *bobrauschenbergamerical/ The Trash Project/Ears Wide Open*

### **Sound Design**

William Meadows, *Impermanence/The Trash Project*

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## **DANCE**

### **Dance Concert**

*The Trash Project*, Forklift Danceworks

### **Short Work**

"Angel of My Nature," *Truth & Beauty: The Bach Project*

### **Choreographer**

Deborah Hay, *No Time to Fly*

### **Dancer**

Masa Kolar, "Your Provision"

Jaime Lynn Witts, *Truth & Beauty: The Bach Project*

### **Ensemble Performance**

*Ears Wide Open*, Tapestry Dance Company

### **Touring Show, Dance**

Black Grace, Texas Performing Arts

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## **CLASSICAL MUSIC**

### **Symphonic Performance**

*Symphony VI*, Golden Hornet Project

### **Chamber Performance**

Ellen Fullman & the Long String Instrument, New Music Co-op

### **Choral Performance**

*Ode to Common Things*, Conspirare Symphonic Choir with Austin Symphony

### **Opera**

*A View From the Bridge*, UT Butler Opera Center

### **Singer**

Cristina Caldas, *A View From the Bridge*

Jean-Paul Fouchécourt, *The Star*

Brad Raymond, *Albert Herring*

### **Instrumentalist**

Douglas Harvey, cello, *Don Quixote*

### **Original Composition/Score**

"Two Cautionary Tales," Steve Snowden

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## **VISUAL ARTS**

### **Museum Exhibition**

"Desire," Blanton Museum of Art,

curator: Annette DiMeo Carlozzi

## **Group Gallery Exhibition**

"Polymict," Okay Mountain, curator: Nathan Green

## **Solo Gallery Exhibition**

"Beili Liu: Bound," D Berman Gallery

## **Work of Art: Independent or Public Project**

*The 24 Hour Roman Reconstruction Project*, Liz Glynn, Arthouse

## **Work of Art: One of A Kind**

*Halliburton Archiving Solutions (II), 1987*, Adam Schreiber, "ONE on ONE on ONE," Art Palace

## **Work of Art: Installation**

*Camp Base Camp: Everest Friends*, Peter Reichardt, Mary Rothlisberger, and Kristyn Weaver, "Ideas of Mountains," Creative Research Laboratory

## **Artist**

Okay Mountain

## **Touring Show, Art**

"The Lining of Forgetting: Internal and External Memory in Art," Austin Museum of Art

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## **SPECIAL CITATIONS**

### **John Bustin Award for Conspicuous Versatility**

Graham Reynolds

### **W.H. 'Deacon' Crain Award for Outstanding Student Work**

La Tasha Stephens, UT Department of Theatre & Dance

Jacob Trussell, St. Edward's University

### **Graced in the Machine Award**

Don Anderson, "The Crane Dance," *The Trash Project*

## **Get Up, Up, and Away Award**

Shannon McCormick & Shana Merlin

## **Time Out of Mind Award**

The Hideout's 40-Hour Improv Marathon

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