

## **International Mask Specialist Holding Workshop at Ramapo College**

### **Masks will be used in upcoming student production of Voltaire's *Candide***

**MAHWAH, NJ** -- Renowned international mask specialist Alaric Chagnard is conducting a mask making workshop through February 22 with students at Ramapo College.

Chagnard's arrival is in conjunction with the preparation for the upcoming April performances of Voltaire's *Candide*, which will be co-directed by Rafael Bianciotto, Ramapo College's Fulbright Scholar-in-Residence for the Spring 2015 semester.

*Candide* will be performed in original masks designed by the students in the workshop.

Chagnard has crafted sculptured masks for theater, circus and dance performances on the international stage. He specializes in the European style mask and clown work which has its roots in *commedia della arte*. He has worked with Bianciotto's Paris-based Zéfiro Théâtre Company.

Chagnard's visit is supported by a grant of Ramapo College's Schomburg Visiting Scholars Program.

*Candide* will be performed April 10, 11, 12 and 16, 17, 18 in the Sharp Theater of the Berrie Center for the Performing and Visual Arts at Ramapo College.