

PLAYBILL®

THE 1996 LUCILLE LORTEL AWARDS



**Monday, May 6, 1996
at the Lucille Lortel Theatre
121 Christopher Street
New York, New York**

THE 1996 LUCILLE LORTEL AWARDS

for

OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT OFF-BROADWAY

Monday, May 6, 1996

Presentation Ceremony at 7:00 P.M.

**Reception Immediately Following at
SARDI'S, 234 West 44th Street, NYC**

Co-Hosts

**WALTER CRONKITE
WENDY WASSERSTEIN**

THE 1996 SELECTION COMMITTEE

**CLIVE BARNES
HOWARD KISSEL
ALVIN KLEIN
JACK KROLL
MICHAEL KUCHWARA
JOHN SIMON
LINDA WINER
EDITH OLIVER, Emeritus
LUCILLE LORTEL**

**BEN SPRECHER
Administrator**

**GEORGE S. FORBES
Production Supervisor**

The Lucille Lortel Award for Outstanding Achievement Off-Broadway was created in 1985 by resolution of The League of Off-Broadway Theatres and Producers whose Board of Directors then consisted of:

Paul Libin, President

Paul Berkowsky, 1st Vice President

Robert Kamlot, 2nd Vice President

Dorothy Olim, Secretary-Treasurer

Jason Steven Cohen, Barry Grove, Eric Krebs, Albert Poland

On the present Board of Directors are:

Bary Grove, President

Maria DiDia, Vice President

Terry Byrne, Secretary

Ben Sprecher, Treasurer

Victoria Bailey, Richard Frankel, Roger Gindi, Eric Krebs, Lynn Landis, Joey Parnes,

Albert Poland, Marshall B. Purdy, Marc Routh, Seth Shapiro

Paul Libin (President Emeritus)

The Lucille Lortel Award for Outstanding Achievement Off-Broadway is named for LUCILLE LORTEL, fondly known as "The Queen of Off-Broadway," among whose many productions have been the landmark revival of *The Threepenny Opera* which is credited for putting Off-Broadway on the map, *Brecht on Brecht*, Jean Genet's *The Balcony*, the 1964 Off-Broadway American premiere of Athol Fugard's *The Blood Knot* and twenty seasons of the ANTA Matinee Series (1956-1976) initiated due to the frustration caused by the almost seven-year run of *The Threepenny Opera* in her theatre on Christopher Street as well as 47 seasons of new works way Off-Broadway at the White Barn Theatre in Westport, Connecticut, where in 1947 she pioneered and proved the dramatic viability of the staged reading for audiences that kept coming back for more of the avant-garde, experimental, not-strictly-commercial theatre fare. The American premiere of August Wilson's *Fences* was the first play sponsored by the Lucille Lortel Fund for New Drama at Yale, an endowment she established for the on-going production of new plays at Yale Rep. Four of her recent quintet of consecutive Tony® Award nominees started Off-Broadway: *Angels Fall, As Is, Blood Knot, Sarafina!* and *A Walk in the Woods*, she initially produced on Broadway, presented at The Library of Congress (the 19th of a distinguished series of dramatic productions and seminars), and co-produced in London's West End starring Sir Alec Guinness and Edward Herrmann. In May 1989, she took the original Broadway cast of Sam Waterston and Robert Prosky to Moscow, U.S.S.R., where she is now known as "The Czarina of Gorky Street." Miss Lortel has received virtually every theatrical award and honor including the first Margo Jones Award (1962), the Lee Strasberg Lifetime Achievement Award (1986), the 1989 inauguration of The Lucille Lortel Distinguished Professorial Chair in Theatre at the Graduate School of the City University of New York (the first theatre chair to be named for a woman), and induction into the Theatre Hall of Fame (1990). She received Honorary Lifetime Membership from the New England Theatre Conference "in recognition of her outstanding contribution to theatre in New England, the country and the world" (1990), the Life Achievement Award from The Christophers and, two days later, the Kennedy Center Medallion from the American College Theatre Festival (1992); an Honorary Doctorate of Fine Arts from CUNY (1993), the 1996 Honorary Erwin Piscator Award and recognition from the Columbia University School of the Arts "for her long and distinguished career supporting new and innovative work for the theatre and for her crucial role in the development and ongoing success of Off-Broadway theatre" (April 1996). The September 1993 Greenwood Press (Westport, Connecticut) publication of *Lucille Lortel: A Bio-Biography* by Sam McCready was celebrated with a book party at the New York Public Library for the Performing Arts at Lincoln Center, where a permanent tribute to her career is on display in The Lucille Lortel Room of the Theatre on Film and Tape Archives (the home and viewing facility for TOFT's collection of more than 1,000 tapes of live Broadway, Off-Broadway and regional theatre productions including *Mrs. Klein* starring Uta Hagen, currently running at the Lucille Lortel Theatre).

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LIST OF PREVIOUS RECIPIENTS

1986

LINCOLN CENTER THEATER for "The Woza Afrika! Festival"

1987

SIMON GRAY for "The Common Pursuit"
MANHATTAN THEATRE CLUB for Outstanding Body of Work

1988

PAUL LIBIN for Outstanding Lifetime Achievement

1989

A.R. GURNEY for "The Cocktail Hour"
JOHN TILLINGER for Outstanding Direction
PLAYWRIGHTS HORIZONS for Outstanding Body of Work

1991

CIRCLE REPERTORY COMPANY for Outstanding Body of Work
NATHAN LANE for Outstanding Performance in "The Lisbon Traviata"
"MEASURE FOR MEASURE" for Outstanding Revival of a Play
JOHN TILLINGER for Outstanding Direction of "The Lisbon Traviata"
"FALSETTOLAND" for Outstanding Musical
BRIAN FRIEL for "Aristocrats"
ROSETTA LeNOIRE for Outstanding Lifetime Achievement

1992

TERRENCE McNALLY for Outstanding Body of Work
EILEEN ATKINS for Outstanding Performance in "A Room of One's Own"
RON RIFKIN for Outstanding Performance in "The Substance of Fire"
BLUE MAN GROUP/TUBES for Special Award
"BOESMAN AND LENA" for Outstanding Revival of a Play
DANIEL SULLIVAN for Outstanding Direction of "The Substance of Fire"
"AND THE WORLD GOES ROUND" The Kander & Ebb Musical
for Outstanding Musical
TERRENCE McNALLY for "Lips Together, Teeth Apart"
ELLEN STEWART for Outstanding Lifetime Achievement

1993

JOHN LEE BEATTY for Outstanding Body of Work
ANNA DEAVERE SMITH for Outstanding Performance in "Fires in the Mirror"
JOHN LEGUIZAMO for Outstanding Performance in "Spic-o-rama"
"FORBIDDEN BROADWAY" for Outstanding Musical
CHRISTOPHER ASHLEY for Outstanding Direction of
"Fires in the Mirror" & "Jeffrey"
WYNN HANDMAN for Outstanding Lifetime Achievement
"HENRY V" for Outstanding Revival of a Play
JOHN WILLIS for Special Award
LARRY KRAMER for "The Destiny of Me"

1994

THEATRE FOR A NEW AUDIENCE for Outstanding Body of Work
A.R. GURNEY, Playwright & IRENE WORTH, Actress
for Outstanding Individual Body of Work
RICKY JAY for Special Award for Unique Accomplishment
"OWNERS" and "TRAPS" for Outstanding Revival of a Play
LAWRENCE SACHAROW for Outstanding Direction of "Three Tall Women"
RON RIFKIN for Outstanding Performance in "3 Hotels"
MYRA CARTER for Outstanding Performance in "Three Tall Women"
"WINGS" for Outstanding Musical
"A.R.T./NY PASSPORT TO OFF-BROADWAY" for Special Award
EDWARD ALBEE for "Three Tall Women"

**LIST OF PREVIOUS RECIPIENTS
(CONTINUED)**

1995

SIGNATURE THEATRE COMPANY for Outstanding Institutional Body of Work
JACK O'BRIEN for Outstanding Direction of "Hapgood"
"MERRILY WE ROLL ALONG" for Outstanding Revival of a Musical
JUDITH DOLAN for Outstanding Costumes for "The Petrified Prince"
PHIL MONAT for Outstanding Lighting Design for "Camping with Henry & Tom"
JAMES LEONARD JOY for Outstanding Scenic Design
for "Camping with Henry & Tom"
ED HARRIS for Outstanding Performance in "Simpatico"
"ENCORES! GREAT AMERICAN MUSICALS IN CONCERT" for Special Award
EILEEN ATKINS for Outstanding Performance in "Vita & Virginia"
LINDA LAVIN for Outstanding Performance in "Death Defying Acts"
HORTON FOOTE, Playwright, for Outstanding Body of Work
"JELLY ROLL!" for Outstanding Musical
"CAMPING WITH HENRY & TOM" for Outstanding Play
UTA HAGEN, Actress & Acting Teacher for Outstanding Lifetime Achievement

THE 1996 BENEFIT COMMITTEE

MR. AND MRS. ROBERT ALTMAN
KENNETH BRANAGH
MR. AND MRS. LESLIE BRICUSSE
MR. AND MRS. MICHAEL CAINE
DIXIE CARTER
STOCKARD CHANNING
JAYNI AND CHEVY CHASE
JOHNNY DEPP
THE HONORABLE AND MRS. DAVID DINKINS
MICHAEL DOUGLAS
ANDY GARCIA
MR. AND MRS. ART GARFUNKEL
ANGELA LANSBURY
MATT LAUER
MR. AND MRS. JOHN LEGUIZAMO
MR. AND MRS. SIDNEY LUMET
SHIRLEY MacLAINE
PENNY MARSHALL
MARSHA MASON
BETTE MIDLER
MR. AND MRS. MATTHEW MODINE
JOANNE WOODWARD AND PAUL NEWMAN
GOVERNOR GEORGE E. AND MRS. PATAKI
ELIZABETH AND AIDAN QUINN
LIAM NEESON AND NATASHA RICHARDSON
MARTIN SHEEN
SHARON STONE
MERYL STREEP
MARLO THOMAS
KATHLEEN TURNER
ROBIN WILLIAMS

STAFF CREDITS

Lucille Lortel Awards Production Staff

Bern Gautier, Technical Director
Sheila Donovan, Supervising Electrician
Ray Schilke, Sound Designer
Lisa Smith, Stage Manager
Natalie Forbes, Awards Coordinator

Lucille Lortel Theatre Staff

Richard Ponce, House Manager
Daniel Kelly, Supervising Treasurer
Mark Montalbano, Assistant House Manager
Robert LoBiondo, Treasurer
Sandra Starr, Assistant to Miss Lortel

Zarem Inc.

Bobby Zarem
Shari Misher
Lauren London
Greg Letendre
Karen Weiss

Weiss Creative Group Events

Michael Weiss
Lydia Gray Bartholow
Cyndi Brenner
Tom Kicki

The Actors' Fund of America

Erica Marks
Sara Meehan

Chemical Bank

Middle Market Banking
Private Banking
Custody

THE 1996 LUCILLE LORTEL AWARDS



OPENING REMARKS

Paul Libin, President Emeritus
The League of Off-Broadway Theatres and Producers

ATHOL FUGARD

For Outstanding Body of Work
Presenting: Lisa Gay Hamilton
Accepting for Athol Fugard: Beth Blickstein

SCOTT ELLIOTT

For Outstanding Direction of "The Monogamist"
Presenting: Sam Cohn
Accepting: Scott Elliott

"ENTERTAINING MR. SLOANE"

For Outstanding Revival
Presenting: Jeffrey Horowitz, Artistic Producing Director of Theatre for a New Audience
Accepting: David Esbjornson, Artistic Director of CSC

JANE GREENWOOD

For Outstanding Costume Design for "Sylvia"
Presenting: Patricia Zipprodt
Accepting for Jane Greenwood: Ben and Kate Edwards

MICHAEL CHYBOWSKI

For Outstanding Lighting Design for "The Grey Zone"
Presenting: David Hays, Artistic Director of The National Theatre of the Deaf
Accepting: Michael Chybowski

TONY WALTON

For Outstanding Set Design for "A Fair Country"
Presenting: David Hays
Accepting for Tony Walton: Dan Kuchar and Joanie Schlafer

JASON WORKMAN

For Outstanding Actor in a Musical for "Bed & Sofa"
Presenting: Liliane Montevecchi
Accepting: Jason Workman

JIM DALE

For Outstanding Actor in a Play for "Travels with My Aunt"
Presenting: Millicent Martin
Accepting for Jim Dale: Julie Dale

CORA CAHAN

For Outstanding Special Achievement
Presenting: Bill Irwin
Accepting: Cora Cahan

THEATREWORKS/USA

For Outstanding Special Achievement
Presenting: Mary Rodgers
Accepting: Jay Harnick, Artistic Director of Theatreworks/USA
and Charles Hull, Managing Director of Theatreworks/USA

MELISSA ERRICO

For Outstanding Actress in a Musical for "One Touch of Venus"

Presenting: Donald Saddler

Accepting: Melissa Errico

UTA HAGEN

For Outstanding Actress in a Play for "Mrs. Klein"

Presenting: Fritz Weaver

Accepting: Uta Hagen

"FLOYD COLLINS"

For Outstanding Musical

Presenting: Anna Strasberg, Director of The Lee Strasberg Theatre Institute

Accepting: Tina Landau, Author/Director; Adam Guettel, Composer/Lyricist;

Tim Sanford, Artistic Director of Playwrights Horizons

"MOLLY SWEENEY"

For Outstanding Play

Presenting: Barnard Hughes

Accepting for Playwright Brian Friel: Todd Haimes

GENE FEIST

For Lifetime Achievement

Presenting: Anthony Heald

Accepting: Gene Feist, Founding Artistic Director of The Roundabout Theatre Company

EDITH OLIVER

For Lifetime Dedication to Off-Broadway

Presenting: Edward Albee and Lucille Lortel

CLOSING REMARKS

Crystal trophy designed and produced exclusively by

Tiffany & Co.



The 1996 Lucille Lortel Awards has been a very special benefit for **The Actors' Fund of America**. For over a century, **The Actors' Fund of America** has provided financial assistance and social services for all entertainment industry professionals. In addition to offering vital emergency grants for essentials such as food, rent and medical expenses, The Fund operates a comprehensive roster of programs designed to meet the unique needs of those who work in the industry. With national headquarters in New York City and regional offices in Los Angeles and Chicago, The Fund offers counseling, substance abuse and mental health programs, health and educational services, nursing home care and retirement housing, and a comprehensive AIDS initiative.

**Support for this event has been generously provided by
Chemical Bank
and
Theatre Development Fund (TDF)**

TDF/THEATRE DEVELOPMENT FUND

For the fifth consecutive year, Theatre Development Fund is happy to have participated in A.R.T./New York's Passports to Off-Broadway Month, culminating as now does with the Lucille Lortel Awards.

Since 1968, Theatre Development Fund's remarkable record encompasses over 42 million theatre seats filled; subsidy support given to more than 500 plays, including 15 Tony Award winners and 19 Pulitzer prize honorees; over half a billion dollars in revenue returned to theatre, dance, and music organizations.

Each year, at its TKTS booths in Times Square and at the World Trade Center, and through its mailing programs, TDF sells some 2 million theatre seats at discounted prices to an audience that might not otherwise be able to afford the unique experience of live performance.

Among its innovative ongoing programs, TDF maintains a 75,000-item Costume Collection for rental at minimum prices to not-for-profit performing arts groups throughout the United States, presents sign-interpreted performances to Broadway and Off-Broadway theatres, sponsors training courses for fledgling producers and theatrical sign interpreters, and links performance and audience through a 24-hour New York arts hotline. TDF's arts education programs, Stage Doors and R.A.P. (Residency Arts Program) prepare thousands of high school students through workshops for live theatre performance and introduce them to the theatre, thus helping to create the audience of the future. The 1995-96 season is TDF's 27th year of service to the performing arts and to the cultural life and the people of the City of New York.

*Chemical Bank Congratulates the
award-winners, and thousands
who on-stage and off, make
New York the heart of the theatre.*

