



American Conservatory Theater

American Conservatory Theater  
*By arrangement with*  
Arthur Shafman International, Ltd.  
*presents*

**SANDRA REAVES**  
*in*  
**THE LATE GREAT LADIES  
OF BLUES AND JAZZ**

*with*  
**THE ALL-STAR JAZZ BAND**

*Musical Direction*  
HERSCHEL DWELLINGHAM

*Conceived and Written by*  
SANDRA REAVES

*Costumes*  
MICHAEL HANNAH

*Production Supervisor*  
CHRISTOPHER DUNLOP

*Wardrobe Supervisor*  
ALVA DWELLINGHAM

*Lighting Design*  
KENT DORSEY

*Directed by*  
RICK KHAN

*Management & Tour Direction*  
ARTHUR SHAFMAN INTERNATIONAL, LTD.

P.O. Box 352  
Pawling, New York 12564  
(914) 855-3005

# THE LATE GREAT LADIES OF BLUES AND JAZZ

## MUSICAL NUMBERS\*

### Act I

INSTRUMENTALS ..... THE ALL-STAR JAZZ BAND

#### OPENING: SANDRA REAVES

*Blues Lament* ..... Reaves  
*Take Me As I Am* ..... Reaves

#### MA RAINEY

*Strut Miss Lizzie* ..... Creamer/Layton  
*C.C. Rider* ..... Ma Rainey

#### BESSIE SMITH

*Gimme a Pigfoot* ..... Wilson  
*Kitchen Man* ..... Razaf/Billedna  
or  
*I Need a Little Sugar in My Bowl* ..... C. Williams/D. Small/J. Brymn  
*Put It Right Here* ..... Granger  
*Nobody Knows You When You're Down and Out* ..... I. Cox

#### ETHEL WATERS

*Shake That Thing* ..... Jackson  
*Medley: Stormy Weather* ..... Arien/Kohler  
*St. Louis Blues* ..... W.C. Handy  
*His Eye Is on the Sparrow* ..... Gabriel/Frank

### Act II

#### BILLIE HOLIDAY

*Solitude* ..... Ellington/Lange/Mills  
*Good Morning Heartache* ..... Fisher/Drake/Higginbotham  
*Them There Eyes* ..... Pinkard/Tauber/Tracey  
*God Bless the Child* ..... Holiday/Herzog

#### DINAH WASHINGTON

*Trouble, Trouble* ..... Unknown  
*Please Send Me Someone to Love* ..... Mayfield  
*What a Difference a Day Makes* ..... Adams/Grever

#### MAHALIA JACKSON TESTIMONIAL

*There will be one fifteen-minute intermission.*

\*Program subject to change.



## ABOUT SANDRA REAVES

Acclaimed blues and jazz singer/Broadway actress **SANDRA REAVES** has come a long way to stardom, from a flat-bed truck of migrant workers to the renowned theaters of the world. Born in Mullins, South Carolina, she labored long hours in the field with her grandmother, sang in church, and then entered local talent contests when she arrived in New York City. Her success in singing paved the way to show business. As a result of performing in small clubs around New York City, she landed a contract with Epic Records and appeared off-Broadway. The big break came with a riveting portrayal of Mama Younger in the Tony-Award-winning Broadway musical *Raisin*. She co-starred in Paris at the Chatelet Theatre in the original production of *Black and Blue*. Her appearances in numerous stage productions in North America include *American Dreams* at the Negro Ensemble Company, *Champeen*, in which she starred as Bessie Smith, winning an Audelo Award for outstanding female performer, and the title role in the Citadel Theatre production of *Ma Rainey's Black Bottom*. Other stage roles include national tours of *One Mo Time!*, *Miss Muffat* with Bette Davis, *Don't Play Us Cheap*, and *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas*. Off-Broadway she has been featured in the original production of *Blues in the Night*, *Sparrow in Flight*, *Basin Street*, and *Stompin' at the Savoy* and co-authored *Opening Night*. Club appearances include the Cotton Club, the



RICHARD LEE

Village Gate, the Hollywood Cinegrill, Dangerfield's, Sweetwaters, and, in Europe, the Canteen, Casina in Luzerne, and Jaylins in Switzerland. Festival appearances include the Montreal Jazz Festival, the International Jazz Festival of Bern, Switzerland, the North Sea Jazz Festival in Holland, and numerous other festivals throughout Europe and North Africa. Her film credits include *'Round Midnight*, in which she was featured as Buttercup, and *Lean on Me*, in which she was featured as Mrs. Powers and sang the title song. Ms. Reaves made her Carnegie Hall debut in *Calvalcade of Stars* and is currently touring throughout North

America and Europe in the shows she created, *Bold & Brassy Blues* and *The Late Great Ladies of Blues and Jazz*, recreating six legendary characters in the jazz, blues, and gospel fields.

Recent stage appearances include the acclaimed *Before It Hits Home* at the Arena Stage in Washington, D.C., the musical smash *Further Mo!* at New York's Village Gate, and *Ma Rainey's Black Bottom* at the Pittsburgh Public Theater. Ms. Reaves guest-starred on television's "Law and Order," portrayed the recurring role of Esther on "Another World," and appeared in the feature film *The Concierge* with Michael J. Fox. Recently she performed in concerts in France and Germany, introducing gospel songs from her new project, *Mahalia Lives*.

Ms. Reaves has been nominated for two Helen Hayes Awards and the NAACP Image Award.

### Additional Credits

*Arrangements* ..... Larry Ball,  
Richard Harper, Daryl Waters  
*Original Staging*  
*Consultant* ..... Mike Malone  
*Movement*  
*Consultant* ..... Lacy Darryl Phillips

Special thanks to Bernard Johnson, Clyde Williams, Ralph Dorsey, and Merv Bronson.