

ROUNABOUT THEATRE COMPANY

PAINT  
THE  
TOWN

2022 GALA HONORING

CHITA RIVERA

WITH SPECIAL CONCERT PERFORMANCE BY  
SARA BAREILLES

MONDAY MARCH 7  
ZIEGFELD BALLROOM | NEW YORK CITY

Cheers to tonight's honoree,  
the legendary Chita Rivera,  
on receiving the Jason Robards  
Award for Excellence in Theatre.

Congratulations to  
Roundabout Theatre Company  
on a successful return to  
live performances this season.

**VICKI GROSS** and **JONATHAN LEVINE**



# PAINT THE TOWN

2022 GALA HONORING

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## SARA BAREILLES

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Roundabout thanks all of the  
artists and technicians who have  
generously donated their time to  
tonight's event and helped make  
this evening possible. We wish  
to express our gratitude to the  
Performers' Unions: Actors' Equity  
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Musical Artists, American Guild  
of Variety Artists, and SAG-AFTRA  
through Theatre Authority, Inc. for  
their cooperation in permitting the  
artists to appear on this program.

Gala proceeds benefit  
Roundabout Theatre Company's  
many initiatives including our  
education programs.

## LETTER FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR/CEO TODD HAIMES



**WELCOME TO ROUNDABOUT'S 2022 GALA. TONIGHT, WE CELEBRATE OUR SUPPORTERS, OUR STAFF, THE ARTISTS WITH WHOM WE WORK, OUR TEACHING AND LEARNING COMMUNITY, OUR SUBSCRIBERS AND AUDIENCES, AND, MOST OF ALL, THE ONGOING RECOVERY OF THE LIVE THEATRE WE CHERISH, THANKS TO YOU ALL.**

Tonight's Jason Robards Award honoree, Chita Rivera, personifies everything we love about theatre. Excellence, commitment, passion, connection: These are qualities Chita brings to the stage and everything she has done through her remarkable career. Having her become part of Roundabout with her performances in *Nine* and *The Mystery of Edwin Drood* was an inestimable thrill for our entire organization and for me personally. Recognizing her tonight is but a small acknowledgement of what she has brought to every theatre-lover's life. Speaking of excellence and a great love for theatre, I'd like to offer my gratitude to Sara Bareilles as she joins the Roundabout family with tonight's performance. Our evening, and our entire industry, are richer for your having become part of our world.

I offer more thanks to our dedicated and tireless Board of Directors and Leadership Council; tonight's Gala Co-Chairs Samantha Rudin Earls, David Earls, Michael Slocum, and Chaya Slocum; and Capital One for their generous sponsorship of tonight's paddle raise for our education programs.

Thank you for joining us, tonight and all year long.

## LETTER FROM THE GALA CHAIRS



**WHAT A JOY IT IS TO WELCOME YOU TO THIS YEAR'S ROUNDABOUT GALA. AS THEATRE REBUILDS AUDIENCES, TONIGHT WE HONOR ITS ABILITY TO HEAL, TO CONNECT, TO INSPIRE US ALL—WITH ROUNDABOUT TAKING A LEADING ROLE, ON STAGE AND OFF. AS THE EVENING'S CO-CHAIRS, WE SALUTE YOU, OUR HONOREE CHITA RIVERA, AND TONIGHT'S PERFORMER SARA BAREILLES.**

From *Caroline, or Change* and *Trouble in Mind* through this spring's broad range of shows, Roundabout's work on stage this year would be extraordinary at any time; under this season's challenging circumstances, it's been truly miraculous. And we remain proud of our staff and teachers who have continued to adapt to meet the needs of our city's most valued youth and community work, making New York City a richer place.

Customized curriculum for nearly two dozen schools citywide. Pioneering backstage career training for young adults. Broad and newly expanded community partnerships to reach ever more diverse populations. All of these are central to Roundabout's mission — and the direct beneficiaries of your support tonight.

There are many members of the Roundabout family that we want to spotlight, including:

- ◇ Gala Vice Chairs: Jeff Barker, Bank of America, Cynthia and Ron Beck, Bloomberg Philanthropies, Roxanne and Scott Bok, Mardee Brown and Jeff Libert, Michael T. Cohen, Colliers International NY LLC, John and Colleen Cook, The Durst Organization, Susan and Ed Forst, Sylvia Golden, Jeanne and Tom Hagerty, Tom and Kitty Patterson Kempner, Stephanie and Ron Kramer, Sanda and Jerry Lambert, Dr. Taylor W. Lawrence and Dr. Ryan P. Shelhamer, Alan P. Mark and Jeffrey Fraenkel, Mary Solomon, Beryl Snyder and Steven Trost, Jennifer and Owen Thomas, Diane and Tom Tuft, and Frances and Paul Turner
- ◇ The Auction Committee led by Co-Chairs Sylvia Golden and Wendy Barker, and Vice Chair Colleen Cook
- ◇ Dr. Taylor W. Lawrence and Dr. Ryan P. Shelhamer for underwriting the concert performance by Sara Bareilles

On behalf of the entire Board of Directors, we thank all of you for your generosity to Roundabout both this evening and throughout the year.

SAMANTHA RUDIN EARLS  
AND DAVID EARLS



MICHAEL SLOCUM AND  
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# THE JASON ROBARDS AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN THEATRE

CHITA RIVERA

The Jason Robards Award for Excellence in Theatre is given to individuals and organizations who have made an indelible impact on the theatre world. It is named to honor his lifelong commitment to theatre and his incredible support of Roundabout both on stage and off.

In 1994, Jason Robards made his Roundabout debut in the first New York revival of Harold Pinter's *No Man's Land* with his dear friend, Christopher Plummer. Soon after, he and Chris joined Roundabout's Board of Directors and worked tirelessly to support Artistic Director Todd Haimes' idea to create a second, Off-Broadway stage that would be a home to new plays by today's greatest writers. He became our distinguished Artist-in-Residence during the inaugural 1995-96 season at the Laura Pels Theatre with performances in Pinter's *Moonlight* and Brian Friel's *Molly Sweeney* and served as a member of Roundabout's Board until his death in 2000.

**2022**  
Chita Rivera

**2021**  
The Honorable Charles E. Schumer, United States Senator, *in Gratitude for the Save our Stages Act*

**2020**  
Alan Cumming  
Michael Kors and Lance Le Pere

**2019**  
John Lithgow

**2018**  
Jessica Lange

**2017**  
Frank Langella  
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**2016**  
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Tom Tuft

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**2014**  
Sam Mendes

**2012**  
Rob Marshall

**2011**  
Alec Baldwin

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**2005**  
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**2004**  
John Kander  
Fred Ebb

**2002**  
Christopher Plummer

# CHITA RIVERA

THE WAGES OF  
WORK, NOT SIN.

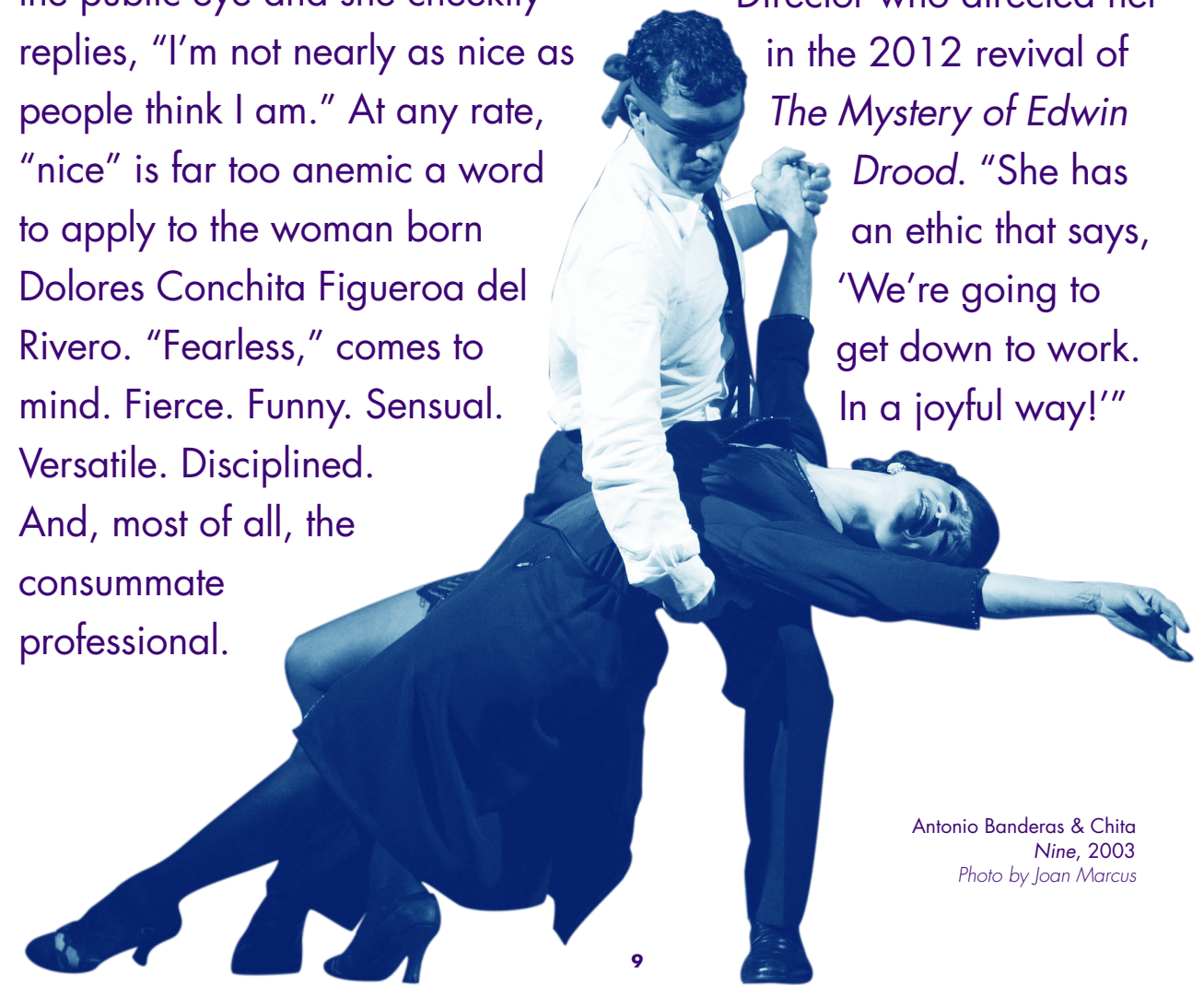
BY PATRICK PACHECO



A

sk Chita Rivera what people still don't know about her after nearly seven decades in the public eye and she cheekily replies, "I'm not nearly as nice as people think I am." At any rate, "nice" is far too anemic a word to apply to the woman born Dolores Conchita Figueroa del Rivero. "Fearless," comes to mind. Fierce. Funny. Sensual. Versatile. Disciplined. And, most of all, the consummate professional.

"When Chita's in a room, she's not the diva, she's the leader," says Scott Ellis, Roundabout's Deputy Artistic Director who directed her in the 2012 revival of *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*. "She has an ethic that says, 'We're going to get down to work. In a joyful way!'"



Antonio Banderas & Chita  
*Nine*, 2003  
Photo by Joan Marcus



That laser-like focus began when as an athletic, hyperactive nine-year-old, Rivera went crashing through the coffee table in the family home in Washington, D.C. Her widowed mother Katherine, raising five children, knew what to do. She enlisted her in the Jones-Haywood Dance School which led, seven years later, to a scholarship to the School of American Ballet in New York. In 1952, on a whim, she accompanied a fellow student to auditions for the dance chorus in the



Chita Rivera, Stephen Sondheim, Leonard Bernstein, Carol Lawrence, and cast around piano in rehearsal for the stage production of *West Side Story*, 1957. Photo by Friedman-Abeles, © Billy Rose Theatre Division, The New York Public Library for the Performing Arts

national touring company of *Call Me Madam*. Brassily putting herself forward, she got the job. The rest, as they say, is history—one that includes a record ten Tony Award nominations, two wins (and a 2018 Lifetime Achievement Tony), a Kennedy Center Honor, and the Presidential

Medal of Freedom. It also includes creating such iconic roles as Anita in *West Side Story*, Rosie in *Bye, Bye Birdie*, Velma in *Chicago*, Aurora in *Kiss of the Spider Woman*, and, most recently, Claire Zachanassian in *The Visit*.

Never one to rest on past achievements, Rivera's readiness to take on a challenge was something director David Leveaux recognized when in 2003, he cast her in the Roundabout revival of *Nine* as the pesky producer Liliame La Fleur. She revisited Roundabout in 2012 when she assayed the role of Princess Puffer in the revival of the Rupert Holmes's musical, *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*. Playing the proprietor of an opium den, Rivera was in her devilish element, singing "The Wages of Sin," "Garden Path to Hell," and a song which, now in the seventh decade of her career, could be a personal anthem: "Don't Quit While You're Ahead."

**PATRICK PACHECO: Being in the revivals of *Nine* and *Drood* was a departure since you'd largely created roles on Broadway.**

**CHITA RIVERA:** Definitely. I was fortunate enough to have done that throughout most of my career. Maybe it was a defense mechanism because I never wanted to be compared to someone else. But I've always felt that whomever first breathed life into a character owned that character.

**Are you proprietary about, say Anita, when it comes to revivals, the 1961 movie, and now the Steven Spielberg film?**

Absolutely. I do feel I own Anita and there's no reason to let go of her. Why would I? I know her—right down to marrow. She still lives in me and if I could, I would play her today! I feel that way about the other characters I've created. Velma and Aurora and Rosie. It was an exciting time when together, with the writers and directors, we created these women. Somebody pushed you to the limit and you had to respond. I felt as though I was discovering myself each time.

**So were you intimidated stepping into the role of Princess Puffer so memorably created by Cleo Laine?**

There is only one Cleo Laine! Nobody looks like her. Nobody sounds like her. She is a singular and brilliant vocal stylist. So I enjoyed playing the role but never felt I owned it. I couldn't and wouldn't mimic her. I only hoped that I could come up to the standard she had set. It probably goes back to my thinking that I never really had a good voice or a vocal style.

**A lot of people would disagree, but it's also true that you are an excellent interpreter of character through song.**

Alright. Yes. Thanks for translating it for me. I rely a lot on the composer and lyricist. I live through the words onstage. That's how I find my character. That's what I tell the kids today. Trust the words. Trust the writers and the lyricists. They will guide you to the character if you're fortunate enough to be in an intelligent, logical work.



Left: *West Side Story*  
Photo by Leo Kharibian

Below: *West Side Story*  
Photo by Martha Swope,  
The New York Public Library







Left: Chita & Dick Van Dyke, *Bye Bye Birdie*, 1960.  
Photo by Friedman-Abeles, The New York Public Library

Above: Chita & Liza Minnelli, *The Rink*, 1984.  
Photo by Ken Howard

### Why did you decide to do *Drood*?

Simple. It was a smart piece. I was invited to lunch with Scott and Rupert and I liked the company. I loved Rupert's work, he was hip and jazzy and from the world of pop music. Scott and I had worked together in *The Rink* when he was an actor. I wasn't sure if he'd had enough experience as a director. But I realized early on that I was in good hands.

### Are you instinctual about your choices when it comes to roles?

I don't know. I go through a lot of processes. I suppose it's a combination, instinct and looking closely at other stuff. Who are the writers? Who's the director? Can I relate to the material? I clearly remember that when Dick [Seff, my agent] took me

to listen to the songs of *Bye Bye Birdie* for the first time, I was supposed to play it cool so he could drive a harder bargain since they wanted me. But from the moment Charles [Strouse] and Lee [Adams] started playing the songs, I jumped up and said, "I gotta be in this!" I wanted to join the party with them and Michael Stewart. I wanted to live in that room.

### How was it to be part of an ensemble in *Drood* as opposed to a starring role?

Great! It's very tough to carry a show by yourself. Gwen [Verdon] and I had each other on *Chicago*. Here, we were a cast of brothers and sisters all on the same level, supporting each other, having each other's back. Giving each other what we needed.



Above: Chita & Gwen Verdon, *Chicago*, 1975.  
Photo by Martha Swope, The New York Public Library

### Did it take you back to the young Chita Rivera in the chorus of *Call Me Madam*, *Guys and Dolls*, or *Can-Can*?

You never lose that feeling. I never have. You are what you have been and what you're searching to be at any given moment. You recognize the moment as it occurs, knowing it will never come again, because that's live theatre. But it's always a part of you. And the people you work with are always a part of you.

### When you became a star, did you feel it would set you apart?

I wouldn't let it. That's why I always kept my dressing room door open. I made a point of it. When I was coming up, the stars' dressing rooms were almost always closed. That's why it was so unusual when Gwen, who had just become a star in *Can-Can*, called me into hers. I was in the chorus and had auditioned to be her understudy and didn't get it. She said, "Listen, Chita. You don't need to understudy anybody. Create your

own roles. Forge your own path." Which was incredibly generous of her. I've tried to pass that on.

### When somebody in a cast doesn't meet your exacting standard, is that when you can be "not as nice" as we think you are?

(Laughs) If someone is being too selfish or self-concerned, damaging to the company, that can be a problem. If it feels wrong, you've got to sort it out. We're only as good as what we give each other. I think this goes back to being partnered, first in ballet by Louis Johnson at Doris Jones's school in Washington, D.C. and then studying at the School of American Ballet, and being in choruses on Broadway. It's a question of working with someone. Not at them.



You've worked with a wide scope of directors, some of whom have "punishing" reputations, like Jerome Robbins of *West Side Story* and Bob Fosse of *Chicago*. Can that be detrimental?

Jerry was hard. You do hear stories about Jerry but he was never mean or nasty to me. Rehearsals were absolutely stimulating because he was asking us to do things that we never thought we could. And yet we did them because he insisted. And you had to make it look easy. The audience isn't supposed to see the rigor.

#### And Bob Fosse?

Bobby was quieter than Jerry but just as demanding. When I was rehearsing "I Can't Do It Alone," Bobby asked me to jump from one position to a light a few feet away. I misunderstood and jumped six or seven feet away. (Laughs). Dancers are used to being workhorses. Ballet teachers always said, "It hurts? Get used to it."

#### What do you need from a director to do your best work?

Understanding. Clarity of vision. Patience. Scott was wonderful on *Drood*. On the first day of rehearsals, he brought in a crystal mouse. It was a mouse I had given to all the cast members as opening night gifts for *The Rink*. This was, like 30 years before. That's the wonderful thing about theatre. It's a continuum. There are things that sort of live outside of the room itself, spiritual connections that really inform the work. A mouse is sometimes more than a mouse.

#### *The Rink* was a tough one. What do you learn from failure?

Never do it again. (Laughs) The flowers were as fresh coming into my dressing room for the opening night for *Bring Back Birdie* as they were when they were leaving the next day. (Laughs) But whether it's a hit or a flop, you think, move on.

#### What was the challenge of playing Princess Puffer in *Drood*?

I liked her! She understands and accepts people who enjoy the seedy side of life and so do I! (Laughs) I had to talk directly to the audience which was fun. I could be a little bit of the Princess and a little bit of Chita. What was scary was when the audience voted on who the killer was. That meant you had to memorize an alternate ending. As I exited stage left, I kept thinking, "Don't pick me! Don't pick me!" It really kept me on my toes.

#### I think you were chosen 46 times during the run.

Oh, God. Really! That many? You just hope and pray that you're understood by the audience. That they get what you're doing. You can have a whole theatre cheering for you and there'll be that one person who just doesn't understand what you're trying to do and you think, "I'm just not enough." I think every actor struggles with that insecurity. You're constantly being judged in the theatre and there's no place to hide.

#### You also spoke directly to the audience as Liliane La Fleur in *Nine*. How did that compare?

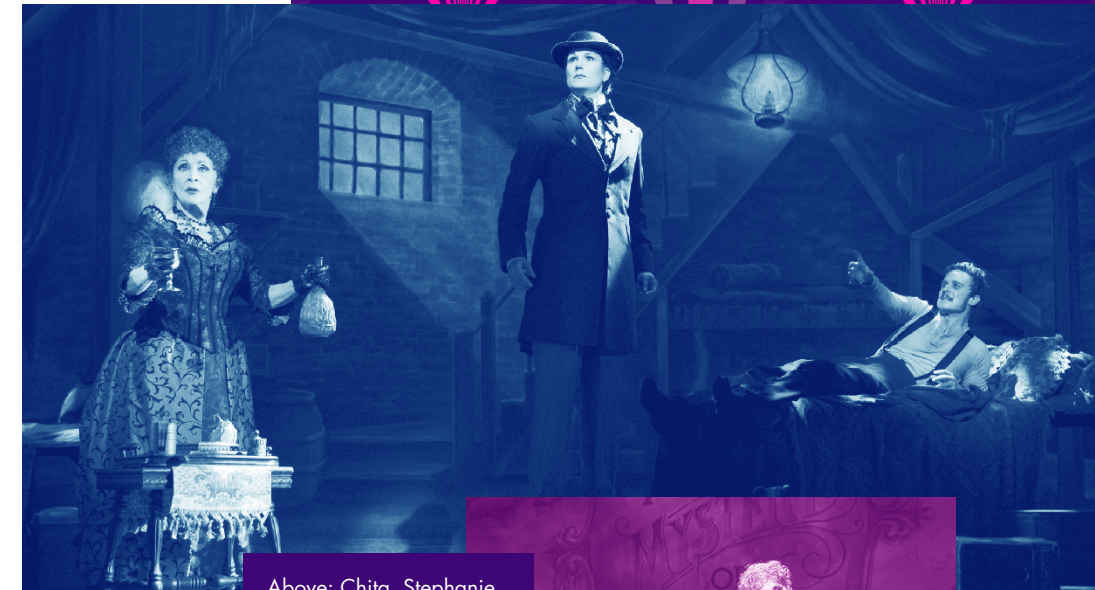
By that time, it helped that I had become more used to talking to an audience through my club act. And I didn't feel quite as much pressure to live up to what Liliane [Monteverchi] had done. She'd been brilliant in the role but I felt I could make the character more of my own. It wasn't like the case with Cleo.

#### What appealed to you about doing it?

I didn't want to do it at first. I was in California when David [Leveaux, the director] contacted me and took me out to this fancy place for lunch. He had such a wonderful imagination and sense of humor. That won me over. And Antonio [Banderas]! I immediately had this image of him as being this huge, beautiful bird and I would ride on his back. The trip would be gorgeous and fabulous. And it was!

#### *Nine* and *Drood* were your first forays working in the non-profit arena. How did that strike you?

It felt like a family, like a club. The pressures didn't seem quite as stark as the commercial theatre. You



Above: Chita, Stephanie J. Block, and Will Chase, *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*, 2012.  
Photo by Joan Marcus

Right: *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*  
Photo by Joan Marcus

Below: *The Dancer's Life*, 2005.  
Photo by Paul Kolnik







This page: *Kiss of the Spider Woman*, 1993.  
Photo by Catherine Ashmore



could take chances that you couldn't take when you were out of town in Philly or Boston. You were on a schedule and you knew the score. Maybe that's because they were also revivals.

**What is your advice to young people?**

Be prepared. Learn. Learn. Learn. Give it your all. I'm always gratified when they know who I am. That means they know their history and that's so important. Because you have to know what came before, whose shoulders you are standing on as you pursue a career. When I was young, I would stand in the wings and just soak it all in. Watching Elaine [Stritch] in *Call Me Madam*. Bea Arthur [*Shoestring Revue*], Sammy Davis [*Mr. Wonderful*]. They taught me so much. So if you're lucky enough to be in something like a *West Side Story*, it's God tapping you on the shoulder, saying "I'm going to give you this. Now just do what you have to do. And be worthy of it!"

**Your most recent musical, *The Visit*, must have been quite emotional. The piece itself, about an avenging heiress, is intense to begin with but your co-star Roger Rees was then struggling with terminal cancer. Your longtime friend, the writer Terrence McNally, was also dealing with health problems.**

It just makes the responsibility to do your best even more important and personal. But the mood of the company was not sad or depressing. We played jokes on each other offstage. I'd come into my dressing room and [castmate] David Garrison had filled my toilet bowl with plastic eggs!

**The theatre can be curative?**

Oh, yes! That's why Roger was so intent on coming in night after night as long as he possibly could. He felt so alive there. I miss Roger. I miss Terrence. I miss Freddy [Ebb]. That's why I cherish and never take for granted any of it.



Above: Chita, Liza Minnelli, John Kander, and Fred Ebb rehearsing *The Rink*, 1984.  
Photo by Martha Swope

Below: Chita & Roger Rees in *The Visit*, 2015.  
Photo by Thom Kaine



American Airlines 

American is proud to be the official airline of  
Roundabout Theatre Company.

*Congratulations Chita Rivera on tonight's honor!*



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of the community

Bank of America recognizes Roundabout Theatre Company for its success in bringing the arts to performers and audiences throughout the community. We commend you on creating an opportunity for all to enjoy and share a cultural experience and join you in celebrating the legendary Chita Rivera.

Visit us at [bankofamerica.com/arts](https://bankofamerica.com/arts).

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Congratulations to  
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Credit: Andrew McGibbon



Congratulations Chita Rivera on receiving this year's Jason Robards Award for Excellence in Theatre. What a talent you are!

We also wish sincerely to thank Todd Haimes, Julia Levy, Sydney Beers, Steve Dow and the entire hardworking Roundabout staff, my fellow board members—especially Gala Chairs Samantha Rudin Earls and David Earls and Michael Slocum and Chaya Slocum—as well as the constellation of artists that, all together, comprise the Roundabout Family. Here's to yet another season producing some of the best theatre in the world. We look forward to many more!

**ROXANNE** and **SCOTT BOK**

**MARDEE BROWN** and **JEFF LIBERT**

applaud Roundabout — Todd Haimes, Julia Levy and all of the staff — for an extraordinary return to live theatre and an excellent season of productions. We also congratulate the amazing Chita Rivera on receiving tonight's Jason Robards Award. Roundabout is the best of the best — we are proud to support both theatrical and community outreach excellence.

**BUILDING THRIVING COMMUNITIES,  
INSPIRED BY OUR PARTNER IN IMPACT:  
ROUNABOUT THEATRE COMPANY  
HONORING CHITA RIVERA**



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**Colliers celebrates  
Roundabout Theatre  
Company.**

We proudly acknowledge its continuing dedication to the development, production and presentation of high-quality theater in New York City. **We also salute this year's honoree, Chita Rivera.**

Accelerating success.

Congratulations to tonight's honoree,  
the legendary Chita Rivera,  
and thank you to Sara Bareilles   
for tonight's performance.

We are thrilled to be a part of  
Roundabout Theatre Company and  
congratulate Todd, Julia, Sydney,  
Steve, Chris, Lane and the entire team  
on a fantastic 2021-2022 season.

**COLLEEN** and **JOHN COOK**

OUR HEARTFELT CONGRATULATIONS  
TO **CHITA**, AND TO **ROUNDABOUT**.

**INCOMPARABLE  
IRREPLACEABLE**

WITH ADMIRATION AND AFFECTION,  
MICHAEL, LAUREN  
AND THE ENTIRE DODGER FAMILY







The Durst Organization  
is pleased to join  
Roundabout Theatre Company  
in honoring

Chita Rivera





Congratulations to Todd Haimes  
and Tom Tuft on the enduring  
success of Roundabout, and to  
Chita Rivera for all that you  
have given to theatre and society.

**MARGIE** and **ROY FURMAN**



**DAVID GEFFEN  
FOUNDATION**

Congratulations to Roundabout Theatre Company on a triumphant return to live performances this season. I am honored to be a part of the extraordinary and dedicated Board of Directors and the talented and energetic team at Roundabout, powerfully led by Todd and Julia. I look forward to being a part of Roundabout's future as it continues to grow and thrive.

**SYLVIA GOLDEN**

We Proudly Support  
Roundabout Theatre Company  
and the 2022 Gala



Thank you, Todd, Sydney, Steve, Chris, Julia and the entire company for all of your dedication and hard work to bring live performances back to Roundabout's stages. Congratulations on a fantastic season.

**STEPHANIE** and **RON KRAMER**

Congratulations to the legendary Chita Rivera on her most deserving recognition tonight! And congratulations to Roundabout on a successful return to live theatre.

We are very proud to be sponsoring tonight's spectacular performance by Sara Bareilles.

**DR. TAYLOR W LAWRENCE** and  
**DR. RYAN P SHELHAMER**

Cheers to tonight's honoree  
Chita Rivera on her many  
contributions to the theatre,  
and to Roundabout  
on another wonderful season!

**GINA MARIA LEONETTI**



The Local 764 IATSE Officer's,  
Executive Board and Membership  
congratulate and honor  
Chita Rivera  
for her extraordinary contributions  
to the theatrical community.



**The Membership and Executive Board of  
Make-up Artists & Hair Stylist Local 798, IATSE**



**Congratulates the Roundabout Theatre Company Honoree  
Chita Rivera**

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**Congratulations, Chita Rivera,**  
on receiving the Jason Robards Award  
for Excellence in Theatre.

Thank you for being a trailblazing,  
prolific artist and inspiration.

Both you and Sara Bareilles exemplify  
the power of women on stage.

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## Roundabout Theatre Company

*and applaud*

## Chita Rivera

*for her tireless dedication to the organization.*

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Congratulations to the entire Roundabout Theatre team for creating new programming to broaden the talent, voices and audiences for American theatre, and for far-reaching education programming in New York City schools at a time when arts education is critical. Special thanks to Todd Haimes and Julia Levy, as well as board leaders Tom Tuft and Kitty Patterson Kempner, for their vision and hard work. And thank you to the legendary Chita Rivera for being such a good friend to Roundabout as we return to live theatre.

**JENNIFER AND OWEN THOMAS**

Congratulations to Roundabout!

Paul and I are so honored to be part  
of this Fabulous organization!!!

With love and gratitude,

**FRAN** and **PAUL TURNER**

We congratulate tonight's honoree  
and dear friend to Roundabout:  
the legendary Chita Rivera  
for her remarkable contributions and  
dedication to the theatre.

We applaud Todd, Julia, and the  
Roundabout family for their leadership  
and visionary commitment to producing  
powerful, inclusive and boundary-pushing  
theatre, and building transformational  
education experiences that pave  
the way for the future.

**TOM** and **DIANE TUFT**



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and congratulate

**CHITA RIVERA**

ON HER 2022 GALA HONOR



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Photo: Andrew Eccles



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PAINT  
THE  
TOWN

2022 GALA

JOURNAL ADDENDUM

HONORING

CHITA RIVERA

MONDAY MARCH 7

ZIEGFELD BALLROOM | NEW YORK CITY

Congratulations to Chita Rivera

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# PAINT THE TOWN

2022 GALA HONORING

CHITA RIVERA

WITH SPECIAL CONCERT  
PERFORMANCE BY

SARA BAREILLES

## PROGRAM

### WELCOME

Todd Haimes, *Artistic Director/CEO*  
Samantha Rudin Earls, *Gala Chair*  
Michael Slocum, *Gala Chair*

### THE JASON ROBARDS AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN THEATRE PRESENTED TO

Chita Rivera

### LIVE AUCTION

Pat Tully, Auctioneer  
*Auction items listed inside.*

### A CONCERT PERFORMANCE

Sara Bareilles

SCENIC DESIGN  
David Rockwell

LIGHTING DESIGN  
Donald Holder

SOUND DESIGN  
Dan Gerhard

PRODUCTION STAGE MANAGER  
Nancy Pittelman

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR  
Anthony Jusino

## MENU

### LEAVES & SEEDS

Shredded Vegetables, Pears,  
Herbs, Baby Lettuce, Toasted  
Seeds, Root Vegetable Purée

### RED WINE BRAISED SHORT RIB

Potato Purée, Maple Glazed  
Carrots, Spun Parsnips,  
Rosemary-Sage Glace

*Vegan alternate entrée available  
upon request.*

### DESSERT

### YUZU-WHITE CHOCOLATE CHEESECAKE

Graham Cracker Crust,  
Yuzu Curd, White Chocolate  
Mousse, Blueberry Compote

### WINE SERVICE

Hans Greyl Sauvignon  
Blanc, Marlborough,  
New Zealand

Saget La Petite Perriere  
Pinot Noir, Loire, France

# LIVE AUCTION

## ONE

### **BILLY JOEL CONCERT WITH PRIVATE SUITE HOSTED BY GAVIN CREEL AND MATT BOMER**

You'll feel like a "Big Shot" when you enjoy a Billy Joel concert from your own Lexus Level Suite at Madison Square Garden hosted by none other than Tony Award-winning favorite Gavin Creel (*She Loves Me, Hello, Dolly*), and star of stage and screen Matt Bomer (*The Normal Heart, The Boys in the Band*). You and nine friends will have a spectacular view of the "Piano Man" onstage, along with your own private lounge and restroom. Need a "bottle of red" or a "bottle of white"? No problem! Food, wine and beer are included, and your suite attendant will take care of all your needs.

**SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:** Concert at Madison Square Garden on Saturday, May 14, 2022 at 8pm.

**VALUE:** Goods and services estimated at \$40,000. New York State of Mind? Priceless.

**DONATED BY:** Gavin Creel, Matt Bomer



## TWO

### **CHEF'S TABLE AT BELLE HARLEM WITH VANESSA WILLIAMS AND NORM LEWIS**

It's a night out you'll never forget, with legendary stars of stage, screen and song Vanessa Williams and Norm Lewis. You're headed to dinner with nine guests of your choosing at Belle Harlem. Champagne included! Your group will take over the restaurant's singular table to enjoy 5-7 tasting courses inspired by Southern classics with French, Italian, Moroccan and Asian influences. It's a warm, intimate atmosphere as chef Darryl Burnette and his wife Melissa host you as if you're in their Harlem home. It's sure to be an evening of spectacular food, sparkling conversation and good old-fashioned fun with two of your favorite performers at the table.

**SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:** Reservations are for Fridays and Saturdays only. Must be scheduled on a mutually agreeable date and redeemed by March 8, 2023.

**VALUE:** Goods and services estimated at \$2,160. Incredible experience? Priceless.

**DONATED BY:** Colleen and John Cook, Darryl Burnette, Vanessa Williams, Norm Lewis,



## THREE

### **4-NIGHT LUXURY SPA VACATION IN MEXICO**

Trust us: you need a vacation. Pamper yourself with a 4-night stay in Xpu-Ha, Mexico, just north of Tulum, at the stunning sanctuary that is Hotel Esencia. Your Jungle Suite is a private, luxury bungalow perched atop the estate's lush tropical gardens, with your own expansive terrace for open-air dining and lounging. Indulge in a day of unlimited treatments for two in the gorgeous Mayan inspired spa. Swim and sun on Esencia's private beach. Enjoy heated pools, sunrise yoga, sophisticated on-site dining options and white-glove concierge service. Your comfortable roundtrip, business class flights are provided by American Airlines. Perfect for a romantic getaway or a much-deserved restorative refresh.

**SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:** Certificate is valid for stays between March 7, 2022 and March 7, 2023 and includes a 4-night stay and one day of unlimited spa treatments for 2 guests. Package includes 250,000 AAdvantage miles. Redemption is subject to availability and the follow black-out dates: April 3-18, 2022; November 20-27, 2022; December 19, 2022 to January 6, 2023; January 13-17, 2023; February 17-27, 2023. Must be redeemed by March 8, 2023.

**VALUE:** Goods and services estimated at \$15,750. Rest and relaxation? Priceless.

**DONATED BY:** American Airlines, Kevin Wendle, HOTEL ESENCIA XPU-HA MEXICO

## FOUR

### **PRIVATE DINNER FOR 12 WITH MARISA TOMEI AT QUALITY MEATS!**

"With great power must also come great responsibility." And it's your responsibility to enjoy an amazing evening with Spiderman's Aunt May herself, Marisa Tomei. Invite 11 guests of your choice for a steakhouse dinner and wine pairings with the Academy Award winner, fresh off her successful run in Roundabout's revival of *The Rose Tattoo*. Roundabout Artistic Director/CEO Todd Haimes will also join in the fun. You'll convene in the beautiful private dining room at Quality Meats in midtown NYC. This rustic-industrial steakhouse has the finest cuts in the city and features inventive appetizers, sides, and desserts to round out the meal.

**SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:** Dinner must be scheduled on a mutually agreeable date. Dinner must be redeemed by March 8, 2023.

**VALUE:** Goods and services estimated at \$2,400. The divine presence of Marisa Tomei? Priceless.

**DONATED BY:** Michael Cohen, Barry Lafer, Michael Stillman, QUALITY MEATS, Marisa Tomei



# LIVE AUCTION

## FIVE

### DINNER IN LOS ANGELES WITH BLAIR UNDERWOOD AND JERRY O'CONNELL

Time to soak up the sun. You and a guest are invited to swanky West Hollywood hotspot Craig's for dinner with Blair Underwood and Jerry O'Connell, TV royalty and stars of Roundabout's Tony Award-winning production of *A Soldier's Play*. Hop on a comfortable business class American Airlines flight, then stay four nights at the Loews Santa Monica Beach Hotel. This beachfront oasis is the picture-perfect starting point for your Southern California adventure. Spend your days poolside, sightseeing or savoring the good life, and take in the beautiful scenery and rich history of the Huntington Library, Art Museum, and Botanical Gardens during a VIP tour, as well as VIP passes and dinner at the Magic Castle, "the most unusual private club in the world." Don't forget to tell Blair and Jerry that their friends at Roundabout say "hi!"

**SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:** Package for two people includes 250,000 AAdvantage miles. Dinner must be scheduled on a mutually agreeable date. Reservations at the Loews Santa Monica Beach Hotel must be made within 90 days of intended arrival and are subject to availability and/or blackout dates at the hotel's discretion. Dinner for 2 up to \$300 at the Magic Castle included. Must be redeemed by March 8, 2023.

**VALUE:** Goods and services estimated at \$9,240.

Fun in the sun? Priceless.

**DONATED BY:** American Airlines,  LOEWS, Jerry O'Connell, Blair Underwood,  THE HUNTINGTON, Andrea Brown and Robert Levande,  BANK OF AMERICA

## SIX

### DINNER PARTY WITH MICHELLE WILLIAMS, THOMAS KAIL AND TODD HAIMES PREPARED BY ALISON ROMAN

Guess what? You're hosting a dinner party! The dinner party of a lifetime, to be exact. We've already started your guest list for you. First up is actress Michelle Williams, who wowed us as Sally Bowles in our 2014 *Cabaret* revival. Next, Michelle's husband (and *Hamilton* director) Tommy Kail. And it simply wouldn't be a party without Roundabout Artistic Director/CEO Todd Haimes. *New York Times* best-selling cookbook author Alison Roman will prepare a delicious feast for you plus 11 friends, with wine pairings provided by Golden Ram Imports.

**SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:** Dinner must be scheduled on a mutually agreeable date in the New York City area. Winner will host. If winner cannot host in their home, a Roundabout Board member will host. Must be redeemed by March 8, 2023.

**VALUE:** Goods and services estimated at \$5,000.

Best dinner party ever? Priceless.

**DONATED BY:** Alison Roman, Michelle Williams, Thomas Kail,  Golden Ram IMPORTS

## SEVEN

### FOOD, ART AND WINE IN SAN FRANCISCO AND NAPA

In the mood for some California dreaming? You and a guest will journey to San Francisco on a smooth business class flight from American Airlines. Start with a 3-night stay at the Ritz Carlton San Francisco with dinner for two at Chef Michael Tusk's Cotogna and triple Michelin-starred Quince. Next, take a VIP tour of San Francisco's art scene at the Museum of Modern Art, de Young Museum, Legion of Honor and Pier 24 Photography. Then, hop to Napa for a 3-night stay at the brand-new Stanly Ranch, Auberge Resorts Collection, opening this spring. Surrounded by rolling vineyards with expansive views of the Mayacamas mountains, you'll savor the scenery as well as dinner for 2 at Bear. It wouldn't be Napa without wine—so enjoy a tasting with cheese pairings at Brown Estate's Downtown Tasting Room. Finally, indulge in a world-famous dining experience at 3-Michelin starred eatery The French Laundry. By the time you get home, you'll be refreshed and invigorated.

**SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:** Package for two people for six nights includes 250,000 AAdvantage miles. Winner must plan own transportation from San Francisco to Napa. Stanly Ranch stay valid Sunday–Thursday only. Blackout dates apply, including holidays. Must be within one year of issue date. Excludes incidentals and gratuity. \$400 gift card for Cotogna included. \$740 gift card for Quince included. Dinner for 2 at The French Laundry up to \$700 included. Brown Estate tasting must be on a Tuesday–Saturday at 11 am, 2 pm, or 4 pm by appointment only. Must be redeemed by March 8, 2023.

**VALUE:** Goods and services estimated at \$19,980.

California luxury? Priceless.

**DONATED BY:** American Airlines,  Alan Mark, Maxine Williams, Tom Tuft, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco, Pier 24 Photography,  BROWN,  Stanly Ranch AUBERGE RESORTS COLLECTION NAPA VALLEY

# LIVE AUCTION

# EDUCATION

## EIGHT

### AN EVENING AT FUNNY GIRL WITH JANE LYNCH AND RAMIN KARIMLOO

People... people who see theatre... are the luckiest people in the world! That's why we're sending you and 3 guests to the hotly-anticipated Broadway revival of *Funny Girl*. In addition to your stellar house seats, you'll get a one-of-a-kind souvenir—a copy of Harvey Fierstein's revised *Funny Girl* book, autographed by Harvey himself. After the curtain call, head out on the town for post-show drinks and bites with *Funny Girl* stars Jane Lynch (Rose Brice) and Ramin Karimloo (Nicky Arnstein). There's also room at your table for director Michael Mayer, casting director and RTC Artistic Consultant Jim Carnahan, and Roundabout Artistic Director/CEO Todd Haimes.

**SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:** Must be scheduled on a mutually agreeable date. Must be redeemed by March 8, 2023.

**VALUE:** Goods and services estimated at \$1,276. Nobody raining on your parade? Priceless.

**DONATED BY:** Jane Lynch, Ramin Karimloo, Michael Mayer, Jim Carnahan, Harvey Fierstein

## NINE

### LIAM NEESON IS COMING OVER FOR DINNER PREPARED BY CHEF MARC MURPHY!

From his role in the *Taken* film franchise, we know that Liam Neeson has a "very particular set of skills." What we didn't know was that these skills include... co-hosting a dinner party at your place! Liam is a beloved member of the Roundabout family and was the star of our 1993 Tony Award-winning revival of *Anna Christie*. Now, he'll join Roundabout Artistic Director/CEO Todd Haimes for this intimate dinner for 8, prepared by celebrity chef Marc Murphy right in your home (or in the home of a Roundabout board member, if you prefer). You'll also enjoy delicious wine pairings provided by Golden Ram Imports.

**SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:** Dinner must be scheduled on a mutually agreeable date in the New York City area. Winner will host. If winner cannot host in their home, a Roundabout Board member will host. Must be redeemed by March 8, 2023.

**VALUE:** Goods and services estimated at \$5,000. The charming Liam Neeson? Priceless.

**DONATED BY:** Liam Neeson, Marc Murphy, 

*All Live Auction items are subject to change due to Covid-19 safety and health measures.*



Make a donation by scanning the QR code or raising your paddle for the auctioneer.

Education at Roundabout has enriched the lives of over 445,000 students and teachers in New York and beyond. Providing a well-rounded education, rich in the arts, ensures that young people will be prepared and engaged to face an ever-changing world. Programs like our afterschool Roundabout Youth Ensemble help students thrive, teaching them to think critically and creatively about their worldview and providing collaboration and leadership opportunities. Through the Theatrical Teaching Institute and other professional development programs, Roundabout is dedicated to helping teachers implement vital Social Emotional Learning competencies with their students and infuse their lessons with touchpoints in the arts.

In 2016, Roundabout established the Theatrical Workforce Development Program to provide pathways to technical careers

in entertainment, offering hands-on training and job placement. As we look to the future, our Community Partnerships seek to build meaningful relationships with civic leaders and organizations, amplifying our commitment to inclusivity, equity, and diversity, so that all New Yorkers can access our work.

Every gift will vastly impact the lives of these young people and members of our community. Thank you for making a difference.

**\$25,000** underwrites the salary of one Theatrical Workforce Development Fellow for a year of hands-on skills training at Roundabout.

**\$15,000** underwrites a School Partnership, bringing skilled Teaching Artists to classroom residencies.

**\$10,000** underwrites artists in residence at a branch of the New York Public Library, inspiring and connecting New Yorkers with the power of theatre.

**\$5,000** supports one NYC high school student's participation in the Roundabout Youth Ensemble for a full season.

**\$2,500** builds capacity in 30 New York City educators through Roundabout's professional learning opportunities.

**\$1,000** supports public school students participation in College & Career Readiness Day Workshops.

**FOR EVERY \$100**, two public school students will attend a Roundabout performance.

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THANK YOU TO OUR 2022

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BY DAVE HARRIS

DIRECTED BY MIRANDA HAYMON

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by Mansa Ra

directed by Margot Bordelon

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