



Rubicon Theatre Company

at the
Laurel Theatre
1006 East Main (at Laurel)

Ventura's Rubicon Theatre Company Sets a Record for Most "Ovation" Nominations

(September, 2004)

Exciting news – another Rubicon first! It was announced that Rubicon Theatre Company received 20 Ovation Award nominations – more than any other theatre for the 2004 Season. Rubicon Theatre Company Nominees are as follows:

TAH DAH...

World Premiere Musical	Lady Macbeth Sings the Blues (Amanda McBroom, Joel Silberman)
Lead Actor in a Play	George Ball in All My Sons Lance Nichols in Driving Miss Daisy
Lead Actress in a Play	Robin Pearson Rose in All My Sons Michael Learned in Driving Miss Daisy
Lead Actress in a Musical	Amanda McBroom in Lady Macbeth Sings the Blues
Featured Actor in a Play	Joseph Fuqua in All My Sons Eric Lange in Driving Miss Daisy
Featured Actress in a Play	Faline England in All My Sons
Ensemble Performance	Side by Side by Sondheim Cast (Davis Gaines, Tami Tappan Damiano, Teri Ralston)

Director of a Play	James O'Neil for All My Sons
Choreographer	Lee Martino for Side by Side by Sondheim
Musical Direction	Dean Mora for Lady Macbeth Sings the Blues
Play	All My Sons Driving Miss Daisy
Musical	Side by Side by Sondheim
Lighting Design	Russell Pyle for Driving Miss Daisy
Sound Design	Steven Cahill for Defying Gravity Steven Cahill for Driving Miss Daisy
Costume Design	Ann Bruice for Driving Miss Daisy

EXCERPTED FROM THE LOS ANGELES TIMES:

THEATER

OVATION AWARDS SPREAD THE LARGESS

Midsize venues in Ventura and Long Beach vie with Center Theatre Group.

By Don Shirley, Times Staff Writer

Two mid-size theaters, on opposite sides of the Los Angeles area, joined the larger Center Theatre Group in leading the pack of nominations for the 2003-04 Ovation Awards, announced Wednesday.

Rubicon Theatre in Ventura received 20 nominations for five productions, including seven for a revival of Driving Miss Daisy and six for All My Sons. International City Theatre in Long Beach produced the most-nominated show — a revival of the musical Dinah Was that garnered 11 nods — and drew six more nominations for a total of 17.

The just-closed Intimate Apparel at the Mark Taper Forum received 8 nominations, and Center Theatre Group received 7 nominations for Baz Luhrmann's rendition of La Bohème at the Ahmanson Theatre. Among the other multi-nominated shows were a Performance Riverside revival of 1776, with seven nominations, and small-theater productions of Ma Rainey's Black Bottom and Nocturne, with five apiece.

The Ovations are L.A.'s peer-judged theater honors, sponsored by the LA Stage Alliance. This year, 378 productions registered for Ovation consideration, and 178 voters picked 169 nominations in 29 categories.

Three noncompetitive awards also were announced Wednesday, going to producer Paula Holt, actress Betty Garrett and the Cornerstone Theater Company. The awards will be presented at a ceremony at 5 p.m. Nov. 14 in downtown L.A.'s Orpheum Theatre.

For a complete list of nominees for all theatres, go to

<<http://www.aldrichpr.com/2004NomListWeb.htm>>www.aldrichpr.com/2004NomListWeb.htm.

PRODUCTION NEEDS!

Pressing Prop Need: We are still looking for a donation of older-looking pretty parasols that we can put slits in the top of for "Happy Days." Needed yesterday, of course! Please e-mail Brian McDonald at <mailto:bmcdonald@rubicontheatre.org>bmcdonald@rubicontheatre.org or call Properties Mistress Teresa Scarano on her cell phone at (805) 218-7410 if you can help!

Air Miles Needed. We continue to need frequent flyer miles to bring in visiting guest artists. We are looking for donations on United, Delta, American and Continental in increments large enough for one domestic ticket (we need some coach and some first class) and/or one international ticket. If you donate airfare you will be acknowledged in the show program and invited to a cast party to meet the individual you helped transport. Please e-mail <mailto:bmcdonald@rubicontheatre.com>bmcdonald@rubicontheatre.com or <mailto:crennolds@rubicontheatre.com>crennolds@rubicontheatre.com to help. This is a great way to help underwrite artists without a cash expense.

THE REVIEWS ARE IN!

Critics continue to praise Rubicon's production of "Waiting for Godot," directed by Walter Asmus, who was Samuel Beckett's Assistant Director on the landmark Schiller Theatre production. Mr. Asmus has directed the play on stage at Brooklyn Academy of Music (with Sam Waterston, Milo O'Shea and Austin Pendleton), for the Gate Theatre in Dublin, on tour in the U.S., and recently in Shanghai. He staged the film version with Johnny Murphy and Barry McGovern for the "Beckett on Film" series and also directed a film version with Roman Polanski as Lucky. Remember, this show MUST CLOSE on October 3. Call today for tickets at (805) 667-2900.

Here are a few excerpts from the reviews:

CRITICS' CHOICE! EXTRAORDINARY! NOTHING SHORT OF A REVELATION! BECKETT'S VISION STILL MATTERS. -- Philip Brandes, LA TIMES

"In an EXQUISITE pas de deux of mind and body, Joe Spano and Robin Gammell center Rubicon Theatre Company's riveting production of "Waiting for Godot," Samuel Beckett's MYSTIFYING MASTERPIECE. De Young captures the oblivious self-righteousness of power, blind to the havoc he causes. Neeley skillfully contrasts Lucky's downtrodden situation with a shining moment of eloquence. EXQUISITE! A REMARKABLE PLAY! RIVETING! -- Rita Moran, VENTURA COUNTY STAR

"BRILLIANT PERFORMANCES! INGENIOUS DIRECTION! A POSITIVELY BEAUTIFUL PRODUCTION!" -- Pat Taylor, TOLUCAN TIMES

JUST AS THE AUTHOR MUST HAVE INTENDED IT TO BE. The title character never comes, but audiences should. -- Evan Henerson, DAILY NEWS

"A TIMELESS MASTERPIECE, a seamless melding of theme and form in which not a word or gesture is wasted. Pulling it off requires precision, virtuosity and fearlessness -- all of which are hallmarks of the Rubicon Theatre Company's HAUNTING AND HILARIOUS production. In a thoughtful essay in the Rubicon program, dramaturge Micheline Sakharoff calls the play "a simple observation." That's exactly right. Mr. Beckett isn't drawing any conclusions, moral or otherwise. He's simply saying: Here we are. Here's what we do. Here's where we're stuck. What we choose to do with this observation is up to us. But Mr. Beckett's clear-eyed vision is a great gift, and at the Rubicon, it is presented to us with great care. -- Tom Jacobs, SANTA BARBARA NEWS PRESS

RECOMMENDED! In Asmus' precise, choreographic staging, every word, every cadence, every sarcastic quip, every beautiful lament and bawdy joke is masterfully interpreted and timed. -- Steven Leigh Morris, LA WEEKLY

"WORLD CLASS! Four actors and a director brilliantly realizing the vision of a master playwright!" -- Paul Foster Froemming, MONTECITO JOURNAL

Visit Rubicon's website: <http://www.rubicontheatre.org/>

(805) 667-2900 for information.
