

Stages

AUGUST 2015

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The Newsletter of The Acting Company

MARGOT HARLEY, Producer

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THE NEW YORK TIMES: TENNESSEE WILLIAMS SHORT STORIES, NOW AS ONE-ACTS



Marcus Gardley, left, with the director Michael Wilson. Photo Sara Krulwich/The New York Times.

By Laura Collins-Hughes,
August 28, 2015

The Acting Company has commissioned evenings like **Desire** before — a program of Chekhov adaptations in the 1980s, when Spalding Gray and Wendy Wasserstein were among the playwrights; in the 1990s, a slate of short plays inspired by Shakespeare's sonnets, by writers including Tony Kushner and Ntozake Shange. This time, short stories by **Tennessee Williams** are the jumping-off point. Directed by **Michael Wilson**, who has devoted much of his career

to interpreting Williams, **Desire** begins previews Wednesday at 59E59 Theaters. Recently, the project's six playwrights spoke about how they approached the task.

Click [HERE](#) to read entire article in **THE NEW YORK TIMES**.

Performances: **September 2 - October 10**. Tickets: 212.279.4200 or www.59e59.org. Regular Tickets: \$70. Special Discount for Friends of The Acting Company \$49. Use Code TACP.

GALA to SALUTE MARGOT HARLEY and HONOR PAUL and TOM FONTANA



November 9th is the date and **Capitale** is the place to be as The Acting Company salutes Co-Founder and Producer **MARGOT HARLEY** and honors brothers **PAUL** and **TOM FONTANA** with Joan Warburg Humanitarian Awards.

Tom Fontana is a multi-Emmy, Peabody and Humanitas Award winner for his TV writing and producing. Tom founded Stockings With Care, which anonymously provides thousands of Christmas gifts and clothing to children living with their families in homeless shelters. **Paul Fontana** is a Vice Principal for Academics and Chair of the English Department at All Hallows High School in the South Bronx where he initiated and runs an after-school theater program that performs classic plays. He also volunteers for Theater Development Fund's Open

Door program for underprivileged students.

VINCE GIORDANO and the **Nighthawks** return as the Gala's beloved orchestra. **ANGELA PIERCE** and **TIM SAUNDERS** will co-chair. For information and tickets contact:

gcornez@theactingcompany.org.

THEATER TALK'S MICHAEL RIEDEL INTERVIEWS MARGOT HARLEY

On August 1, on CUNY TV's **THEATER TALK**, Michael Riedel interviewed **Margot Harley** about her life as a theatrical producer and founder of The Acting Company. Margot will step down as its Producer effective the end of this year. The Acting Company began in 1972 with co-founder John Houseman, and the first graduating class of Juilliard's Drama Division, which included Kevin Kline, Patti LuPone, David Schramm and David Ogden Stiers. "They were classically trained, superbly talented and had worked together for four years," stated Ms. Harley.

After graduation, Ms. Harley and Mr. Houseman took their young actors to Saratoga for the summer where they performed a repertory of classic theater to critical acclaim. Mel Gussow wrote in The New York Times that 'Anyone worried about the future of theater in America should see The Acting Company in Action.' **To watch the THEATER TALK interview**, click [HERE](#).



ALUMNI UPDATE

Michael Stewart Allen as Macbeth and **Jacqueline Correa** as Lady Macbeth at Arkansas Rep... **Megan Bartle**, **Liv Rooth**, **John Skelley**, **Derek Smith** and **Yaegel Welch** in The Acting Company's *Desire*... **Keith David** narrates Ken Burns' *Jackie Robinson*... **Stephen DeRosa** in *On the Town*, directed by **John Rando**... **David Fuller's** Theater 2020 hit it big with *The Real Merry House Wives of Windsor, Connecticut*... **Harriet Harris** in *It Shoulda Been You*... **Tom Hewitt** in *Amazing Grace*... **David Manis** in *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*... **Grant Fletcher Prewitt** in *Stage Kiss* at the Guthrie... **Henry Stram** in *The Elephant Man* now in London... **Michele Tauber** in *I Promised Myself to Live Faster* at Louisville's Humana Play Festival and Philadelphia's Fringe Arts Theater... **Chris Thorn** in *World Builders* at The Contemporary American Theater Festival... **Sonny Valicenti** taking his play, *Abacus*, to Edinburgh.

PAULA RAYMOND, Editor & Graphics

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