

STAGES

MARCH 2016

the Acting
Company

The Newsletter of The Acting Company

IAN BELKNAP, Artistic Director ELISA SPENCER-KAPLAN, Executive Director

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Meet Angela Pierce: Acting Company Alum and Board Member



How did you first get involved with The Acting Company?

I was a graduate from the Juilliard School. I was terrified of Shakespeare before I went into Juilliard and when I graduated, I thought, I *have* to do Shakespeare. I *have* to work on Sheridan. I *have* to work on Moliere. I auditioned for and booked [The Acting Company's] 1999/2000 tour of *The Rivals* and *Macbeth*. I always felt because of the way that The Acting Company puts a company of actors together, I felt a stronger connection because we were living together, eating together, and acting together. It's an amazing experience.

You're now an Acting Company Board member as well as an alum!

And still a working actor!

You are doing it all! What made you decide to stay involved with the Company?

The Acting Company gave me so much as an actor—working on the classics and working in such a concentrated way. To me, that's the tradition of what John Houseman and Margot Harley started with Group I. You graduate a training program, then—in doing—you learn and grow and experiment and change and challenge. It was really important to me to keep that legacy.

Food and artistic expression—how do you keep a culture and a society alive if you don't have those basic needs? You've got food, clothing, and shelter, yes. We have those three, but how do you then interact with a society? How do you create a community? How do you keep stories going of a particular culture? You create a community when you tell those stories. If you don't nurture that, it will go away.

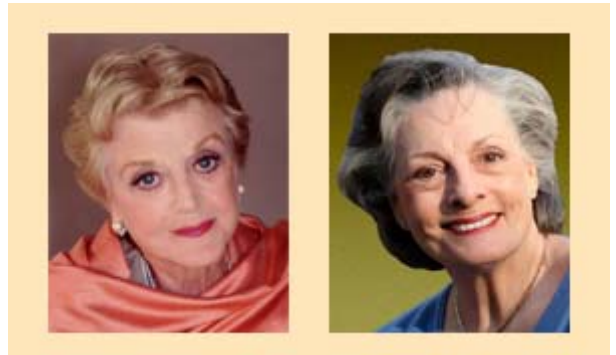
What do you think makes the Acting Company experience so unique for young artists?

The Acting Company affords [actors] the opportunity to deepen their craft, their abilities, to reach a much broader audience. They can reach the whole United States.

[READ MORE](#) on The Acting Company website.

SAVE THE DATE: ANGELA LANSBURY and DANA IVEY in LETTICE & LOVAGE

On Monday, June 13, legendary actresses **Angela Lansbury** and **Dana Ivey** come together for one unforgettable evening to lead a staged reading of Peter Shaffer's beloved British comedy. In **LETTICE & LOVAGE**, eccentric tour guide Lettice Douffet channels her flair for the dramatic into embellishing the history of dreary Fustian House, the least stately of London's stately homes. But her flights of fancy are cut short when she encounters Lotte Schoen, a straitlaced bureaucrat from the Preservation Trust. As their animosity gives way to an unlikely friendship born of a shared enthusiasm for historical reenactments, Lettice and Lotte discover that their elaborate fantasies have unintended real-world complications.



This one-night-only benefit performance for The Acting Company at The Kaye Playhouse at Hunter College, directed by **Mark Lamos**, will feature an all-star cast including **Patricia Conolly** and original Broadway cast member **Paxton Whitehead**.

Premium benefit tickets including a post-show dinner at The Union Club go on sale Monday, April 11 and will be available through The Acting Company at 212-258-3111. The on-sale date for performance-only tickets will be announced shortly.

The John McDonald SALON READING SERIES



April 18 at 7pm AN IDEAL HUSBAND

by **Oscar Wilde**, directed by **Moritz von Stuelpnagel** (*Hand to God*) featuring Monique Barbee (*The Mysteries of Laura*), Gabriel Ebert (Tony winner for *Matilda*), Patricia Hodges (*Born Yesterday*), Joshua Johnston (The Acting Company's *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead*), Dakin Matthews (*The Audience*), Amelia Pedlow (*'Tis Pity She's A Whore*), Flor de Liz Perez (*Pericles Prince of Tyre*), Liv Rooth (The Acting Company's *Desire*) David Turner (*Good Person of Szechwan*) and Michael Urie (*Buyer and Cellar*)

The Marjorie S. Deane Little Theater at the West Side YMCA
10 West 64th St. between Central Park West and Broadway, NYC
All artists' appearances subject to availability. This reading is Sold Out.



May 16 at 7pm

THE HOUSE THAT WILL NOT STAND

written and directed by **Marcus Gardley**

Marcus Gardley has secured his place as one of the most promising contemporary playwrights, most notably with this piece set in 1836 New Orleans, a time when black Creole women entered into common-law marriages with rich white men in a system of placage. When mourning her husband coincides with the eve of a ball her daughters wish to attend, the house that Beartrice Albans built—on a foundation of wealth, secrets, and dearly bought freedom—threatens to collapse. **"Wondrous! House will cast a spell on you!" - Hartford Courant**

Lynn Redgrave Theater at **The Culture Project**, 45 Bleecker Street at Lafayette, NYC

TICKETS \$35 general admission [Order Online](#) or Call 212-258-3111

Check updates on The Acting Company Salon webpage: [SalonReadingTICKETS](#)

Reception with director and cast follows the reading.

This season of Salon Readings is dedicated to the memory of Gina Ingoglia Weiner, Chair of our Education Committee and our biggest fan.

Alumni NEWS

Hannah Cabell in *The Father* on Broadway, directed by **Doug Hughes**... **Kelley Curran** in Feydeau's *The Ding Dong* at The Pearl... **David Fuller** in *A Little Night Music* at Theater 2020 in Brooklyn Heights... **Harriet Harris, Patrick Kerr** and **Matthew Amendt** in world premiere of *Hollywood* at Mandell Weiss Theatre at La Jolla Playhouse... **Dana Ivey** with **Henry Stram, Christian Conn** and **Derek Smith** in *The School for Scandal* with Red Bull Theater... **Kevin Kline** in *Dean*... **Carine Montbertrand** in *Light, A Dark Comedy* at Triskelion Arts Muriel Schulman Theater, Brooklyn... **Jesse L. Martin** in CW's *The Flash*... **Dakin Matthews** in *Waitress* on Broadway and in *Blue Bloods*... **Davis McCallum** directs *Stupid Fu**ing Bird* at The Pearl... **Angela Pierce** in the film *When The Moon Was Twice As Big*... **Erika Rolfsrud** in *House of Cards*... **Roslyn Ruff** in *Familiar* at Playwrights Horizons... **C. J. Wilson** in the world premiere of Kenneth Lonergan's *Hold On To Me Darling* at Atlantic Theater Company... **Jeffrey Wright** in HBO's *Confirmation*...

Interview with Angela Pierce by Brenna Clendaniel
Editing & Graphics: Paula Raymond
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