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Thursday, November 10, 2011

Posted on [November 10, 2011](#) by [admin](#)

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS:

* [Hugh Jackman](#), *Back on Broadway* opens at the [Broadhurst Theatre](#).

* *Reasons to be Pretty* opens at London's [Almeida Theatre](#).

* [Prospect Theatre Company's](#) *Iron Curtain*, starring Jenn Gambatese, opens at NYC's Baruch College's Nagelberg Theatre.

* *Mary Poppins* begins previews at Toronto's [Prince of Wales Theatre](#).

* *Salt, Root and Roe* begins previews at London's [Trafalgar Studio 2](#).

* *Chita Rivera: My Broadway* runs 4 performances only through Nov. 13 at Costa Mesa's [Seegerstrom Center for the Arts](#).

* *Give a Man a Mask* developmental lab runs through Nov. 12 at NYC's [York Theatre](#).

Producers of the Broadway revival of *The Gershwins' Porgy and Bess* will offer special giveaways for the first 100 ticket buyers in line at the Richard Rodgers Theatre for the first day of box-office sales Nov. 12.

The first 10 ticket buyers in line at the Richard Rodgers Theatre will receive a specially designed *Porgy and Bess* picnic basket, which will include a special chance to win an opening-night prize package inside. The next 90 individuals in line will receive a limited edition messenger bag, with *Porgy's* classic line "I Got Plenty O' Nuttin'" silk-screened on it. They will also have the chance to win a *Porgy and Bess* poster.

Raphael Miranda and Marissa Rosen will host *Broadway Sings for Pride*, which will be presented Dec. 5 at 6:30 PM at NYC's [Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender Community Center](#).

The concert will feature the talents Kimberley Locke, Colman Domingo, Terri White, Adam Pascal, Scott Alan, King Aswad, Anastasia Barzee, Eleah J. Burman, Bobby Cronin, Meridith Cullen, Angel Desai, John Edwards, Lauren Elder, Elli, Adrienne Fishe, Russell Fischer, Jenn Furman, Lance Home, Emily Kinney, Mary Lahti, Cedric Leiba Jr., Lori Michaels, Anthony Lee Medina, Athena Reich, Angelo Luis Rios, Khalid Rivera, Bret Shuford, Allison Siko, Antoine L. Smith, Amy Toporek and Katie Thompson.

London's [Barbican Centre](#) has announced its 2012 season:

* *Survivor*, running Jan. 12-14, will feature an original score by Shechter, set within a visual landscape by Gormley.

* *The Devil and Mister Punch* begins performances Feb. 2, prior to an official opening Feb. 7, for a run through Feb. 25 in the Pit. Devised by Julian Crouch (who designed Broadway's *The Addams Family*) and the Company, the show is *Punch and Judy* but as presented by Messrs. Harvey and Hovey, a pair of broken vaudevillians reduced to presenting a puppet show that goes wildly off-course.

* *'Tis Pity She's a Whore* begins performances Feb. 16, prior to an official opening Feb. 21, for a run through March 10 in the Silk Street Theatre.

* *The Master and Margarita* begins performances March 15, prior to an official opening March 20, for a run through April 7 in the Barbican Theatre. Simon McBurney directs a new English-language stage adaptation of Bulgakov's novel. Paul Rhys and Sinéad Matthews star.

* *Gross und Klein (Big and Small)* will begin performances April 13, prior to an official opening April 14, for a run through April 29. Cate Blanchett stars.



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* *Einstein on the Beach* will run May 4 -13 in the Barbican Theatre.

* *Cymbeline* will be part of the World Shakespeare Festival, running May 29-June 2.

* *Desdemona* will run July 19 and 20 only in the Barbican Hall, also presented as part of the World Shakespeare Festival.

* A month-long season of **ten works by Pina Bausch**, to be performed by Tanztheater Wuppertal at the two venues between June 6 and July 9.

* *Carousel* will begin performances Aug. 15 prior to an official opening Aug. 16, for a run through Sept. 15.

* *Mademoiselle Julie*, starring Juliette Binoche in the title role, will run Sept. 20-29.

Article: Warren Carlyle discusses his work on *Hugh Jackman, Back on Broadway, Cotton Club Parade, Follies* and a *Christmas Story, the Musical*.

Shuler Hensley, Emily Skinner and Justin Guarini will be part of the world-premiere production of *Ghost Brothers of Darkland County*, the new musical thriller by Stephen King and John Mellencamp.

Ghost Brothers will debut at Atlanta's [Alliance Theatre](#) April 4 under the direction of artistic director Susan V. Booth. Performances are scheduled through May 13. T Bone Burnett will musical direct.

Joining Hensley, Skinner and Guarini are blues musician and actor Jake La Botz, Lucas Kavner, Kate Ferber, Christopher Morgan and country musician Dale Watson.

Completing the cast are Peter Albrink, Kylie Brown, Lori Beth Edgeman, Gwen Hughes, Joe Jung, Joe Knezevich, Rob Lawhon, Royce Mann and Travis Smith.

Video: More highlights of *Hugh Jackman, Back on Broadway*.

Prince of Broadway, the new Broadway-bound musical that will serve up songs and stories related to the musicals produced and/or directed by Hal Prince, will be an all-principal show — no chorus — featuring 12 performers, according to a casting notice for the musical.

Most of the roles have been cast through "offer only," according to a Nov. 9 Equity Principal Audition notice.

Video: Highlights from *The Blue Flower*.

A commercial producer is seeking to give a New York City life to the Jeff Award-winning production of Bruce Graham's *The Outgoing Tide*, starring John Mahoney and Rondi Reed.

The humor-spiked drama about an aging patriarch's life-changing decision as he faces illness had its world premiere May 12-June 26 as a commission by Northlight Theatre in Skokie, IL.

Directed by artistic director BJ Jones, the play about a father's illness and its toll on his wife and son also featured Chicago actor Thomas J. Cox.

[Watch highlights of the show here.](#)

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Standing On Ceremony: The Gay Marriage Plays will offer a special, **one-night-only discount to young people** for the Nov. 30 at 8 PM performance. [Click here](#) for more information.

"In an effort to help motivate the younger generation in the fight for marriage equality and expose young people to politically potent theatre," press notes state, \$30 tickets will be available to anyone born in 1980 or after by showing a photo ID at the Minetta Lane Theatre box office (18 Minetta Lane) or by visiting Ticketmaster.com and using the code PLAY30 (age will be verified upon entering the theatre).

Following the performance, audience members will be able to enjoy a special talkback hosted by NY1 theatre producer and reporter Frank DiLella and Playbill Magazine editor Blake Ross. The two will be joined by members of the cast to discuss the impact that young people and theatre can have on social change, specifically the marriage equality movement.

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The cast of the American Repertory Theater premiere of *The Gershwins' Porgy and Bess* will repeat their work in the Broadway production, which will debut Dec. 17 at the [Richard Rodgers Theatre](#).

At this time, producers have only confirmed the casting of Audra McDonald, Norm Lewis and David Alan Grier.

Also expected to return for the limited Broadway engagement are Joshua Henry, Nikki Renee Daniels, Phillip Boykin, Bryonha Marie Parham, NaTasha Yvette Williams, Cedric Neal, J.D. Webster, Heather Hill, Phumzile Sojola and Nathaniel Stampley.

The A.R.T. ensemble included Allison Blackwell, Roosevelt Andre Credit, Trevon Davis, Joseph Dellger, Wilkie Ferguson, Alicia Hall Moran, Andrea Jones-Sojola, Lisa Nicole Wilkerson and Joseph Dellger.

[Video](#): Rehearsal footage of *White Christmas* at Paper Mill.

London's [Royal Court Theatre](#) has announced the plays it will produce during the first half of 2012:

Dominic Cooke will direct David Eldridge's *In Basildon* (Feb. 16 – March 24), in the company's Jerwood Theatre Downstairs. The company for this play about a family congregating as one of its members dies will feature Linda Bassett, Debbie Chazen, Christian Dixon, Lee Ross, Ruth Sheen and Jade Williams.

Other productions scheduled for the Jerwood Theatre Downstairs are Mike Barlett's look at the baby boomer generation as it approaches retirement, *Love Love Love* (April 27 – June 2), to be directed by James Grieve; and Joe Penhall's *Birthday* (June 22 – Aug. 4), which centers on a couple expecting their second child.

The productions slated for the Jerwood Theatre Upstairs are Nick Payne's *Constellations* (Jan. 13 – Feb. 11), to be directed by Michael Longhurst; Bola Agbaje's *Belong* (April 26 – May 26), to be directed by Indhu Rubasingham; and Vivienne Franzmann's *The Witness* (June 1 – June 30) to be directed by Simon Godwin.

In addition, the theater will host its annual Young Writers Festival, running Feb. 23 – April 14. The event will be comprised of two works receiving full productions, Luke Norris' *Goodbye to All That* (Feb. 23 – March 17), to be directed by Simon Godwin; and Hayley Squires' *Vera Vera Vera* (March 22 – April 14), to be directed by Jo McInnes; as well as readings of new plays and special events.

Todrick Hall, Melody Hollis, James Snyder, Allie Trimm, and Jessica Snow-Wilson will be featured performers at the album pre-release concert of Jordan Beck and Johnathan May's *Cousins*, to be held at LA's [The Coterie](#) on Sunday, Nov. 13, at 8:30 PM.

Additional performers include Julie Garnye, Destiny Lofton, John Massey, James C. Mulligan, Kate Pazakis, Brad Standley, Drew Tablak, Alistair Tober, and Mazie Wilson.

Costa Mesa's [Seegerstrom Center for the Arts](#) will present its first **Off Center Festival**, featuring a mix of contemporary theater, music, dance and performance art, to be presented Jan. 13 – 21. [Click here for the complete schedule of events](#).

The **HD film** of the musical *Memphis* will be released on **Blu-ray, DVD and digital download** Jan. 24. [Order the Blu-ray and DVD here](#)

The 131-minute film features the original Broadway cast, including Tony Award nominees Chad Kimball and Montego Glover. *Memphis* was filmed in front of live audiences at Broadway's Shubert Theatre.

The DVD and Blu-ray edition are currently available at the the Shubert Theatre, as well as venues presenting the national tour of the musical.

[Video](#): Highlights of *King Lear* at the Public Theatre.

The songs of David Shire will find a fresh home in the new revue *It Goes Like It Goes*, playing Nov. 16-20 at the [UB Center for the Arts](#) in Buffalo, NY, Shire's home town.

Directed by Terry Bewrliner, the cast includes Michael Barattini, Sarah Blewett, Cristiana Cavallo, Alana Graber, Taylor Gray, Tyler Hardwick, Melissa Hunt, Stephanie Klajbor, Ricky Marchese, Maria Pedro, Gabrielle Petrosino, Zach Rich, Angela Siler, Shawn Smith, Zach Snyder, Rich Steele, Gina Tarron and Kara Tripoli.

The inaugural **TEDxBroadway conference**, a day-long event where artists come together to discuss the future of Broadway, will be held Jan. 23 from Noon – 5 PM at Off-Broadway's New World Stages. [Click here for more information](#).

TEDxBroadway will bring together individuals from the fields of academics, entertainment, marketing and customer service, among others, to answer the question: "What's the best that Broadway can be twenty years from now?" The event aims to engage all stakeholders—both on stage and in the audience—in developing a vision for the Broadway of tomorrow.

stage and in the audience to develop a vision for the Broadway community.

"Broadway is about more than theatre as a genre and today's hottest shows. It's about the people that bring the shows and the area to life," said Broadway producer Ken Davenport in a statement. "People will be the key to defining and shaping the Broadway of tomorrow—and with *TEDx* we can bring those people together to talk about what the future of Broadway is going to look like."

The event will feature presentations by entrepreneurs, producers, artists and business experts including Jordan Roth, president of Jujamcyn Theaters; Randy Weiner, producer of *Sleep No More*; and digital customer service trailblazer Frank Eliason. It will also include a performance by acclaimed artistic director and choreographer Bill T. Jones and a video presentation starring Neil Patrick Harris.

Larry Kramer, Terrence McNally and Jerry Mitchell will be among the interview subjects featured in the new documentary, "30 Years From Here," to debut on [here! TV](#) and here! Online on Friday, Nov. 25.

The TV special features real-life accounts from the decades-long war against AIDS, as activists, medical experts, and people who were on the ground describe their stories from the war on AIDS. Some of the other interview subjects include Marjorie Hill, CEO of Gay Men's Health Crisis; physician Frank Spinelli, and radio talk show host Larry Flick.

What better way to celebrate 2012 than to go back in time to the funkadelic 60's as VA's **Signature Theatre** hosts their annual **New Year's Eve party**. [Information and tickets: 703-820-9771](#).

Party-goers are invited to attend a performance of *Hairspray* at 8 PM — then count down to the new year with the entire cast!

Directed by Eric Schaeffer, the production stars national radio host Robert Aubry Davis (WETA's "Around Town" and Sirius/XM Radio) in the iconic role of Edna Turnblad, Carolyn Cole (as Tracy Turnblad) and an many Signature favorites, Nova Y. Payton, Sherri L. Edelen, Stephen Gregory Smith, Patrick Thomas Cragin, and Harry A. Winter.

Due to popular demand, the Elephant Theatre Company's world premiere of *Love Sick* will re-open at [Theatre Asylum](#) (next door to the Elephant Space in Los Angeles) for 12 performances only, beginning Nov. 18 at 8 PM.

The cast, directed by David Fofi, features Robert Brewer, Etienne Eckert, Michael Friedman, Christopher Game, Laura Harman, Alexandra Hoover, Kate Huffman, Melanie Jones, Nikki McCauley, Tara Norris, Charles Pacello, Dominic Rains, Kenny Suarez, Caryl West and Savator Xuereb.

[Article](#): Will the Bucks County Playhouse rise again?

Todd Buonopane, Merle Dandridge, Zachary Ford, Ilene Graff, Lexi Lawson, and Jennifer Malenke will participate in the inaugural performance of the *When You Wish Upon a Star benefit*, to take place at [The Coterie](#) in Hollywood, on Saturday, Nov. 12 at 8:30 PM. Christopher Youngman will host.

The Night of 1000 Voices, a regular charity fundraiser concert celebrating musical theatre, is to return to London's **Royal Albert Hall** for one night only, May 6, to raise money for the cancer charity Leukaemia & Lymphoma Research. Casting TBA.

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