

MUSICAL THEATRE WEST NOTES

THE NEWSLETTER FOR PATRONS OF MUSICAL THEATRE WEST

SPRING 2003 EDITION

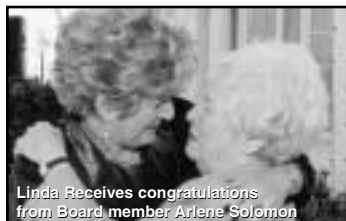
1800 PALO VERDE AVE. SUITE E, LONG BEACH, CA 90815

APRIL 6th WAS LINDA'S DAY



Past Honoree Harvey Waggoner & Cathy Davis Congratulate Linda

MTW presented its 2003 Distinguished Patron of the Arts Award at "An Afternoon at Thee



Linda Receives congratulations from Board member Arlene Solomon



Linda & sister Lois Goodman

White House" honoring Linda Knohl on April 6, 2003. Owner Bruno Serato and his staff put on an elegant afternoon at the Anaheim White House for over 200 Musical Theatre West guests. A scrumptious four-course meal was followed by a flamboyant dessert presentation guests will not soon forget! A proclamation honoring Linda from the City of



Staff members Mary Ritenhour, Julie Ferrin and Daniel Thomas share the spotlight.

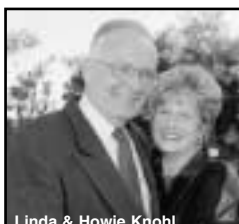


Past Honorees Ken & Dottie Reiner, and Don & Marlene Temple with Linda



Past honoree Sara Kaplan presents a proclamation from Governor Gray Davis

Long Beach was presented by Vice Mayor, Frank Colonna, and other commendations were



Linda & Howie Knohl



received from Governor Gray Davis, Senator Dianne Feinstein, Supervisor Don Knabe, State Senator Betty Karnette and Assembly



Member Jenny Oropeza. A string quartet from Long Beach Poly High provided background music as guests mingled on the front lawn. Following the presentations singers Jennifer



MTW President Judy McNulty Black and Event Chair Shelley Sherman present Anaheim White House owner Bruno Serato with a gift



Nina Rattner & Linda team up in song

Shelton and Michal Connor entertained the audience. A highlight of the day was a "spontaneous duet" sung acapella by Nina Rattner and Linda Knohl, and a spe-



Peter Lesnik (Carpenter Center Executive Director) congratulates Linda

cial tribute in verse & rhyme composed and read by Arlene Solomon.

The afternoon raised \$20,000 for the New Building Refurbishing Fund and was chaired by MTW Board Member, Shelley Sherman. ■



Vice Mayor Frank Colonna speaks on behalf of the City of Long Beach

"ME AND MY GIRL GLOWS IN LONG BEACH"

LA Times



"The Long Beach staging of the retro musical is lavish, enjoyable frothy old-fashioned frivolity. Director/choreographer Roger Castellano and his brother, musical director Dennis Castellano, have nailed the correct look, sound and feel of this musical classic. The songs are full-blown musical extravaganzas brimming with color and move-



We just keep WOWing our audiences and critics with our productions. **ME AND MY GIRL** received critical acclaim from all publications and the audiences just gushed at how wonderful the production was. From the cast to the sets, costumes, music and all other elements of the show, Musical Theatre West is proving to be one of the best, if not the best company in the Los Angeles area.

"Musical Theatre West pulls out all the stops to produce a solid rendition of this slight but entertaining confection".

BackStage West



"Musical Theatre West's latest effort, **ME AND MY GIRL**, is one of those shows only a curmudgeon would pan. It's colorful, upbeat, with catchy songs and dances including the 30's answer to the Macarena, 'The Lambeth Walk' and plenty of signature British wit".

Press Telegram

"With roaring laughter, generous applause and a standing ovation at the sold-out opening of **ME AND MY GIRL**, it is clear Musical Theatre West has another winner on the Carpenter Performing Arts Center stage".

Grunion Gazette



"Great costumes, terrific sets, professional performers who obviously revel in musical theatre, a fabulous orchestra - Musical Theatre West has done it again. Standing ovation".

The Beachcomber

"**ME AND MY GIRL** glows in Long Beach". "If this 'GIRL' doesn't ultimately bring a glow to your heart, you might be deceased".

LA Times ■



ment, as hordes of extras execute intricate dance steps - everything from cotillion dancing to classic tap. That kind of spontaneity sparks all of **ME AND MY GIRL** which simply means you should check your cares at the door and prepare to be thoroughly entertained".

Orange County Register



SAVE THE DATE

May 13-20 London Theater Tour
 July 12-27 Crazy for You
 August 9 Broadway in the Park
 2003
 August 22-24 Les Miserables
 (L.B. Recreation Park)
 September 18-24 . . . New York Theater Trip
 For more information please call
 the MTW office, 562/430-2324

MTW GUILD DINNER A HUGE SUCCESS

IT COULDN'T HAVE BEEN A MORE PERFECT EVENING. Nearly 200 members of the Musical Theatre West Guild were treated to a marvelous dinner at the Jewish Community Center on Thursday, April 10, 2003. The MTW Footlighters were happy to serve the meal to all attending in appreciation for everything that the Guild does

Guild President, Sandra Paskus, and Footlighter President, Shari Nemirow, welcomed the crowd



for Musical Theatre West. Paul Garman, Executive Director/Producer, opened the evening with a warm welcome and introduced members of the Guild Board that attended the evening. Both



and thanked them for being a part of the volunteer organizations that help keep MTW running. After dinner the cast of the upcoming

THE WORLD GOES 'ROUND, Lucy Daggett, Paige Price, Jennifer Shelton, Branch Woodman and Adrian Zmed were introduced by the director, John Vaughan. Along with Darryl Archibald, Musical Director, the cast entertained with a couple of selections from the show. ■



FOOTLIGHTERS LUNCHEON

Over 150 MTW Footlighters and guests were on hand at "Music in the Morning" on April 5th. Held at the Long Beach Marriott, guests enjoyed a deli-



cious luncheon and then were entertained by cast members from the upcoming **THE WORLD GOES 'ROUND**. Chair Noreen Wood organized another wonderful day. Next "Music in the Morning" is Saturday June 21st, 11am at the Greek Cultural Center. ■

MUSICAL THEATRE WEST NEW MUSICAL FESTIVAL

It's finally happening! MTW's New Musicals Committee is in the final planning stges for the New Musical Festival which will consist of readings of three brand new musicals to be held in May and June. For those of you who have never attended one, a reading consists of well-rehearsed actors reading their parts from scripts and singing the songs from hand-held music to the accompaniment of a piano. Usually a narrator describes the scenes and the action. Don't expect sets, costumes or choreography!!!

The purpose of the reading is for the writers and potential producers to hear the story in its entirety with audience reaction. Critique sheets will be available to audience members to assist the writers with changes and rewrites designed to make it a better show. Imagine having your valued input on the development of a potential BROADWAY hit!!! Lat year's choice, **CHILDREN OF THE NIGHT**, presented at the Long Beach Playhouse has already gone on as an entry in the Edinburgh Festival. It's writer, Scott Martin, used many of our suggestions and is currently negotiating additional performances.

The three shows are **ROBIN HOOD - THE UNTOLD STORY**, **BEN-HUR - THE MUSICAL** and **AESOP**. Exact dates are listed on page 4 of this newsletter. Admission is free, however, donations will be greatly accepted to defray the costs of these presentations. A sign up sheet is available at the hospitality table in the lobby.

We are looking forward to having you enjoy with us the New Musicals we have chosen for this seasons presentation. ■



STRAIGHT TALK WITH ART LEVINE

WEEKS OF APRIL 23 and APRIL 30

LUCY DAGGETT & PAIGE PRICE

From MTW's current production of **THE WORLD GOES 'ROUND**

Join host Art Levine for an interview with two of the cast of this wonderful musical anthology of Kander and Ebb, including rehearsal clips.

Watch Straight Talk

The Premier Television Talk Show for Greater Long Beach
Now seen Sundays at 6:30pm (just before 60 Minutes)

Weeks of May 7 and May 14

Public Corporation for the Arts Exec. Dir. **Joan Van Hooten**
Renaissance Pleasure Faire's "**Sir Francis Drake**"
Westerly School of Long Beach Head **Gerrl Chizick**

Broadcast Schedule

Long Beach	Lakewood	Los Alamitos	Paramount, Downey, La Mirada & Bellflower
Wed. Thur. & Sun. 6:30pm Channel 3	Thursday 1,5 & 7pm Channel 43	Thursday 8pm Channel 3	Thursday 6:30pm Channel 35

Musical Theatre West presents the first annual
FESTIVAL OF NEW MUSICALS
Staged Readings of Exciting New Works in Development



ÆSOP

By Thomas Bähler, Noelle Donfeld & Andy Landis

Born as a slave, Æsop grew to become the ambassador to the most powerful king on earth, Croesus of Lydia, and his fables live on to the present day. This musical play is based on the life, love and ethics of the world's greatest storyteller.

Monday, May 5 - 7:30 PM

Carpenter Performing Arts Center - 6200 Atherton Street



BEN HUR

By Paul Johnson, Robert Patteri & Amick Byram

In 1899, the play **BEN HUR** opened on Broadway and ran for 20 years. The classic novel by General Lew Wallace is now brought to life in this world premiere musical. This sweeping epic is a tale of betrayal, survival, revenge, and ultimately forgiveness and restoration.

Friday, May 30 - 8:00 PM

Carpenter Performing Arts Center - 6200 Atherton Street



ROBIN HOOD: THE UNTOLD STORY

By Berton Averre & Rob Meurer

An irreverent look at the classic tale. In this version, Robin is a common thief on the lam whose desperate act to hide a stolen pig is so misunderstood by a rabble of poor hungry townsmen that they vow to follow him. Selected for the ASCAP/Disney Musical Theatre Workshop two years ago.

Saturday, June 14 - 3:30 PM

Long Beach Playhouse - 5021 E. Anaheim Street

The development of new musicals is an important part of the mission of Musical Theatre West. As one of the only uniquely American art forms, musical theater is dependent on the fostering of new works to ensure the genre's survival. Musical Theatre West is committed to presenting such new shows, having produced numerous staged readings, West Coast premieres and a World Premiere in the last 10 years.

**-Suggested Donation \$10 per Person-
Limited Seating! Reservations and Tickets Available in the Lobby,
or call (562) 430-2324**