



23RD ANNUAL
MONTE
CRISTO
AWARD

honoring Tom Viertel

NOVEMBER 18, 2024
THE EDISON BALLROOM

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Rob Mooney, *Director of*
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Starbright Floral Design

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Jack Viertel

THIS EVENING

SPEAKERS

Tiffani Gavin, Executive Director
Carolyn Greenspan, Chair of the Board
Preston Whiteway
Pat Daily

AUCTION

Lynne Zink

PERFORMANCES

The Power of Love, featuring Casey Likes

Don Juan, featuring Brenda Braxton

I'll Be Seeing You, featuring Julia Murney

Betrayed, featuring Brad Oscar

The Song Is You, featuring Marilyn Maye

accompanied by Paul Greenwood

Mama, I'm a Big Girl Now, featuring Laura Bell Bundy,
Kerry Butler, and Marissa Jaret Winokur

PRESENTATION OF AWARD

Jack Viertel
Tom Viertel, Honoree

WELCOME

Tonight's event celebrates the triumph of American theater and honors the success of an incredibly influential figure in the O'Neill's legacy.

Thank you for joining us in celebrating Tom Viertel and supporting the Eugene O'Neill Theater Center.



ABOUT THE EUGENE O'NEILL THEATER CENTER

Founded in 1964 by George C. White and named in honor of Eugene O'Neill, four-time Pulitzer Prize-winner and America's only playwright to win the Nobel Prize in Literature, the O'Neill has launched some of the most important voices and works in American theater and has revolutionized the way new work is developed.

Programs include the National Playwrights Conference, National Music Theater Conference, National Critics Institute, National Puppetry Conference, Cabaret & Performance Conference, National Theater Institute, and more.

From its campus in Waterford, Connecticut, the O'Neill has been home to more than 1,000 new works for the stage and thousands more emerging artists. Writers, directors, puppeteers, singers, students, and audiences alike take their first steps in exploring, revising, and understanding their work and the potential of the theater they help create. All focus remains on the writer and script: Performers work with simply rendered sets and costumes, script in hand, revealing for the first time the magic of a new play or musical, puppetry piece, or cabaret act.

The O'Neill is also the recipient of two Tony Awards and in 2015 received the National Medal of Arts from President Barack Obama.



A B O U T TOM VIERTEL

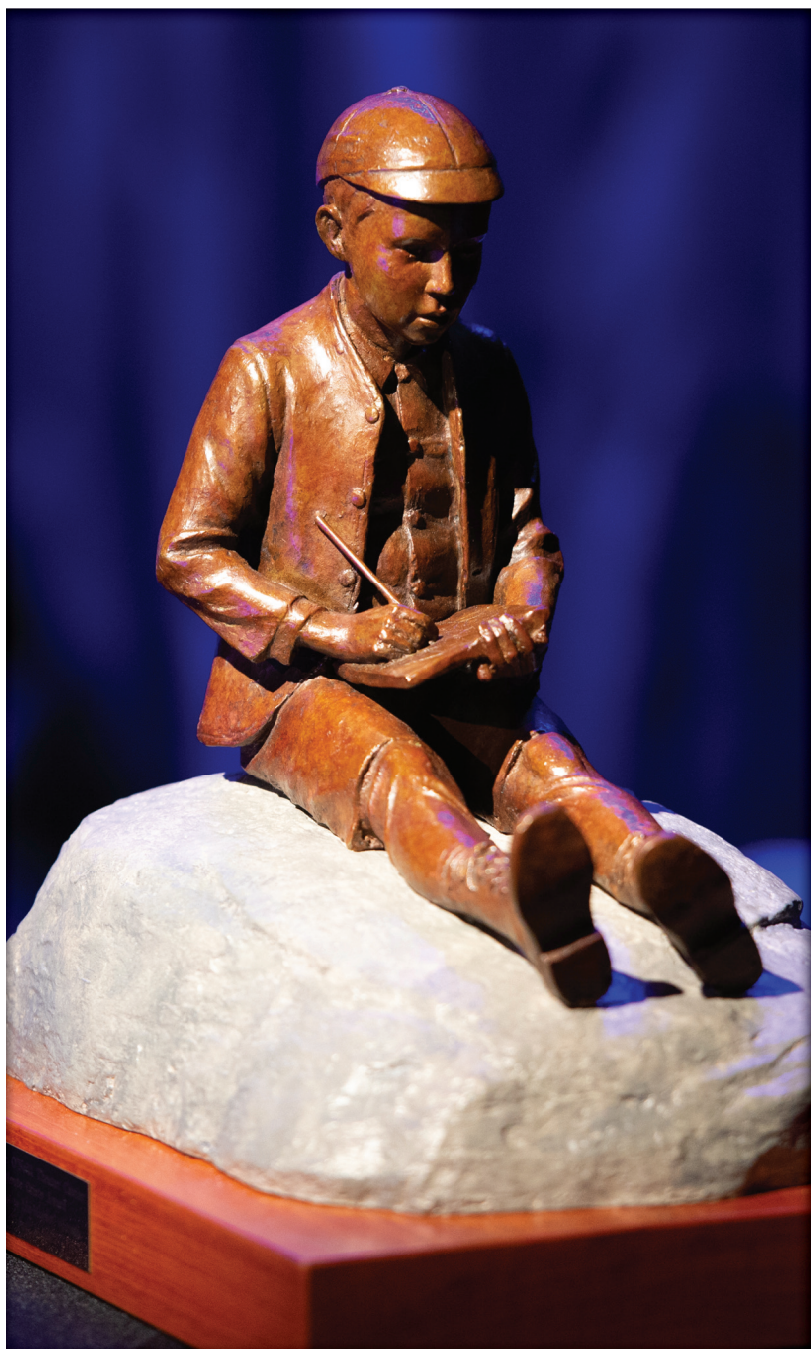
Tom has been a driving force at the helm of the O’Neill since he first joined the board in 1994 and later became only the second Board Chair in the O’Neill’s history, succeeding founder George C. White in 1999. Since then, the O’Neill has advanced by leaps and bounds, including the completion of a multi-million dollar capital campaign that saw the construction of nine new buildings—doubling the size of the O’Neill’s campus—and the receipt of a second Tony Award and the National Medal of the Arts, presented by President Obama.

Even more impressive is that he did so while being one of the industry’s busiest producers: in the last three-and-a-half decades, Tom has put 41 shows on Broadway including the Tony Award-winning original productions of *Angels in America*, *The Producers*, and *Hairspray*, earning nine Tonys in the process; launched *54 Below*, a Tony Award-winning cabaret venue, which he later played an instrumental role in converting to a non-profit; and for many of those years, gifted his knowledge and experience to those who would follow in his footsteps as the Executive Director of the Commercial Theater Institute. Tom has for decades given generously of his time, talent, and expertise to ensure that the ecosystem of the American theater can support a diverse array of storytellers on stages both big and small.

ABOUT THE MONTE CRISTO AWARD

Named for the New London, CT, cottage where playwright Eugene O'Neill grew up, and where he set *Long Day's Journey Into Night*, and *Ah, Wilderness!*, the Monte Cristo Award is presented to a prominent theater artist each year in recognition of a distinguished career exemplifying Eugene O'Neill's "pioneering spirit, unceasing artistic commitment, and excellence". Past recipients include Lin-Manuel Miranda, John Logan, Judith Light, Meryl Streep, Michael Douglas, James Earl Jones, Nathan Lane, Harold Prince, and George C. Wolfe. The gala event supports the Eugene O'Neill Theater Center's commitment to developing new work and new artists for the stage.

The bronze award depicts playwright Eugene O'Neill drawing as a child. Created by Norman Legassie, the original, full-sized sculpture is located at City Pier in New London, CT, where it was placed in 1988 on occasion of the playwright's centennial birthday. Since the Monte Cristo Award's founding in 2000, a replica of this sculpture has been awarded to a pioneering theater artist.



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SPECIAL THANKS

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We wish to express our gratitude to the Performers' Unions:

ACTORS' EQUITY ASSOCIATION, AMERICAN GUILD OF MUSICAL ARTISTS, AMERICAN GUILD OF VARIETY ARTISTS, & SAG-AFTRA through Theatre Authority, Inc. for their cooperation in permitting the Artists to appear in this program.



From the Staff
and Artists of
the O'Neill:

**THANK
YOU, TOM!**



STAY UP TO DATE!



Eugene O'Neill
Theater Center



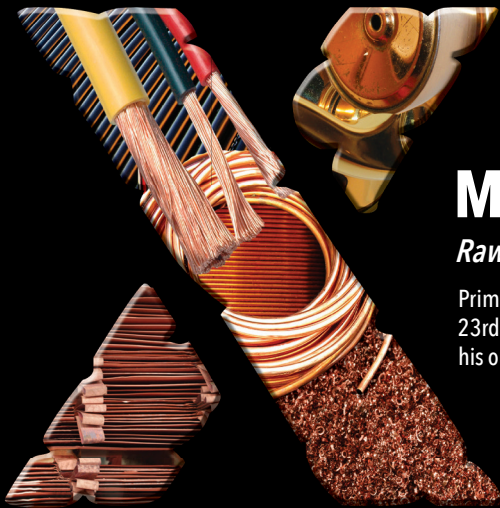
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our E-mail list

Congratulations to Tom on his many years of devoted service to the Eugene O'Neill Theater Center and the numerous theater communities around the world.

Cecelia Joyce Johnson
Deep End Productions



MARKS THE SPOT

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Prime Materials Recovery is proud to be a sponsor of the 23rd Annual Monte Cristo Award honoring Tom Viertel for his outstanding contributions towards the performing arts.



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Thank you Tom Viertel

with LOVE,
your 2016

Commercial Theater Institute Alumni!

Go Broadway!

Dustin Sparks, Amy Gerwitz, Sarahbeth Grossman, David Schwartz, Marylou Rothfuss, Eric Askanase, Molly Morris, Leslie Mayer, Eri Nakano, Christine Rea-Briskin, Dan Irwin, Prudence Wright Holmes, Robert Lazo (our honorary member and guest speaker!), Lauren Wachtler, Sue Gilad, Amy Gahm, Carolina Lizarraga, Roque Garcia, Pablo Echegaray, Robin Irwin, Michael Chase Gosselin, Monika Robbins, Keni Fine, Rod Gailles (in memoriam), Mike Timoney, Jay Dunigan

Congratulations to our dear and brilliant friend, Tom Viertel

ALWAYS AHEAD

Fondly Marc Routh & Simone Genatt

BROADWAYAsia
INTERNATIONAL

THE SHUBERT
ORGANIZATION
IS PROUD TO SUPPORT
THE O'NEILL AND
SALUTES OUR FRIEND
TOM VIERTEL



We honor Tom
Viertel, our dear
friend for 45 years,
as he has so nobly
honored Eugene
O'Neill, America's
greatest playwright.

Bob & Nancy
Downey

Thank you to Tom
Viertel for his service
to the O'Neill and
for many years of
fun and friendship.

With much love,

Carolyn Greenspan
& Marshall Ruben

BONNIE COMLEY & STEWART F. LANE
CONGRATULATE

**TOM
VIERTEL**

23RD ANNUAL MONTE CRISTO
AWARD GALA HONOREE



STREAM YOUR FAVORITE SHOWS.
ANYWHERE, ANYTIME.

CONGRATULATIONS,
TOM!

Thank you for your
decades of devoted
leadership to the
O'Neill. The entire
theater community
is in your debt.

With love, gratitude,
and respect,

Ruth & Stephen Hendel

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O^{the}Neill eugene o'neill
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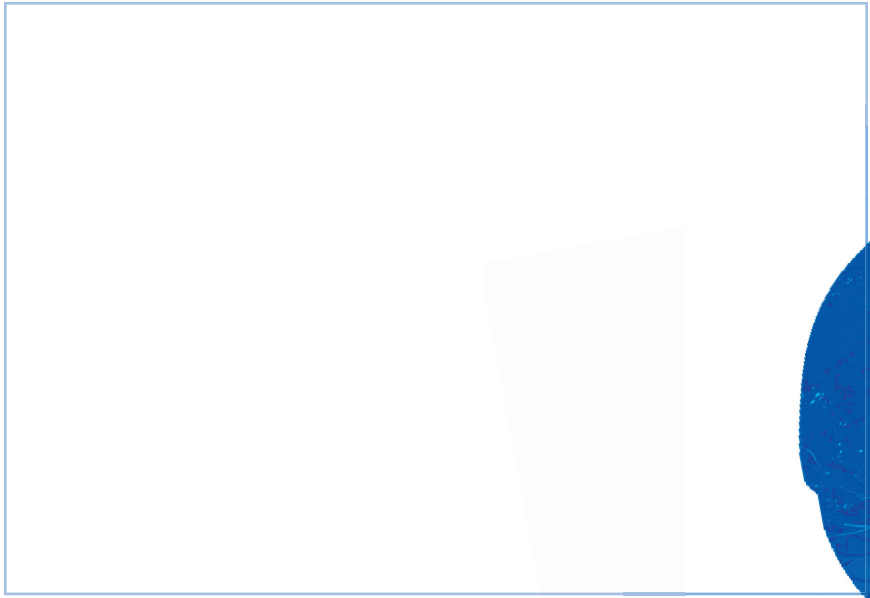
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