

The Boston Theater
Critics Association

ELLIOT NORTON AWARDS

www.ElliotNortonAwards.com

EMBARGOED Until 9:30 pm Mon., 5/11/2015

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Boston Theater Critics Association
Announces
The 33rd Annual
Elliot Norton Awards Winners

Ryan Landry
Receives Annual
Elliot Norton Prize for Sustained Excellence

Acclaimed actress/comedian Lea DeLaria
as Guest of Honor

-- Awards Presented at Ceremony on Monday May 11 at 7 pm
at Boston's Citi Shubert Theatre --

Awards were presented to more than 25 outstanding actors, directors, designers and ensembles tonight by The Boston Theater Critics Association (BTCA), at the **33rd Annual Elliot Norton Awards** ceremony, held at Boston's Citi Performing Arts Center Shubert Theatre.

This year's recipient of the *Elliot Norton Prize for Sustained Excellence* is longtime Gold Dust Orphans impresario and authorial genius Ryan Landry -- playwright, director, and performer -- for two decades of bawdy, irresistible parodistic extravaganzas that have made the Ramrod Center for the Performing Arts the least stiff but most exuberant theater experience in town. Special Citations were awarded to Rob Orchard, as Executive Director of ArtsEmerson: The World on Stage, and The Bay State Banner's retired veteran arts editor/reporter Kay Bourne. Acclaimed actress and comedian Lea DeLaria was the Guest of Honor.

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Joyce Kulhawik, President of the BTCA, stated, “We have such talent in the Boston area and we're taking our place on the national stage. We are proud to honor the awardees, and applaud all who were nominated.”

In addition to the presentation of the awards, the ceremony featured nominated musical performances, a surprise musical performance by Lea DeLaria, and an elegant post-ceremony party in the Wang's Grand Lobby.

Sponsors of the 2015 awards are the W Hotel Boston, P.F. Chang's, WBUR 90.9 FM, Pretty Instant On-Demand Event Photography, Improper Bostonian, TheaterMania, ArtsBoston, United Scenic Artists Local USA 829, Mr. Ted Cutler and Outside the Box Festival: July 14-19, 2015, M. Steinert & Sons, WBUR 90.9 FM, Actors' Equity Association, Samuel Adams Beer, Allston Piano, M. Steinert and Sons, and Polar Beverages, with support of Citi Performing Arts Center.

The awards are presented annually by The Boston Theater Critics Association (BTCA) (Don Aucoin, Jared Bowen, Terry Byrne, Carolyn Clay, Nick Dussault, Iris Fanger, Joyce Kulhawik, Kilian Melloy, Bob Nesti, and Ed Siegel) to honor the outstanding productions, directors, designers, and performers that audiences have seen on Greater Boston area stages throughout the year.

Past recipients comprise a who's who of distinguished artists who have graced Boston's stages, including: Olympia Dukakis, Chita Rivera, Tommy Tune, Al Pacino, Edward Albee, Brian Dennehy, August Wilson, Julie Harris, Sir Ian McKellen, Lynn Redgrave, and Jason Robards.

The Elliot Norton Awards are named for the eminent Boston theater critic Elliot Norton, who remained an active supporter of drama, both locally and nationally, until his death in 2003 at the age of 100. The Boston theater community carries on his legacy and can be proud of its remarkable growth at a time in our nation's history when the arts are struggling to survive.

For more details on the 33rd annual Elliot Norton Awards, including a full list of awardees and nominees, visit <http://www.elliottnortonawards.com>

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33rd Annual Elliot Norton Awards Winners

Elliot Norton Prize for Sustained Excellence: Ryan Landry

Longtime Gold Dust Orphans impresario and authorial genius, Ryan Landry's bawdy, irresistible parodistic extravaganzas have made the Ramrod Center for the Performing Arts the least stiff and most exuberant theater venue in town.

Outstanding Visiting Production

Bedlam's Saint Joan (Bedlam, presented by Underground Railway Theater)

Outstanding Production by a Large Resident Theater

The Shape She Makes (American Repertory Theater)

Outstanding Production by a Midsize Theater

God's Ear (Actors' Shakespeare Project)

Outstanding Production by a Small Theater

Albatross (Mike Seiden and The Poets' Theatre)

Outstanding Production by a Fringe Theater

*Stupid F***ing Bird* (Apollinaire Theatre Company)

Outstanding Actor, Large Theater

Tom Nelis, *The Tempest* (American Repertory Theater in association with The Smith Center for the Performing Arts)

Outstanding Actress, Large Theater

Finnerty Steeves, *The Shape She Makes* (American Repertory Theater)

Outstanding Actor, Midsize Theater

Nael Nacer, *Intimate Apparel* (Lyric Stage Company of Boston)

Outstanding Actress, Midsize Theater

Tamara Hickey, *God's Ear* (Actors' Shakespeare Project)

Outstanding Actor, Small or Fringe Theater

Victor L. Shopov, *Bent* (Zeitgeist Stage Company)

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Outstanding Actress, Small or Fringe Theater

Lee Mikeska Gardner, *Emilie: La Marquise du Châtelet Defends Her Life Tonight* (Nora Theatre Company)

Outstanding Musical Production

Into the Woods (Lyric Stage Company of Boston)

Outstanding Musical Performance by an Actor

Steven Bargonetti, *Father Comes Home From The Wars* (American Repertory Theater and The Public Theater)

Outstanding Musical Performance by an Actress

Aimee Doherty, *Into the Woods* (Lyric Stage Company of Boston) and *Far From Heaven* (SpeakEasy Stage Company)

Outstanding Director, Large Theater

Teller and Aaron Posner, *The Tempest* (American Repertory Theater in association with The Smith Center for the Performing Arts)

Outstanding Director, Midsize Production

Spiro Veloudos, *Into the Woods* (Lyric Stage Company of Boston)

Outstanding Director, Small or Fringe Theater

Natsu Onoda Power, *Astro Boy and the God of Comics* (Company One Theatre)

Outstanding New Script

Father Comes Home From The Wars, by Suzan-Lori Parks (American Repertory Theater and The Public Theater)

Outstanding Solo Performance

Benjamin Evett, *Albatross* (Mike Seiden and The Poets' Theatre)

Outstanding Choreography

Susan Misner, *The Shape She Makes* (American Repertory Theater)

Outstanding Design, Large Theater

The Second Girl: Scenic and costume design by Santo Loquasto, Lighting by James F. Ingalls, Sound by Ben Emerson (Huntington Theatre Company)

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Outstanding Design, Midsize, Small or Fringe Theater

Astro Boy and the God of Comics: Scenic design by Natsu Onoda Power, Projections by Jared Mezzocchi, Lighting by Justin Paice, Costumes by Tyler Kinney, Sound by Kelsey Jarboe, Props by Megan F. Kinneen (Company One)

Outstanding Ensemble, Large Theater

The Colored Museum (Huntington Theatre Company)

Outstanding Ensemble, Midsize, Small or Fringe Theater

Bedlam's Saint Joan (Bedlam, presented by Underground Railway Theater)