

LINCOLN CENTER THEATER CASTING RELEASE

DE'ADRE AZIZA, DANNY BURSTEIN,  
NIKKA GRAFF LANZARONE, PATTI LuPONE,  
BRIAN STOKES MITCHELL, MARY BETH PEIL,  
SHERIE RENE SCOTT

TO BE FEATURED IN  
LINCOLN CENTER THEATER'S  
PRODUCTION OF

**"WOMEN ON THE VERGE OF A NERVOUS BREAKDOWN"**  
A NEW MUSICAL

Based on the film by **PEDRO ALMODÓVAR**  
Book by **JEFFREY LANE**  
Music and Lyrics by **DAVID YAZBEK**  
Direction by **BARTLETT SHER**

PERFORMANCES BEGIN SATURDAY EVENING, OCTOBER 2 at 8pm  
OPENING NIGHT is THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 4 at 6:45pm

ON BROADWAY AT THE BELASCO THEATRE

*Lincoln Center Theater (under the direction of Andre Bishop, Artistic Director and Bernard Gersten, Executive Producer) has announced that de'Adre Aziza, Danny Burstein, Nikka Graff Lanzarone, Patti LuPone, Brian Stokes Mitchell, Mary Beth Peil and Sherie Rene Scott will be featured in its upcoming production of the new musical **WOMEN ON THE VERGE OF A NERVOUS BREAKDOWN**, based on the film by Pedro Almodóvar, with a book by Jeffrey Lane, music and lyrics by David Yazbek and direction by Bartlett Sher. This world premiere production will begin previews on Saturday, October 2 at 8pm and open on Thursday, November 4 at 6:45pm on Broadway at the Belasco Theatre (111 W. 44 Street).*

*Based on Pedro Almodóvar's internationally acclaimed 1988 film, **WOMEN ON THE VERGE OF A NERVOUS BREAKDOWN** is set in late 20<sup>th</sup>-century Madrid and tells the story of the intertwining lives of a group of women (Sherie Rene Scott, de'Adre Aziza, Nikka Graff Lanzarone, Patti LuPone) whose relationships with men lead to a tumultuous 48 hours of love, confusion and passion.*

***WOMEN ON THE VERGE OF A NERVOUS BREAKDOWN** will have choreography by Christopher Gattelli, musical direction by Jim Abbott, sets by Michael Yeagan, costumes by Catherine Zuber, lighting by Brian MacDevitt and sound by Scott Lehrer.*

*Book writer Jeffrey Lane collaborated with David Yazbek on the musical Dirty Rotten Scoundrels. The winner of five Emmy Awards, three Writers Guild Awards, two Peabody Awards and a Golden Globe Award, he is best known for his work on such television programs as Mad About You, Ryan's Hope, Lou Grant and The Days and Nights of Molly Dodd. Composer-lyricist David Yazbek made his Broadway and musical theater debuts with The Full Monty, for which he earned Tony and Grammy nominations and a Drama Desk Award. Director Bartlett Sher, Resident Director of Lincoln Center Theater, won the Tony Award for his direction of LCT's production of Rodgers & Hammerstein's SOUTH PACIFIC. He was nominated for Tony Awards for the LCT productions of The*

*Light in the Piazza, Awake and Sing! and Joe Turner's Come and Gone.* Former Artistic Director of Seattle's Intiman Theatre, his other recent New York credits include *A Prayer for My Enemy* at Playwrights Horizons and the Metropolitan Opera productions of *The Barber of Seville* and *The Tales of Hoffman*.

Lincoln Center Theater is currently presenting the Tony Award winning production of Rodgers & Hammerstein's *South Pacific* in the Vivian Beaumont Theater where it will end its record-breaking run on Sunday, August 22 and A.R. Gurney's *The Grand Manner*, directed by Mark Lamos, at the Mitzi E. Newhouse Theater through August 1.

Next season, in addition to **WOMEN ON THE VERGE OF A NERVOUS BREAKDOWN**, Lincoln Center Theater will be producing the world premieres of John Guare's *A Free Man of Color*, directed by George C. Wolfe, (beginning Thursday, October 21) in the Vivian Beaumont Theater and Jon Robin Baitz' *Other Desert Cities*, directed by Joe Mantello, (beginning Thursday, December 16) in the Mitzi E. Newhouse Theater, the American premiere of the National Theatre of Great Britain's critically acclaimed production of *War Horse* (beginning Thursday, March 17) in the Vivian Beaumont Theater and the New York premiere of *A Minister's Wife*, a new musical version of Shaw's *Candida* (beginning Thursday, April 7) in the Mitzi E. Newhouse Theater. LCT3 will present three productions next season at The Duke on 42<sup>nd</sup> Street including the world premieres of *The Coward*, a new play by Nick Jones, directed by Sam Gold (November 8 - December 4) and *When I Come To Die*, by Nathan Louis Jackson, directed by Thomas Kail (January 31 - February 26).

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**DE'ADRE AZIZA** Broadway: *Passing Strange* (Tony nomination). Off-Broadway: *Dream on Monkey Mountain*, *Macbeth* (Classical Theatre of Harlem), *Running Man* (Musical Theater Group). Film: *Passing Strange*, *Miracle at St. Anna* (both directed by Spike Lee), *Sex and the City*, *Brown Sugar*. TV: *Starved*.

**DANNY BURSTEIN** LCT: *South Pacific* (Outer Critics Circle Award; Tony and Drama Desk Award nominations). Broadway: *The Drowsy Chaperone* (Tony Award nomination), *Saint Joan*, *The Seagull*, *Three Men and a Horse*, *A Little Hotel on the Side*, *The Flowering Peach*, *A Class Act*, *Titanic*, *Company*. Off-Broadway: *Mrs. Farnsworth*, *Psych*, *All in the Timing*. Film/TV: HBO's upcoming *Boardwalk Empire*, *Transamerica*, *Law & Order*, *Ed*, *Absolutely Fabulous*.

**NIKKA GRAFF LANZARONE** Off-Broadway: *Seussical: The Musical*. Regional theater: *The Who's Tommy* (Bay Street Theatre), *Carnival* (Papermill Playhouse), *Chicago*, *The Wild Party*. Film/Television: *Bandslam*, *Rhapsody Ibiza*.

**PATTI LuPONE** LCT: *Anything Goes* (Tony Award nomination, Drama Desk Award), *Matters of the Heart*. Recent NY stage credits: *Gypsy* (Tony, Drama Desk, Outer Critics Circle Awards, Drama League Award - Distinguished Performance of the Season), *Sweeney Todd* (Tony, Drama Desk, Outer Critics Circle Award nominations), *Passion* (Lincoln Center American Songbook Series and Live From Lincoln Center broadcast), *Candide* (NY Philharmonic), *Can Can* (City Center Encores!), *Noises Off*, *The Old Neighborhood*, *Master Class*, *Patti LuPone on Broadway*. Opera: *The Rise and Fall of the City of Mahagonny* (LA Opera - debut); *Jake Heggie's To Hell And Back* (San Francisco Baroque Philharmonia Orchestra), *Regina* (Kennedy Center). TV: *30 Rock*, *Ugly Betty*, *Will & Grace* (as herself). Author: *Patti LuPone: A Memoir* to be published by Harmony Books in September.

**BRIAN STOKES MITCHELL**: LCT: *Love/Life*, his critically acclaimed concert. Broadway: *Don Quixote* in *Man of La Mancha* (Tony nomination), *Fred Graham/Petruchio* in *Kiss Me, Kate* (Tony, Drama Desk, Outer Critics Circle Awards), *Coalhouse Walker Jr.* in *Ragtime* (Tony nomination), *August Wilson's King Hedley II* (Tony nomination), *Kiss of the Spider Woman*, *Jelly's Last Jam*, *Oh, Kay!*, *Mail* (Theatre World Award). Encores!: *Do Re Mi* and *Carnival*. Numerous concert appearances including Carnegie Hall, Hollywood Bowl, Tanglewood, and at the White House for President Clinton. TV and film credits include *The Prince of Egypt*, *Crossing Jordan*, *Frasier*. President of the Actors' Fund.

MARY BETH PEIL *Broadway: the revivals of Sunday in the Park With George & Nine at the Roundabout Theater Co, The King and I opposite Yul Brynner. An Obie Award winner her off-Broadway credits include productions of Albee, Gurney, Pinter, Ibsen and Rudnick at the Atlantic Theater Co., Playwrights Horizons, NY Theater Workshop and Signature Theater. TV: The Good Wife, Dawson's Creek, The Reagans, Law & Order. Film: Flags of Our Fathers, The Stepford Wives, The Odd Couple II, Mirrors.*

SHERIE RENE SCOTT *Broadway: Everyday Rapture (Tony Award nominations for Best Actress in a Musical, Best Book of a Musical), Dirty Rotten Scoundrels (Tony, Drama Desk, Outer Critics Circle Award nominations), The Little Mermaid (Outer Critics Circle nomination), Aida (Clarence Derwent Award), Tommy, Rent, Grease. Off Broadway: The Last Five Years (Drama Desk Award nomination), Landscape of the Body (Obie Award), Debbie Does Dallas.*