

THEATRE FOR A NEW AUDIENCE



Annual Spring GALA

Celebrating Shakespeare's Birthday
MONDAY APRIL 27, 2026

Cipriani 25 Broadway, New York City
6:00 PM Cocktails/Silent Auction
7:00 PM Dinner/Program



Photography by Jason Bell © 2026

Gala Co-Chairs: **Kathleen C. Walsh • Barbara M. Vogelstein** Lead Sponsor: **Deloitte.**

Featuring the Presentation of the Samuel H. Scripps Award for Artistic Excellence to **Michael Shannon**
And the presentation of the *Life in Art* Award to **Monica Gerard-Sharp**

Since 1979, Theatre for a New Audience has produced Shakespeare and other classics alongside exciting contemporary works.

Gala Quick Facts:

- Theatre for a New Audience's elegant and entertaining Gala is attended by more than 350 of New York's leading arts patrons and has been hosted by eminent theatre artists such as LisaGay Hamilton, Jessica Hecht, Harry Lennix, Alfred Molina, Kristine Nielsen, and Maggie Siff.
- The Gala includes a cocktail reception, seated dinner, auction, and awards program.
- The Samuel H. Scripps Award for Extraordinary Artistic Achievement will be presented to Academy Award, Golden Globe, and Tony Award nominated actor **Michael Shannon** (TFANA: *Waiting for Godot*; Netflix: *Death by Lightning*). Prior recipients include F. Murray Abraham, Arin Arbus, Michael Boyd, Christian Camargo, Robert A. Caro, Elliot Goldenthal, Kathryn Hunter, Jeffrey Horowitz, Harry Lennix, Marie Maignan, Mark Rylance, Wallace Shawn, Bartlett Sher, Julie Taymor, Ayanna Thompson, John Douglas Thompson, John Turturro, and Robert Woodruff.
- The *Life in Art* award will be presented to TFANA Board Member Emeritus and philanthropist **Monica Gerard-Sharp**, who was instrumental in raising the \$69M capital campaign that built and opened Polonsky Shakespeare Center, as Chair of Major Gifts. Past recipients include Elayne Bernstein and Sol Schwartz, Sally Brody, Terry Christensen, Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP, Richard E. Feldman, Barbara G. Fleischman, Michael M. Kaiser, Audrey Heffernan Meyer, Leonard Polonsky and Georgette Bennett, Amanda Riegel, Theodore C. Rogers, Barry Salzberg / Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu Ltd., Anne Tatlock, and Leonard Tow / The Tow Foundation.
- Tables range from \$15,000-\$45,000 for Corporate Sponsors. Ticket prices are \$3,000 and \$2,000. Tribute Ads can be purchased for \$3,000. Co-Sponsorship packages and corporate visibility opportunities are available.

About Theatre for a New Audience — A Modern Classical Theatre:

- Led by Artistic Director **Arin Arbus** and Executive Director **Dorothy Ryan**, TFANA is celebrating its 47th Season since its founding by **Jeffrey Horowitz** in 1979.
- Annually produces three to five major productions serving 40,000 audience members each season.
- Has received numerous awards and nominations for its acclaimed productions, including the Obie, Drama Desk, Drama League, Lucille Lortel, Audelco, Outer Critics Circle and Tony.
- Runs the largest, in-depth program in the NYC Public Schools to introduce Shakespeare and the classics, serving more than 140,000 students and teachers since 1984.
- Is the first American company to perform Shakespeare at the Royal Shakespeare Company in Stratford-upon-Avon.
- After more than 30 years as an itinerant company, in 2013 the Theatre opened Polonsky Shakespeare Center in the Brooklyn Cultural District, where it has served an audience of more than 360,000.

Theatre for a New Audience is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. All gifts are tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law. For more information, visit our website at <https://tfana.org/support-us/events-annual-gala> or contact Gavin McKenzie at gmckenzie@tfana.org

or gala@tfana.org, or call 646-553-3890.



2025 Honorees Michael M. Kaiser and Jeffrey Horowitz



TFANA 2025 Gala at Cipriani 25 Broadway



NYC Public School students in TFANA education residencies