



## BAM Gala 2018 celebrates honorees' bold artistic and philanthropic contributions, May 30

### Darren Aronofsky, Jeremy Irons, and Nora Ann Wallace & Jack Nusbaum to be feted at Brooklyn Cruise Terminal in Red Hook

#### After party features art auction closing and performance by Yeasayer at Pioneer Works

**February 5, 2018/Brooklyn, NY**—On May 30, BAM honors filmmaker **Darren Aronofsky**, actor **Jeremy Irons**, and philanthropists **Nora Ann Wallace** and **Jack Nusbaum** for their invaluable contributions to film, performing arts, and cultural philanthropy. Gala chairs are **William I. Campbell** and **Christine Wächter-Campbell**, **Thérèse Esperdy** and **Robert Neborak**, **Judith R.** and **Alan H. Fishman** (BAM Chairman Emeritus), and Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP. With a deep commitment to supporting excellence in the arts across disciplines, rag & bone is the Evening Partner of BAM Gala 2018.

The festivities kick-off with a stunning Manhattan skyline arrival and continue with a contemporary art auction—led by honorary artist chair **Diana Al-Hadid**—featuring works by artists such as **Cindy Sherman** and **Kiki Smith** as guests enter cocktail hour. Directed by performance and design artist **Andrew Ondrejcek** the Pop art-inspired evening unfolds in bursts of neon with confetti brio as guests dine on artful cuisine by Great Performances and wine generously provided by the Crimson Wine Group. A trio of performances punctuate the soiree, featuring curated pairings of emerging and well-known artists.

Coinciding with the final few hours of bidding in the BAM Art Auction, an after party nearby at Pioneer Works features an intimate performance by **Yeasayer**. The after party is hosted by BAM's Young Producers Leadership Committee, co-chaired by **Natasha Chefer** and **Marcel Przymusinski**.

Benefit committee members include **Roger Alcaly** and **Helen Bodian**, **Jonathan** and **Jessika Auerbach**, Bank of America, **Tony Bechara**, **Jennifer Connelly** and **Paul Bettany**, **Suzy** and **Anthony Davis**, **Mark Diker** and **Deborah Colson**, **Jeanne Donovan Fisher**, Forest City Ratner Companies, Fox Searchlight Pictures, The Rita and Alex Hillman Foundation, **Penn** and **Diane Holsenbeck**, **Robin** and **Edgar Lampert**, National Grid, Paramount Pictures, **Rona** and **David Picket**, **Jonathan F. P.** and **Diana Calthorpe Rose**, **Keri Russell** and **Matthew Rhys**, **Anna Kuzmik Sampas** and **George Sampas**, **Alfred** and **Stephanie Shuman**, **Brian Stafford** and **Celine Dufetel**, **Axel** and **Galia Stawski**, **Joseph A. Stern**, **Olivia Wilde** and **Jason Sudeikis**, and **Adam Wolfensohn** and **Jennifer Small**.

BAM President **Katy Clark**, BAM Executive Producer **Joseph V. Melillo**, and **Diane** and **Adam Max**, BAM Board Chairman, are the evening's hosts.

Each Gala honoree distinctly embodies BAM's adventurous spirit and commitment to the arts, and each has contributed to BAM's legacy of supporting outstanding achievements in the performing arts, cinema, and culture. A native son of Brooklyn, Aronofsky served as BAM Cinema Club Co-Chair from 2008-2009. Fellow honoree Jeremy Irons has long been a BAM supporter and patron, and served as the Friends of BAM Co-Chair in 2012. Nora Ann Wallace

is an invaluable leader serving on both the BAM & BAM Endowment Trust Boards. She co-chairs the BAM Governance Committee and chairs the BET Audit Committee. She currently serves on numerous committees including the BAM Executive and Nominating committees. In 2017, she was presented with a BAMmie Award marking her 20 years of service. Her husband Jack Nusbaum continues to be an ardent BAM supporter.

#### **About the honorees:**

Brooklyn born and raised, Academy Award®-nominated director **Darren Aronofsky** is the founder of Protozoa Pictures. He is the writer and director of *mother!* (2017) starring Jennifer Lawrence, Javier Bardem, Ed Harris, and Michelle Pfeiffer. Aronofsky is the Executive Producer of the upcoming National Geographic series *One Strange Rock* and the virtual reality experience *Spheres: Songs of Spacetime*. He produced *Jackie* (2016). He directed, co-wrote, and produced *Noah* (2014), starring Russell Crowe, Anthony Hopkins, Jennifer Connelly, and Emma Watson. Before that he directed the indie box office phenomenon *Black Swan* (2010), starring Natalie Portman who won an Academy Award® for her performance. Aronofsky also directed and produced *The Wrestler* (2008) which won Golden Globes for actor Mickey Rourke and singer songwriter Bruce Springsteen. Aronofsky's earlier credits include directing and writing the acclaimed films *The Fountain* (2006), *Requiem for a Dream* (2000), and  $\pi$  (1998).

**Jeremy Irons**, who appears in Eugene O'Neill's *Long Day's Journey Into Night* at BAM in May, received classical training at the Bristol Old Vic Theatre School, beginning his acting career on stage in 1969. He has since appeared in many West End theater productions including *The Winter's Tale*, *Macbeth*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *The Taming of the Shrew*, *Godspell*, *Richard II*, and *Embers*. In 1984, he made his Broadway debut in Tom Stoppard's *The Real Thing*, earning him a Tony Award for Best Actor.

Irons' first major film role came in the 1981 romantic drama *The French Lieutenant's Woman*, for which he received a BAFTA nomination for Best Actor. After starring in such film dramas as *Moonlighting* (1982), *Betrayal* (1983), and *The Mission* (1986), he gained critical acclaim for portraying twin gynecologists in David Cronenberg's psychological thriller *Dead Ringers* (1988). In 1990, Irons played accused murderer Claus von Bülow in *Reversal of Fortune*, winning the Academy Award for Best Actor. Other notable films have included Steven Soderbergh's *Kafka* (1991), *The House of the Spirits* (1993), *M. Butterfly* (1993), Disney's *The Lion King* (1994), *Die Hard with a Vengeance* (1995), *Lolita* (1997), *The Man in the Iron Mask* (1998), *The Merchant of Venice* (2004), *Being Julia* (2004), *Kingdom of Heaven* (2005), *Eragon* (2006), the *Western Appaloosa* (2008), and award-winning independent feature *Margin Call* (2011). In 2012, Irons was featured in *Trashed*, an award-winning documentary about the environment directed by Candida Brady for which he was the executive producer. His more recent film work includes *Night Train to Lisbon* (2013); *The Man Who Knew Infinity* (2015) and the soon to be released *Red Sparrow* (2018). He portrayed Alfred Pennyworth in the star-studded superhero film *Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice* (2016), reprising the role in *Justice League* (2017).

Irons earned his first Golden Globe Award nomination for his breakout role in the ITV series *Brideshead Revisited* (1981). In 2005, Irons starred opposite Helen Mirren in the historical miniseries *Elizabeth I*, for which he received a Golden Globe Award and an Emmy Award for Best Supporting Actor. From 2011 to 2013 he starred as Pope Alexander VI in the Showtime historical series *The Borgias*.

**Nora Ann Wallace** is senior counsel in the Corporate and Financial Services Department of the law firm Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP. She focuses on advising family offices and transactions related to the fashion and cosmetic industries. She is a member of the Boards of

Trustees of Vassar College, the Brooklyn Academy of Music (BAM), the BAM Endowment Trust, the Joseph Collins Foundation and the Friends of the Musée des Arts Décoratifs. Wallace was a member of Willkie's Executive Committee from 1994 to 2000. She has chaired the firm's Marketing Committee and acted as the firm's hiring partner. Wallace was named Chevalier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres by the Minister of Culture of France in 2013 and later in 2015 was presented with the medal of l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres in recognition of her support for the Musée des Arts Décoratifs (Museum of Decorative Arts).

**Jack H. Nusbaum** is a senior partner at the law firm Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP and served as the firm's Chairman from 1987 through 2009. He focuses on mergers and acquisitions, corporate governance and fiduciary duties, and internal investigations. He also regularly advises boards of directors of public companies on issues of fiduciary duty and corporate governance, particularly in the context of change in control transactions. Nusbaum's practice over the years has been primarily in the area of mergers and acquisitions, and more recently as a corporate governance and fiduciary duties expert representing boards of directors and committees of boards of directors. He is a director of publicly held companies W.R. Berkley Corporation and Cowen & Co. He also serves as President of The Joseph Collins Foundation. Additionally, Jack is a member of the Legal Advisory Committee to the Board of Directors of the New York Stock Exchange and a member of the Board of Advisors of the New York University Center for Law & Business.

#### **About rag & bone:**

Since its origins in New York in 2002, **rag & bone** has established itself as a critical and commercial success in the international fashion world. Combining English heritage with directional design, the brand has become synonymous with innately wearable clothing that has an edgy yet understated New York aesthetic. rag & bone offers a full range of men's and women's ready to wear, /JEAN, accessories and footwear collections. rag & bone operates 38 stores worldwide and also available in boutiques and department stores in over 53 countries. [www.rag-bone.com](http://www.rag-bone.com)

For Gala tables or tickets, please contact BAM Patron Services at [patronservices@BAM.org](mailto:patronservices@BAM.org) or 718.636.4182.

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General Information:

BAM Howard Gilman Opera House, BAM Rose Cinemas, and BAMcafé are located in the Peter Jay Sharp building at 30 Lafayette Avenue (between St Felix Street and Ashland Place) in the Fort Greene neighborhood of Brooklyn. BAM Harvey Theater is located two blocks from the main building at 651 Fulton Street (between Ashland and Rockwell Places). Both locations house Greenlight Bookstore at BAM kiosks. BAM Fisher, located at 321 Ashland Place, is the newest addition to the BAM campus and houses the Judith and Alan Fishman Space and Rita K. Hillman Studio. BAM Rose Cinemas is Brooklyn's only movie house dedicated to first-run independent and foreign film and repertory programming. BAMcafé, operated by Great Performances, offers varied light fare and bar service prior to BAM Howard Gilman Opera House evening performances.

Visit [BAM.org](http://BAM.org) for information.

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