BAM Gala 2021

THURSDAY, JUNE 10

HONORING
Sir Patrick Stewart
Shelby White & the Leon Levy Foundation
Jawole Willa Jo Zollar

HOSTED BY
Helga Davis

PERFORMANCES BY
Antibalas
Chanon Judson & Samantha Speis, Co-Artistic Directors, Urban Bush Women
Contents

Welcome Letter
Gala Leadership
Gala Program Credits
Program Director Bio
Gala Honoree Bios
Gala Host & Performer Bios
About the BAM Hamm Archives
BAM Art Auction
Gala Salute Ads
Welcome to the BAM Gala 2021! Thank you for joining us this evening for another exceptional celebration of art, artists, and the Brooklyn community.

I am so proud that BAM has brought back in-person programming that not only delights and engages, but also makes use of the unique variety that Brooklyn offers. Presenting creative work out of doors and across the borough is a wonderful way to renew our commitment to art and ideas that are resonant, relevant, and reflective of the city and people we serve. And it is fitting that tonight—for the first time in over a year—we can once again open the doors to the Howard Gilman Opera House and celebrate BAM and our community of artists and audiences from this iconic stage.
Tonight we honor three Brooklynites who have given so generously to BAM, to the arts, and to the public good.

Sir Patrick Stewart’s illustrious and protean career spans genres and media showcasing his virtuosity and nimble expression of humanity. He has appeared twice at BAM, in 2008 in the title role in *Macbeth*; and in Peter Brook’s legendary *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* in 1971.

Shelby White and her late husband, Leon Levy, have enhanced New York’s civic and cultural institutions by providing generous funding for the long-term sustainability of many beloved New York institutions. The Shelby White & Leon Levy BAM Digital Archive at the BAM Hamm Archive is a free, dynamic tool that delivers in-depth performance and cultural history to audiences, artists, and scholars the world over.
Dancer, teacher, and choreographer Jawole Willa Jo Zollar founded Brooklyn-based dance company Urban Bush Women in 1984 and has remained a local cultural leader since. The company first appeared at BAM at the 1988 DanceAfrica Festival and has since performed on our stages more than a dozen times, with Zollar as a frequent participant in BAM community programs.

Each of our honorees has enriched the cultural life of our city and the greater world, and we are thrilled to recognize their vast achievements tonight.

I would like to thank those who have given so generously to make tonight possible. Firstly, our extraordinary Co-Interim Presidents Jennifer Anglade, Coco Killingsworth and Elizabeth Moreau; our Benefit Committee Chairs Mark Diker and Deborah Colson, Roberta Garza and Roberto Mendoza, and Adam Wolfensohn
and Jennifer Small; our Art Auction Chairs Tony Bechara and Mark Diker and the rest of the auction committee; and our honorees, performing guest artists, artists who have donated work to the Art Auction the incredible BAM staff, the many teams who have made this evening possible; and each one of you for your generous support of this year’s gala. Thank you all.

The Art Auction is now open until June 24. Bid now for BAM!

Enjoy this evening and thank you for your ongoing commitment to BAM.

Nora Ann Wallace, BAM Board Chair
Leadership

BENEFIT COMMITTEE CHAIRS
Mark Diker & Deborah Colson
Roberta Garza & Roberto Mendoza
Adam Wolfensohn & Jennifer Small

BENEFIT COMMITTEE
Bloomberg Philanthropies
Dr. Sheila A. Cain & Bart A. Sheehan
William I. Campbell & Christine Wächter-Campbell
Neely Doshi Cather
Natalia Chefer & Joel Tompkins
Caroline & Paul Cronson
Steven & Susan Felsher
Jeanne Donovan Fisher
Judith R. & Alan H. Fishman
Lauren Flicker Yap
MaryAnne Gilmartin
Barbara Haws & William Josephson
Heni Koenigsberg & Marc Plonskier
Robin & Edgar Lampert
Leon Levy Foundation
Carol & Joel Levy
Diane Max
James I. McLaren & Lawton W. Fitt
National Grid
Estelle Parsons
Gabriel & Lindsay Pizzi
Marcel Przymusinski
The Rita and Alex Hillman Foundation
Robert & Mercedes Eichholz Foundation
Tim & Julie Sebunya
Doug C. Steiner
Joseph A. Stern
Nora Ann Wallace
Myra and Matthew Zuckerbraun

Listings as of Jun 8
Program Credits

DIRECTOR
Maureen Towey

PERFORMANCES
Antibalas
Chanon Judson & Samantha Speis
Co-Artistic Directors, Urban Bush Women

VIDEO DESIGN
Joshua Higgason

LIGHTING DESIGN
Al Crawford

SCENIC AND PLANT DESIGN
Donyale Werle

STAGE MANAGER
Sara Sahin

ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER
Heather Englelander
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
Sophiyaa Nayar

ASSISTANT SET DESIGNER
Riw Rikkulchon

PRE-SHOW VIDEO EDITOR
Derrick Belcham

RESTAURATEUR
Great Performances

PLANTS AND FLOWERS PROVIDED BY
Theater/Gardens*nyc
Maureen Towey is a director and writer working across artistic mediums. Towey has worked as a Creative Director for Grammy award-winning musicians such as Arcade Fire, Ray LaMontagne and Esperanza Spalding. She has directed music videos for Tune-Yards, Sharon Van Etten and Caroline Shaw. For The New York Times, Towey directed “Sensations of Sound” which won a Lumiere Award for Best VR Documentary of 2017.
A highlight of her live performance work was directing *Black Mountain Songs*, which was conceived by Bryce Dessner and starred the Brooklyn Youth Chorus (BAM in NYC, Barbican in London). Towey has been recognized as a Fulbright scholar (South Africa), a Princess Grace fellow, a TCG Leadership U grantee (Berkeley Rep), and as a PBS/AOL MAKER.
Patrick Stewart is a classically trained, Olivier Award-winning theater actor. He has been an associate artist of the Royal Shakespeare Company for more than 40 years. His one-man adaptation of Charles Dickens’ *A Christmas Carol* won a New York Drama Desk Award for its sold-out 1991 season on Broadway and an Olivier Award in London. Stewart has also been nominated for Emmy, Golden Globe, SAG, and Tony Awards. He is currently in production on a new season of *Star Trek: Picard* and recently appeared in Logan, marking his seventh time portraying the Charles Xavier/Professor X character in the X-Men franchise.
Shelby White is the founding trustee of the Leon Levy Foundation, a private nonprofit organization created in 2004 from the estate of her late husband Leon Levy. The foundation endeavors to continue Levy’s philanthropic legacy and build on his vision. The Leon Levy Foundation remains dedicated to helping its partner institutions in New York City during this difficult time, providing emergency grants to performing arts, culture, and humanities grantees it has long supported, as well as those that provide direct support to artists, parks, and open spaces.
Jawole Willa Jo Zollar
HONOREE
Jawole Willa Jo Zollar is the artistic director of Urban Bush Women, the Brooklyn-based performance ensemble she founded in 1984, dedicated to exploring the use of cultural expression as a catalyst for social change. She has created over 34 works for Urban Bush Women, as well as for Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater and others, and is the recipient of a Bessie Lifetime Achievement in Dance Award, a Doris Duke Performing Artist Award, a Dance Magazine Award, and several honorary degrees, among others. In 2020, the Ford Foundation named Urban Bush Women on its list of America’s Cultural Treasures.
Vocalist and performance artist **Helga Davis** has made five BAM Next Wave appearances, including the international revival of Robert Wilson and Philip Glass’ seminal opera *Einstein on the Beach*. She is an artist in residence at National Sawdust and Joe’s Pub, host of the eponymous podcast *HELGA* on WQXR, and the 2018—2021 visiting curator for the performing arts at the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum.
Antibalas
PERFORMER

Grammy-nominated Afrobeat band **Antibalas** got its start in Brooklyn in 1998 and has since served as the house band at Carnegie Hall and the Apollo Theater and appeared in the Tony Award-winning Broadway musical *Fela!*. 

Photo: Celine Pinget
Chanon Judson is a co-artistic director of Urban Bush Women and has performed with the company since 2001. She is also a facilitator for UBW’s BOLD, activating the intersections of art-making, civic engagement, leadership, and group dynamics.

Samantha Speis is a co-artistic director of Urban Bush Women and a teacher, choreographer, and movement improviser intrigued with rigor, risk, and experimentation.
Brooklyn-based performance and dance ensemble **Urban Bush Women** was founded in 1984 by choreographer Jawole Willa Jo Zollar and is currently led by co-artistic directors Chanon Judson and Samantha Speis. As members of the African diasporic community, the company seeks to bring untold and under-told histories and stories to light from a woman-centered perspective—and create a more equitable balance of power in the dance world and beyond.
BAM Hamm Archives

The Shelby White & Leon Levy BAM Digital Archive has reached over a million of BAM’s global audience providing access to The BAM Hamm Archives for artists, historians, students, art aficionados, and audiences. The collection is

PHOTO OF EDWIN BOOTH, LIBRARY OF CONGRESS, PRINTS & PHOTOGRAPHS DIVISION, BRADY-HANDY COLLECTION.
particularly strong in documenting contemporary performance—The video collection is among one of the most important moving-image archives of contemporary performance in existence. The archives also hold treasures dating back to the 1860s.

“There is optimism inherent in record-keeping of any kind: the work of the archivist, while rooted in past and present, is performed for an imagined future.”

JEANNIE CHEN, NATIONAL ARCHIVES

We document the past for use in the future knowing that we will always fail because most of what is precious in life is ephemeral and impermanent. Archiving live, time-based events mirrors life in this way.

Performance is also typically collaborative, formed by a web of people, their relationships and ideas. So, describing performance is different
from describing a physical object. That static repository model—archives as dusty, 19th century curio cabinet—has been replaced. We hope to model the same collaborative process we’re trying to describe, creating a web of knowledge that can be connected back to the original event.
We work with a dizzying array of media to collect, organize, describe, preserve, and make available objects related to BAM’s performances, history, and people.

We also work with the creators, performers, designers, photographers, videographers, subject area specialists, and numerous others. The process is open and creative, with discussion about how best to document and share work.

CHILDREN AT THE MERMAID THEATRE PRODUCTION OF “JUST SO STORIES” DURING BAM PAPYP SERIES, 1987
BAM Art Auction

JUN 10—24

Live bidding on Artsy.net/bamartauction

Bidding closes at 2pm on June 24

Proceeds provide vital support for BAM’s artistic and educational programs

COMMITTEE CO-CHAIRS

Tony Bechara and Mark Diker

AUCTION COMMITTEE

Helena Anrather, Stephanie Baptist, Jayne Baum, Christian Camacho-Light, Derek Eller, Erin Goldberger, Emily Havens, Ebony L. Haynes, Patton Hindle, Ambre Kelly, Lauren Marinaro, Larry Ossei-Mensah, Chris Rawson, Julie Saul, Alissa Schoenfeld, Hadley Vogel
FEATURING WORK BY

ADDITIONAL WORKS COURTESY OF THE MARTIN Z. MARGULIES FOUNDATION INCLUDING
Miriam Backstrom, Boris Becker, Alexander Birchler & Teresa Hubbard, Talbot Magruder Brewer, Roland Fischer, Chen Jiagang, Izima Kaoru, Chris Larson, Jan Lauschmann, Sharon Lockhart, Jackie Nickerson
BROWSE

Check out the works in this year’s auction [here](#) or downloading the Artsy app to your mobile device.

REGISTER

Click “Register to bid” on the auction landing page in your browser or in the app. Log in to your Artsy account or create one with your preferred email address. Once logged in, fill in the one-step registration form with your contact and payment information. You will not be charged for registering.

BID

When you’re ready, select your maximum bid using the dropdown next to the artwork and click “Bid.” Artsy’s system will bid on your behalf based on their bidding increments. Pricing increases up to, but never beyond, your maximum bid when other users bid on the artwork. Maximum bid amounts are only executed if there is a competing bidder up to that amount.
Win

Winning bidders will receive a confirmation email from Artsy at the close of the auction. Depending on the total price of the lot won, Artsy will charge the card you used to register to bid, or follow up with an invoice. BAM will then be in touch to coordinate shipping or pick up so that you can take home your new artwork!

BIDDING INCREMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Range</th>
<th>Increment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UNDER $1,000</td>
<td>$50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$1,000—$1,999</td>
<td>$100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$2,000—$4,999</td>
<td>$250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$5,000—$9,999</td>
<td>$500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$10,000—$19,999</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$20,000—$49,999</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$50,000—$99,999</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AT OR ABOVE $100,000</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
We are so thrilled to support BAM, especially now!

Neely & Todd Cather
We are proud to support BAM, and congratulate this evening’s incredible honorees.

Ed & Robin Lampert
We will always remember Adam Max who gave BAM so much life.

Susan & Steven Felsher
In loving memory of Adam, we salute tonight’s honorees and the bright future of BAM!

The Max Family
Heartfelt Congratulations to 
Shelby White and 
The Leon Levy Foundation 
Champion of Archives 
Hero of Archivists 
Unearthing lost treasures 
Advancing Knowledge and Understanding the World over 
Brooklyn Proud 

With great admiration, 
Barbara and Bill
Our family cultural home. Celebrating BAM bringing us to the future.

Myra and Matthew Zuckerbraun
Congratulations to BAM and its 2021 Gala Honorees

Sir Patrick Stewart

Shelby White & the Leon Levy Foundation

Jawole Willa Jo Zollar

MaryAnne Gilmartin & MAG Partners proudly salute the honorees and their service to Brooklyn’s home for adventurous arts.
The Robert and Mercedes Eichholz Foundation is proud to support BAM and the 2021 Gala. We salute all the honorees for their contributions to the arts and for sharing them with the people of Brooklyn and beyond.
With love & respect to BAM and congratulations to the honorees.

Bill, Christine & the Campbells
Proud to support BAM

Bloomberg Philanthropies
Proud to support. Happy to celebrate BAM Gala 2021

nationalgrid