



DAILY ARTS

Nominees for the 2018-19 Austin Critics Table Awards Announced

The Critics Table's picture-perfect year

BY ROBERT FAIRES, 12:01PM, MON. MAY 13, 2019



Members of the **Austin Critics Table** have considered the hundreds of stage productions, concerts, and art exhibitions mounted locally between May 1, 2018, and April 30, 2019, and settled on what was outstanding in dance, classical music, visual art, and theatre in that span and announced the nominees for the 2019 Critics Table Awards.



Cecil Washington and the cast of Zach Theatre's Sunday in the Park with George (Photo by Kirk Tuck)

Earning the most nominations this year from the informal association of area arts writers and editors was **Zach Theatre's** take on Stephen Sondheim's *Sunday in the Park with George*, which received 10. **Ballet Austin's**

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work that didn't fit into a regular category, was dispensed with, but a new category was added to recognize projects of particular significance. Each of the five nominees in this category is a winner.

The critics will present the awards in their usual fashion – with drinks in hand – in an informal ceremony on Monday, June 3, 7pm, at Cap City Comedy Club, 8120 Research #100. The event will also include the induction of four local artists into the **Austin Arts Hall of Fame: Toni Bravo** (dance), **Billy Harden** (theatre), **Girard Kinney** (architecture), and **Margo Sawyer** (visual art). Also previously announced were the winners of Special Recognition Honors – Conspirare's *Considering Matthew Shepard* live-streamed from the National Cathedral; *Leonard Bernstein's Mass*, produced by Merick Strategies; Vincent Valdez's "The City" at the Blanton Museum of Art; the Ransom Center exhibition "Vaudeville!"; and the Palace Theater in Georgetown – along with the winner of this year's John Bustin Award for Conspicuous Versatility, **Delanté G. Keys**, and the winners of this year's Deacon Crain Awards for Outstanding Student Work, **Mariela Denson** and **Matthew Kennedy**.

Taking part in the Critics Table award process this year were the *Austin American-Statesman's* Michael Barnes (arts) and Andrew J. Friedenthal (theatre); the *Chronicle's* Elizabeth Cobbe (theatre) and Robert Faires (arts); Central Texas Live Theatre's Michael Meigs (theatre), Dr. David Glen Robinson (theatre, dance), and Brian Paul Scipione (theatre); Arts & Culture Texas' Claire Christine Spera (dance); Broadway World Austin's Lynn Beaver (theatre), Frank Bengé (theatre), Joni Lorraine (theatre), Lacey Cannon Gonzales (theatre), and Amy Tarver (theatre); and Austin Arts Watch's Ryan E. Johnson (performing arts). Note: Members of the Table refrained from voting on any project in which they or an immediate family member took part.

The 2018-19 Austin Critics Table Award Nominees

THEATRE

Production

Antigonick, Salvage Vanguard Theater

The Merchant of Venice, UT Department of Theatre & Dance

Notes From the Field, Zach Theatre

The Rover, Hidden Room Theatre

Sunday in the Park with George, Zach Theatre

(Un)Documents, Vortex Repertory Company/Avante Theatre Project

We Are Proud to Present a Presentation About the Herero of Namibia, Formerly Known as Southwest Africa, from the German Sudwestafrika, Between the Years 1884-1915, Street Corner Arts

Direction

Tom Delbello, *Cabaret*

Liz Fisher, *We Are Proud to Present a Presentation About the Herero of Namibia, Formerly Known as Southwest Africa, from the German Sudwestafrika, Between the Years 1884-1915*

Patti Neff-Tiven, *There and Back*

Rudy Ramirez, *(Un)Documents/Heartland/Last: An Extinction Comedy*

Diana Lynn Small, *Antigonick*

Dave Steakley, *Sunday in the Park with George/Notes From the Field*

Adam L. Sussman, *The Merchant of Venice*

David Mark Cohen New Play Award

The Afterparty, Reina Hardy

The Audience/El Público, Elizabeth Doss

Echo of a Refugee ... Me?, Zell Miller III

Catell The Musical, Jason Tremblay with Suzan Zeder and Jenn Hartmann Luck

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Performance by an Individual

Jill Blackwood, *Sunday in the Park With George/Indian Ink*

Robyn Conner, *The Grapes of Wrath*

Karina Dominguez, *There and Back*

Will Douglas, *Significant Other*

Lee Eddy, *Cry It Out*

Judd Farris, *Booth's Richard III/Your Mother's Copy of the Kama Sutra*

Carla Nickerson, *Monroe/Notes From the Field*

Amber Quick, *Sunday in the Park with George/Your Mother's Copy of the Kama Sutra/The Rover*

Daniel Rowan, *Hedwig and the Angry Inch*

Cecil Washington, *Sunday in the Park with George*

Performance by an Ensemble

Antigonick, Salvage Vanguard Theater

Heisenberg, Zach Theatre

The Magic Fire, Different Stages

Once, Zach Theatre

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Improvised Production

Available Cupholders, Out of Bounds Comedy Festival

Immigrants, the Musical! (Part 2), Institution Theatre

The Knuckleball Now, Out of Bounds Comedy Festival

Latinauts, Prima Doñas, Futurx

Musical Direction

John Henderson and Adam Roberts, *The Music Man*

Lyn Koenning, *All Shook Up*

Adam Roberts, *Fun Home*

Allen Robertson, *Sunday in the Park with George/Rob1n/Once/Tortoise and Hare/Hedwig and the Angry Inch*

Stephanie Wells, *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*

Movement

The Back Pack, *The Back Pack Presents: Wear and Tear*

Sara Burke, *Rob1n/Tortoise and Hare*

Isaac Iskra, *Matawan*

Ginger Morris, *The Music Man*

Kelsey Oliver, *Fun Home*

DESIGN**Set**

Stephanie Busing, *Notes From the Field*

Ia Ensterä, *There and Back/Middletown/Fun Home/Crime and Punishment*

Lisa Laratta, *The Audience/Antigonick*

Cliff Simon, *Sunday in the Park with George*

Leilah Stewart and Vicki Yoder, *Wit*

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Constance Hoffman, *Grimm Tales*

Michael McDonald, *Hedwig and the Angry Inch*

Paige Tautz, *Antigonick*

Susan Branch Towne, *Sunday in the Park with George/Middletown/The Three Musketeers*



Paige Tautz in Salvage Vanguard Theater's production of *Antigonick* (Photo by Usama Malik)

Lighting

Patrick Anthony, *The Afterparty/(Un)Documents/Heartland*

Natalie George, *The Audience/There and Back/Fun Home/Antigonick*

Qi Jiajing, *Matawan*

Sarah EC Maines, *Sunday in the Park with George*

Tony Tucci, *The Firebird/Grimm Tales*

Sound

Lowell Bartholomee, *There and Back/Crime and Punishment*

Robert S. Fisher, *The Antipodes/Monroe/The Hunchback Variations/Men on Boats*

Nick Hart, *The Afterparty*

K. Eliot Haynes, *Middletown/The Three Musketeers*

Sam Lipman, *Matawan*

Johann Mahler, *(Un)Documents*

Digital

Stephanie Busing, *Sunday in the Park with George/Notes From the Field*

Matthew Smith, *The Yellow Wallpaper*

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DANCE**Concert**

Artist and Muse, Performa/dance

Be Still, My Heart, Kathy Dunn Hamrick Dance Company

Grimm Tales, Ballet Austin

Of Sound & Silence, Tapestry Dance Company

With or Without You, Circuitous Dance

Short Work

"Idobálè," *Fortitude*

"John D," *Company*

"Joy," *Of Sound & Silence*

"Matters of the Heart," *Love Songs for the World*

"Shoulders," *Fall for Dance*

Choreographer

Charles O. Anderson, "Idobálè"

Jennifer Hart, "The Beast"

Stephen Mills, *Grimm Tales*

Lisa Nicks, *Love Songs for the World*

Kate Warren, *With or Without You*

Dancer

Oliver Greene-Cramer, "The Beast"/"The Frog King"

Aara Krumpe, *The Firebird*/"Snow White"

Bridget Morris, "Self Reflection"/"Matters of the Heart"

Becky Nam, *Fortitude*

Andrea Torres, *Of Sound & Silence*

Jaime Lynn Witts, *The Nutcracker*/"The Frog King"

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Jaime Lynn Witts and Oliver Greene-Cramer in "The Frog King" section of Ballet Austin's Grimm Tales (Photo by Anne Marie Bloodgood)

Ensemble

Be Still, My Heart, Kathy Dunn Hamrick Dance Company
Disrupt, Ventana Ballet
Dvorák Serenade, Ballet Austin
Of Sound & Silence, Tapestry Dance Company
Rick Said So, Frank Wo/Men Collective

CLASSICAL MUSIC

Concert/Opera

Hope of Loving, Conspirare
I, Too, Sing America, Inversion Ensemble
Leonard Bernstein's Mass, Merick Strategies
Otello, Austin Opera
Silent Night, Austin Opera
Variation Voyage, Austin Symphony Orchestra

Chamber Performance

Beethoven: *String Quartet No. 15*, Miró Quartet

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The Sound of Science, Golden Hornet

Thomas Burritt Chamber Percussion Recital, Butler School of Music

Original Composition/Score

Grimm Tales, Graham Reynolds

Innocent Blood, Adrienne Inglis

"Nada de Turbe," Carlos Cordero

"Three Rhymes for Suffrage Times," Robbie LaBanca

The Yellow Wallpaper, Dan Welcher

Singer

Donnie Ray Albert, "Behold I Build a House"

Marina Costa-Jackson, *Otello*

Michelle Haché, *Atlantis, the Puppet Opera*

Isaachah Savage, *Otello*

Ellie Jarrett Shattles, *The Yellow Wallpaper/Happy Birthday, Lenny*

Jubilant Sykes, *Leonard Bernstein's Mass*

Ensemble

Austin Camerata

Conspirare

invoke

line upon line percussion

Schumann Chamber Players

Instrumentalist

Thomas Burritt, Thomas Burritt Chamber Percussion Recital

Chee-Yun, *Reinventions*

Marianne Gedigian, "Hair Cloth and Thread"

Stephen Redfield, *A World Tour of Baroque Orchestral Masterworks/Hope of Loving*

Jeffrey Ziegler, *The Sound of Science*

VISUAL ART

Solo Gallery Exhibition

"Alejandra Almuelle: Journey," 1300 E. Fifth (East Austin Studio Tour)

"Andy St. Martin: From 20, paintings at Cloud Tree," Cloud Tree Studios

"Cage Match Project Round VIII: Tammie Rubin: This Is Everything," Museum of Human Achievement

"Malcolm Bucknall: Solo Show," Wally Workman Gallery

"Martha Hughes: Fresh From Marfa," Ola Gallery

"Terra Goolsby: Black Rainbow," Dimension Gallery

Group Gallery Exhibition

"25th Anniversary Show," Stephen L. Clark Gallery

"Femme Abstract," 1300 E. Fifth (East Austin Studio Tour)

"Witches," Recspec Gallery

Museum Exhibition

Abraham Cruzvillegas: "Hi, How Are You, Gonzo?," The Contemporary Austin

"Ed Ruscha: Archaeology and Romance," Benson Center

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