

Sarah Siddons Society Press Release  
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**SARAH SIDDONSSOCIETY PRESENTS SENIOR MOMENTS—CELEBRATING ACCOUNTS OF POPULAR CHICAGO ACTORS SPENDING THEIR GOLDEN YEARS ON CHICAGO STAGES**

(Chicago, IL, March 15, 2014)—The Sarah Siddons Society recently announced that Dale Benson, Renee Matthews, Mike Nussbaum, and Ann Whitney will be participating in *Senior Moments*—lively conversations and recollections of their lifetimes in stage and film. The event will be hosted by Hedy Weiss, *Chicago Sun Times* Critic, and held at The Arts Club of Chicago on Monday, May 12, 2014, beginning at 3:00 pm.

"I'm delighted to bring these four outstanding performers together to share their experiences on Chicago stages. Together they probably represent 200 years of performances, which is utterly amazing," said Dominic Missimi, *Senior Moments* Producer. "They have performed in all of our Chicago theaters, from the classics of Shakespeare to the most popular of musical comedies. I'm sure the session will be an acting lesson for all of us," added Missimi.

**Dale Benson** has enhanced innumerable musicals and plays as a presence in comedic character roles in Chicagoland for over half a century. Dale was the recipient of a Lifetime Achievement Award at the recent Joseph Jefferson Awards Ceremony in 2014.

**Mike Nussbaum** has directed and acted in Chicago theatres for more than fifty years, originating roles in David Mamet's *American Buffalo*, *A Life in the Theatre*, and *Glengarry Glen Ross*. Mike has appeared On and Off Broadway, at Lincoln Center, as well as on stages worldwide including The Royal Shakespeare Company.

**Renee Matthews** was recently seen as Yente in *Fiddler on the Roof* at The Paramount Theatre and in *Showboat* at Chicago's Lyric Opera. In a national tour, she presented the one-woman show *Molly Picon's Return Engagement*, based on the life of the late Yiddish actress.

**Ann Whitney** last appeared at Next Theatre's *Everything Is Illuminated*. Other favorite roles include Sister Lee in *Do Black Patent Leather Shoes Really Reflect Up?*, Hecuba in *Trojan Women*, Big Edie in *Grey Gardens*, A in *Three Tall Women*, and Mrs. Watts in *Trip to Bountiful*, directed by her daughter Sarah. Ann has appeared in regional theatres, TV commercials and dramas, as well as films, including *Home Alone*.

**Hedy Weiss** is a favorite columnist and Theater and Dance Critic for *Chicago Sun-Times*. Hedy frequently appears on *Chicago Tonight*, the nightly news magazine on WTTW-Channel 11, and contributes to radio programs on WGN and WBEZ.

**Dominic Missimi**, Professor Emeritus at Northwestern University, much-loved Theatre Director in Chicagoland, and longtime friend of Sarah Siddons Society is producing *Senior Moments*.

General admission tickets for *Senior Moments* are \$50 and either may be purchased by calling 847.446.4140 or [Maryloubilder@me.com](mailto:Maryloubilder@me.com). The Arts Club of Chicago is located at 401 E. Ontario St. Valet service is available for \$12.

Sarah Siddons Society is well known for its famous annual acting award that has been given to some of America's most illustrious actors and actresses. Most recently, the organization bestowed its prestigious honor on Audra McDonald, winner of five Tony Awards. *Senior Moments* actors Mike Nussbaum and Ann Whitney are both Sarah Siddons Leading Man and Lady Award Winners.

The Sarah Siddons Society's mission is providing scholarships to theatre students at major universities in the Chicago area and providing tickets for underprivileged children in attending Chicago theatre. Proceeds will benefit the organization's promising young actors' scholarship fund. The event includes a tea reception.

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