

Theatre for a New Audience in Best of Lists for 2009



December 22, 2009

The Decade's Best Theater by MICHAEL FEINGOLD

"[The] gigantic absence that remains the worst thing about New York theater in this century [is] a great company regularly producing works of classic stature.

"The company that risked most and achieved most was Theatre for a New Audience. Its productions of Granville Barker's *Waste*, Gilbert's *Engaged*, . . . Bond's *Saved* [and] the best Shakespeare New York saw in the decade, poetically alive and vividly contemporary: Darko Tresnjak 's *Merchant of Venice* with F. Murray Abraham, and David Esbjornson's *Hamlet* with Christian Camargo . . . Theatre for a New Audience also produced Adrienne Kennedy's *Ohio State Murders*, signaling another of the decade's key developments: African-American women spoke out, in playwriting loud and clear."

The New York Times

Best of 2009

Sunday, December 20, 2009

Fanfare for the New, the Old, the Less Heralded by CHARLES ISHERWOOD

"In the spring John Douglas Thompson played the title role in the Theater for a New Audience's nigh-perfect *Othello*, directed with confidence by a newcomer, Arin Arbus, who qualifies as the most gifted new director to emerge this year.

"[John Douglas Thompson's] fine work this year will not soon be forgotten by those privileged to see it. There may be no better classical actor working in the New York theater right now."

Artistic Success, No Name Brand Necessary by BEN BRANTLEY

"Most of my favorite shows of 2009 . . . hardly fit into prefabricated commercial molds . . . tough, inventive and seriously ambitious.

"John Douglas Thompson (previously seen Off Broadway [at Theatre for a New Audience] as a truly majestic *Othello*) staked his claim as one of the most compelling classical stage actors of his generation."