



October 19, 2009

For Immediate Release

Montrose Mia Was a Hit!

Main Street Theater's Fifth Annual Autumn Follies Gala

Main Street Theater's Autumn Follies Gala was held Friday, October 9 at Main Street Theater – Chelsea Market, 4617 Montrose Blvd. This year's celebrity-studded, one-night-only benefit performance was the original musical send-up *Montrose Mia!*, with cameo appearances by local celebrities including **Harris County Judge Ed Emmett**, local actor and former television news anchor **Bob Boudreaux**, Houston Woman Magazine's **Beverly Denver**, the Houston Downtown Alliance's **Heather Pray**, **Ernie Manouse**, Host of PBS' *InnerVIEWS with Ernie Manouse*, Momentum Audi/Volkswagen General Manager **Jared Lang**, HoustonPBS' **Doug Mueller**, and artist **Wendy Wagner**. Professional actors Christianne Mays and Doris Davis anchored the production.

Guests ranged from Channel 11's Len Cannon, former Fox26 reporter Lanny Griffith (who also took the stage as auctioneer!), the Honorable and Mrs. Mike Rozell, and Dr. and Mrs. Jeff London (Francesca London graciously chaired the auction), among many others. The theater's lobby and the Chelsea Market courtyard were bedecked in blue and white, running with the Greek theme of *Mamma Mia*, and Niko Niko's served delicious dishes AND drinks, especially the Mighty Aphrodite. Floor seats to the Rockets, a Holland America cruise, and baseballs autographed by Hunter Pence and Lance Berkman were highlights of the live and silent auctions. It was a grand night. Approximately 175 people were in attendance.

The event benefitted MST's education and outreach programs. Sponsors include Bracewell & Giuliani, BBVA Compass, Continental Airlines, U.S. Trust, Bank of America Private Wealth Management, Locke Lord Bissell & Liddell LLP, Momentum Audi/Volkswagen, the Daily Court Review, and Howard Frazier Barker Elliot, Inc.

Since 1975, Main Street Theater has produced high quality professional theater for audiences of all ages through its MainStage productions and Main Street Youth Theater. The Main Street Theater Kids On Stage program offers performing arts classes and camps for children 5 years to 14 years of age. The organization produces plays at two locations, 2540 Times Boulevard in Rice Village and 4617 Montrose Boulevard at Chelsea Market.

Main Street Theater is a member of the Fresh Arts Coalition, a collaboration of 25 arts organizations that work collectively to raise awareness of the size and diversity of the arts in Houston, and a constituent of Theatre Communications Group (TCG), the national service organization for not-for-profit theaters. Main Street Theater offers a lively year-round repertory of classic and contemporary plays for audiences of all ages and provides a much-needed showcase for Houston theater professionals. Main Street Theater is also a member of Actors' Equity Association and of ASSITEJ, the world theatre network of theatre for children and young people. Main Street Theater is funded in part by grants from the City of Houston through the Houston Arts Alliance, and the Texas Commission on the Arts.

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