

The Jewish Community Center of Dutchess County

Presents

March Mystique
A Masked Ball

Saturday, March 12, 2005

Dutchess Manor
Beacon, NY

Jewish Community Center of Dutchess County

Roni Stein – President

Traci Ashley - Secretary

Abbie Grossman – Vice President

Elyse Mansfield – Vice President

Esther Reisman – Vice President

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March Mystique Committee

Traci Ashley	Andrea Hagan	Lori Levine
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Lisa Szydlow	Ira T. Weiss	Patti Zakow

Azzy and Paula Reckess - Co-hosts

Andrea Hagan, Finishing Touches - Invitation and Program Design

Ira T. Weiss, Freelancecopy.biz, Inc.- Program Content

Elissa I. Davidson - Photographer

Independent Galleries - Silent Auction

The Dutchess Manor

The Saints of Swing featuring René Bailey

Image Pro Printing

Tonight's Program

Cocktails

Grand Main Dining Salon – 8:00 pm

Welcome

Roni Stein

Board President, Jewish Community Center of Dutchess County

Azzy and Paula Reckess

Co-hosts

Silent auction – On-going until 9:00 pm

Bon Appetite

Presentation of the JCCDC Service to the Community Award

Recipient, Chris Silva

Executive Director of the Bardavon Opera House

Dessert

Dancing throughout the evening with music provided by

The Saints of Swing featuring Reneé Bailey

Dinner Menu

Appetizer Course

Roasted Carrot and Butternut Squash Soup

Salad Course

Seasonal Greens with the House Vinaigrette

Entrée's

Roast Loin of Beef Renaissance

Pan Seared Salmon au Citron

Risotto with Roasted Spring Vegetables

Dessert

French Chocolate Mousse Torte

Coffee and Teas

Message from the President

Welcome! The Jewish Community Center of Dutchess County would like to thank you for joining us this evening for our first ever Gala event, March Mystique. With this event, we hope to begin a grand, new tradition by honoring outstanding leaders of the Dutchess County community and beyond.

Tonight we gather to honor Chris Silva, Executive Director of the Bardavon Opera House in Poughkeepsie, for his commitment to the arts and the continued growth of the mid-Hudson Valley community. In the ten-plus years Chris has led the Bardavon, it has become one of the shining stars of the Hudson Valley, bringing in plays, musicians and performers from around the country, and even the world.

Chris has also brought the arts beyond the Bardavon by establishing the Hudson River Arts Festival, Celebration of Light, Kids Expo, the rebirth of the Hudson Valley Philharmonic and the outreach of theater programs to our schools.

The Jewish Community Center would like to thank Chris for his support and assistance to Temple Beth El and the Jewish Federation of Dutchess County by bringing such notable artists as violinists Itzak Perlman and Pinkas Zuckerman, and folksinger Debbie Friedman to the Bardavon.

The Jewish Community Center stands with Chris Silva and the Bardavon Opera House in our commitment to the community. The last few months has seen the JCC establish new programs and classes, build a new fitness center and increase our membership by more than 20%. We have also extended a helping hand to the YWCA and their membership until their organization can regain their feet.

Yes, March Mystique is a masked ball, but we're not "hiding" behind our masks. The masks represent another side to our personae. They simply remind us that we have another face to show our neighbors; a side of us that gives back to the community in which we live. We don't always show this giving, sharing side of our personalities, but on this night we do.

Tonight we celebrate another year in support of the greater Dutchess County community.

Roni Stein
President, Board of Directors

Honoree Chris Silva
Recipient , JCCDC Service to the Community Award

Chris's career has spanned more than 30 years, from coast to coast, in support of theater and the arts. Since becoming Executive Director in 1994, he has increased the Bardavon's annual budget from \$800,000 to \$2.6 million with the completion of \$4 million in capital projects. In the coming years, the Bardavon plans to raise another \$8 million for capital projects and the creation of a \$3 million endowment.

No matter which side of the country Chris has resided, his love for theatre has brought him to the forefront. His talent as a director has benefited several regional theatres. In 1972 he founded the Eureka Theatre in San Francisco, which is still in running today. In 1978, Chris was part of a consortium which took over the management of the Chelsea Theatre Center in Mid-town Manhattan and formed the Westside Arts Theatre.

Chris has been involved in many aspects of theatre production. In the '80's, he founded New Writers at the Westside, a non-profit arm of the Westside Arts Theatre, where he developed new works for scores of playwrights, including Arthur Miller, David Mamet, Wallace Shawn and Donald Margulies. And later, he became the program director of New Dramatists, the nations oldest playwrights service organization where he helped to develop the plays of 40 member writers including August Wilson and John Patrick Shanley.

Chris has also directed or produced stage performances which have gone on to win a Nobel Prize (Dario Fo's We Won't Pay! We Won't Pay!) ; the OBIE * (Sam Shepard's Curse of the Starving Class and Fool for Love) and numerous other awards including: NY Critics Circle, Drama Desk and Outer Critics Circle.

Not limited to the stage, Chris completed his first film in 1993. "MIA: Missing in America" was a short featuring Anne Meara which premiered at the Los Angeles International Film Festival. It received an Award of Special Merit from the Vermont EarthPeace Festival and an Excellence in the Arts Award from the Vietnam Veterans of America. It has been broadcast several times on PBS.

Chris has made Ulster County his home since 1985.

*The Village Voice OBIE Awards were created soon after the inception of the publication in 1955 to publicly acknowledge and encourage the growing Off Broadway theater movement.

Thank you to all of our March Mystique sponsors

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