

keyword SEARCH

NEWSLETTERS [social icons]

NEW ORLEANS JAZZ & HERITAGE FESTIVAL
April 29 - May 8 PRESENTED BY [shell logo]

Arcade Fire • Bon Jovi • Jimmy Buffett • Kid Rock
John Mellencamp • Wilco • The Neville Brothers • Willie Nelson
The Strokes • Robert Plant • Tom Jones • Ms. Lauryn Hill • Plus Many More!

CLICK HERE FOR A CHANCE TO WIN A TRIP TO THE 2011 JAZZ FEST

HOME NEWS ARTS BOOKS FOOD SCREENS MUSIC BLOGS CALENDAR SPECIAL PROMOTIONS ADS CLASSIFIEDS PERSONALS

YEAR THIRTY | SXSW | AUSTIN MUSIC AWARDS | CONTESTS | HAPPY HOURS

DISCOUNT electronics **\$99 DESKTOPS!** **\$199 LAPTOPS!** **COMPUTER STUFF CHEAP!**

FEATURED CONTENT



news **Budgetary Snapshot: Some Progress, Dim Prospects**



arts **Two New Looks at Hedda Gabler**



food **Good Food To Get You in the Mardi Gras Mood**



screens **SXSW Interactive: An Introduction**



music **On Topic With South by Southwest Music Panels**

the arts

2010 B. Iden Payne Awards

Among nominees, 'Murder Ballad' scores a big hit

BY ROBERT FAIRES, FRI., OCT. 8, 2010

The ghost-faced killers of *Murder Ballad Murder Mystery* left a long line of bodies across the swamp, but the list of nominations their show racked up for the 2010 B. Iden Payne Awards looks to be even longer. The Tutto Theatre Company/Vortex Repertory Company co-production received 11 nominations, the most of any show this year, for the annual awards handed out by the Greater Austin Creative Alliance (formerly the Austin Circle of Theatres). *Murder Ballad* earned recognition for production of music theatre; Dustin Wills' direction; the performances by Florinda Bryant, Robert Pierson, Content Love Knowles, and the ensemble; the designs by Lisa Laratta (set), Megan M. Reilly (lighting), and Kim H. Ngo (costumes); and the original score and musical direction by Mark Stewart and Andy Tindall. It was one of two homegrown musicals mounted by the Vortex that earned a lot of love from the awards nominating committee. The company's remount of *Sleeping Beauty*, as adapted by Artistic Director Bonnie Cullum and Knowles, scored eight nominations, including nods for production of a musical, Knowles' original score and musical direction, and Cullum's direction. The Vortex's 19 nominations were the most for any producing organization this year.



Murder Ballad Murder Mystery

PHOTO COURTESY OF KIMBERLEY MEAD

Other nominees taking top honors: Trouble Puppet Theater Company's adaptation of Upton Sinclair's *The Jungle* with seven noms (production of a drama; the script, set design, and direction by company Artistic Director Connor Hopkins; Stephen Pruitt's lighting design; Eliot Haynes' sound design; and Justin Sherburn's original score), plus a special certificate for the puppetry work; the Gilbert & Sullivan Society of Austin's production of G&S operetta *The Yeomen of the Guard* with seven (production of music theatre, Ralph MacPhail Jr.'s direction, Jeffrey Jones-Ragona's music direction, and acting by Patricia Combs, David Fontenot, Michelle Haché, and Holton Johnson); Zach Theatre's staging of the faux Twenties musical *The Drowsy Chaperone*, also with seven (production of music theatre, Nick Demos' direction, acting by the full cast, Allen Robertson's music direction, Robin Lewis' choreography, Susan Branch Towne's costume design, and Craig Brock's sound design); and Breaking String Theater's production of Chekhov's *The Cherry Orchard*, with six (production of a comedy; Graham Schmidt's direction; performances by Matt Radford, Liz Fisher, and Nigel O'Hearn; and Adam Hilton's sound design), plus a special certificate for Schmidt's original translation of the script.

Overall, 56 productions mounted from September 2009 to August 2010 received nominations, which are made by a committee of volunteers who regularly see productions throughout the year. The awards are determined by a vote of members in the alliance, which receives ballots that are tabulated by the accounting firm of KPMG and held in secret until the ceremony. This year's will be Monday, Nov. 1, 7pm, in the Rollins Studio Theatre of the Long Center for the Performing Arts. In addition to the presentation of the regular awards, the ceremony will include presentation of the Special Recognition Award, given annually by the organization's board to an individual or entity that has made exceptional contributions to Austin theatre. This year's honorees are the Rude Mechanicals. Improvisation

THE MOST

VIEWED E-MAILED COMMENTED

HOW HIGH Divination or hallucinogenic drug? Whichever way you look at it, *The Spirit Molecule* is gonna move you.

NEIGHBORHOODS, SCHOOLS, AND BUDGETS Austin ISD's looming financial crisis is a statewide story

ONE MORE DETOUR ON HOLLY STREET Power plant demolition delay reprises neighborhood history

SHOOT OUT THE LIGHTS Bare buzz, bare butts: The Bright Light Social Hour shakes it

THE WAR ON TALKING ABOUT THE DRUG WAR Border Patrol agent loses job after stating the obvious

REVIEW: THE EAGLE This sword-and-sandals epic is an old-fashioned boys' adventure tale about Roman warriors in the second century.

Get the Triple Play and FREE DVR service for 6 months.

TV + INTERNET + VOICE

\$33.33 EACH PER MONTH

Time Warner Cable

→ Get It Now

LET'S DO THIS!

TEXAS HERITAGE SONGWRITERS HALL OF FAME AWARDS at Moody Theater

STAPLE! THE INDEPENDENT MEDIA EXPO at The Marchesa Hall & Theatre

ZILKER KITE FESTIVAL at Zilker Park

CINE LAS AMERICAS: RABIA (RAGE) at Takoba

guru Les McGehee will serve as emcee. The public is welcome. For more information, including the full list of nominees, visit www.austincreativealliance.org.

SHARE
[Facebook](#) [Twitter](#) [Digg](#) [Del.icio.us](#)

POST A COMMENT

UserName: Password:

Headline (optional):

[Create an account](#)

[Forgot your username/password?](#)

Comment:

Permission to Print. Letter to the editor.

CHRONCAST

'AUSTIN CHRONICLE' UNCOVERED 3-4
Quit monkeying around!

[MORE CHRONCAST VIDEO »](#)

**NEW CARS.
NEW
FEATURES.**



car2go has a new network coming soon with cool new features.



THE AUSTIN CHRONICLE

AUSTIN MUSIC DATABASE

WHO
WHAT
WHEN
&
WHERE



AMDB

THELATEST

[LETTERS](#) [COMMENTS](#) [TWEETS](#)

TEXAS CHILDREN ARE BEING LEFT BEHIND The problems Paul Krugman described in his op-ed column in The New York Times "Leaving Children ...

HOW TO IMPROVE THE ECONOMY'S CIRCULATION In order for an organism to be healthy, it needs good circulation. Money is the blood ...

SHAMEFUL STATS There are no philosophical discussions, no finger-pointing, no blame games; just a straightforward list that shows ...

DISGUSTED WITH COUNCIL'S DECISION ON PARK PUD I am writing to express my total dismay and near disgust with our current City Council's ...

'THIS IS A CODED MESSAGE' This is a coded message. Every time I hear the song "The Cave" by Mumford & ...

[MORE LETTERS TO THE EDITOR »](#)



SKINNY'S BALLROOM
DOWNTOWN AT 115 SAN JACINTO BLVD. - ONE BLOCK WEST OF THE CONVENTION CENTER

**HAPPY HOUR SPECIALS
FREE DIGITAL JUKEBOX
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK**



Pardon Our Dust...
We're Renovating Our Website!

CLICK HERE FOR INFO

Home

Letters to the Editor
Reader Comments
ChronCast

News

Features
Newsdesk Blog
Point Austin
City Hall Hustle
Res Publica
News Archives

Arts

Arts Home
Reviews
All Over Creation Blog
[Arts Listings](#)
Arts Archives

Books

Books Home
Reviews
Under the Covers Blog
Short Story Contest
[Litera Listings](#)
Books Archives

Food

Food Home
Reviews
Food-o-File
Restaurant Poll
Hot Sauce Festival
Event Menu
Restaurant Guide
Happy Hours
Food Archives

Screens

Screens Home
Reviews
Picture in Picture Blog
TV Eye
[Film Listings](#)
Screens Archives

Music

Music Home
Reviews
Off the Record
Earache! Blog
Austin Music Awards
AMDB
Musicians Register
[Music Listings](#)
Music Archives

Columns

Page Two
Letters at 3AM
After a Fashion
Gay Place
Day Trips
Mr. Smarty Pants Knows
The Common Law
Luv Doc Recommends

Sports

Sports Home
The Score Blog
Soccer Watch
Football Watch
[Sports Listings](#)

Calendar

[Recommended Events](#)
[Community Listings](#)
[Arts Listings](#)
[Film Listings](#)
[Music Listings](#)
[Submit an Event](#)

Blogs

Newsdesk (News)
All Over Creation (Arts)
Under the Covers (Books)
On the Range (Food)
Picture in Picture (Screens)
Earache! (Music)
The Score (Sports)
Gay Place
Chronique (Design)

Special

SXSW
Best of Austin
Austin Music Awards
Music Awards Show
Restaurant Poll
Year Thirty

Promotions

Promotions Home
Chrontourage
Online Contests
[Chronicle Merchandise](#)

Info

Staff List
Subscriptions
Privacy Policy

Archives

Issues
Sections
Columns
Reviews
Authors

Mobile

Mobile Home
[Music Listings](#)
[Film Listings](#)
Restaurant Guide
Best of Austin
Find a Paper

Ads

Print Ad Index
E-Edition
Advertise With Us

Classifieds

Jobs
Housing
Buy/Sell
Services
Motor
Music
Backpage
Adult
Place an Ad

Personals

Lovers Lane
Easy Street
Shot in the Dark
[Luv Doc Recommends](#)