

A dimly lit office scene featuring a dark wooden desk with a rotary telephone, a hat, a typewriter, and various papers. The background shows rows of blue chairs, suggesting a courtroom or a formal hearing room.

# Joseph Adler: A Legacy

Honor the Past. *Inspire the Future.*

**GABLESTAGE**



## Excellence. Center Stage

Recipient of 64 Carbonell Awards, GableStage is one of the longest-running and most highly acclaimed theatre companies in South Florida, presenting vital and cutting edge works of contemporary playwrights from around the globe. At least six productions and more than 150 performances are mounted annually at the Biltmore Hotel.



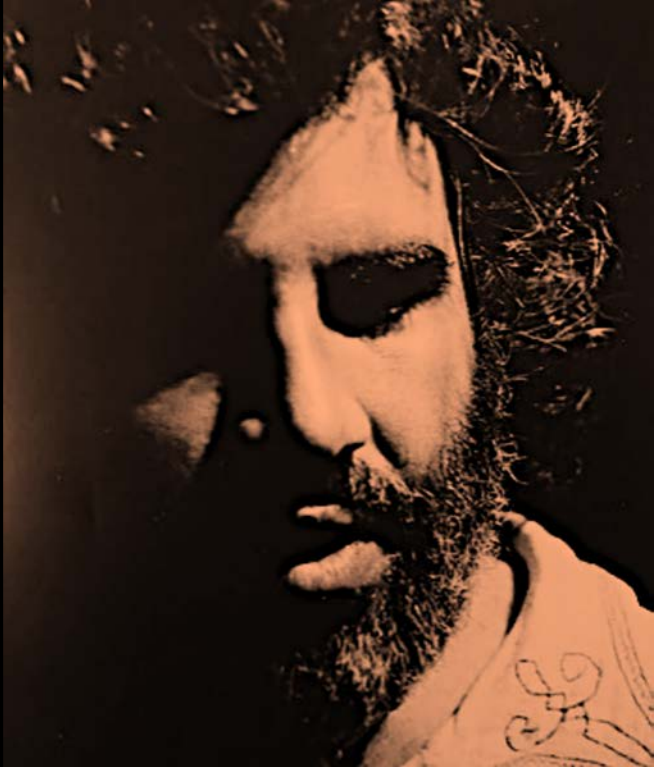
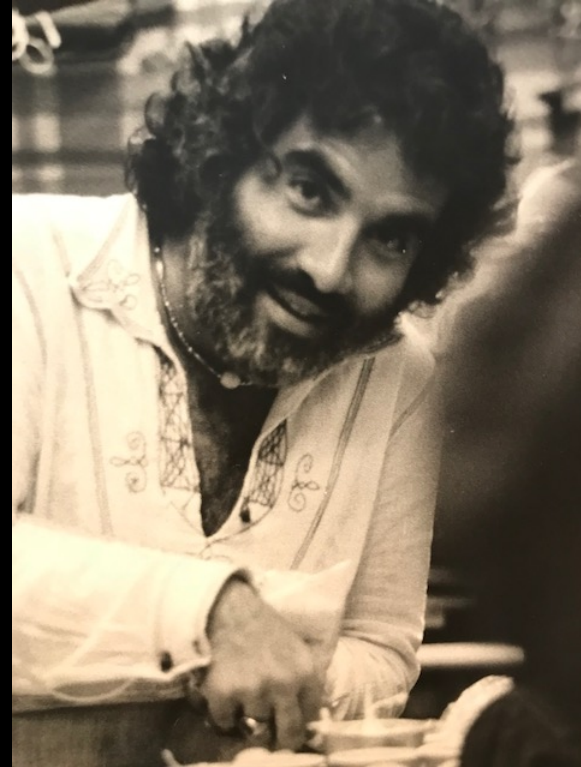
*Blasted*, by Sarah Kane, 2010.



*In the Next Room, or the Vibrator Play*, by Sarah Ruhl, 2011.

Founded in 1979 as Florida Shakespeare Theatre, GableStage originally performed the plays of Shakespeare in repertory at Vizcaya. After changing locations several times, in 1998 the company moved to its current home at the Biltmore Hotel, and changed its name to GableStage. That same year, Joe Adler became the Producing Artistic Director. Since then, GableStage has produced theatrical works which encompass themes and ideas relevant to the multicultural South Florida community.





## Joseph Adler (1940 – 2020)

As GableStage's Producing Artistic Director of more than 24 years, Joseph Adler (affectionately known as Joe) was courageous, outspoken, steadfastly committed, and above all grateful for the opportunity to work on the stage. Described as a "transformative titan," and the "Godfather" of Florida's theatre scene, his career included directing at many South Florida theatres.

Active in the region's film and theatre community since 1969, Joe directed hundreds of television commercials and industrial films and won many awards, including the Clio. Ultimately, it was at GableStage where he produced his best, most transformative work. His many accolades include the Citizens Interested in Arts Champion of the Arts Award and the ACLU Lifetime Achievement Award.

# A Legacy of **Artistic Audacity**

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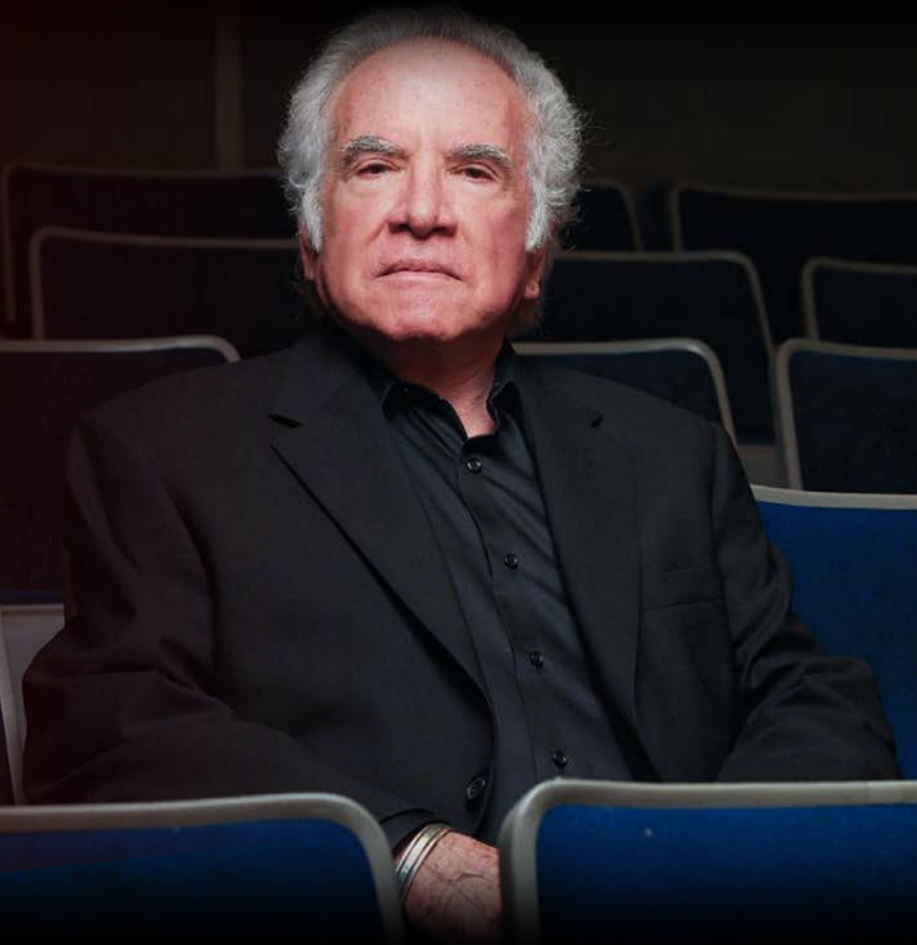
During his tenure at GableStage, Joe solidified the company's status as a leading South Florida destination for provocative, cutting-edge theatre.

“We want you to get in the car, go to a restaurant and argue about it. And hopefully, if it's disturbing, still be disturbed by it, be challenged by it, the next day.

And a lot of people don't want to go along for that ride. But the amazing thing to me, the encouraging thing, is how many people are

**starved for that kind of theatre.”**

Joe Adler





# A Passion for Nurturing **Local Talent**

Among the most memorable hallmarks of Joe's tenure at GableStage was the unwavering commitment to supporting the career growth of local talent, from students, to technicians and professional actors.



Joe and actor Ryan Didato answer questions from Coral Reef High School students after a presentation of *Red*, by John Logan, 2011. Photo by Allison Diaz for Miami Herald. ON THE RIGHT: Joe speaks to students at a GableStage matinee in 2003. Photo by George Schiavone.

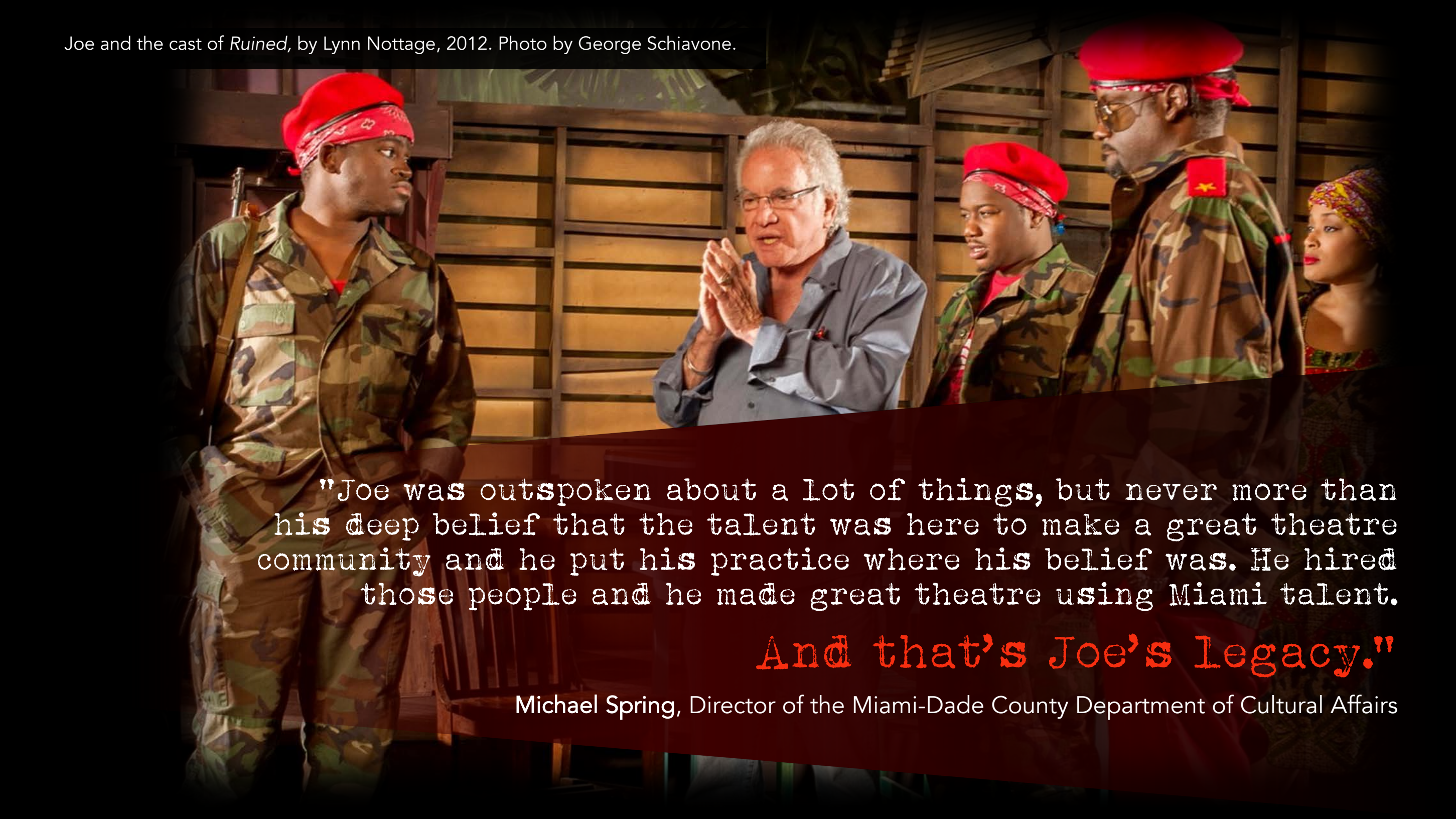


**"I love giving actors their first professional gig. Nothing makes me happier. To see them go on from that, and continue in the field, and get more work – that means the world to me."**

Joseph Adler



Joe and the cast of *Ruined*, by Lynn Nottage, 2012. Photo by George Schiavone.

A photograph of Joe Mantegna, an older man with glasses and a grey beard, clapping his hands. He is standing on a theater stage in front of a wooden slatted backdrop. To his left, a man in a camouflage military uniform and a red beret looks towards him. To his right, another man in a similar uniform and red beret stands with his back to the camera. Further right, a woman in a colorful headwrap and a woman in a dark dress are visible. The scene is lit with warm stage lights.

"Joe was outspoken about a lot of things, but never more than his deep belief that the talent was here to make a great theatre community and he put his practice where his belief was. He hired those people and he made great theatre using Miami talent.

**And that's Joe's legacy."**

Michael Spring, Director of the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs



# A Daring Vision for the Future

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"Joe's legacy is one of daring excellence. I'm a different person, a different generation, a woman...

The lifespan of an arts organization has many chapters.

I am bold and daring in ways that are both similar to and different from Joe."

Bari Newport

Bari Newport joined GableStage as Producing Artistic Director in April of 2021. She came to Miami from the Penobscot Theatre Company in Maine, where she served as Producing Artistic Director for nine seasons. Under her leadership, the organization grew from an annual budget of \$850,000 to \$1.8 million. Previously, she was Artistic Associate at the Alliance Theatre in Atlanta, Artistic Associate/Literary Manager at the Pasadena Playhouse, Associate Producer at Horizon Theatre and Associate Director of Florida Repertory Theatre.



Bari Newport works with her cast during a table reading at Penobscot Theatre Company, 2017. Photo by Magnus Stark

# Joseph Adler: *A Legacy*

## CAMPAIGN OBJECTIVES

### To Produce **Bold** and **Provocative** Theatre

**Bold new work is where Joe Adler's legacy and Bari Newport's exciting vision coalesce. GableStage challenges South Florida audiences with provocative plays that confront today's issues and ideas.**

With Bari Newport at the helm, GableStage is poised to build upon 23 years of producing world premieres, regional premieres and championing cutting-edge works. Plays by Tarell Alvin McCraney, Sarah Burgess, David Mamet, Edward Albee, Tom Stoppard, James Joyce, Hailey Feiffer, Anna Ziegler, Stephen Adly Guirgis, Martin McDonagh, Athol Fugard, and others have found a home at GableStage. In Bari's inaugural season alone, the company will produce four world premieres.

### To Nurture the **Careers** of **Local** Theatre Makers

**A robust and healthy arts sector is widely recognized to be a crucial element of a healthy and desirable place to live. A creative community, supported by the public, is an essential component of a thriving city.**

South Florida has a history of being a place where creatives flock to find inspiration. Over the years, many have found their permanent home in Miami. A founding tenet of GableStage has been to support, employ, grow and retain local talent.

Beyond the actors that you see onstage, GableStage employs teams of designers, stage managers, craftspeople and technicians. The list of skilled artists required to produce professional theatre is lengthy; and all of them should be able to afford to live in the community where they work.





# NAMING OPPORTUNITIES

**In recognition of extraordinary gifts to the Joseph Adler Legacy Campaign, the following naming\* rights are available:**

## **\$1,000,000 Joseph Adler Producing Artistic Director, supported by “Name”**

Ensure that the most crucial position within the company, the Producing Artistic Director, continues to be synonymous with Joe. The Director leads the company in all administrative and creative decisions. With your support, this position of paramount importance will continue to be synonymous with Joe’s name.

## **\$500,000 “Named” World Premieres Series**

Joe was passionate about championing new work and making South Florida a fertile ground for serious theatre. You can honor Joe by ensuring that the next great contemporary play premieres in Miami. Your support will fund the development of new plays poised to make national impact for a period of 10 years.

## **\$300,000 “Named” Creative Audacity Initiative**

Producing challenging, aesthetically-daring and thought-provoking plays was a hallmark of Joe’s career. For a period of 10 years, one production per season will be presented through this initiative. You can honor Joe’s legacy and support Bari’s vision for the future by underwriting this important aspect of the company’s mission.

## **\$200,000 "Named" Youth & Family Series**

Each year, GableStage will present at least one work that the entire family can enjoy. For a period of 10 years, one production per season will be presented at GableStage as part of this series, named in your honor.

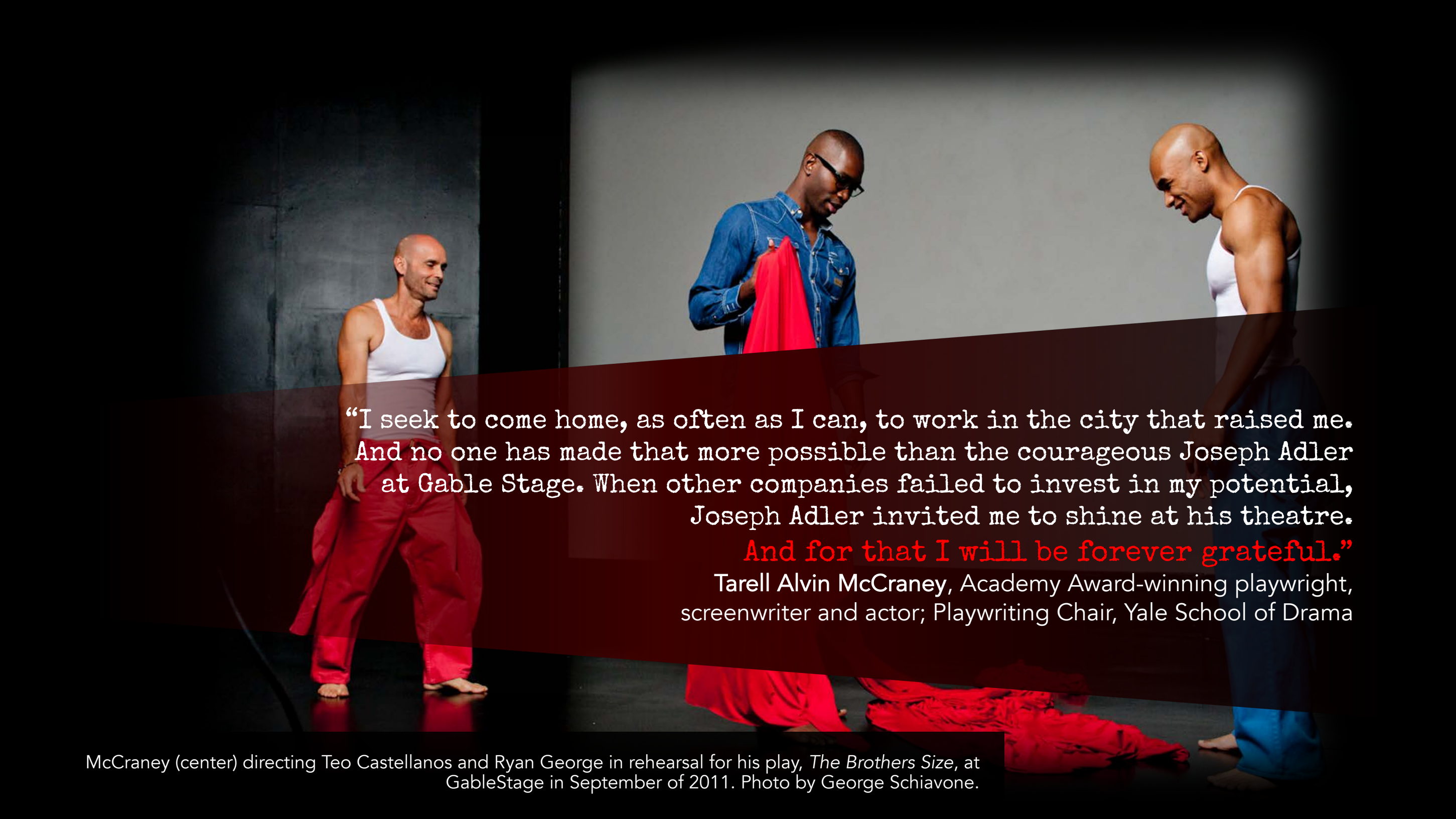
## **\$200,000 “Named” Classics Series**

GableStage is committed to producing one play each season that is deemed “classic.” Help breathe new life into seminal works by the giants of theatrical canon, from Euripides, to Molière and Arthur Miller, by funding the Classics Series for a period of 10 years.

## **\$100,000 “Named” Season at GableStage**

In recognition of your gift, one entire season, with bold productions presented throughout the year, will be named in your honor.

\*Naming rights and associated recognition will be showcased in all public/written mentions of the supported program, including all marketing collateral, website and digital assets, Playbills, Annual Reports, press releases, as well as onsite at the theatre for 10 years. Donor will be recognized in perpetuity as a major supporter of the Joseph Adler Legacy Campaign, including in all Playbills.



“I seek to come home, as often as I can, to work in the city that raised me.  
And no one has made that more possible than the courageous Joseph Adler  
at Gable Stage. When other companies failed to invest in my potential,  
Joseph Adler invited me to shine at his theatre.  
**And for that I will be forever grateful.”**

Tarell Alvin McCraney, Academy Award-winning playwright,  
screenwriter and actor; Playwriting Chair, Yale School of Drama

McCraney (center) directing Teo Castellanos and Ryan George in rehearsal for his play, *The Brothers Size*, at GableStage in September of 2011. Photo by George Schiavone.



# ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES | Nurture the Local Talent

Gifts of any level will help honor Joe's legacy at GableStage for generations to come. In appreciation of especially generous contributions, donors will be recognized\* in perpetuity as supporters of the Joseph Adler Legacy Campaign, and can choose to support one of the following initiatives or program components designed to nurture South Florida's theatre community:

## **\$50,000+ A Commission Inspired by Local Stories (3 available)**

Active on the South Florida theatre scene since 1969, Joe believed in this region as a thriving arts community, and he helped transform the local creative landscape. His successor, Bari Newport, is known for celebrating local idiosyncrasies wherever she works. You can honor Joe's legacy and support Bari's vision by underwriting one commissioned play inspired by stories unique to South Florida.

## **\$25,000+ A Joseph Adler BIPOC Fellowship**

Joe was fervently committed to providing emerging talent, particularly from local, underrepresented communities, with opportunities for professional growth. Your gift will enable one South Florida-based, young theatre maker of color to hone their craft and gain invaluable experience by working alongside Bari and the GableStage team for half a season.

## **\$5,000 - \$15,000+ Honorarium for One Local Theatre Maker in a Production**

- \$15,000+ Engagement of a South Florida-based Actor in a Production
- \$10,000+ Engagement of a South Florida-based Set, Lighting or Costume Designer in a Production
- \$7,000+ Engagement of a South Florida-based Crew Member in a Production

## **\$5,000+ Provide Free Admission to one Production for South Florida Students, Seniors and First Responders**

\*Recognition will be showcased in all related collateral, including the GableStage website, Playbills, Annual Reports, as well as onsite at the theatre.

# Commitment to **Fiduciary Responsibility**

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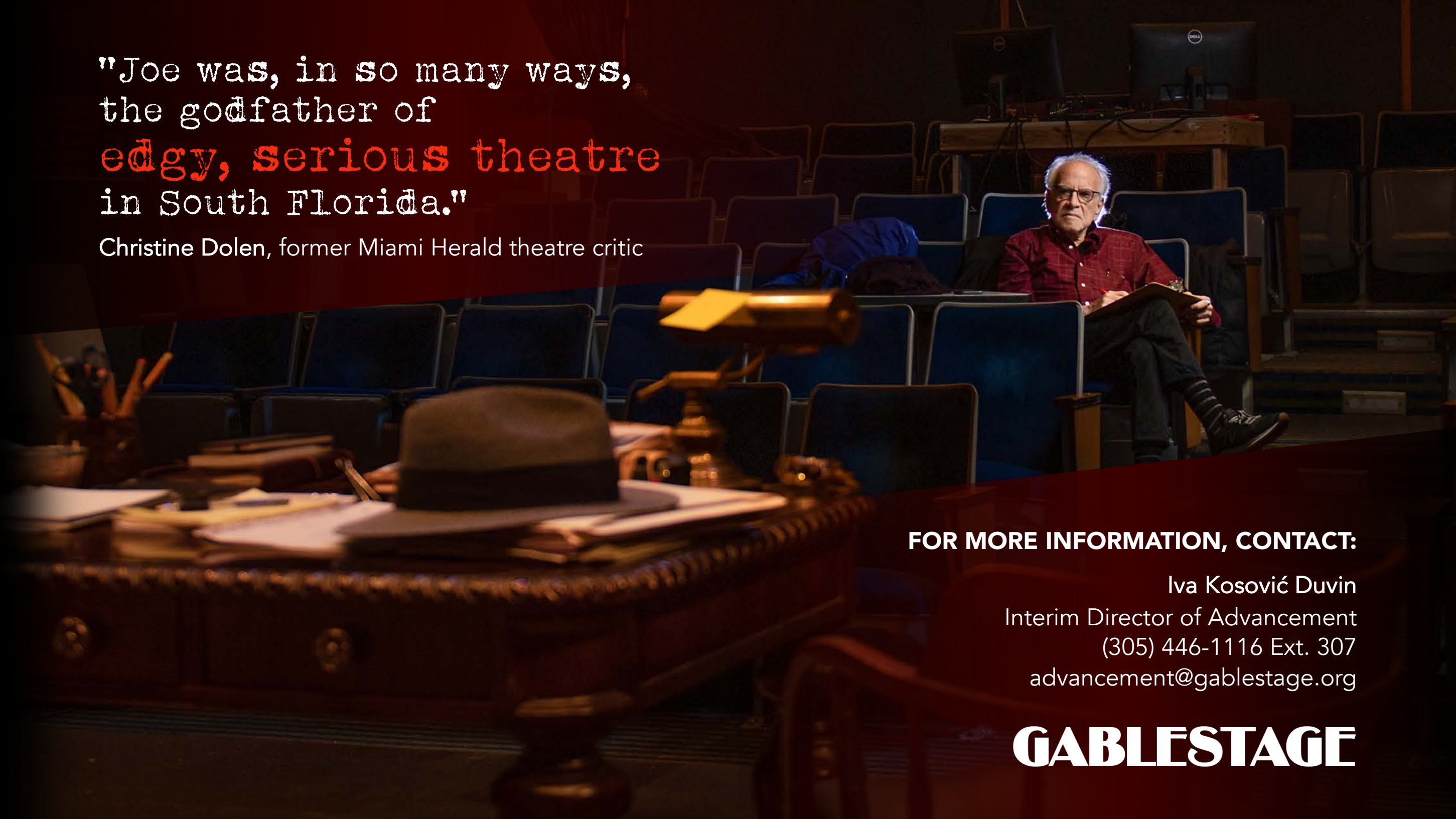
## SUPPORT FOR GABLESTAGE IS A **SOUND INVESTMENT**

**Our donors are our stakeholders. Ticket sales cover only a small fraction of what it costs to produce professional theatre for hundreds of audience members every year. It is through your generosity that we are able to present our work. We take your commitment to our mission seriously, and we want you to know that your investment in us is safe and secure.**

The Joseph Adler Legacy Campaign donations will be professionally managed by the Wealth Management Team at Grove Bank and Trust. Founded in 1926, the institution manages nearly one billion dollars on behalf of its clients.

*Between Riverside and Crazy, by Stephen Adly Guirgis, 2017.*



A photograph of a man with glasses and a red shirt sitting in a blue theater seat. He is holding a clipboard and a pen. In the foreground, there is a desk with a lamp, a hat, and some papers. The background shows rows of empty theater seats and a stage area with equipment.

"Joe was, in so many ways,  
the godfather of  
**edgy, serious theatre**  
in South Florida."

Christine Dolen, former Miami Herald theatre critic

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:**

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**GABLESTAGE**