



October 15, 2014

Dear Friend,

I'm thrilled to return to the Roundabout stage this season in Tom Stoppard's *The Real Thing* – a play with significant meaning to me personally and professionally. I first appeared in it on Broadway thirty-one years ago when I played the role of Debbie. I am now playing Debbie's mother Charlotte. My, how time flies...

Acting in a masterful work like *The Real Thing* is an amazingly rewarding experience for an actor. Tom Stoppard is unquestionably one of the cleverest, wittiest playwrights of our time, but in *The Real Thing* and *Indian Ink* – both of which will be seen on Roundabout's stages this fall – he is also one of the most aching when it comes to love.

I have seen Roundabout, under the vision of Artistic Director Todd Haimes, contextualize and develop numerous playwrights' careers each season, from established dramatists to the next generation of writers. In addition to Tom's plays this fall, you'll find the brilliant work of Stephen Sondheim and James Lapine (*Into the Woods* at the Laura Pels Theatre) alongside a talented emerging playwright Jeff Augustin (*Little Children Dream of God* in the Black Box Theatre). These writers join a long list of others produced by Roundabout in recent years such as Tennessee Williams, Noël Coward, Arthur Miller and more who are all highlighted in the enclosed booklet.

As a Board member at Roundabout, I personally support Todd's artistic mission and the company's continued investment in playwrights. Without not-for-profit theatres like Roundabout, I wouldn't have this opportunity to revisit *The Real Thing* in a new context with Sam Gold and his amazing cast, and many important writers would not be produced at all. I urge you to join me in honoring the playwrights who create the work that you see onstage by making a tax-deductible gift to Roundabout today. Your gift supports all of Roundabout's efforts and in turn provides opportunities for other writers to become the legends of tomorrow.

As an actor, Roundabout is a company that helps me fulfill my artistic ambitions. As a New Yorker and an avid theatre-goer, I find Roundabout's work essential for bringing a fresh look at timeless stories. Your support reinforces the careers of so many writers who make theatre possible and enjoyable for you. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Warmest wishes,

Cynthia Nixon

Roundabout Board Member/Actor, *The Real Thing*