The Laurence Olivier Awards: full list of winners 1976-2008
The Laurence Olivier Awards

The Laurence Olivier Awards, regarded as the most prestigious awards in London theatre, were established in 1976 in order to recognise distinguished artistic achievement in London theatre and Lord Olivier agreed to have his name associated with them in 1984. The Awards are organised by a number of members of the Society who form the Awards Committee. The Committee is currently chaired by Peter Wilkins.

The judging

The Awards are judged by four separate panels: the Theatre Panel, the Opera Panel, the Dance Panel and the Affiliates Panel. The Theatre Panel comprises five people chosen for their specialist knowledge and professional experience, who judge plays and musicals, plus eight members of the theatre-going public. Four of these public panelists cover plays and four cover musicals. The Opera, Dance and Affiliates Panels each comprise three professional members and two members of the public. The Affiliates Panel judges productions in theatres represented by the Society's Affiliate members.

Any new production that opens between January 1 and December 31 in a theatre represented in membership of the Society is eligible for consideration provided it has at least 30 performances. Once proposed and seconded by members of the Society, the productions are then seen by the relevant panel. For the Theatre Awards, the nominations are decided by a postal ballot of all members of the Theatre Panel and all members of the Society. For the Affiliates, Opera and Dance Awards, the Panels alone decide the nominations. All the winners are chosen by relevant Panels in a secret ballot. Only the President of the Society, who counts the votes, knows the results until their announcement at the annual Awards Presentation.

The award

The bronze Laurence Olivier Award presented to all winners was commissioned by the Society from the sculptor Harry Franchetti. It represents the young Laurence Olivier as Henry V at The Old Vic in 1937.

Actress

Best Actress

2008 Kristin Scott Thomas for Chekhov's The Seagull
2007 Tamsin Greig for Much Ado About Nothing
2006 Eve Best for Hedda Gabler
2005 Clare Higgins for Hecuba
2004 Eileen Atkins for Honour
2003 Clare Higgins for Vincent In Brixton
2002 Lindsay Duncan for Private Lives
2001 Julie Walters for All My Sons
2000 Janie Dee for Comic Potential
1999 Eileen Atkins for The Unexpected Man
1998 Zoë Wanamaker for Electra
1997 Janet McTeer for A Doll's House
1996 Judi Dench for Absolute Hell
1995 Clare Higgins for Sweet Bird Of Youth
1994 Fiona Shaw for Machinal
1993 Alison Steadman for The Rise And Fall Of Little Voice
1992 Juliet Stevenson for Death And The Maiden
1991 Kathryn Hunter for The Visit
1989/90 Fiona Shaw for Electra, As You Like It and The Good Person Of Sichuan
1987 Judi Dench for Antony and Cleopatra
1986 Lindsay Duncan for Les Liaisons Dangereuses
1985 Yvonne Bryceland for The Road To Mecca

Actress of the Year in a New Play

1988 Pauline Collins for Shirley Valentine
1984 Thuli Dumakude for Poppie Nongena
1983 Judi Dench for Pack Of Lies
1982 Rosemary Leach for 84 Charing Cross Road
1981 Elizabeth Quinn for Children Of A Lesser God
1980 Frances de la Tour for Duet For One
1979 Jane Lapotaire for Piaf
1978 Joan Plowright for Filumena
1977 Alison Fiske for Dusa, Fish, Stas and Vi
1976 Peggy Ashcroft for Old World

Actress of the Year in a Revival

1988 Harriet Walter for Twelfth Night and The Three Sisters
1984 Vanessa Redgrave for The Aspern Papers
1983 Frances de la Tour for A Moon For The Misbegotten
1982 Cheryl Campbell for A Doll's House
1981 Margaret Tyzack for Who's Afraid Of Virginia Woolf?
1980 Judi Dench for Juno And The Paycock
1979 Zoë Wanamaker for Once In A Lifetime
1978 Dorothy Tutin for The Double Dealer
1977 Judi Dench for Macbeth
1976 Dorothy Tutin for A Month In The Country

Best Actress in a Musical

2008 Leanne Jones for Hairspray
2007 Jenna Russell for Sunday In The Park With George
2006 Jane Krakowski for Guys And Dolls
2005 Laura Michelle Kelly for Mary Poppins
2004 Maria Friedman for Ragtime at the Piccadilly
2003 Joanna Riding for My Fair Lady
2002 Martine McCutcheon for My Fair Lady
2001 Samantha Spiro for Merrily We Roll Along
2000 Barbara Dickson for Spend Spend Spend
1999 Sophie Thompson for Into The Woods
1998 Ute Lemper for Chicago
1997 Maria Friedman for Passion
1996 Judi Dench for A Little Night Music
1995 Ruthie Henshall for She Loves Me
1994 Julia McKenzie for Sweeney Todd
1993 Joanna Riding for Carousel
1992 Wilhelmenia Fernandez for Carmen Jones
1991 Imelda Staunton for Into The Woods
1989/90 Lea Salonga for Miss Saigon
1988 Patricia Routledge for Candide
1987 Nichola McAuliffe for Kiss Me Kate
1986 Lesley Mackie for Judy
1985 Patti LuPone for Les Misérables and The Cradle Will Rock
1984 Natalia Makarova for On Your Toes
1983 Barbara Dickson for Blood Brothers
1982 Julia McKenzie for Guys And Dolls
1981 Carlin Glynn for The Best Little Whorehouse In Texas
1980 Gemma Craven for They're Playing Our Song
1979 Virginia McKenna for The King And I

**Actor**

**Best Actor**

2008 Chiwetel Ejiofor in Othello
2007 Rufus Sewell for Rock ‘N’ Roll
2006 Brian Dennehy for Death Of A Salesman
2005 Richard Griffiths for The History Boys
2004 Matthew Kelly for Of Mice And Men
2003 Simon Russell Beale for Uncle Vanya
2002 Roger Allam for Privates On Parade
2001 Conleth Hill for Stones In His Pockets
2000 Henry Goodman for The Merchant Of Venice
1999 Kevin Spacey for The Iceman Cometh
1998 Ian Holm for King Lear
1997 Antony Sher for Stanley
1996 Alex Jennings for Peer Gynt
1995 David Bamber for My Night With Reg
1994 Mark Rylance for Much Ado About Nothing
1993 Robert Stephens for Henry IV (Parts 1 and 2)
1992 Nigel Hawthorne for The Madness Of George III
1991 Ian McKellen for Richard III
1989/90 Oliver Ford Davies for Racing Demon
1987 Michael Gambon for A View From The Bridge
1986 Albert Finney for Orphans
1985 Antony Sher for Richard III and Torch Song Trilogy

**Actor of the Year in a New Play**

1988 David Haig for Our Country’s Good
1984 Brian Cox for Rat In The Skull
1983 Jack Shepherd for Glengarry Glen Ross
1982 Ian McDiarmid for Insignificance
1981 Trevor Eve for Children Of A Lesser God
1980 Roger Rees for Nicholas Nickleby
1979 Ian McKellen for Bent
1978 Tom Conti for Whose Life Is It Anyway?
1977 Michael Bryant for State Of Revolution
1976 Paul Copley for King And Country
Actor of the Year in a Revival

1988 Brian Cox for Titus Andronicus
1984 Ian McKellen for Wild Honey
1983 Derek Jacobi for Cyrano De Bergerac
1982 Stephen Moore for A Doll’s House
1981 Daniel Massey for Man And Superman
1980 Jonathan Pryce for Hamlet
1979 Warren Mitchell for Death Of A Salesman
1978 Alan Howard for Coriolanus
1977 Ian McKellen for Pillars Of The Community
1976 Alan Howard for Henry IV (Parts 1 and 2) and Henry V

Best Actor in a Musical

2008 Michael Ball for Hairspray
2007 Daniel Evans for Sunday In The Park With George
2006 James Lomas, George Maguire and Liam Mower for Billy Elliot - The Musical
2005 Nathan Lane for The Producers
2004 David Bedella for Jerry Springer - The Opera
2003 Alex Jennings for My Fair Lady
2002 Philip Quast for South Pacific
2001 Daniel Evans for Merrily We Roll Along
2000 Simon Russell Beale for Candide
1999 The cast of Kat and The Kings
1998 Philip Quast for The Fix
1997 Robert Lindsay for Oliver!
1996 Adrian Lester for Company
1995 John Gordon Sinclair for She Loves Me
1994 Alun Armstrong for Sweeney Todd
1993 Henry Goodman for Assassins
1992 Alan Bennett for Talking Heads
1991 Philip Quast for Sunday In The Park With George
1989/90 Jonathan Pryce for Miss Saigon
1988 Con O’Neill for Blood Brothers
1987 John Bardon and Emil Wolk for Kiss Me Kate
1986 Michael Crawford for The Phantom Of The Opera
1985 Robert Lindsay for Me And My Girl
1984 Paul Clarkson for The Hired Man
1983 Denis Lawson for Mr. Cinders
1982 Roy Hudd for Underneath The Arches
1981 Michael Crawford for Barnum
1980 Denis Quilley for Sweeney Todd
1979 Anton Rodgers for Songbook

Supporting

Best Performance in a Supporting Role
2008 Rory Kinnear for The Man Of Mode
2007 Jim Norton for The Seafarer
2006 Noma Dumezweni for A Raisin In The Sun, Young Vic
2005 Amanda Harris for Othello
2004 Warren Mitchell for The Price

Best Actress in a Supporting Role

2002 Marcia Warren for Humble Boy
2001 Pauline Flanagan for Dolly West's Kitchen
2000 Patricia Hodge for Money
1997 Deborah Findlay for Stanley
1995 Dora Bryan for The Birthday Party
1994 Helen Burns for The Last Yankee
1993 Barbara Leigh-Hunt for An Inspector Calls
1992 Frances de la Tour for When She Danced
1991 Sara Crowe for Private Lives
1984 Marcia Warren for Stepping Out
1983 Abigail McKern for As You Like It
1982 Anna Massey for The Importance Of Being Earnest
1981 Gwen Watford for Present Laughter
1980 Suzanne Bertish for Nicholas Nickleby
1979 Doreen Mantle for Death Of A Salesman
1978 Elizabeth Spriggs for Love Letters On Blue Paper
1977 Mona Washbourne for Stevie

Best Actor in a Supporting Role

2002 Toby Jones for The Play What I Wrote
2001 Ben Daniels for All My Sons
2000 Roger Allam for Money
1997 Trevor Eve for Uncle Vanya
1995 Ken Stott for Broken Glass
1994 Joseph Mydell for Perestroika
1993 Julian Glover for Henry IV (Parts 1 and 2)
1992 Oleg Menshikov for When She Danced
1991 David Bradley for King Lear
1984 Edward Petherbridge for Strange Interlude
1983 Alan Devlin for A Moon For The Misbegotten
1982 David Healy for Guys And Dolls
1981 Joe Melia for Good
1980 David Threlfall for Nicholas Nickleby
1979 Patrick Stewart for Antony And Cleopatra
1978 Robert Eddison for Twelfth Night
1977 Nigel Hawthorne for Privates On Parade

Best Supporting Performance

2003 Essie Davis for A Streetcar Named Desire
1999 Brendan Coyle for The Weir
1998 Sarah Woodward for Tom & Clem
1996 Simon Russell Beale for Volpone
1989/90 Michael Bryant for Hamlet, The Voysey Inheritance and Racing Demon
1988 Eileen Atkins for Cymbeline, The Winter’s Tale and Mountain Language
1987 Michael Bryant for King Lear and Antony And Cleopatra
1986 Paul Jesson for The Normal Heart
1985 Imelda Staunton for A Chorus Of Disapproval and The Corn Is Green
1976 Margaret Courtenay for Separate Tables

Best Performance in a Supporting Role in a Musical

2008 Tracie Bennett for Hairspray
2007 Sheila Hancock for Cabaret
2006 Celia Imrie for Acorn Antiques - The Musical!
2005 Conleth Hill for The Producers
2004 The Chorus of Jerry Springer - The Opera
2003 Paul Baker for Taboo
2002 Martyn Jacques for Shockheaded Peter
2001 Miles Western for Pageant
2000 Jenny Galloway for Mamma Mia!
1999 Shuler Hensley for Oklahoma!
1998 James Dreyfus for Lady In The Dark
1997 Clive Rowe for Guys And Dolls
1996 Sheila Gish for Company
1995 Tracie Bennett for She Loves Me
1994 Sara Kestelman for Cabaret
1993 Janie Dee for Carousel
1992 Jenny Galloway for The Boys From Syracuse
1991 Karla Burns for Show Boat

Director

Best Director

2008 Rupert Goold for Macbeth
2007 Dominic Cooke for The Crucible
2006 Richard Eyre for Hedda Gabler
2005 Nicholas Hytner for The History Boys
2004 Michael Grandage for Caligula
2003 Sam Mendes for Twelfth Night and Uncle Vanya
2002 Michael Boyd for Henry VI Parts I, II and III and Richard III
2001 Howard Davies for All My Sons
2000 Trevor Nunn for Summerfolk, The Merchant Of Venice and Troilus And Cressida
1999 Howard Davies for The Iceman Cometh
1998 Richard Eyre for King Lear
1997 Des McAnuff for Tommy
1996 Sam Mendes for Company and The Glass Menagerie
1989/90 Michael Bogdanov for The Wars Of The Roses
1988 Deborah Warner for Titus Andronicus
1987 Declan Donnellan for The Cid, Twelfth Night and Macbeth
1986 Bill Alexander for The Merry Wives Of Windsor
1985 Bill Bryden for The Mysteries
1984 Christopher Morahan for Wild Honey
1983 Terry Hands for Cyrano De Bergerac
1982 Richard Eyre for Guys And Dolls
1981 Peter Wood for On the Razzle
1980 Trevor Nunn and John Caird for Nicholas Nickleby
1979 Michael Bogdanov for The Taming Of The Shrew
1978 Terry Hands for Henry VI
1977 Clifford Williams for Wild Oats
1976 Jonathan Miller for The Three Sisters

Best Director of a Play

1995 Declan Donnellan for As You Like It
1994 Stephen Daldry for Machinal
1993 Stephen Daldry for An Inspector Calls
1992 Deborah Warner for Hedda Gabler
1991 David Thacker for Pericles

Best Director of a Musical

1995 Scott Ellis for She Loves Me
1994 Declan Donnellan for Sweeney Todd
1993 Nicholas Hytner for Carousel
1992 Simon Callow for Carmen Jones
1991 Richard Jones for Into The Woods

Play

Best New Play

2008 A Disappearing Number
2007 Blackbird by David Harrower
2006 On The Shore Of The Wide World by Simon Stephens
2005 The History Boys by Alan Bennett
2004 The Pillowman by Martin McDonagh

The BBC Award for Best New Play

2003 Vincent In Brixton by Nicholas Wright
2002 Jitney by August Wilson
2001 Blue/Orange by Joe Penhall
2000 Goodnight Children Everywhere by Richard Nelson
1999 The Weir by Conor McPherson
1998 Closer by Patrick Marber
1997 Stanley by Pam Gems
1996 Skylight by David Hare
1995 Broken Glass by Arthur Miller
1994 Arcadia by Tom Stoppard
1993 Six Degrees Of Separation by John Guare
1992 Death And The Maiden by Ariel Dorfman
1991 Dancing At Lughnasa by Brian Friel
1989/90 Racing Demon by David Hare
1988 Our Country’s Good by Timberlake Wertenbaker
1987 Serious Money by Caryl Churchill
1986 Les Liaisons Dangereuses by Christopher Hampton
1985 Red Noses by Peter Barnes
1984 Benefactors by Michael Frayn
1983 Glengarry Glen Ross by David Mamet
1982 Another Country by Julian Mitchell
1981 Children Of A Lesser God by Mark Medoff
1980 The Life And Adventures Of Nicholas Nickleby by Charles Dickens, adapted by David Edgar
1979 Betrayal by Harold Pinter
1978 Whose Life Is It Anyway? by Brian Clark
1977 The Fire That Consumes by Henry de Montherlant, English version by Vivian Cox with Bernard Miles
1976 Dear Daddy by Denis Cannan

Best Revival

2007 The Crucible by Arthur Miller
2006 Hedda Gabler by Henrik Ibsen in a new version by Richard Eyre
2005 Hamlet by William Shakespeare
2004 Mourning Becomes Electra by Eugene O’Neill
2003 Twelfth Night by William Shakespeare and Uncle Vanya by Anton Chekov
1995 As You Like It by William Shakespeare
1994 Machinal by Sophie Treadwell
1993 An Inspector Calls by J.B. Priestley
1992 Hedda Gabler by Henrik Ibsen
1991 Pericles by William Shakespeare

Comedy

Best New Comedy

2008 Rafta Rafta
2007 John Buchan’s The 39 Steps adapted by Patrick Barlow from an original concept by Simon Corble and Nobby Dimon
2006 Heroes by Gerald Sibleyras translated by Tom Stoppard

Best Comedy

2003 The Lieutenant Of Inishmore by Martin McDonagh
2002 The Play What I Wrote by Hamish McColl, Sean Foley and Eddie Braben
2001 Stones In His Pockets by Marie Jones
2000 The Memory Of Water by Shelagh Stephenson
1999 Cleo, Camping, Emmanuelle And Dick by Terry Johnson
1998 Popcorn by Ben Elton
1997 Art by Yasmina Reza
1996 Mojo by Jez Butterworth
1995 My Night With Reg by Kevin Elyot
1994 Hysteria by Terry Johnson
1993 The Rise And Fall Of Little Voice by Jim Cartwright
1992 La Bête by David Hirson
1991 Out Of Order by Ray Cooney
1989/90 Single Spies by Alan Bennett
1988 Shirley Valentine by Willy Russell
1987 Three Men On A Horse by John Cecil Holm and George Abbott
1986 When We Are Married by J.B. Priestley
1985 A Chorus Of Disapproval by Alan Ayckbourn
1984 Up’N’Under by John Godber
1983 Daisy Pulls It Off by Denise Deegan
1982 Noises Off by Michael Frayn
1981 Steaming by Nell Dunn
1980 Educating Rita by Willy Russell
1979 Middle Age Spread by Roger Hall
1978 Filumena by Eduardo de Filippo, adapted by Keith Waterhouse and Willis Hall
1977 Privates On Parade by Peter Nichols
1976 Donkey's Years by Michael Frayn

Best Comedy Performance

1995 Niall Buggy for Dead Funny
1994 Griff Rhys Jones for An Absolute Turkey
1993 Simon Cadell for Travels With My Aunt
1992 Desmond Barrit for The Comedy Of Errors
1991 Alan Cumming for Accidental Death Of An Anarchist
1989/90 Michael Gambon for Man Of The Moment
1988 Alex Jennings for Too Clever By Half
1987 John Woodvine for The Henrys
1986 Bill Fraser for When We Are Married
1985 Michael Gambon for A Chorus Of Disapproval
1984 Maureen Lipman for See How They Run
1983 Griff Rhys Jones for Charley's Aunt
1982 Geoffrey Hutchings for Poppy
1981 Rowan Atkinson for Rowan Atkinson in Revue
1980 Beryl Reid for Born In The Gardens
1979 Barry Humphries for A Night With Dame Edna
1978 Ian McKellen for The Alchemist
1977 Denis Quilley for Privates On Parade
1976 Penelope Keith for Donkey’s Years

Musical

Best New Musical

2008 Hairspray, book by Mark O'Donnell and Thomas Meehan, music by Marc Shaiman, lyrics by Scott Wittman and Marc Shaiman, based on the John Waters film,
2007 Caroline, Or Change, book and lyrics by Tony Kushner, music by Jeanine Tesori
2006 Billy Elliot - The Musical, book and lyrics by Lee Hall, music by Elton John
2005 The Producers book by Mel Brooks & Thomas Meehan; music and lyrics by Mel Brooks and by special arrangement with StudioCanal
2004 Jerry Springer - The Opera music by Richard Thomas, book and lyrics by Stewart Lee & Richard Thomas
2003 Our House by Tim Firth, music and lyrics by Madness
2001 Merrily We Roll Along -- music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim, book by George Furth, suggested by a play by George S Kaufman and Moss Hart
2000 Honk! The Ugly Duckling - music and lyrics by Anthony Drewe, based on the story by Hans Christian Andersen
1999 Kat And The Kings by David Kramer and Taliep Petersen
1998 Beauty And The Beast - music by Howard Ashman and Tim Rice, book by Linda Woolverton
1997 Martin Guerre - book by Alain Boublil and Claude-Michel Schönberg, music by Claude-Michel Schönberg, lyrics by Edward Hardy and Stephen Clark, original French text by Alain Boublil, additional lyrics by Herbert Kretzmer and Alain Boublil
1996 Jolson The Musical - written by Francis Essex and Rob Bettinson
1995 Once On This Island - book and lyrics by Lynn Ahrens, music by Stephen Flaherty, based upon the novel My Love My Love by Rosa Guy
1994 City Of Angels - book by Larry Gelbart, music by Cy Coleman, lyrics by David Zippel
1993 Crazy For You - music and lyrics by George Gershwin and Ira Gershwin, book by Ken Ludwig
1992 Carmen Jones by Oscar Hammerstein II, based on Meilhac and Halévy’s adaptation of Prosper Merimée's Carmen with original music by Bizet
1991 Sunday In The Park with George - music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim, book by James Lapine
1989/90 Return To The Forbidden Planet by Bob Carlton
1988 Candide - book adapted from Voltaire by Hugh Wheeler, music by Leonard Bernstein, lyrics by Richard Wilbur
1987 Follies - music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim, book by John Goldman
1986 The Phantom Of The Opera - music by Andrew Lloyd Webber, lyrics by Charles Hart, additional lyrics by Richard Stilgoe
1985 Me And My Girl - book and lyrics by L. Arthur Rose and Douglas Furber, music by Noel Gay
1984 42nd Street - music by Al Dubin, book by Michael Stewart and Mark Bramble, based on a novel by Bradford Ropes
1983 Blood Brothers by Willy Russell
1982 Poppy - book and lyrics by Peter Nichols, music by Monty Norman
1981 Cats - book by Andrew Lloyd Webber, based on T.S. Eliot’s Old Possum’s Book of Practical Cats
1980 Sweeney Todd - music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim, book by Hugh Wheeler, based on the play by Christopher Bond
1979 Songbook - music by Monty Norman, lyrics by Julian More, book by Monty Norman and Julian More
1978 Evita - music by Andrew Lloyd Webber
1977 The Comedy Of Errors - music by William Shakespeare, music by Guy Woolfenden
1976 A Chorus Line - book by James Kirkwood and Nicholas Dante, music by Marvin Hamlisch, lyrics by Edward Kleban

Outstanding Musical Production

2007 Sunday In The Park With George, music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim, book by James Lapine
2006 Guys And Dolls, based on a story and characters of Damon Runyon, music and lyrics by Frank Loesser, book by Jo Swerling and Abe Burrows
2005 Grand Hotel book by Luther Davis; music & lyrics by Robert Wright and George Forrest; additional music and lyrics by Maury Yeston; based on Vicki Baum’s Grand Hotel
2004 Pacific Overtures music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim, book by John Weidman, additional material by Hugh Wheeler
2003 Anything Goes music and lyrics by Cole Porter, original book by PG Wodehouse and Guy Bolton and Howard Lindsay & Russel Crouse, new book by Timothy Crouse & John Weidman
2002 My Fair Lady book and lyrics by Alan Jay Lerner, music by Frederick Loewe, adapted from Bernard Shaw’s Pygmalion and Gabriel Pascal’s motion picture
2001 Singin' In The Rain -- based on the MGM film, original choreography by Gene Kelly and Stanley Donen, screenplay and adaptation by Betty Comden and Adolph Green, songs by Nacio Herb Brown and Arthur Freed
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1999 Oklahoma! music by Richard Rodgers, book & lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II
1998 Chicago - lyrics by Fred Ebb, music by John Kander, book by Fred Ebb and Bob Fosse
1997 Tommy - music and lyrics by Pete Townshend, book by Pete Townshend and Des McAnuff

Best Musical Revival

2008 The Magic Flute - Impempe Yomlingo
1995 She Loves Me - book by Joe Masteroff, music by Jerry Bock, lyrics by Sheldon Harnick and based on a play by Miklos Laszlo
1994 Sweeney Todd - music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim, book by Hugh Wheeler, from an adaptation by Christopher Bond
1993 Carousel - music by Richard Rodgers, book and lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II, based on the play Liliom by Ferenc Molnár as adapted by Benjamin F Glazer
1991 Show Boat - book and lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II, music by Jerome Kern

Performance of the Year in a Musical

1978 Elaine Paige for Evita
1977 Ann Sharkey for Maggie

Outstanding Achievement of the Year in Musicals

1984 Ned Sherrin for the conception of The Ratepayers’ Iolanthe
1982 Guys And Dolls
1981 Gillian Lynne, choreographer of Cats

Entertainment

Best Entertainment

2006 Something Wicked This Way Comes
2004 Duckie’s C’est Barbican! devised and written by Mark Whitelaw, Ursula Martinez, Christopher Green, Marisa Carnesky, Francesca Baglione and Simon Vincenzi, scored by Ian Hill
2003 Play Without Words devised by Matthew Bourne, music by Terry Davies
2002 Shockheaded Peter created and devised by Julian Bleach, Anthony Cairns, Julian Crouch, Graeme Gilmour, Tamzin Griffin, Jo Pocock, Phelim McDermott, Michael Morris and The Tiger Lillies (Martyn Jacques, Adrian Huger and Adrian Stout)
2000 Defending The Caveman by Rob Becker
1999 The Right Size in Do You Come Here Often? written and devised by Sean Foley, Hamish McColl and Josef Houben
1998 Slava’s Snowshow created by Slava Polunin
1995 Maria Friedman - By Special Arrangement
1994 A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens, adapted and staged by Patrick Stewart
1993 Travels With My Aunt by Graham Greene, adapted and directed by Giles Havergal
1992 Talking Heads by Alan Bennett
1991 Five Guys Named Moe by Clarke Peters

**Opera**

**Best New Opera Production**

2008 Pelleas Et Melisande  
2007 English National Opera’s Jenufa  
2006 English National Opera’s Madam Butterfly  
2005 The Royal Opera’s Lady Macbeth Of Mtsensk  
2004 English National Opera’s The Trojans (Parts I and II)  
2003 The Royal Opera’s Wozzeck  
2002 The Royal Opera’s Boulevard Solitude  
2001 The Royal Opera’s The Greek Passion  
2000 Welsh National Opera’s Hansel And Gretel  
1999 Welsh National Opera’s La Clemenza Di Tito  
1998 The Royal Opera’s Paul Bunyan  
1997 English National Opera’s Tristan And Isolde  
1996 The Royal Opera’s Billy Budd  
1995 English National Opera’s Khovanshchina  
1994 The Royal Opera’s La Damnation De Faust  
1993 The Royal Opera’s Stiffelio

**Outstanding Achievement in Opera**

2008 Natalie Dessay for her performance in La Fille Du Regiment  
2007 Amanda Roocroft for her performance in English National Opera’s Jenufa  
2006 Simon Keenlyside for his performances in the Royal Opera’s 1984 at the Royal Opera House and English National Opera’s Billy Budd  
2005 Thomas Adès and the Royal Opera House for the world premiere of The Tempest  
2004 Cristina Gallardo-Domas for The Royal Opera’s Madama Butterfly  
2003 Antonio Pappano for a distinguished opening to his tenure as Music Director of The Royal Opera with Ariadne Auf Naxos and Wozzeck  
2002 Bernard Haitink for his contribution to The Royal Opera’s Jenufa and The Queen of Spades and the musical directorship of a season of great distinction by the Royal Opera  
2001 Mark-Anthony Turnage (composer) and Amanda Holden (librettist) for creating English National Opera’s The Silver Tassie  
2000 English National Opera for its high standard of production and for championing the works of Handel  
1999 The Orchestra of the Royal Opera House for its consistently outstanding musicianship in The Royal Opera’s Le Nozze Di Figaro, The Bartered Bride and The Golden Cockerel  
1998 Paul Daniel for conducting English National Opera’s From The House Of The Dead and for his contribution to English National Opera  
1997 Elgar Howarth for conducting English National Opera’s Die Soldaten and The Prince of Homburg  
1996 Bernard Haitink for conducting The Royal Opera’s Siegfried and Gotterdammerung  
1995 Roberto Alagna for his performance in The Royal Opera’s Roméo Et Juliette  
1994 The Orchestra of English National Opera for Lohengrin and Inquest Of Love  
1993 Sir Edward Downes for conducting The Royal Opera’s The Fiery Angel and Stiffelio  
1992 The Royal Opera’s Mitridate, Rê Di Ponto  
1991 Mark Elder for conducting English National Opera’s Duke Bluebeard’s Castle, Macbeth, Pelléas Et Mélisande, and Wozzeck  
1989/90 The Komische Oper’s Orpheus and Eurydice
1988 Leontina Vaduva for her performance in The Royal Opera’s Manon
1987 English National Opera’s Lady Macbeth Of Mtsensk
1986 English National Opera’s Doctor Faust, Graham Clark and Thomas Allen specially commended
1982 English National Opera’s Rigoletto
1981 The Royal Opera’s Les Contes D’Hoffman
1980 English National Opera’s Cosi Fan Tutte
1979 The Royal Opera’s The Rake’s Progress
1978 English National Opera for their enterprising repertoire
1977 Glyndebourne Festival Opera’s Don Giovanni

Additional Opera Awards

1985 Kathleen Battle for Ariadne Auf Naxos (The Royal Opera)
1984 Welsh National Opera’s From The House Of The Dead
1984 Philip Langridge for Osud (English National Opera)
1983 The Cologne Opera’s Il Matrimonio Segreto
1983 Valerie Masterson for Semele (The Royal Opera)
1982 Jeffrey Tate for La Clemenza Di Tito (The Royal Opera)
1981 Anne Mackay for The Gypsy Princess (Sadler’s Wells Theatre production)
1980 Rosalind Plowright for The Turn Of The Screw (English National Opera)
1978 The Royal Opera’s Lohengrin

Dance

Best New Dance Production

2008 The Royal Ballet for its revival of George Balanchine’s three-part ballet Jewels
2007 The Royal Ballet’s Chroma
2006 Sylvie Guillem and Russell Maliphant’s Push
2005 Rambert Dance Company’s Swamp at Sadler’s Wells
2004 Broken Fall, a George Piper Dances commission in association with The Royal Ballet
2003 Danses Concertantes’ Polyphonia
2002 Sankai Juku’s Hibiki
2001 Compagnie Montalvo-Hervieu’s Le Jardin Io Io Ito Ito
2000 Nederlands Dans Theater 1’s Symphony of Psalms
1999 Ballett Frankfurt’s Enemy In The Figure
1998 L’Allegro, Il Penseroso Ed Il Moderato performed by the Mark Morris Dance Group, English National Opera in association with Dance Umbrella
1997 English National Ballet’s Cinderella
1996 Adventures in Motion Pictures’ Swan Lake
1995 The Royal Ballet’s Fearful Symmetries
1994 The Birmingham Royal Ballet’s Choreartium
1993 Sir Kenneth MacMillan’s The Judas Tree (The Royal Ballet)

Outstanding Achievement in Dance

2008 The Royal Ballet for its revival of George Balanchine’s three-part ballet Jewels
2007 Carlos Acosta for his programme of work and his performances at Sadler’s Wells
2006 Pina Bausch for the creation of Nelken and Palermo Palermo
2005 San Francisco Ballet for their season at Sadler’s Wells
2004 Thomas Edur and Agnes Oaks for their performances in English National Ballet's 2 Human
2003 Robyn Orlin for the creative originality of Daddy, I've Seen This Piece Six Times And I Still Don’t Know Why They’re Hurting Each Other
2002 Mark Morris for the Mark Morris Dance Group’s season
2001 Deborah Colker for her choreography of Mix
2000 Jiří Kylián for his artistic excellence and outstanding direction of Nederlands Dans Theater 1’s season at Sadler’s Wells
1999 William Forsythe and his company, Ballett Frankfurt, for their season at Sadler’s Wells
1998 Lez Brotherston for the set and costume design for Adventures in Motion Pictures’ Cinderella
1997 The Dancers of Rambert Dance Company for their season at the London Coliseum
1996 Siobhan Davies for Siobhan Davies Dance Company's The Art of Touch
1995 Peter Mumford for his lighting design of The Royal Ballet's Fearful Symmetries and of Siobhan Davies Dance Company's The Glass Blew In
1994 The Dancers of London Contemporary Dance Theatre for their season at Sadler's Wells
1993 Siobhan Davies for choreography of Rambert Dance Company's Winnisboro Cotton Mill Blues
1992 In the Middle, Somewhat Elevated for William Forsythe’s choreography and performance by The Royal Ballet
1991 Twyla Tharp and Jennifer Tipton for choreography and lighting of The American Ballet Theatre’s In the Upper Room
1989/90 London Contemporary Dance Theatre for their production of Kim Brandstrup’s Orfeo
1988 The Dancers of the Kirov Ballet for their London season
1987 Trisha Brown for her season at Sadler's Wells
1986 The Ballet Rambert for their 60th Anniversary season
1982 Le Ballet de L’Opéra de Paris’ Le Songe d’Une Nuit d’Été
1981 Stuttgart Ballet’s Forgotten Lane
1980 The Royal Ballet’s Gloria
1979 Peter Schaufuss for London Festival Ballet’s La Sylphide
1978 Robert Cohan, Artistic Director, London Contemporary Dance Theatre
1977 London Festival Ballet’s Romeo And Juliet

Additional Dance Awards

1985 Merce Cunningham Dance Company’s Pictures
1985 Yoko Morishita for Giselle (Matsuyama Ballet Company)
1984 The Dance Theatre of Harlem’s Giselle
1984 David Bintley for Petrushka (Sadler’s Wells Royal Ballet)
1983 The Royal Ballet’s Requiem
1983 Alessandra Ferri for Valley Of Shadows (The Royal Ballet)
1982 Elisabeth Platel for La Sylphide (Le Ballet de L’Opéra de Paris)
1981 Bryony Brind for Dances Of Albion (The Royal Ballet)
1978 The Royal Ballet’s A Month In The Country

Choreographer

Best Theatre Choreographer

2008 Toby Sedgewick for War Horse
2007 Javier De Frutos for Cabaret
2006 Peter Darling for Billy Elliot - The Musical
2005 Matthew Bourne and Stephen Mear for Mary Poppins
2004 Karen Bruce for Pacific Overtures
2003 Matthew Bourne and Company for Play Without Words
2002 Matthew Bourne for My Fair Lady
2001 Bob Fosse and Ann Reinking for Fosse
2000 Garth Fagan for The Lion King
1999 Susan Stroman for Oklahoma!
1998 Simon McBurney for The Caucasian Chalk Circle
1997 Bob Avian for Martin Guerre
1996 Dein Perry for Tap Dogs
1995 David Atkins and Dein Perry for Hot Shoe Shuffle
1994 Luke Cresswell and Steve McNicholas for Stomp
1993 Susan Stroman for Crazy For You
1992 Rafael Aguilar for Matador
1991 Charles Augins for Five Guys Named Moe

Set

Best Set Design

2008 Rae Smith and the Handspring Puppet Company for War Horse
2007 Sunday In The Park With George, designed by David Farley and Timothy Bird
2006 Hedda Gabler designed by Rob Howell
2005 His Dark Materials designed by Giles Cadle
2004 Hitchcock Blonde designed by William Dudley
2003 A Streetcar Named Desire designed by Bunny Christie

Best Set Designer

2002 Tim Hatley for Humble Boy and Private Lives
2001 William Dudley for All My Sons
2000 Rob Howell for Richard III, Troilus and Cressida and Vassa
1999 Anthony Ward for Oklahoma!
1998 Tim Goodchild for Three Hours After Marriage
1997 Tim Hatley for Stanley
1996 John Napier for Burning Blue
1995 Stephen Brimson Lewis for Design for Living and Les Parents Terribles
1994 Mark Thompson for Hysteria
1993 Ian MacNeil for An Inspector Calls
1992 Mark Thompson for The Comedy Of Errors
1991 Mark Thompson for The Wind In The Willows

Costume

Best Costume Design

2008 Vicki Mortimer for The Man Of Mode at the National
2007 The Voysey Inheritance, designed by Alison Chitty at the National Lyttelton
2006 The Dog In The Manger designed by Es Devlin at the Playhouse
2005 All's Well That Ends Well designed by Deirdre Clancy at the Gielgud
2004 Power designed by Christopher Oram
2003 Twelfth Night designed by Jenny Tirimani
Best Costume Designer

2002 Jenny Beavan for Private Lives
2001 Alison Chitty for Remembrance Of Things Past
2000 Julie Taymor for The Lion King
1999 William Dudley for Amadeus and The London Cuckolds
1998 Tim Goodchild for Three Hours After Marriage
1997 Tim Goodchild for The Relapse
1995 Deirdre Clancy for Love's Labour's Lost and A Month In The Country
1994 Gerald Scarfe for An Absolute Turkey
1993 William Dudley for Heartbreak House, Pygmalion and The Rise and Fall of Little Voice
1992 Mark Thompson for The Comedy Of Errors
1991 Jasper Conran for The Rehearsal

Lighting

Best Lighting Design

2008 Howard Harrison for Macbeth
2007 Sunday In The Park With George designed by Natasha Chivers and Mike Robertson
2006 Don Carlos designed by Paule Constable
2005 His Dark Materials designed by Paule Constable
2004 Pacific Overtures designed by Hugh Vanstone
2003 Bacchus designed by Peter Mumford

Best Lighting Designer

2002 Mark Henderson for A Midsummer Night's Dream and The Playboy of the Western World
2001 Hugh Vanstone for The Cherry Orchard and The Graduate
2000 Mark Henderson for Plenty, Spend Spend Spend, Suddenly Last Summer, The Forest, The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe, The Real Thing and Vassa
1999 Hugh Vanstone for The Blue Room and The Unexpected Man
1998 Rick Fisher for Chips With Everything and Lady In The Dark
1997 Chris Parry for Tommy
1996 David Hersey for Burning Blue, The Glass Menagerie and Twelfth Night
1995 Mark Henderson for his work during the year
1994 Rick Fisher for Hysteria, Machinal and Moonlight
1993 Howell Binkley for Kiss Of The Spider Woman
1991 Jean Kalman for Richard III and White Chameleon

Sound

Best Sound Design

2008 Saint Joan, designed by Paul Arditti and Jocelyn Pook
2007 Waves, designed by Gareth Fry
2006 Billy Elliot - The Musical designed by Paul Arditti
2005 The Woman In White designed by Mick Potter
2004 Jerry Springer - The Opera designed by Mike Walker

Design

Designer of the Year

1989/90 Bob Crowley for Ma Rainey’s Black Bottom, Hedda Gabler, Ghetto and The Plantagenets
1988 Richard Hudson for his season at The Old Vic
1987 Lucio Fanti (with Design Team) for The Hairy Ape
1986 William Dudley for Futurists, Kafka’s Dick and The Merry Wives Of Windsor
1985 William Dudley for The Mysteries and The Critics
1984 John Gunter for Wild Honey
1983 Ralph Koltai for Cyrano De Bergerac
1982 John Gunter for Guys And Dolls
1981 Carl Toms for The Provok’d Wife
1980 John Napier and Dermot Hayes for Nicholas Nickleby
1979 William Dudley for Undiscovered Country
1978 Ralph Koltai for Brand
1977 John Napier for King Lear
1976 Farrah for Henry IV (Parts 1 and 2) and Henry V

Other Awards

Most Promising Playwright

2003 Charlotte Eilenberg for The Lucky Ones
2002 Grae Cleugh for Fucking Games

Most Promising Performer

2003 Noel Clarke for Where Do We Live
2002 Benjamin Davies for Fucking Games

Outstanding Achievement or Performance in an Affiliate Theatre

2008 Gone Too Far! in the Jerwood Theatre Upstairs at the Royal Court
2007 Pied Piper at Theatre Royal Stratford East
2006 Bloody Sunday - Scenes From The Saville Inquiry at the Tricycle Theatre
2005 Andrew Scott for his performance in A Girl In A Car With A Man at the Jerwood Theatre Upstairs at the Royal Court
2004 The Young Vic for an audacious season under the artistic direction of David Lan

Most Promising Newcomer in a Play

2008 Tom Hiddleston for Cymbeline
Most Promising Newcomer in an Affiliate Theatre

2004 Debbie Tucker Green for Born Bad

Most Promising Newcomer of the Year in Theatre

1989/90 Jeremy Northam for The Voysey Inheritance
1988 Richard Jones for Too Clever By Half
1987 Suzan Sylvester for A View From The Bridge
1986 Sally Dexter for Dalliance
1985 Cheek by Jowl Company for Andromache, Pericles and Vanity Fair
1984 Tim Flavin for On Your Toes
1983 John Retallack for directing Quixote and The Provok'd Wife
1982 Kenneth Branagh for Another Country
1981 Alice Krige for Arms And The Man
1980 Edward Duke for the creation, adaptation and performance in Jeeves Takes Charge

The Society’s Special Award

2008 Andrew Lloyd Webber
2007 John Tomlinson
2006 Sir Ian McKellen
2005 Alan Bennett
2004 Dame Judi Dench
2003 Sam Mendes
2002 Rupert Rhymes
1999 Sir Peter Hall
1998 Ed and David Mirvish
1997 Margaret Harris
1996 Harold Pinter
1994 Sam Wanamaker
1993 Sir Kenneth MacMillan
1992 Dame Ninette de Valois
1991 Dame Peggy Ashcroft
1988 Sir Alec Guinness
1985 Sir John Gielgud
1984 Lord Goodman
1983 Joan Littlewood
1982 Charles Wintour
1980 Sir Ralph Richardson
1979 Lord Olivier

Outstanding Achievement

2003 Gregory Doran and the Jacobean Season acting ensemble
2002 Trevor Nunn
2000 Peter O’Toole
1997 Sir Richard Eyre

Audience Award for Most Popular Show
The Laurence Olivier Awards: full list of winners 1976-2008

2002 The Phantom of the Opera

The Observer Award for Outstanding Achievement
(In Memory of Kenneth Tynan)

1992 The Gate Theatre, Notting Hill for A Season of Classics from The Spanish Golden Age
1991 Cameron Mackintosh
1989/90 Declan Donnellan for Fuente Ovejuna
1988 Maly Theatre of Leningrad for Stars in the Morning Sky
1987 Thelma Holt for producing the International Festival at the National Theatre
1986 The Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith for The House of Bernarda Alba
1985 Anthony Hopkins for Pravda

The Times Award

1994 Peter Brook