



The T-Mobile myTouch® and myTouch® Q with a Genius Button® for easy-to-use voice commands.

LEARN MORE

August 29, 2012

# HUFF POST ENTERTAINMENT

Edition: U.S. ▾



Entertainment · Celebrity TV Political Hollywood Features Hollywood Buzz Videos

### HOT ON THE BLOG

John Hillcoat  
Harry Shearer

Sen. Ben Cardin  
Jeffrey Sachs

## THE BLOG

Featuring fresh takes and real-time analysis from HuffPost's signature lineup of contributors



**Michael Giltz**

Freelance writer

GET UPDATES FROM MICHAEL GILTZ

Like 102

## Theater: "An Evening With Patti Lupone and Mandy Patinkin"

Posted: 11/30/11 11:55 PM ET

React > Inspiring Funny Hot Scary Outrageous Amazing Weird Crazy

Follow > Video, Entertainment News



LEARN MORE

SHARE THIS STORY

4 46 4

0

Get Entertainment Alerts

Sign Up

Submit this story

### AN EVENING WITH PATTI LUPONE AND MANDY PATINKIN \*\*\* ETHEL BARRYMORE THEATRE

Two current Broadway shows offer the pleasure of major talents in concert. *Hugh Jackman: Back On Broadway* has received all the accolades and it's great fun. Everyone would enjoy it but I might send tourists to Jackman first and the serious theater buffs to Lupone and Patinkin. It's a modest affair, geared to being performed easily and simply all over the country in any sort of space, which the two of them have apparently been doing for years. But it offers the distinct pleasure of two pros doing what they do best in the company of one another.

The stage is scattered with stands topped by bulbs and on the side are pianist Paul Ford and bassist John Beal (both in sterling support). Front and center are Lupone and Patinkin, working their way effortlessly through "Another Hundred People" and they're off. It's not strictly a concert and it's not a lazy love-fest or walk through their greatest hits.

The heart of the show are three sections of singing and acting built around three musicals: *South Pacific*, *Merrily We Roll Along* and *Carousel*. In this setting, it's quite easy to accept Nellie as an older, single gal serving as a nurse in the war and their chemistry is palpable as they dive in and out of dialogue and songs like "A Cockeyed Optimist" and "Some Enchanted Evening." Even better is *Merrily* and the marvelous finale built around *Carousel*.

### SPONSOR GENERATED POST



### Help Us Write 'The Words'

Quick Read | Comments (26) | 08.20.2012

FOLLOW US

### MOST POPULAR ON HUFFPOST

1 of 2



Isaac Balloons Into A Hurricane, New Orleans Threatened

Recommend 629

Limbaugh's Wild Isaac Conspiracy

Like 6k

In between we get numerous other tunes, with Patinkin reprising his *Follies* success "The God-Why-Don't-You-Love-Me Blues" and Lupone delivering a more measured "Everything's Coming Up Roses." They delight in numerous comic numbers like "Baby It's Cold Outside" and the novelty tune "April In Fairbanks" (unfamiliar to me, it's from *New Faces Of 1956*). This sort of thing can be tossed together in a minute but they've crafted it with care. Patinkin subtly and graciously showcases Lupone throughout, giving himself goofier turns a la "I Won't Dance."

Of course they tackle *Evita*, done in a smartly straightforward manner. He puts his arm around her and talks about how they met on that show and became fast friends. Patinkin then turns out a fiery, focused "Oh What A Circus" while she sits on the side and applauds. They switch and he admires Lupone as she acts her way through "Don't Cry For Me Argentina." As with several other points in the show, the audience is raptly quiet when these two command the stage. Almost as an aside, Lupone delivers a nicely modulated, moving "In Buddy's Eyes" shortly thereafter.

But the finale really is *Carousel*, in which these two people known so well for their distinctive, career-making voices remind us what exceptional actors they are. Patinkin is a would-be menacing Billy Bigelow who can't faze a more world-weary Julie Jordan, as embodied so nicely here by Lupone. Yes, they're playing kids but the emotions of warily reaching out to another are universal and timeless and for a scene or two, it works wonderfully.

"If I Loved You" and "You're A Queer One, Julie Jordan" are gems delivered beautifully, but I remember the emotions they evoke so deftly in the acting moments. Lupone tears up on a dime during *Merrily* and here her character's instant ability to see into Billy's awkward, confused heart is quite moving. And Patinkin delivers the commencement address from the finale of that show; it's advice to students and indeed anyone trying to live their life with purpose and dignity. He captures that moment so simply and directly and touchingly, it breaks your heart. It's the greatness of Rodgers & Hammerstein in a nutshell: a disarming truthfulness that slips past your defenses with ease. Corny in the hands of amateurs; moving in the hands of pros.

Lupone's trumpet of a voice is more muted now; Patinkin's swoops and moans and various voices from deep bass to high falsetto as familiar as ever. Acquired tastes? Of course, but we've been acquiring that taste for years. They don't break new ground or work wonders during this low-key, charming evening. They simply get on stage and perform. It's all they've ever wanted.

#### The Theater Season 2011-2012 (on a four star scale)

*The Agony And The Ecstasy Of Steve Jobs* \*\* 1/2

*All-American* \*\*

*All's Well That Ends Well/Shakespeare in the Park* \*\*

*The Atmosphere Of Memory* 1/2 \*

*Broadway By The Year: 1997* \*\* 1/2

*Chinglish* \* 1/2

*Crane Story* \*\*

*Cymbeline* at Barrow Street Theatre \*\*\*

*Follies* \*\*\* 1/2

*Fragments* \*\*\*

*Godspell* \*\* 1/2

*Hair* \*\*\*

*Hand To God* \*\*\*

*Hero: The Musical* \* 1/2

*Hugh Jackman: Back On Broadway* \*\*\*



**GOP Candidate Compares Pregnancy From Rape To What?**

Recommend 18k



**MAP: Hurricane Isaac's Path Aims For Gulf Coast**

Recommend 192



**Sylvester Stallone's Half-Sister Dies At 48**

Recommend 264



**GOP Approves Abortion Ban**

Recommend 7k



**PHOTO: Christina Aguilera's 'Your Body' Dress Doesn't Leave Much To The Imagination**

Like 195



**PHOTOS: Katy Perry Tries Orange Hair**

Like 84



**The Most Awkward Wedding Photobombs**

Like 632

#### DON'T MISS HUFFPOST BLOGGERS 1 of 5



**John Hillcoat**  
**Lawless: Reinventing the Gangster**



**Sen. Ben Cardin**  
**This Is No Way to Win an Election**

#### TOP VIDEO PICKS 1 of 8

##### Pink's Super Sheer Outfit



**Housewives' Clooney Connection**



**Christina Milian Is Excited For New Season Of American Idol and X Factor**

#### MOST DISCUSSED RIGHT NOW 1 of 2

**Samuel L. Jackson's Shocking Tweets About**

[Irving Berlin's White Christmas](#) \*\*\*  
[King Lear at Public with Sam Waterston](#) \*\*  
[Lake Water](#) \*\*  
[Love's Labor's Lost at the PublicLab](#) \*\* 1/2  
[Man And Boy](#) \* 1/2  
[Master Class w Tyne Daly](#) \*\* 1/2  
[Measure For Measure/Shakespeare in the Park](#) \*\*\*  
[Milk Like Sugar](#) \*\*\*  
[The Mountaintop](#) \*\* 1/2  
[Newsies](#) \*\*  
[Pigpen's The Nightmare Story](#) \*\*\* 1/2  
[Olive and The Bitter Herbs](#) \*\* 1/2  
[One Arm](#) \*\*\*  
[Other Desert Cities on Broadway](#) \*\* 1/2  
[Private Lives](#) \*\*  
[Queen Of The Mist](#) \*\* 1/2  
[Radio City Christmas Spectacular](#) \*\* 1/2  
[Relatively Speaking](#) \* 1/2  
[The Select \(The Sun Also Rises\)](#) \*\* 1/2  
[Seminar](#) \*\*  
[Septimus & Clarissa](#) \*\*\* 1/2  
[Silence! The Musical](#) \* 1/2  
[69 Degrees South](#) \* 1/2  
[Sons Of The Prophet](#) \*\*\* 1/2  
[Spiderman: Turn Off The Dark](#) \* 1/2  
[Standing On Ceremony: The Gay Marriage Plays](#) \*\*  
[The Submission](#) \*\*  
[Sweet and Sad](#) \*\*  
[Unnatural Acts](#) \*\*\*  
[Venus In Fur](#) \*\*\*  
[We Live Here](#) \*\*  
[Wild Animals You Should Know](#) \*\* 1/2  
[Zarkana](#) \*\*

**NEW YORK MUSICAL THEATRE FESTIVAL 2011**

[Blanche: The Bittersweet Life Of A Wild Prairie Dame](#) \*\*\* 1/2  
[Central Avenue Breakdown](#) \*\* 1/2  
[Crazy, Just Like Me](#) \*\*\*  
[Cyclops: A Rock Opera](#) \*  
[Ennio: The Living Paper Cartoon](#) \*\* 1/2  
[F---ing Hipsters](#) \*\*  
[Ghostlight](#) \*\*  
[Gotta Getta Girl](#) \*\* 1/2 for staged reading  
[Greenwood](#) \*  
[Jack Perry Is Alive \(And Dating\)](#) \* 1/2  
[Kiki Baby](#) \*\* 1/2  
[Kissless](#) \* 1/2  
[Madame X](#) \*\*  
[The Pigeon Boys](#) \*\*\*  
[Time Between Us](#) \* 1/2  
[Tut](#) \*\*

**FRINGEFEST NYC 2011**

[Araby](#) \*  
[The Bardy Bunch](#) \*\*  
[Books On Tape](#) \*\* 1/2  
[Civilian](#) \*\*  
[Hard Travelin' With Woody](#) \*\*\*  
[Leonard Cohen Koans](#) \*\*\* 1/2  
[The More Loving One](#) \*\*  
[The Mountain Song](#) \*\*\* 1/2  
[Paper Cuts](#) \*\*\*  
[Parker & Dizzy's Fabulous Journey To The End Of The Rainbow](#) \*\* 1/2  
[Pearl's Gone Blue](#) \*\*\*  
[Rachel Calof](#) \*\* 1/2  
[Romeo & Juliet: Choose Your Own Ending](#) \*\*



Isaac



**Jon Voight Blasts Obama Administration, Mainstream Media**

**HOT ON FACEBOOK**

1 of 3



**Fact-Checking '2016 Obama's America'**



**WATCH: Raging Grannies Have Some Words For Todd Akin**

**HOT ON TWITTER**

1 of 2



[alyssa\\_milano](#)

Sleep Better: How To Use All Your Senses To Promote Sleep  
<http://t.co/1UxSV5oG> /via @heykim  
[Retweet](#)



[pattonswalt](#)

Oh man. Gorgeous, touching obituary for Tony Scott by @KevinFCorrigan. This one's a gut-punch: <http://t.co/ajVp7K1L>  
[Retweet](#)

**Sponsored Links**



**Woman is 57 But Looks 27**

Long Island City Mom publishes simple facelift trick that angered doctors...  
[ConsumerLifestyles.org](http://ConsumerLifestyles.org)



**What is Scientology?**

Think For Yourself and Find Out For Yourself.  
[Scientology.org/What\\_Is\\_Scientology](http://Scientology.org/What_Is_Scientology)

**Car Sharing New York City**

Find Zipcars In NYC. Get \$75 Free Driving, Join Today.  
[zipcar.com](http://zipcar.com)

[Buy a link here](#)

**HUFFPOST'S BIG NEWS PAGES**



Snooki



Smoking



Ask The Parent Coach



Unplug And Recharge



Chris Christie



Elections 2012



Rachel Maddow



Republican Convention



Ann Romney

[MORE BIG NEWS PAGES »](#)

[2 Burn](#) \* 1/2  
[Walls and Bridges](#) \*\*  
[What The Sparrow Said](#) \*\* 1/2  
[Yeast Nation](#) \*\*\*

Thanks for reading. Michael Giltz is the cohost of [Showbiz Sandbox](#), a weekly pop culture podcast that reveals the industry take on entertainment news of the day and features top journalists and opinion makers as guests. It's [available](#) for free on iTunes. Visit Michael Giltz at his [website](#) and his [daily blog](#). Download his podcast of celebrity interviews and his radio show, also called [Popsurfing](#) and also [available](#) for free on iTunes. Link to him on [Netflix](#) and [gain](#) access to thousands of ratings and reviews.

**Note:** Michael Giltz was provided with free tickets to this show with the understanding that he would be writing a review.

Follow Michael Giltz on Twitter: [www.twitter.com/michaelgiltz](http://www.twitter.com/michaelgiltz)

#### Sponsored Links



#### Woman is 57 But Looks 27

Long Island City Mom publishes simple facelift trick that angered doctors...  
[ConsumerLifestyles.org](#)



#### What is Scientology?

Think For Yourself and Find Out For Yourself.  
[Scientology.org/What\\_Is\\_Scientology](#)

#### Car Sharing New York City

Find Zipcars In NYC. Get \$75 Free Driving, Join Today.  
[zipcar.com](#)



#### New Policy in New York

June 2012: Drivers w/ no DUIs eligible for up to 50% off car insurance  
[TheFinanceAuthority.com](#)

[Buy a link here](#)

[More in Entertainment...](#)

Robin Williams As  
Dwight D.  
Eisenhower In...

Fall Movie Preview  
2012: 'The Hobbit,'  
'Django...

Lynyrd Skynyrd's  
RNC Gig Canceled  
Amid Hurricane...

Samuel L. Jackson:  
'Unfair' Hurricane  
Isaac Avoid...

## Comments

0

Pending Comments

0

[View FAQ](#)

Comments are closed for this entry

View All

Recency | Popularity

[Advertise](#) | [Log In](#) | [Make HuffPost your Home Page](#) | [RSS](#) | [Careers](#) | [FAQ](#)

[User Agreement](#) | [Privacy](#) | [Comment Policy](#) | [About Us](#) | [About Our Ads](#) | [Contact Us](#)

Copyright © 2012 TheHuffingtonPost.com, Inc. | "The Huffington Post" is a registered trademark of TheHuffingtonPost.com, Inc. All rights reserved.

Part of **AOL-HuffPost Entertainment**