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Post Press Release

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**Theatre Communications Group 2013 Gala Evening Honored  
Ruth and Stephen Hendel, Ming Cho Lee  
*TCG Playwrights Celebrated 30+ Year History of TCG Books***

New York, NY – On Monday, May 13 Theatre Communications Group (TCG), the national organization for Theatre honored **Ruth and Stephen Hendel** and **Ming Cho Lee** at their Gala Evening. The evening was held at the Angel Orensanz Foundation (172 Norfolk Street) in New York City, cocktails started at 6pm and dinner started at 7pm. **Jessica Hecht** was the emcee of the evening; the Gala co-chairs were playwright **Lydia R. Diamond** and interior designer **Jasmine M. Keller**. The Gala honorary chairs were **Anne Kaufman**, Obie award-winning director; **Nelle Nugent**, Broadway producer; **Judith O. Rubin**, chairman of the board of Playwrights Horizons; and **Liz Smith**, gossip columnist. The event hosted 200 guests and surpassed its financial goal.

The Honorary Gala Committee included: **Ralph Bryan, Philip Himberg, Heather Randall, Diane Rodriguez, Roche Schulfer, and Anna Strasberg.**

A wonderful list of TCG-published playwrights came out to celebrate the over 30-year history of TCG books as an independent trade publisher of dramatic literature. **Tony Kushner** presented a surprise award to TCG Publisher **Terry Nemeth**, for his support of the book program.

The playwrights in attendance included: **Eric Bogosian, Thomas Bradshaw, Ping Chong, Nilo Cruz, Will Eno, Melissa James Gibson, Jessica Hagedorn, Karen Hartman, Amy Herzog, Danny Hoch, Tina Howe, Quiara Alegría Hudes, Samuel D. Hunter, Tony Kushner, Emily Mann, Ellen McLaughlin, Richard Nelson, Lynn Nottage, Adam Rapp, José Rivera, Wallace Shawn, and Michael Weller.**

The guest list included: **Lydia R. Diamond, Michael David, Douglas Carter Beane, Teresa Eyring (TCG), Heidi Ettinger, Rhoda Herrick, Jasmine Keller, Tom Keller, Anne Kaufman, Richard Kornberg, Christine Lahti, Todd London, Iris Love, Kevin McCollum, Nelle Nugent, Judith O. Rubin, Jolyon F. Stern, Liz Smith and Doug Steiner.**

The Gala Evening featured performances from TCG Member Theatres around the nation, which included three musical excerpts that were performed from **Rapture from *Sky-Pony: Raptured*, Willow from *Venice*, and Hallelujah from *The Last Goodbye*.**

“TCG is delighted to honor the deep contributions made to the theatre field by producers Ruth and Stephen Hendel, and designer Ming Cho Lee,” said Teresa Eyring, executive director of TCG. “The Hendels’ body of work as producers ranges from *Fela!* to *Bengal Tiger at the Baghdad Zoo*, and their contributions as trustees at TCG Member Theatres like Eugene O’Neill

Theater Center, LAByrinth Theater Company and The Play Company are immeasurable. The opportunity to celebrate their legacy alongside that of seminal designer Ming Cho Lee—and in the company of so many distinguished TCG playwrights— made for an unforgettable evening.”

TCG will be publishing *Ming Cho Lee: A Life in Design*, a retrospective of his work by Arnold Aronson, in the fall of 2013. Gala attendees had a unique opportunity to have their names published in that title, as well as other 2013-14 TCG Books titles.

For over 50 years, **Theatre Communications Group** (TCG), the national organization for the American theatre, has existed to strengthen, nurture and promote the professional not-for-profit American theatre. TCG’s constituency has grown from a handful of groundbreaking theatres to nearly 700 member theatres and affiliate organizations and more than 12,000 individuals nationwide. TCG offers its members networking and knowledge-building opportunities through conferences, events, research and communications; awards grants, approximately \$2 million per year, to theatre companies and individual artists; advocates on the federal level; and serves as the U.S. Center of the International Theatre Institute, connecting its constituents to the global theatre community. TCG is North America’s largest independent publisher of dramatic literature, with 12 Pulitzer Prizes for Best Play on the TCG booklist. It also publishes the award-winning AMERICAN THEATRE magazine and ARTSEARCH®, the essential source for a career in the arts. In all of its endeavors, TCG seeks to increase the organizational efficiency of its member theatres, cultivate and celebrate the artistic talent and achievements of the field and promote a larger public understanding of, and appreciation for, the theatre. For more information, visit [www.tcg.org](http://www.tcg.org).

### **Photographs from the Event:**

For photographs from the evening, please follow the link below and use the User Name and Password.

URL: <http://www.patrickmcmullan.com/collections/tcg051313.collection>

User Name: tcg0513

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**Photo Credit: Jonathan Ziegler/ Patrick McMullan Company**

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