

WESTPORT COUNTRY PLAYHOUSE

NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Patricia Blaufuss, Public Relations Manager

(203) 227-5137 x197 | (203) 571-1287 | pblaufuss@westportplayhouse.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Oct. 2, 2026

Westport Country Playhouse Marks Milestone 100th Script in Hand Playreading with Wendie Malick and Tony Shalhoub

A new work, “Portrait of a Woman in Repose,” on Monday, October 5, delves into art, memory, survival, and the enduring quest to reclaim what has been lost.

Westport Country Playhouse will celebrate the 100th playreading in its 20-year-old Script in Hand series on Monday, October 5, at 7 p.m., with a reading of the new work, “Portrait of a Woman in Repose.” The play explores themes of art, memory, survival, and the enduring effort to restore what has been lost. Wendie Malick and Tony Shalhoub will headline the cast, with additional casting to be announced. “Portrait of a Woman in Repose” is written by Nicky Glossman and directed by James Glossman.

“It’s our 100th Script in Hand reading!,” said Mark Shanahan, Playhouse artistic director and curator of the Script in Hand series. “The series, originated by Playhouse pillar Annie Keefe, has become a hallmark of the Playhouse experience over the past 20 years.

“For our 100th reading, I knew we wanted to present something truly special, filled with wit, charm, and heart,” Shanahan added. “‘Portrait of a Woman in Repose’ is all of that, as well as a feast for three wonderful actors - and I am so proud to welcome such an extraordinary cast to the Playhouse for this landmark night. Under James Glossman’s always superb direction, I know this will be an evening our audience will be talking about for a long time to come. Nicky Glossman’s beautiful play is the perfect script to celebrate this milestone as well as all of the exciting new work the Playhouse will be engaging with throughout the coming season.”

“Portrait of a Woman in Repose” is set in restoration France, 1818. What begins as a simple job of art conservation brings Madame Anne Dulac, newly returned from exile, together with Jean Howlitz, a former painter with a complicated past, and Roderick Calley, the quick-witted man charged with managing her affairs. As the restoration unfolds, all three find themselves reckoning with the past and with the new world they have somehow managed to survive.

Funny, moving, and constantly surprising, “Portrait of a Woman in Repose” is a tour-de-force for three veteran actors about art, memory, survival, and what it means to restore what has been lost.

Cast members are Wendie Malick and Tony Shalhoub, with another to be announced.

Wendie Malick is an award-winning actor, best known for her television roles as Nina Van Horn on “Just Shoot Me!,” Victoria Chase on “Hot in Cleveland,” and, most recently, Dr. Julie Barham on Apple TV+’s “Shrinking.” Films include “The American President,” “Racing Stripes,” “Adventureland,” and “7000 Miles.”

Tony Shalhoub is a Tony Award, Golden Globe Award, and four-time Emmy Award-winning actor with a diverse and extensive resume. Recently, he returned to the iconic role of the beloved obsessive-compulsive detective Adrian Monk in Peacock’s critically acclaimed “Mr. Monk’s Last Case: A Monk

-more-

WESTPORT COUNTRY PLAYHOUSE

25 POWERS COURT WESTPORT, CONNECTICUT 06880

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE T (203) 227-5137 | BOX OFFICE T (203) 227-4177

westportplayhouse.org

Movie,” receiving Best Actor in a Limited Series or Television Movie nominations from the SAG and Critics’ Choice Awards. On the Broadway stage, Shalhoub starred in “The Band’s Visit,” as well as Arthur Miller’s “The Price,” and has also worked extensively in film and television.

Director **James Glossman’s** credits include Stravinsky’s “A Soldier’s Tale,” world premieres of Michael Tucker’s “A Tailor Near Me” and DW Gregory’s “The Other American,” US premiere of John Cleese’s “Bang Bang!, east coast premiere of Jeff Daniels’ “Flint and Guest Artist,” and world premiere of Nicky Glossman’s “The Road to Jerusalem.” Upcoming: Adapting/directing world premiere of Dashiell Hammett’s classic crime novel “Red Harvest,” Baltimore, April 2027. He was director/co-writer of “Shostakovich and the Black Monk” at Ravinia, Wolf Trap, Tanglewood, etc.; adaptor/director of Raymond Chandler’s “Trouble Is My Business,” and Kate Atkinson’s “Behind the Scenes at the Museum.” His short film, “Albert’s Flower,” received its world premiere at this year’s Montclair Film Festival. Glossman is a member of the theatre faculty at Johns Hopkins University.

Playwright **Nicky Glossman** was first published by Samuel French at the age of 15 after winning the Baker’s Plays National Playwriting Competition for his play “Devil.” Since then, he has graduated from Brown University (’18), earned a masters from Georgetown University (’24), and generally done his best to keep being employed whenever he can. Notable workshop and production credits include “The Professional” (with Ed Asner), “Lincoln and Grant” (with Len Cariou), “Legion” (with John Astin), “Titans” (with David Strathairn), and “The Road to Jerusalem” (with Jay O. Sanders).

Nicole Caroselli is stage manager.

Tickets are \$35. For full details, visit: <https://www.westportplayhouse.org/show/script-in-hand-october/>

The 2026 Script in Hand Playreading Series is supported by Joyce Hergenhan and the White Barn Program of the Lucille Lortel Foundation. 2026 Programming and Season Sponsor is Barbara Streicker. Media sponsors are Moffly Media and WSHU Public Radio. Westport Country Playhouse is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization.

The Script in Hand 2026 season continues on Monday, November 30, at 7 p.m., title to be announced. Subscriptions to the Script in Hand series are available as well as single tickets.

Script in Hand playreadings offer intimate storytelling as professional actors use their skills to catapult the audience’s imagination without benefit of scenery or costumes. For a video on Script in Hand, visit: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h2eWDaF-JXA>

A complete schedule of Playhouse events is available at westportplayhouse.org. All play titles, artists, dates, and times are subject to change.

For Westport Country Playhouse information and tickets, visit westportplayhouse.org or call the box office at (203) 227-4177, toll-free at 1-888-927-7529. Stay connected to the Playhouse on Facebook (Westport Country Playhouse), Instagram (wcplayhouse), and YouTube (WestportPlayhouse). Westport Country Playhouse is located at 25 Powers Court, off Route 1, Westport.

###

WESTPORT COUNTRY PLAYHOUSE

25 POWERS COURT WESTPORT, CONNECTICUT 06880
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE T (203) 227-5137 | BOX OFFICE T (203) 227-4177
westportplayhouse.org