The People Downstairs



'Mad' Mabel is one of the most unforgettable characters I've ever encountered, and Sara Oliva gives one of the finest local performances not just of this year but of the past several years. Watching Ms. Oliva in this star turn will tug at your heartstrings and also give you so much hope. You'll want to skip down the aisles after this show, much of that because of what happens to this beautifully drawn character played to perfection......Ms. Oliva's Mabel is quite a piece of work--part Lisa Loopner nerd, part Eunice from The Carol Burnett Show, and part Joy/Hulga from Flannery O'Connor's "Good Country People."....All of the performances are top-tiered in THE PEOPLE DOWNSTAIRS, but it's hers that I take with me, that I hold onto. If Salieri is the Patron Saint of Mediocrities at the end of Amadeus, then Ms. Oliva's Mabel is the Patron Saint of Loners and Shut-Ins. She will break your heart more than once, but she will also give hope to all of those lonely people, those on the cusp of existence, the forgotten lot, the invisible, the downtrodden, the Eleanor Rigby's of the world. - Broadway.com



...Marvelously demented - Creative Loafing



The Divine Sara - The entire cast shines, but its Sara Oliva who rivets the attention, in a performance that captures agoraphobic, vision impaired Mabel in all her awkward, exuberant, and deeply affecting glory. - Top 10 Women to Watch



Sara Oliva gives a powerful performance - Talkin' Broadway

Between Riverside and Crazy



Sara Oliva nails one of the wildest onstage transformations imaginable - Miami Herald



Sara Oliva does remarkable work in the role, one that stores a surprise that cannot be described - *Tampa Bay Times*



A hilarious Sara Oliva, in one of the funniest sex scenes I have ever witnesses on stage - Splash Magazine



The hilarious and touching Sara Oliva's Church Lady gets the most memorable scene of the show and maybe even of the year - *Broadwayworld*

The Meekly Challenger

Ingeniously played by Sara Oliva - The Weekly Challenger

A View From The Bridge



Sara Oliva dominates the stage. As the "long suffering" wife of Eddie, Beatrice, provides the strongest performance in the show. Oliva portrays Be a not as pathetic and weak, but as the real pillar of the family, while also emphasizing the characters love and patience - *The Arthur Miller Society*



Anchored by intensely strong performances, Oliva fully captures the Carbones often strained, edgy and awkward relationship beautifully - *Freelance Media*



Watching the skillful actors play out the most passionate and destructive emotions is a heady pleasure...the seasoned cast shines with authenticity..Sara Oliva gets every note

just absolutely right as Beatrice..a most compelling tale given top notch treatment - Orlando Sentinel

The Waiting Room



When she swaggers into the waiting room, her "new tits" plowing ahead of her like the bow wake of a luxury liner, the play takes on life. Oliva's characterization of Wanda, a working class Jersey girls, masks a life of ugly-duckling hurt behind outrageously vulgar humor. The pathos she invokes as she loses her breasts to cancer is a convincing tour de force of acting. A bravura performance. - <a href="mailto:ptathair: ptathair play: ptat

My Name is Asher Lev



Oliva's selfless devotion to her son is as heart-wrenching as a Pieta...a war production that is equally affecting on both an emotional and intellectual level. - *Orlando Weekly*



Rivkeh's anguish, exacerbated by the death of her brother, is palpable in her performance. Her Rivkeh journey is one that sees her battle loneliness, depression...Sara Oliva's motherly struggle...breathing, riveting work...the audience hearts break - *Broadwayworld*



Strong Support...from Sara Oliva whose haunted face and pleading voice are a portrait of pain - *Orlando Sentinel*

Birdsend



Sara makes her time on stage worthwhile....and is hilarious as the foot soldier of public healthcare - *Windy City Times*



The best performance is from Sara Oliva, who is also fun to watch as a neglectful nurse - *New City Chicago*



Good supporting performance from Sara Oliva, in a portrayal so nasty that is has to have been based on a real life experience - *The Chicago Tribune*

Born Yesterday



Sara Oliva turns Helen the maid into a scene stealer who disrupts arguments with badly times entrances and then milks every step for all its worth - Palm Beach Magazine

Top Girls



A particularly memorable turn by Sara Oliva...Sara Oliva as a secretly female pope and a quiet present-day woman who gave everything to her workplace only to be passed over....Sara Oliva had fun with a showy role as the secretly female Pope Joan. But her second role was where she ripped your heart out, as she embodied a quiet contemporary woman who gave everything to her workplace — only to be passed over - Orlando Sentinel