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**FOLKSBIENE HONORS ELIE AND MARION WIESEL AND RONALD LAUDER AT
ANNUAL CABARET DINNER ON DECEMBER 8**

CHANUKE CELEBRATION STARS IMPRESSIVE INTER-GENERATIONAL CAST

(November 8, 2010) The Nobel Laureate **Elie Wiesel**, **Marion Wiesel** and Ambassador **Ronald Lauder** will be honored at The National Yiddish Theatre – Folksbiene’s annual winter cabaret dinner on Wednesday December 8 at 6pm, in a gala concert at the Bohemian National Hall, 321 East 73rd Street. Folksbiene’s musical celebration, which takes place on the last night of Chanuke, brings together a multi-generational (and international) cast from both the Yiddish and mainstream theatre and concert worlds. Conceived and music directed by **Zalmen Mlotek**, the concert stars **Magda Fishman** from Israel, opera’s **Elmore James** and the actor and singer **Tony Perry**.

A celebration of light and hope, the gala benefit also features performances by young Folksbiene company members -- some in their teens -- who are being trained and nurtured by the Drama Desk Award-winning company to carry the torch of Yiddish culture, with all its rich, varied and profoundly humanist traditions.

“Elie and Marion Wiesel and Ronald Lauder exemplify the importance of culture to foster understanding and to provide sustenance for all of us,” said Mr. Mlotek, the internationally recognized authority on Yiddish folk and theatre music, who, since 1998 has served as Folksbiene’s artistic director. “In honor of Chanuke, and of our commitment to perpetuate our history, heritage and values, we have created an evening that is inclusive, and filled with hope and compassion.”

The Israeli-born Magda Fishman is a singer/songwriter and trumpet player who mixes jazz, liturgical and folk music in her varied repertoire. Elmore James is a veteran of five Broadway productions and numerous opera stages around the world. Tony Perry, a commanding young singer-actor, has acted bi-lingually in English and Yiddish with Folksbiene, most notably in the world premiere of Murray Schisgal’s “Shpiel! Shpiel! Shpiel!” The trio recently headlined Folksbiene’s annual end-of-summer concert hosted by the Hampton Synagogue.

The Cabaret Dinner benefits The National Yiddish Theatre – Folksbiene, the nation’s sole-surviving professional Yiddish theatre, and the longest continuously producing Yiddish theatre in the world. Now in its historic 96th consecutive season, Folksbiene presents plays, concerts and literary events in English and Yiddish, with English and Russian supertitles accompanying all performances. The company’s two-fold mission is to preserve the legacy of the Yiddish theatre -- dating back to the late 19th century in Europe -- and to add to this legacy by developing new work. Through its numerous accommodations for non-Yiddish speakers, its outreach to underserved audiences in and outside of New York, and its cultivation of new work and young actors, the company has significantly broadened and diversified its audience. Individual tickets for the evening, which includes cocktails, dinner and the performance, are \$350 per person. To purchase tickets, to place ads and greetings in the benefit’s journal, or for information, call 212/213-2120, ext. 203, or visit www.folksbiene.org

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Contact: Beck Lee/MEDIA BLITZ, LLC. (516) 641-3986 (cell)

MEDIA ALERT!
NEWS AND PHOTO TIPS FOR

**ELIE AND MARION WIESEL AND RONALD LAUDER HONORED AT
FOLKSBIENE'S ANNUAL CABARET DINNER**

DECEMBER 8, 2010

Bohemian National Hall, 321 East 73rd Street

WHO: The Drama Desk Award-winning National Yiddish Theatre – Folksbiene honors **Elie Wiesel, Marion Wiesel** and Ambassador **Ronald Lauder** at its annual winter cabaret dinner.

Malcolm Hoenlein, the executive vice president of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations introduces Mr. Lauder. CUNY Chancellor **Matthew Goldstein** introduces the Wiesels.

Other guests include: **Daniel & Nina Libeskind, Merryl Tisch, Earle & Carol Mack, Ken Bialkin, Charlotte Frank, Leo & Betty Melamud, Sandy Cahn, Fanya Gottesfeld Heller, Gerald Levin & Carol Levin, Paul Bernstein, Adam Tihany, Joseph Malovany, Paul Goldberger.**

WHAT: Tonight's concert features a multi-generational, international cast from both the Yiddish and mainstream theatre and concert worlds. Led by music director **Zalmen Mlotek** (Folksbiene's artistic director), the concert stars **Magda Fishman** from Israel, opera's **Elmore James** and the actor and singer **Tony Perry**. The Israeli-born Magda Fishman is a singer/songwriter and trumpet player who mixes jazz, liturgical and folk music in her varied repertoire. Elmore James is a veteran of five Broadway productions and numerous opera stages around the world. Tony Perry, a commanding young African-American singer-actor, has acted bi-lingually in English and Yiddish with Folksbiene.

WHEN: WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 8, 2010, 6P (arrivals), 7:30P (program)

WHERE: Bohemian National Hall, 321 East 73rd Street

For more details visit www.folksbiene.org

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Malcolm Hoenlein, the executive vice president of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations introduces Mr. Lauder.

CUNY Chancellor **Matthew Goldstein** introduces the Wiesels.

Daniel & Nina Libeskind - Architects

Merryl Tisch – Chancellor, New York State Board of Regents

Earle & Carol Mack – chairman NY State Council on the Arts 1996-99

Ken Bialkin – Skadden Arps

Charlotte Frank – Senior VP McGraw-Hill

Leo & Betty Melamud – Chairman Chicago Mercantile Exchange

Sandy Cahn – Founder UJA Federation of NY Women’s Executive Circle

Fanya Gottesfeld Heller – author “Love in a World of Sorrow”

Gerald Levin – Chairman of the Board of UJA Federation of New York

Carol Levin – chaired National General Assembly of the Federations

Paul Bernstein

Adam Tihany – Interior designer

Joseph Malovany – Cantor Fifth Avenue Synagogue

Paul Goldberger – Architecture critic, author