



# ICE:

# DANCE

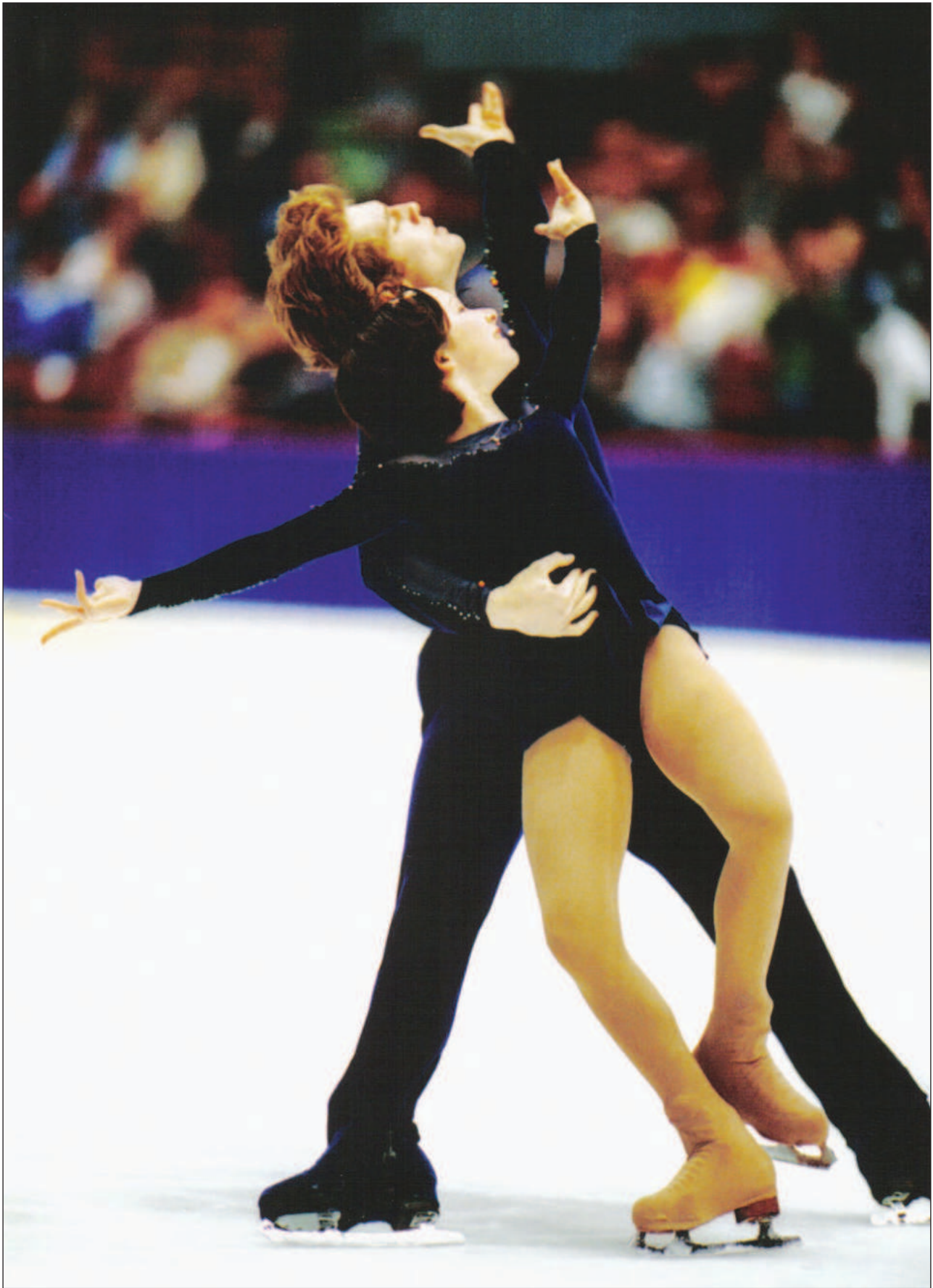


**Ice Theatre of New York  
BENEFIT GALA 2013**



**HONORING  
Kurt Browning & Sonia Rodriguez  
ICE ANGEL Clare Bowes Sheridan**





US National Champions Katie Boxwell and William Sears (2002 Novice Pairs). Photo by Michelle Harwath

In Memory of Will Sears  
1982-2002



STATE OF NEW YORK  
**EXECUTIVE CHAMBER**  
ALBANY 12224

**ANDREW M. CUOMO**  
GOVERNOR

October 25, 2013

Ice Theatre of New York  
59 Chelsea Piers, Suite 5911  
New York, NY 10011

Dear Friends:

It is a pleasure to send greetings to everyone gathered for the 2013 Benefit Gala and Performance of Ice Theatre of New York.

Since its inception in 1984, Ice Theatre has been dedicated to the development and advancement of figure skating as a performing art. Through community outreach, it enables New York City's public school children to get out on the ice, and is widely recognized for "New Works and Young Artists," its innovative educational program that utilizes figure skating as an effective and empowering motivator and teaching tool.

Tonight, you pay tribute to two distinguished individuals and I am pleased to join in congratulating Kurt Browning & Sonia Rodriguez, champion figure skater and premier ballet dancer. Their joyful performances on the ice and on the stage have inspired countless skaters and dancers, both young and old, to grow in ability, confidence, and leadership.

With warmest regards, and best wishes for an enjoyable evening.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrew M. Cuomo".

ANDREW M. CUOMO

**WE WORK FOR THE PEOPLE**  
PERFORMANCE ★ INTEGRITY ★ PRIDE



**THE NATION'S PREMIER  
ICE DANCE ENSEMBLE**

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**John Hughes, Moira North and  
Susan Numeroff, Co-Chairs**

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As of 9/16/13

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to these individuals and others whom we might have missed



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**FUNDERS**

Gertrude Vanderbilt Endowment • Will Sears Fund • Bloomberg Philanthropies • Dance/NYC  
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Ice Theatre of New York is supported, in part, by public funds from the  
NYC Department of Cultural Affairs, in partnership with the City Council.

**THANKS TO ALL OF OUR ICE THEATRE VOLUNTEERS**





THE CITY OF NEW YORK  
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
NEW YORK, NY 10007

October 25, 2013

Dear Friends:

It is a great pleasure to welcome everyone to Ice Theatre of New York's 2013 Benefit Gala and Performance.

Our City's cutting-edge arts scene has always been known for challenging conventions and pushing boundaries. With its distinctive blend of contemporary dance, music, and art, Ice Theatre of New York has changed the face of figure skating and helped to promote it as a performing art. By commissioning world-renowned choreographers to develop new works and inspiring the next generation of ice dancers through its outreach program for New York City public school students, ITNY has advanced the art of figure skating and introduced new audiences to this exciting style of performance. We applaud the talented ice dancers who will be skating here this evening and look forward to even more terrific performances from this outstanding organization.

On behalf of all New Yorkers, congratulations to tonight's honorees – Kurt Browning and Sonia Rodriguez. Please accept my best wishes for a wonderful gala and continued success.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Michael R. Bloomberg".

Michael R. Bloomberg  
Mayor

# Ice Theatre of New York

THE NATION'S PREMIER  
ICE DANCE ENSEMBLE

## ABOUT THE COMPANY

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Moira North, Founder/  
Director

Douglas Webster  
Artistic Director

Jirina Ribbens  
Executive Director

Founded in 1984 by Moira North, Ice Theatre of New York (ITNY) has changed the face of figure skating by creating works that integrate the sensibilities of movement, music and art.

Its mission is to elevate dance on ice as a performance art. Through its performances in both traditional and site-specific venues, ITNY presents ice dance that opens one's eyes to seeing skating in unexpected ways.

ITNY was the first ice dance company to receive dance program funding from the National Endowment for the Arts, the New York State Council on the Arts and the NYC Department of Cultural Affairs.

In addition to building and performing works of artistic merit, ITNY also reaches out to the next generation of skaters and audiences through education, community outreach and training programs.

*"Since its establishment in 1984, the Ice Theatre of New York has combined the best of ice skating, dance and theater to create cutting edge performances that represent the very best New York's creative community has to offer."*

— Mayor Michael Bloomberg

62 Chelsea Piers, Suite 308 • New York, NY 10011

[icetheatre.org](http://icetheatre.org)





October 25, 2013

Dear friends,

As the Honorary Chair of this evening's benefit gala, I welcome and thank you for your support of the Ice Theatre's Education and Outreach Programming and its forthcoming performance season.

The Ice Theatre is one of these uniquely "only in New York" organizations: Canadian-founded, it offers the opportunity to talented and driven people in this greatest city in the world to express themselves on a medium - ice - that we in Canada perhaps take for granted. Ice Theatre indeed finds itself at the intersection of several different forms of the arts and athletic prowess. In a city with no lack of creative endeavors, the Ice Theatre has established itself as one of the premier spectator experiences, engaging new and sophisticated audiences alike with its synthesis of artistic genres.

At the heart of this evening is the community that the Ice Theater has built: one that creates relationships among people who may otherwise never meet, one that fosters growth and skills in young people who would probably never skate or dance, one that assembles a public curious about pushing the boundaries of art and sport.

Tonight we salute Clare Sheridan, Sonia Rodriguez and Kurt Browning as beacons of the goals to which the Ice Theatre aspires. But we also thank each of you - be you Ice Theatre volunteers and administrators, performers, audience members, or supporters - for all that you do to make this evening so important and the Ice Theatre an integral part of so many people's daily lives.

With big hope for the future,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "John F. Prato".

John F. Prato  
Consul General





## ICE THEATRE OF NEW YORK'S PREMIER EDUCATION & OUTREACH PROGRAM

**Did you know that Ice Theatre of New York's New Works and Young Artists Series:**

- ★ is in its 18th year of programming
- ★ annually serves 3000 public school children grades K through 8
- ★ offers the students a free skating show
- ★ offers the students free skating instruction
- ★ teaches the students life skills such as falling and getting back up..."a life lesson"
- ★ teaches the students a healthy physical activity that can be done outdoors on the seasonal ice rinks all around the City, and throughout their entire life
- ★ is supported in part by the NYC Department of Cultural Affairs, Bloomberg Philanthropies, and Councilmember Robert Jackson?

*Ice  
Theatre  
New York*

THE NATION'S PREMIER  
ICE DANCE ENSEMBLE

**We could not do this  
without your support.**

\$20 pays for one student,  
\$500 sponsors the  
participation of a class.

**Thank you!**





Dear Friends,

Tonight we are here to celebrate Kurt Browning and Sonia Rodriguez for their considerable contributions to the world of skating and ballet. Also, we honor Clare Sheridan for her unwavering support of Ice Theatre over 25 years with the Ice Angel Award. We want to thank her from the bottom of our hearts for helping us to continue on our creative path towards fulfilling our mission.

It's amazing to think that for twenty eight years, skaters/dancers, choreographers, and other collaborators have given their time and talent to help challenge and enchant audiences; to help develop ensemble skating; and to break barriers between the dance, art and ice worlds.

We've accomplished so much – and there is still so much to be accomplished! Our focus is on long-term goals: founding a Performance-on-Ice School; establishing a world-class Performance-on-Ice facility for theatrical ensemble skating; creating evening-length Ice Ballets; commissioning original works from renowned dance choreographers; expanding the Troupe's international touring schedule; and performing at Dance and Winter festivals throughout the world.

To quote Anna Kisselgoff, writing in The New York Times: "The Ice Theatre of New York is onto something, and it deserves greater support."

You have all been incredibly generous and supportive, and we need and appreciate that support more than ever. Our goal, always, is not only to maintain Ice Theatre as the premiere ice dance company in the country, but to keep it moving forward.

With your help, we will!

Warmest wishes,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Moira North".

Moira North  
Founder/Director



## SAVE THE DATE: DANCE ON CAMERA SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2014

*Ice  
Theatre  
of  
New York*

**THE NATION'S PREMIER  
ICE DANCE ENSEMBLE**

Ice Theatre of New York's second year participating in Dance On Camera presented by the Film Society of Lincoln Center and Dance Films Association.

Panelists will include Dick Button, Dorothy Hamill, Moira North, JoJo Starbuck, Edward Villella and Douglas Webster. VIP Reception to follow the presentation.

Event Chair: Debbie Gordon

Walter Reade Theater/Indie Food & Wine Restaurant  
Limited availability for ITNY contributors.

\$150 includes presentation and VIP reception

**For more information please call the office at 212.929.5811  
or visit [www.icetheatre.org/dance-on-camera-2013.html](http://www.icetheatre.org/dance-on-camera-2013.html)**



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October 25, 2013

Dear Friends:

I am pleased to join you in recognizing and supporting the delightfully unique performances that **ICE THEATRE OF NEW YORK** brings to its audiences. These are the result of collaborations that fuse the skills and imaginations of skaters, choreographers, composers, musicians, visual artists, and writers to present creative entertainment which stretches the conventional definition of figure skating. By inviting renowned talent to create together, the resulting production becomes multi-dimensional. The juxtaposed personal and professional relationships of **2013 HONOREES – KURT BROWNING AND SONIA RODRIGUEZ** reflect this synthesis of skills and energy which are the foundation of the artistic concepts underlying **ICE THEATRE OF NEW YORK**.

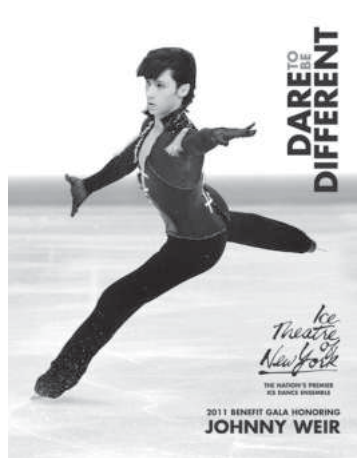
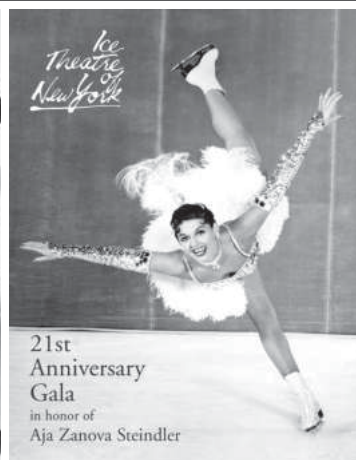
Tonight's Gala benefits the programs which reach out to New York City public school students – outreach that provides stimulation and may, indeed, inspire the next generation of artists for any of the creative streams that feed into an **ICE THEATRE OF NEW YORK** presentation. Students are exposed not only to the beauty of the performance, but glimpse the extraordinary discipline needed to excel in these arenas, an exposure which can translate to their own academic studies.

None of this happens without the guidance of a dedicated Board of Directors, the effort of a strong staff and the generosity of contributors. It is this collaboration which makes **ICE THEATRE OF NEW YORK** possible.

In Unity,

Robert Jackson

# CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF ICE THEATRE'S HONOREES, PAST AND PRESENT.



PROUD TO BE PART OF THE  
BEHIND-THE-SCENES TEAM  
FOR ALL OF THESE YEARS.

SCOTT SCHWARTZ





## KURT & SONIA: TWO FOR THE SHOW

by EDWARD Z. EPSTEIN

Sonia, on point, and Kurt, on ice, both reflect Gene Kelly's definition of genuine artistry: "The final result must appear effortless — that goes for a dancer, a skater, singer, actor, musician. The more visible the mechanics, the less talented the artist."

Famous for the consistent and innovative quality of their work over the years, both Kurt and Sonia continue to weave their spells, and then some, delivering seemingly effortless performances (Kurt is also a superb choreographer). Interestingly, on one of his TV specials, "You Must Remember This," Browning performed a breathtakingly accurate rendition on ice of Kelly's immortal "Singin' In The Rain" number from the classic film of the same name. One of Browning's outstanding competitive long programs was skated to the soundtrack from another film classic, "Casablanca."

"As I kid, I saw and enjoyed a lot of movie musicals. But I never saw myself as Gene Kelly or anyone else!" explains Browning. Often described as a boy next door with a talent for skating — self-described as "a very casual kid, still am" — Browning's modesty belies his accomplishments, his talent, and his drive. In the world of skating, with its obsession with multi-revolution jumps, Browning was the first skater to complete a quadruple jump in world competition (a toe loop), a feat acknowledged by the Guinness Book of World Records. He is a four-time World Champion, three-time Olympian, four-time Canadian champion, three-time World Professional Champion, four-time Canadian Professional/Open Champion, and two-time U.S. Professional Champion. And that's only a partial list (he was also voted Canada's Male Athlete of the Year, in 1990).

Born on June 18, 1966, in Rocky Mountain House, Alberta, he grew up in Caroline, Alberta. He was the youngest of three children and the Brownings were a colorful family. Kurt's grandfather, Jack, had established the Bighorn Rodeo (still going today). Brother Wade, and sister, Dena, were always supportive of their kid brother, and the whole family was athletically inclined. Parents Dewey (Arnold) and Neva "were athletic too, but not in a typical way," recalls Kurt. "My mother could do backbends and cartwheels. My Dad was a mountain climber, he did that for a living." Was he a John Wayne type? "He *was* John Wayne," says Kurt, who had "a really great relationship with my family. I could tell them anything."

Over the years, there has been a mistaken impression that Kurt's heart had been set on becoming a world-class hockey player. "Not true, not even close.

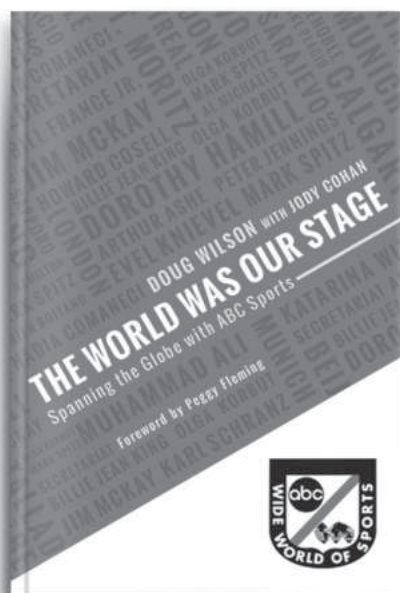


## So many memories of YOU

Watching the 1st quad ever!  
 You laughing at me because you  
 thought I was nervous in Toronto  
 Wedding Crashing  
 Stars on Ice Top Ten lists  
 Snowden  
 Golf in Texas  
 Standing directly behind you  
 when you proposed to Sonia  
 Seeing you become that man you are today!

Congratulations on your honor!  
 You have honored us all for years!  
 Much love to you, Sonia and the MEN

**Scott Hamilton**



## Congratulations Kurt and Sonia.

Kurt, we were all so proud to have had  
 you on our ABC team in recent years.

*"Doug Wilson tells a fascinating story in *The World Was Our Stage*, a unique personal journey that also recalls the riveting history of the coming-of-age of sports television. Doug is one of the finest and kindest gentlemen to ever work in the business, and it's a delight to go back in time with him as he spans the globe once more to tell the stories that he and his colleagues first told so magnificently decades ago. In Doug's storytelling, it truly still is a wide, and wonderful, world of sports."*

Christine Brennan  
 USA Today national sports columnist

*"Doug Wilson's sensitivity and his passion for 'getting it right' from the perspective of the athlete continue to define his amazing contribution to television. I love this book, and I couldn't put it down."*

Scott Hamilton

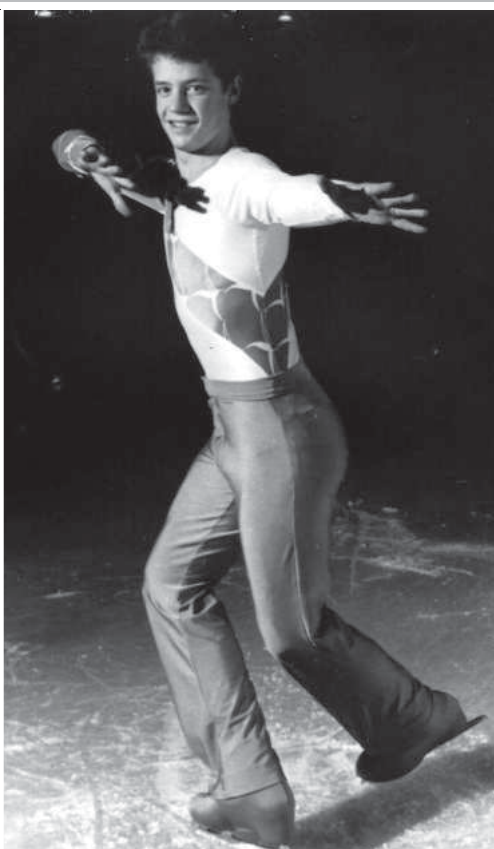
*"Doug Wilson has an elephantine memory. Our decades of working together at ABC Sports took us from Innsbruck, Austria, to Nagano, Japan, to Podunk, USA. I enjoyed reading about the history we shared."*

Dick Button



[www.dougwilsonabcsports.com](http://www.dougwilsonabcsports.com)





I loved playing the game, but I was a kid! Hockey was never a career choice. I was good at it, and won trophies, but I wasn't big enough or strong enough to play professionally. It was strictly for fun!" At five foot seven, he was the perfect height, weight and build for a figure skater.

Very slowly, figure skating started to get more attention. "I really just fell into it. I began around the age of ten-and-a-half. By twelve, I could do the triple-toe." Around that age, there was a brief encounter at skating with a partner — with Michelle Pollitt, the couple won a pre-juvenile dance championship in Alberta.

But Kurt's serious training didn't begin until a very late age — around sixteen, and it was his Dad who "pulled the plug"

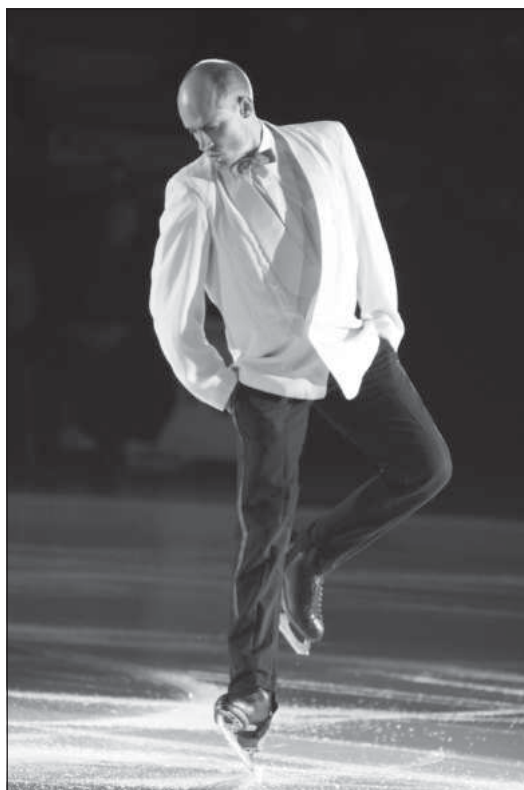
on Kurt's hockey days. "One day," recalls Kurt, "as I was piling my heavy hockey gear into the car, my Dad said, 'What the hell are you doing?' I didn't know what he was talking about." But Mr. Browning had made a decision regarding his son's future: hockey was out. "It was okay with me," says Kurt. "As I said, becoming a world class player was never a career choice."

Kurt subsequently became the first skater to win, one after the other, the Novice, Junior and Senior Canadian championships. He was setting new standards for triple jumps (in combination, no less); his spins, footwork, and musicality, were unique.

"When I watched Scott Hamilton skate, I was really impressed with his footwork

— really fast feet, that was cool, and certainly influenced my skating." (In later years, when he was Canada's premier figure skater, he had the opportunity to put his hockey gear back on, big-time, and skate a couple of practice sessions with the renowned Edmonton Oilers. "Hey, we should make him captain of the team!" joked one of the players.)

Skating wasn't the only sport that captured Kurt's interest. To the present day, he's an avid golfer and tennis player, admiring tennis's system for ranking players. He notes that, for a skater, in World or Olympic competition, it all comes down to a four-minute program. On the tennis court, "if you don't perform well on one occasion, you still have a second chance."



Congratulations Ice Theatre of New York

And

Kurt Browning & Sonia Rodriguez

Best Wishes for Another Great Season!

Susie Gharib and Fereydoun Nazem



Sonia was born in Toronto, Ontario, on December 19, 1972. The family relocated to Spain when Sonia was five. Her dream was to become a ballerina, and she had the love and support of her family. "At one point, though, she had a change of heart," says Kurt. "But she kept going." She was trained by the noted Pedro de la Cruz. She also trained at the Princess Grace Academy in Monaco. At the age of seventeen, the five-foot-one dancer won the coveted Enrico Cecchetti award at an international competition in Capri, and subsequently returned to Canada where she was invited to join the National Ballet of Canada.

At twenty-three, she became second soloist, performing "Rum and Coca Cola" in the premiere of Paul Taylor's "Company B." She later danced the role during the National Ballet of Canada's 1996 performance at a Toronto Raptors/Orlando Magic basketball game at Skydome. That year she performed the balcony pas de deux from "Romeo and Juliet," and the pas de deux from "Sylvia" at a ballet gala in Madrid.

And, that year, she fell in love.

They met at a reception, at a ballet event, in Alberta. "We were very aware of each other," recalls Sonia. "I'd seen him many times on television, and, meeting him, found him to be very genuine, down to earth."

"She said she wanted to see me skate," remembers Kurt. "The next day was a Saturday, and I never practiced on weekends. But I said, 'Sure, 10AM tomorrow.' So, to impress a beautiful girl, I skated on a Saturday!"

There have been many versions of Kurt's romantic proposal to Sonia "on the ice." "What actually happened wasn't planned," she recalls. "It happened in Toronto, during a performance of the Stars on Ice tour. They were taping the performance, and, after the show was over, they wanted the audience to remain in their seats because some retakes were necessary. Kurt took to the microphone, and, to keep people from leaving, asked for questions from the audience."

"I thought I'd introduce my girlfriend," recalls Kurt. Sonia stood up and waved.

Sonia recalls: "There were finally no more questions from the audience, but a little girl stood up, and asked Kurt if he was married."

"It wasn't the first time I'd wanted to ask Sonia to marry me," recalls Kurt, "but I'd always chickened out. I got down on my knee, in front of 16,000 people, and proposed. I remember thinking, 'She's gonna kill me.' I hadn't even bought a ring."

They were married on June 20, 1996. They subsequently performed together — Sonia, off-ice, on point, Kurt on ice, then on ice together, Kurt holding her aloft, Sonia lovely in flowing red chiffon. The number was "First You Have To Dream," and if there were echoes of Gene Kelly dancing with Cyd Charisse, it was not an





unflattering comparison (one description: it was “pure emotion on ice”).

Both husband and wife understood the extraordinary pressures and demands each faced in their careers. “We’re both very driven people,” she later told a reporter, recalling today that it was “a very grueling lifestyle, the touring, and training, and all that went with it.”

Their careers flourished. She was promoted to first soloist and won great acclaim dancing the lead in the Canadian premiere of the ballet version of “The Red Shoes,” gorgeous in the role of the doomed ballerina created on screen by Moira Shearer (Shearer had been a fiery redhead, Sonia was dramatically brunette).

In 2000, Sonia became a principal dancer of the National Ballet of Canada.

The Brownings became parents on July 12, 2003. “I loved being pregnant,” she later recalled. She felt beautiful, “but I looked funny dancing with this great big belly.” She was able to be back on stage four months after giving birth, but baby Gabriel brought about a major change in the Brownings’ modus-operandi. Balancing careers and parenting was “a hard thing to juggle,” said Kurt. Focusing on a career was one thing; “By having a child, that focus has to be shared,” he noted.

That goal, too, was achieved (Kurt and Sonia had a second son, Dillon, in 2007).

Meanwhile, Sonia was chosen by Suzanne Farrell to dance the role of Dulcinea in the world premiere of Farrell’s re-staging of George Balanchine’s “Don Quixote” at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C., and Kurt’s skating career remained in high gear.

Browning has written a best-selling memoir, “Forcing the Edge” (the term means you are pushing against the natural running edge of your blade). He is a highly sought-after sports commentator, and, for the first time, has been a judge at selected skating events.

He has been, and continues to be, recipient of many awards — he was inducted into the Canadian Sports Hall of Fame, the World Figure Skating Hall of Fame, Canada’s Walk of Fame; the ISU has awarded him the Jacques Favart Trophy. His talents as a choreographer have run the gamut, working with such stars as Tara Lipinski, Elvis Stojko, Alissa Czisny, Brian Joubert.

In 2012, Sonia (who has been described by some as the Margot Fonteyn of Canada) joined her husband on Canada’s Walk of Fame.

A shared sense of humor, and sharing it with their kids, has been very important in the couple’s maintaining a strong and healthy family dynamic. The public may perceive a prima ballerina as a beautiful, but highly controlled, and slightly aloof, diva. But Kurt has observed how Sonia, at home, is fun loving and charmingly unpredictable: “People who don’t know her might be surprised.”



A career as an actress — she has already played a few roles — is not out of the question. She has already appeared in a couple of films, and has recently been cast in “Remedy,” a Canadian TV series. “Ballet necessarily lends itself to acting,” notes Kurt.

Kurt’s place in the pantheon of skating? “At the very top,” says Dick Button. “He’s the most extraordinarily talented, musically inventive of skaters. His edging, and choreography, are unparalleled. One word encompasses it all: *talent*. I once saw him, skating with Barbara Underhill, in ‘Battle of the Blades,’ doing a side-by-side pair routine that was unforgettable. Both were wearing hockey skates, which have a narrower blade, and uncomfortable boots, yet they were able to achieve incredible edging, flow and lean of the body. It was a refreshing antidote to the endless windmill swirling of arms, the incessant ditsy body jerking movements we see too often in today’s rule-controlled environment. It was elegant skating, which is all too often ignored in the contemporary skating world. Kurt is one-of-a-kind.”

Both Kurt and Sonia have obviously avoided the artists’ pitfall described so accurately by legendary actress Vivien Leigh: “You don’t want audiences to become accustomed to how you present yourself — then there are no surprises.”

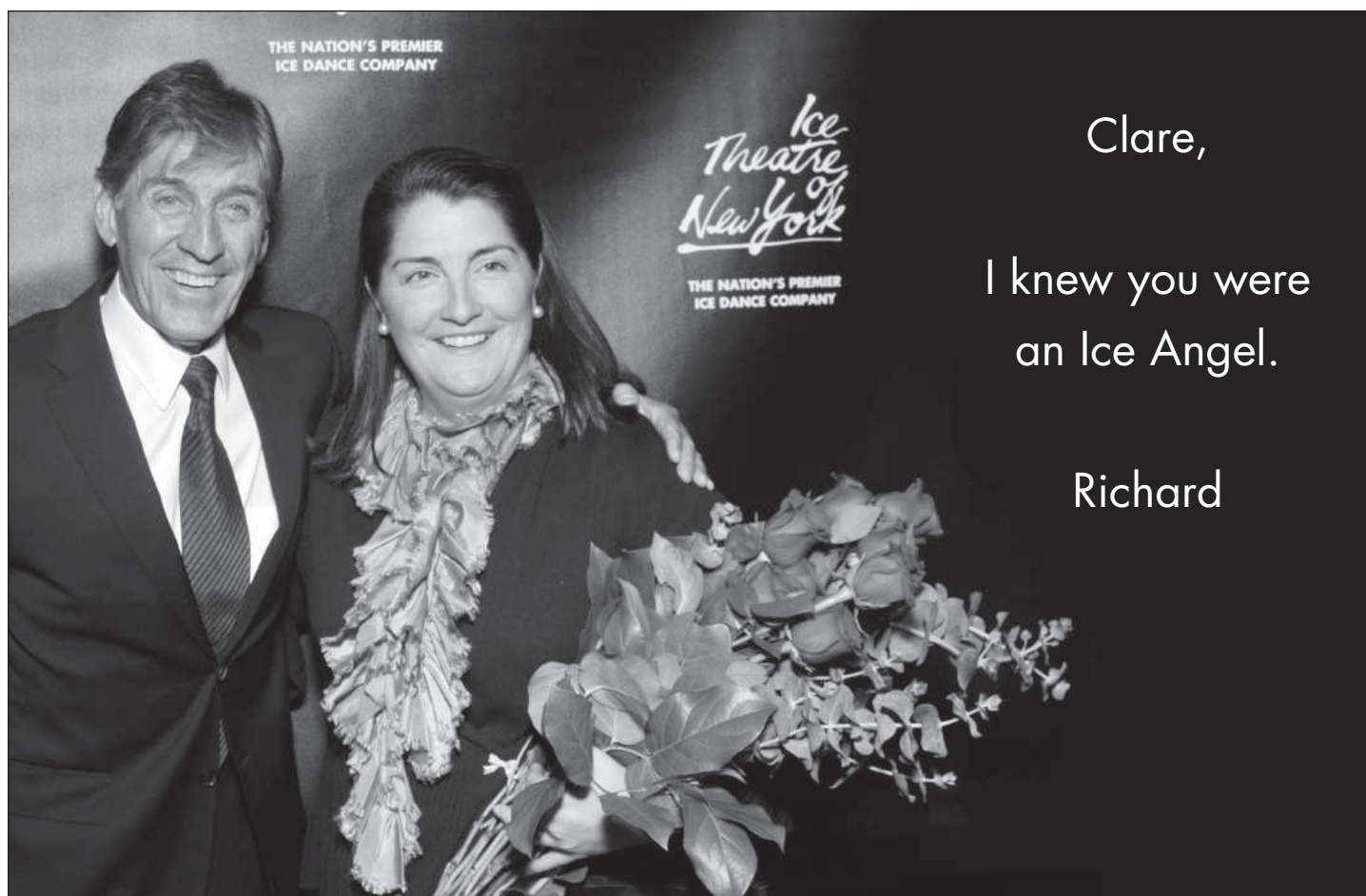
The couple’s charitable interests are children-oriented, and have included the Kids Help Line and raising funds for muscular dystrophy. “I have to believe in something before I get involved with it,” Kurt has said. “For me, it’s a real commitment, not a marketing move.”

Ice and Dance are more closely related than ever, never more evident than in the theme of this year’s ITNY Gala — ICE:DANCE. The Company, last season, in conjunction with the Film Society of Lincoln Center, inaugurated the concept of Ice and Dance on Film.

“To have Kurt and Sonia as our honorees this year is particularly timely and appropriate,” states ITNY’s founder Moira North. “Ice and Dance are what the Company has always been about, and will continue to be about. Kurt and Sonia epitomize the best of both those worlds — and, as we strive to widen our horizons, as long as we have the inspiration and support of artists like them, the future will continue to be an exciting adventure!”

*Edward Z. Epstein, a graduate of NYU and a native New Yorker, has written a number of books, including biographies of Mia Farrow, Paul Newman and Joanne Woodward, Lucille Ball, and Jennifer Jones. A long-time figure skater and former Middle Atlantic States Novice champion, his biography of Michelle Kwan, “Born To Skate,” was published by Ballantine. AVA, Epstein’s play based on the life of Ava Gardner, is in the works.*





Clare,

I knew you were  
an Ice Angel.

Richard

Thank you to  
Ice Theatre of New York  
for sharing the beauty  
and  
Congratulations to Clare  
for being an angel  
in so many ways

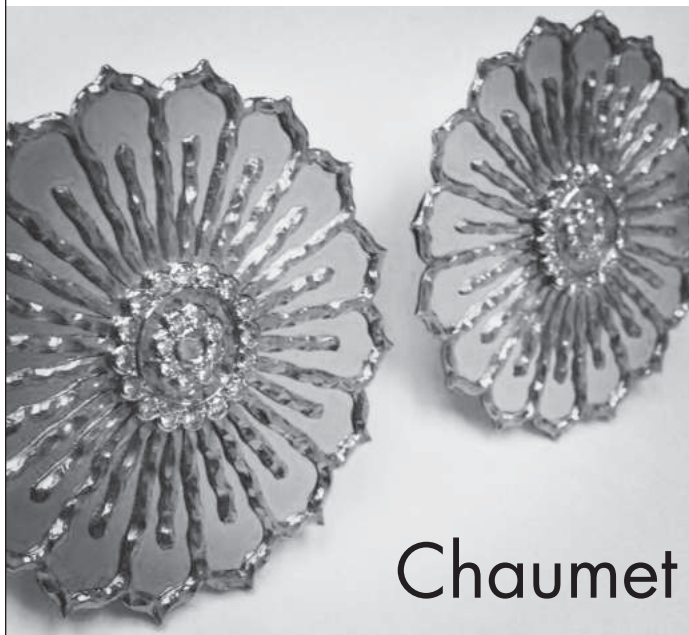


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# CLARE BOWES SHERIDAN

## Ice Angel 2013

by EDWARD Z. EPSTEIN



What do Andy Warhol, Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, the Duke and Duchess of Windsor, Sotheby's, and figure skating have in common?

Clare Bowes Sheridan.

Born and raised in Denver, Colorado, she received a bachelor's degree in Art History from Colorado College in Colorado Springs, Colorado, in 1987. After graduation, she was hired by Sotheby's; after an internship, she was accepted into Sotheby's Management Training Program, subsequently becoming a Business Director. She continued in this role for fifteen years, rising to the position of Senior Vice President and Department Head.

In her role as Business Director, she worked with all of the Art Specialists helping them to create and execute their business plans. This was "a dream job for me, since my love of art and interest in business and the art of the deal were perfectly blended." She was able to travel the globe working on many interesting projects, including the sale of the Collections of Andy Warhol, Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis and The Duke and Duchess of Windsor. "The best part of my job," Mrs. Sheridan recalls today, "was meeting my future husband, William S. Sheridan, while working at Sotheby's." After her children were born, in 2000 and 2004, Clare "shifted my focus to my daughters, Maggie and Vivien, and became a

stay-at-home Mom."

Clare's enthusiasm for the art of skating began when she was about four, in Denver, thanks to her father — "like everyone else on our block, he flooded the back yard in the winter to create a small and bumpy skating surface. He was a skater. But I never saw my mom on the ice!" she laughs. Clare loved to skate (Dorothy Hamill was one of her favorites, along with Richard Dwyer). "I took lessons, first at the rink at Denver University, then at the Alpine Ice Arena, and at the rink at Colorado College. I spent a lot of time at the rink there, and at the famous old World Arena at the Broadmoor."

Sky Rink, on West 33rd Street in Manhattan, became Clare's skating home in the late eighties, when she arrived in New York to work at Sotheby's. On the ice she met Moira North, who recently founded ITNY. Moira recalls, "Clare was a student of mine in a group skating class. When I would tell students about the idea of creating an artistic ice dance ensemble many would say, Why? With Clare, it was always, Why not, what a great idea! She has followed the company's growth and has been an enthusiastic cheerleader and supporter over time, for which I will always be grateful."

When Sky Rink relocated to Chelsea Piers, Clare continued lessons there, and when the Sheridans moved to the sub-

urbs, Clare frequented the rink at the Englewood Field Club, which is where she skates today.

Currently, she's President of The Historical Society of Rockland County, and moderates a monthly radio show, "Crossroads of Rockland History," on WRCR. She's also a Trustee of the Elizabeth Morrow School of Englewood, New Jersey; she's a past President of The Friends of Montessori Foundation, a member of the advisory board of The Women's Rights Information Center, a volunteer at The Bergen Family Center, and a past co-chair of the Annual Gala for WFVU 90.7FM (Fordham University's Public Radio Station). In 2011, she received the Rockland County Woman of Achievement Award from the American Association of University Women (AAUW, Rockland Chapter). In addition to skating, she enjoys fly-fishing, skiing, and tennis.

"Ice Theatre represents everything I love about skating — the way in which it combines the grace of athleticism and the beauty of dance. That's what first attracted me to ITNY — there was nothing like it in 1987, and there's still nothing like it today. It's an honor for me to have been selected as Ice Theatre's Ice Angel of 2013. I'd also like to thank my husband, Bill, my daughters, and my family and friends for their love and support."





Dear Clare,  
You are a true Ice Angel!

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of  
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Congratulations Ice Theatre

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outdo yourself

**Joan Fallon**



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SKATECANADA

Photo by Cam Silvestron

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**SONIA RODRIGUEZ**  
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Photo by Sam Richards



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**It's been an honour and a privilege.**

## **Sandra and Kevin**







Congratulations Sonia, Kurt and Clare!

Thank you for sharing your time and talent  
with Ice Theatre of New York.

"Bravo"

Margaret North

# Congratulations to Kurt, Sonia, Clare and the Ice Theatre of New York

Barbara & Bill Candee





Congratulations Ice Theatre of New York, Kurt Browning,  
Sonia Rodriguez and Clare Bowes Sheridan

In victory you deserve *Champagne*; in defeat you need it.  
-Napoleon Bonaparte

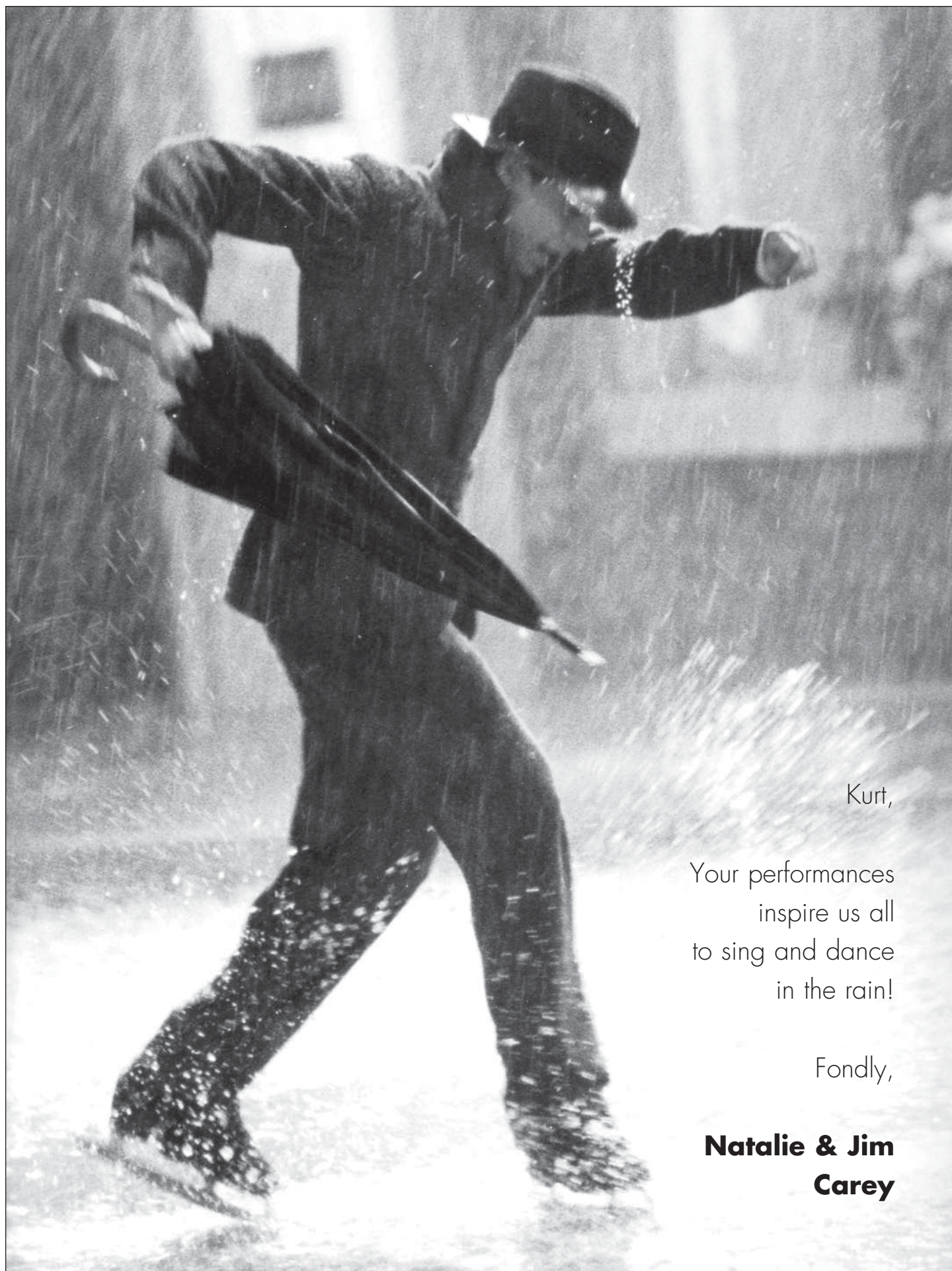


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Kurt,

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to sing and dance  
in the rain!

Fondly,

**Natalie & Jim  
Carey**



Congratulations to  
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and  
Kurt Browning  
Sonia Rodriguez  
Clare Bowes Sheridan

Our Best Wishes Always

John and Amy  
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Natalie, Alexandra and Charlotte Parker

**Congratulations to  
Kurt Browning and  
Sonia Rodriguez  
On this well-deserved recognition**

It is my privilege to support  
Ice Theatre New York

Thank you Moira, Jirina, Douglas and  
**everyone** at ITNY!

Thank you for all that you do to demonstrate  
beauty,  
grace and  
precision  
on and off the ice

Fondly,

Clare Sheridan



Congratulations to our  
ICE:DANCE celebrities

Kurt Browning,  
Sonia Rodriguez  
and  
Edward & Linda Villella

They personify Ice Theatre's essence,  
elevated artistry and humanistic spirit

Joan Erdheim

Clare,

We are so proud of you!

Congratulations!

You are a true angel.

Love,

Kelly and Mitchell Sacks





Dearest Mommy,

We are so, so very proud of you and  
all the things you do (especially for us)!!  
Thank you from the bottom of our hearts.



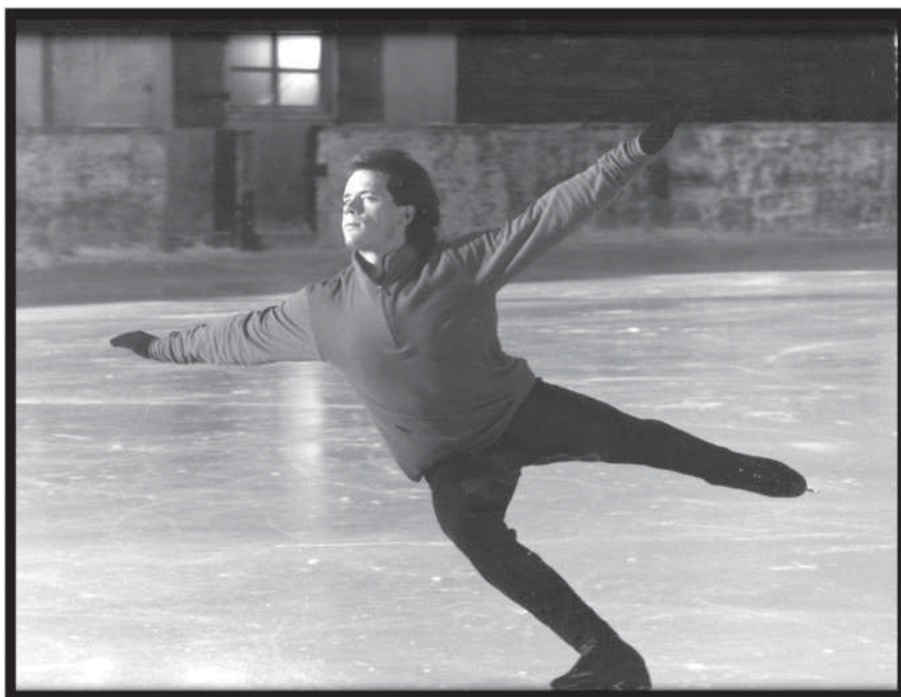
All our love,  
**Margaret Marion Sheridan**  
**Vivien Lucia Sheridan**

P.S. – Jersey is barking loudly and fully agrees!

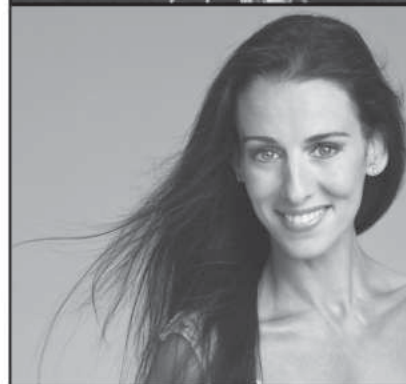


Carlie and Jennie and the Quesada and Berlin Families  
congratulate this year's honoree's  
Kurt Browning and Sonia Rodriguez.

**We love you Ice Theatre of New York!**



*Congratulations Kurt & Sonia!*  
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Thanks Sonia & Kurt for being our inspiration

Congratulations Clare Sheridan

Good luck Ice Theatre with the new Season

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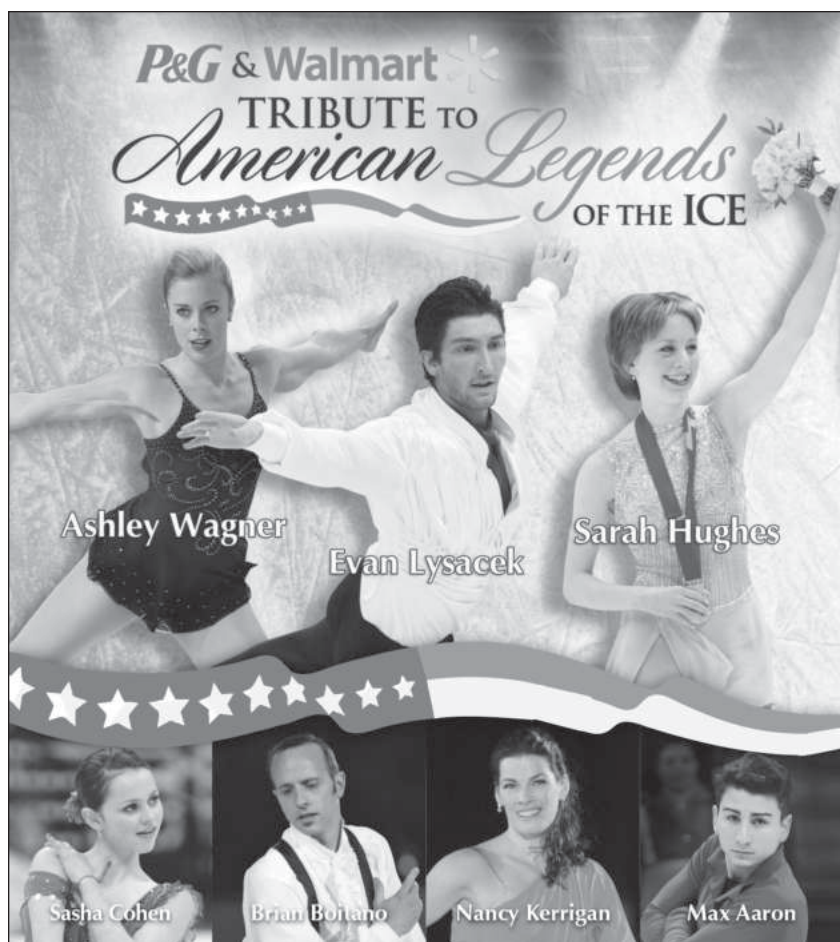
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Stephen G. Epstein | Edward Z. Epstein



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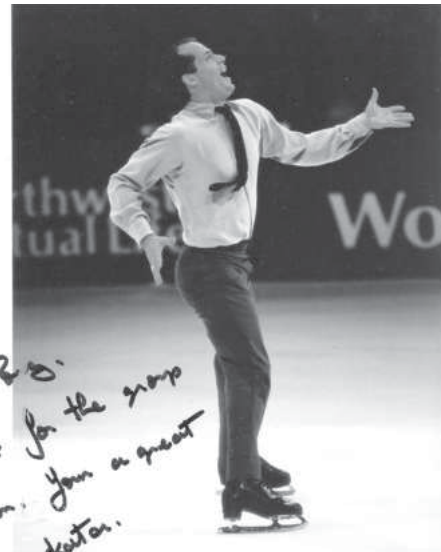
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# THANK YOU EDWARD AND LINDA



FOR ALL THAT YOU HAVE GIVEN TO  
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DEBBIE



*To Doug,  
Thank for the group  
lesson. You are a great  
skater.*

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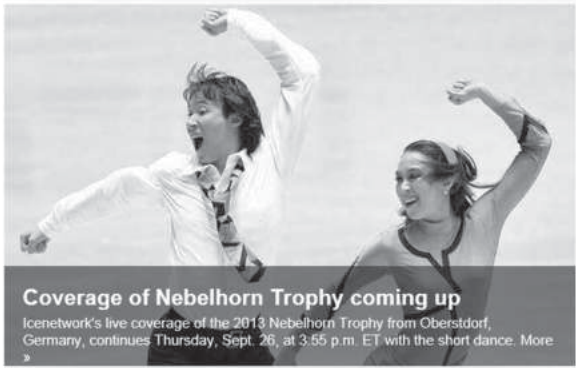
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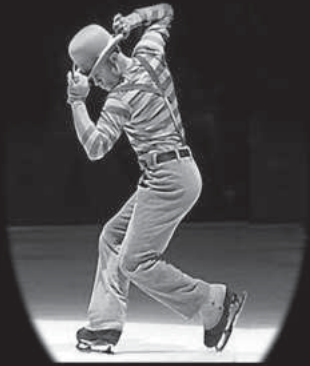
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Clare Bowes Sheridan,  
Moira North and  
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### **Kurt Browning & Sonia Rodriguez**

For Your Contributions to Skating and the Performance Arts,  
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Moira North, Jirina Ribbens & Douglas Webster  
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For Your Dedication, Passion, and Innovation.

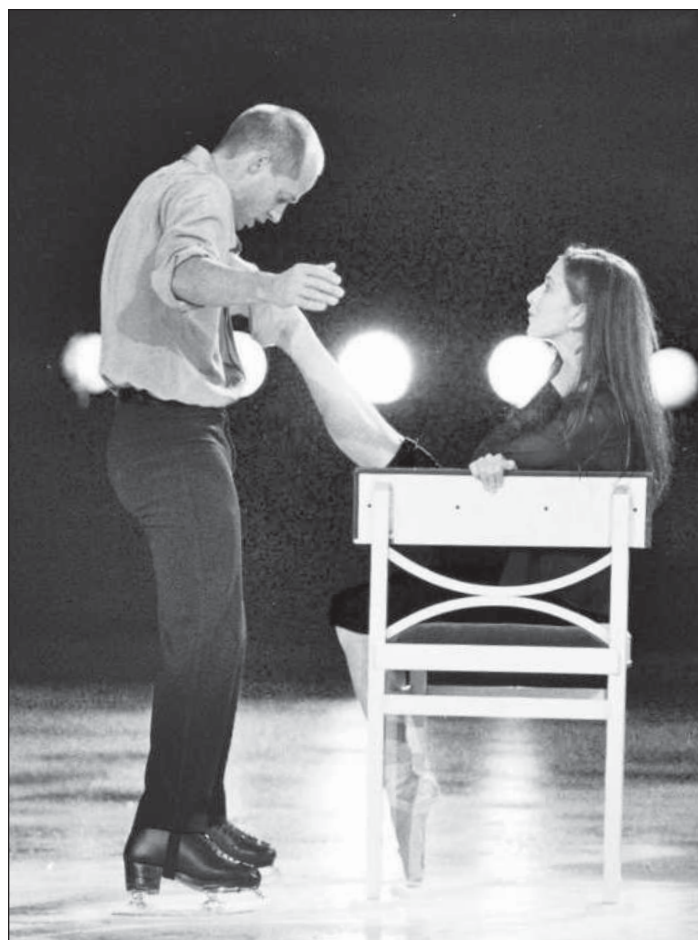


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Your partnership and friendship  
mean the world to me,  
Disson Skating and my family.

Kurt, you were my late mom’s  
all-time favorite skater!

**Steve Disson**

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Alida Monaco and Catherine Mayer.

Team members not pictured: Salise Marin, Gaby Schneider,  
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# CONGRATULATIONS

Kurt Browning, Sonia Rodriguez,  
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