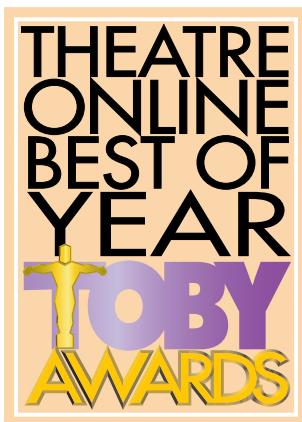


## PRESS RELEASE



# Theatre.com Readers Pick *Aida* and *Copenhagen* as Top B'way Shows

By [Robert Viagas](#)

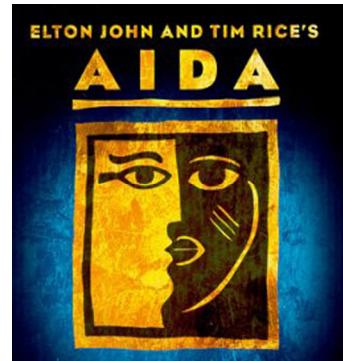


NEW YORK -- Theatre.com readers chose *Aida* as Best New Musical and *Copenhagen* as Best New Play in the second annual Theatre Online Best of the Year (TOBY) Awards.

Theatre lovers on the internet cast more than 4,700 votes in the TOBY awards, which recognize the best on Broadway in 36 categories during the 1999-2000 season, which ended May 31.

The choice of *Aida* was notable because the Elton John/Tim Rice rock musical was not even nominated for a Tony Award in the Best

Musical category. The show's fans were comprehensive in their admiration for the show: they also voted it TOBY awards for Best Book of a Musical, Best Music and Best Lyrics.



In addition to traditional award categories, TOBY awards are given in categories that can be even more meaningful for theatregoing audiences. Best

Show for Kids went to *The Music Man*; *Swing!* was chosen as the Best Show for a Special Occasion; *Chicago* was chosen as the long-running show that's holding up the best. A complete list of winners appears below.



Votes were tallied electronically from May 17 to May 31, 2000, and covered Broadway shows that opened between

June 1, 1999 and May 31, 2000. Readers had the ability to vote in all, some or only one category. Categories attracted a low of 1172 votes, and a high of 4785 votes.

BEST NEW MUSICAL: *Aida*

BEST NEW PLAY: *Copenhagen*

BEST REVUE: *Swing!*

BEST COMEDY: *Dame Edna: The Royal Tour*

BEST SOLO SHOW OR CONCERT: *Dame Edna: The Royal Tour*

BEST EXPERIMENTAL PIECE: *The Green Bird*

BEST REVIVAL OF A DRAMA: *The Real Thing*

BEST REVIVAL OF A MUSICAL: *Kiss Me, Kate*

BEST SHOW FOR KIDS: *The Music Man*

BEST SHOW FOR A SPECIAL OCCASION (DATE, ANNIVERSARY, ETC.): *Swing!*

BEST SHOW FROM A PREVIOUS SEASON HOLDING UP THE BEST: *Chicago*

BEST OFF-BROADWAY TRANSFER TO BROADWAY *Contact*

BEST IMPORTED SHOW: *Copenhagen*

BEST PERFORMANCE IN A PRIMARY ROLE (MUSICAL): Heather Headley (*Aida*), Brian Stokes Mitchell (*Kiss Me, Kate*), Craig Bierko (*The Music Man*) and Rebecca Luker (*The Music Man*)

BEST PERFORMANCE IN A PRIMARY ROLE (PLAY): Kristin Chenoweth (*Epic Proportions*), Stephen Dillane (*The Real Thing*), Philip Seymour Hoffman (*True West*), Cherry Jones (*A Moon for the Misbegotten*)

BEST DUO: Lee Wilkof and Michael Mulheren in *Kiss Me, Kate*

BEST PERFORMANCE IN A SECONDARY ROLE (MUSICAL): Michael Berresse (*Kiss Me, Kate*), Michael Mulheren (*Kiss Me, Kate*), Amy Spanger (*Kiss Me, Kate*), (tie:) Sherie Rene Scott (*Aida*), Tony Vincent (*Jesus Christ Superstar*)

BEST PERFORMANCE IN A SECONDARY ROLE (PLAY): Roy Dotrice (*A Moon for the Misbegotten*), Jennifer Ehle (*The Real Thing*), Harris Yulin (*The Price*), Ruth Williamson (*Epic Proportions*)

BEST PERFORMANCE BY A REPLACEMENT ACTOR: Sandy Duncan (*Chicago*)

COOLEST CAT ON BROADWAY: Brian Stokes Mitchell (*Kiss Me, Kate*)

BEST ORIGINAL BOOK OF A MUSICAL: *Aida* by Linda Woolverton, Robert Falls and David Henry Hwang

BEST ORIGINAL MUSIC: *Aida* by Elton John

BEST ORIGINAL LYRICS: *Aida* by Tim Rice

BEST CAST ALBUM: *Kiss Me, Kate*

BEST SPECIAL EFFECTS: *The Green Bird*

BEST POSTER: *The Music Man*

BEST TV COMMERCIAL: (tie) *Jesus Christ Superstar* and *Saturday Night Fever*

SPECIAL BROADWAY-RELATED EVENT YOU MOST WISH YOU'D ATTENDED: The Tony Awards Ceremony

BEST CHOREOGRAPHY: Susan Stroman (*Contact*)

BEST ORCHESTRATIONS: Don Sebesky (*Kiss Me, Kate*)

BEST DIRECTOR (PLAY): Michael Blakemore (*Copenhagen*)

BEST DIRECTOR (MUSICAL): Michael Blakemore (*Kiss Me, Kate*)

BEST MUSICAL DIRECTOR: David Chase (*The Music Man*)

BEST SET DESIGN: Robin Wagner (*Kiss Me, Kate*)

BEST COSTUME DESIGN: Constance Hoffman (*The Green Bird*)

BEST LIGHTING DESIGN: (tie:) Paul Constable (*Amadeus*), Donald Holder (*The Green Bird*)

Visit [www.theatre.com](http://www.theatre.com) to see a complete breakdown of how the voting went in each category.

Theatre.com congratulates the winners on their awards, and salutes all the nominees for their talent and efforts this season. A special thanks, too, to the readers who took the time to fill out the ballot.

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