

# OUTLOOKS

## live at the Tony Awards



Outlooks own Perry Mah, live on the Red Carpet

It was a night that celebrated everything—from the wild freedom of the 60’s, to a youth’s passion for living through dance—as the 63<sup>rd</sup> annual Tony Awards honoured the best of Broadway, in style. The awards, as nicknamed after founder Antoinette Perry, recognized the efforts and achievements among the diverse 2009 New York theatre season. *OUTLOOKS* Magazine paid a visit to the Big Apple to bring you all of the excitement—from the red carpet arrivals to backstage, with the winners.

Stage and screen stars gathered at Radio City Music Hall as the grand theatre once again played host to the extravaganza, with actor Neil Patrick Harris at his comic best as first time emcee. A number of musical numbers were showcased throughout the broadcast, beginning with a rousing opening montage featuring various nominees like *Billy Elliot*, *West Side Story*, *Shrek The Musical*, *9 to 5*, *Hair*, and more.

The night belonged to Elton John’s musical, *Billy Elliot*, winning ten awards out of the fifteen nominations it received, including Best Musical. 15-year-old Montréal native, David Alvarez, a newcomer to the stage, shared his prestigious award for Best Leading Actor in a Musical with the two other actors playing the tough role of Billy.

Backstage, all of the winners graciously gave me their thoughts on the evening and their awards before heading off to the official after-party at Rockefeller Center to celebrate the conclusion of a successful year.



Gina Gershon & Edie Falco

## Red Carpet Arrivals...



Frankie Valli and the "Jersey Boys"



Mama Mia Lead Actresses Rachel Tyler, Michelle Dawson, Kittra Coomer



Bobby Dill and Bret Michaels of "Poison" and Constantine Maroulis



Anne Hathaway



Dolly Parton



Bebe Neuwirth



Piper Perabo

# And the Tony Goes to...



## Angela Lansbury (Best Performance by a Featured Actress in a Play)

**Outlooks:** Angela, you seemed quite surprised when your name was called, why?

"I never believed in my wildest dreams I would have an opportunity to receive another Tony... this is such a complete surprise for me to be, shall we say... allowed to come back to Broadway in this time in my life and to be able to do a piece of good work like *Blithe Spirit*. I am so very grateful."



## Sir Elton John (Best Musical)

**Outlooks:** Could you see how successful *Billy Elliot* would be as you were writing it?

"To get to this point with *Billy Elliot* is where I want to be... the thing I love about this business is that you never know what is going to happen the next day or what's around the corner, so I'm just grateful that I saw the film of *Billy Elliot* in Cannes—otherwise I wouldn't have thought of doing the musical."

Pictured above with Sir Elton John (*l to r*) are David Alvarez, Trent Kowalik, and Kiril Kulish, who all rotated and played the role of the lead in *Billy Elliot*.



## Jerry Herman (Award for Lifetime Achievement in the Theatre)

is a multi Tony-award-winning composer and lyricist of the classic Broadway musicals *Hello, Dolly!*, *Mame*, *La Cage Aux Folles*, *Mack & Mabel*, and many more.

**Outlooks:** Are you working on any new projects?

"No, I'm not... I think that my style of music has come and gone and it was very very good to me... I really think it's better to know when to leave than to end up with two or three shows that just didn't make it, so I left at the height of my career. I'm very happy and don't want to do anything now but enjoy my old age."



## Liza Minnelli (Best Special Theatrical Event)

**Outlooks:** Do you see yourself as a Broadway icon, a gay icon, who is Liza?

"To me, I'm just a gypsy, you know.... The thing I love to do is rehearse and get up and work; go to dance classes. I'm thrilled, I must say, and I'm grateful and all that jazz [laughs] but I really am, really startled... an icon, hmm a gay icon; I love it!"