

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## The SHE PERSISTED Series WOMEN+ PLAYWRIGHTS OVER 40 DEBUT NEW BOOKS

NEW YORK, NY, October 23, 2021 -- As gender discrimination in the theater is once again making headlines, **Honor Roll!** an advocacy and action group of women+ playwrights over forty and their allies, confronts both sexism *and* ageism.

Honor Roll! is pleased to give voice to this historically marginalized group with the debut of two books, *She Persisted: 30 Ten-Minute Plays by Women Over 40* and *She Persisted: Monologues from Plays by Women Over 40* by Applause Theatre and Cinema Books, the Rowman and Littlefield Publishing Group.

These anthologies were edited by Lawrence Harbison with preface by Jacquelyn Reingold and introduction by Theresa Rebeck. The books may be purchased at the Drama Book Shop, 266 West 39th Street, New York, NY 10018, or at your preferred bookseller.

The monologues and 10-minute plays in these collections are perfect for professional as well as student actors, directors, and producers looking for fresh material by established as well as emerging playwrights. As editor Lawrence Harbison says, "It is my hope that these books will help to combat the rampant ageism which pervades the theater."

With more than 1300 members and growing, Honor Roll! is making its first foray into publishing opportunities for its members. Honor Roll! members are the generation of women+ who were excluded at the outset of their careers because of sexism, and are now overlooked because of ageism. They celebrate diversity in theater and work to eliminate age discrimination as it intersects with sexism and other biases including those based on race, gender identity, ethnicity, faith, socioeconomic status, disability, and sexual orientation in the American Theater and beyond.

As Pulitzer-winning playwright Theresa Rebeck explains in her introduction, "These women are in their forties and fifties and sixties, and they have been writing a long time, and they are at the height of their craft. These are tight, complex, nuanced pieces of writing, which no one has seen because for too long they weren't looking...These are important writers, and important plays."

The playwrights featured in *She Persisted: 30 Ten-Minute Plays by Women Over 40* are: Liz Amberly, Rita Anderson, Jenny Lyn Bader, Susan Cinoman, Cynthia L. Cooper, J. Thalia Cunningham, Victoria Z. Daly, Inda Craig-Galván, C.S. Hanson, Yvette Heyliger, Donna Hoke, Michael Angel Johnson, Christine Toy Johnson, Susan Kim, Donna Latham, Judith Leora, Jennifer Maisel, Karen Malpede, Jacquelyn Reingold, Laura Rohrman, Lynn Rosen, Betty Shamieh, Royal Shirée, C. Denby Swenson, Lucy Wang, Audrey Webb, Julie Weinberg, A.D. Williams, Sheri Wilner, and Bridgette A. Wimberly.

The playwrights featured in *She Persisted: Monologues from Plays by Women Over 40* are: Crystal Adaway, Shari Albert, Barbara Blatner, Diana Burbano, Laura Maria Censabella, Cynthia Chapman, Susan Cinoman, Alice Eve Cohen, J. Thalia Cunningham, Victoria Z. Daly, Elizabeth Dement, J. Lois Diamond, Charlene A. Donaghy, Jeanne Dorsey, Phoebe Eaton, T. Cat Ford, Christine Foster, Inda Craig-Galván, Dana Leslie Goldstein, C.S. Hanson, Yvette Heyliger, Betsy Howie, Christine Toy Johnson, Carol S. Lashof, Annie LaRussa, Donna Latham, Andrea Lepcio, Felice Locker, Shellen Lubin, Ali MacLean, Karen Malpede, Susan Miller, Lori M. Myers, Jamie Pachino, Martha Patterson, Jacquelyn Reingold, Cynthia Grace Robinson, Laura Rohrman, Lynn Rosen, Kate Schwartz, Royal Shiree, Saviana Stanescu, Caridad Svich, C. Denby Swanson, Ann Timmons. Sarah Tuft, Lucy Wang, and Julie Weinberg.

American novelist, nonfiction writer, screenwriter, activist and yes, playwright, Sarah Schulman, gives a shout out to Honor Roll! in her recent op-ed in the *Los Angeles Times*. "Women are working together to fight back," she declared.

Women+ playwrights over 40 and women+ allies over 40 may join our ranks by visiting us on <a href="mailto:Facebook">Facebook</a> or writing to us at <a href="mailto:honorrollmembers@gmail.com">honorrollmembers@gmail.com</a>. To learn more about Honor Roll! visit our web page, <a href="http://jd03.myonepager.com/">http://jd03.myonepager.com/</a>. To learn more about our members visit Honor Roll! <a href="Profiles">Profiles</a>. Onward!