

MARCH 2016 WOMEN'S STYLE

WSJ.

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL MAGAZINE

Smile!

CHRISTY TURLINGTON BURNS
MAKES THE WORLD BRIGHTER

STUDY IN DESIGN

PLAYER'S CLUB



North of Chicago, in Glencoe, Illinois, Writers Theatre has established a powerhouse reputation in two unassuming, undersize spaces: the back of a bookstore and a rented room inside the Woman's Library Club. "The plumbing didn't work, the infrastructure was crumbling, and we were dependent on the weather to finish our sets," artistic director Michael Halberstam says of the library venue. "Everything around the stages bore no resemblance to the experience of watching our plays." With this month's opening of the 24-year-old theater company's first permanent home, designed by architect Jeanne Gang and her firm, Studio Gang, "we finally feel our exterior matches our interior," Halberstam says.

The structure—with wood recycled from trees felled for construction and bricks reused from the old library club—isn't just an enclosed box. Timber trusses surround a second-floor walkway suspended above the glass-walled lobby—a hat tip to tiered Elizabethan theaters like the Globe, in London. The timber work nods to the suburb's Tudor Revival style.

"We wanted to create a space that connects with the village around it," Gang says. The theater blends with its residential environs while introducing something unique. There's no neon, and there are no flashing lights or sponsor names splashed across the facade. "People always ask me, 'Where's your marquee?'" executive director Kathryn M. Lipuma says. "The building is the marquee."

Writers gave Gang a mandate for the interior spaces: Offer more seats while maintaining the theater's intimacy. The \$34 million project's 250-seat theater, which kicks off with Tom Stoppard's 1993 play, *Arcadia*, on March 16, has just two more rows than the former library theater, while the smaller, flexible space holds up to 99 audience members. The lobby and rooftop terrace also double as performance areas. "It feels like almost everywhere you walk in the building something creative is about to happen," Halberstam says. —*Novid Parsi*

RESORT REFRESH

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PIECES FROM THE CAROLINA HERRERA COLLECTION FOR JEFFREY NEW YORK



CLOSET CASE

POLKA PARTY

Designer Carolina Herrera and downtown retailer Jeffrey Kalinsky (of Jeffrey New York) will launch their first seven-piece collection in March. The duo updated Herrera's signature black-and-white polka-dot print with new silhouettes, from tailored separates to dresses. "Carolina always reflects a modern woman with a modern attitude," says Kalinsky, who will carry the line at his Meatpacking District and Atlanta boutiques. Whether producing structured culottes or mini-hemlines, Herrera and Kalinsky blur the line between elegance and irreverence. "It's important for women to feel glamorous and feminine but always themselves," says Herrera. \$790–\$2,490; jeffreynewyork.com —*Laura Stoloff*