

# September – December 2005

**Monday, December 26, 2005**

A [\[radio interview\]](#) I did with Robin Young of NPR's "Here & Now" about JERSEY BOYS can be heard online.

**Friday, December 23, 2005**

Pick up the current December 30, 2005 "Best of 2005" issue of Entertainment Weekly. JERSEY BOYS makes two "Best of" lists: one for yours truly in "Great Performances of 2005," the other for the show itself in "Best of 2005: Stage." Also, spies tell me The New York Times has included me in tomorrow's year-end Sunday Times theatrical roundup as one of the "Celestial Star Turns" of 2005.

Thank you to all the friends and JERSEY BOYS fans who voted for me for Broadway.com's Star of the Year 2005. I'm sure all your votes made quite a dent. The award went to the hilarious star of Dirty Rotten Scoundrels, 2005 Tony-winner, Norbert Leo Butz.

The cast of JERSEY BOYS will be appearing January 6th, 2006 on NBC/TV's The Today Show. I'll post details when I know them.

**Friday, December 16, 2005**

Today Broadway.com included me among the nominees for their 2005 Star of the Year. Click [here](#) to vote!

**Monday, December 12, 2005**

Last night was the opening of Chita Rivera's new Broadway show CHITA RIVERA: THE DANCER'S LIFE. The Jersey Boys, Christian Hoff, Daniel Reichard, J. Robert Spencer and I were all invited, and we had a great time at the show and the after-party at New York's famous Copacabana. The show was great. Chita Rivera is in top-form and the audience went ballistic at

the end of the evening with a warm and persistent standing ovation.

Broadwayworld.com has already posted pictures from the opening night red carpet and the after party.

Playbill.com has coverage of last night's opening, too, including a quote from yours truly.

Last week I had an interview with writer Corine Cohen for her website [www.corinescorner.com](http://www.corinescorner.com). Follow this [\[link\]](#) for the interview.

### **Monday, December 5, 2005**

Happy Birthday to friend, Robin D. Carus!

Going to see JERSEY BOYS pal and co-star Daniel Reichard perform tonight at Ars Nova Theatre.

JERSEY BOYS television appearances update: The CNN Showbiz Tonight segment with the four Jersey Boys and the real Frankie Valli that mysteriously never aired last Monday will air tomorrow, Tuesday, December 6th on CNN Headline News in the 7pm – 8pm EST hour and again during the 11pm – midnight hour.

This past Friday I spoke with NBC-TV's Sue Simmons on New York's local NBC affiliate Channel 4's news program LIVE AT FIVE about JERSEY BOYS. To find a video of this interview that you can watch online, please [click here](#).

### **Thursday, November 25, 2005**

Rose this morning at 5:15 am to get ready to perform in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. It went off without a hitch – we all had a great time. To view JERSEY BOYS' Thanksgiving Day Parade performance online, [click here](#).

The cast of JERSEY BOYS makes its next television appearance, Monday November 28th, along with Frankie Valli, on CNN's

Showbiz Tonight (the segment airs during the 7pm-8pm hour, EST, and re-airs at 11pm EST)

**Monday, November 21, 2005**

Thanks to my former acting teacher Lowry Marshall for catching JERSEY BOYS this past weekend. Lowry and I had fun catching up Sunday evening with the cast and crew at a birthday party nearby for JERSEY BOYS book writer Rick Elice and original Four Seasons member, songwriter Bob Gaudio (both born November 17th). Click for photos from the party.

Today we rehearsed our segment from JERSEY BOYS in Herald Square for the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade coming up on Thursday. The parade will air Thursday morning on NBC. Check [www.nbc.com](http://www.nbc.com) or [www.macys.com](http://www.macys.com) for details.

Just discovered today that the JERSEY BOYS ORIGINAL BROADWAY CAST RECORDING can be heard online for FREE. To own a copy of the CD, you can order from Amazon.com, [here](#).

Also dug up some gossipy Fox News coverage of the JERSEY BOYS opening night, [here](#).

A lot of fans and friends are asking how it feels to be starring in a bona-fide Broadway hit. Well, considering at this time last year I was an usher at a Broadway show, to be starring in one, now, feels pretty great! Eight shows a week as Frankie Valli is no easy feat, though. I have to go home early from all the great parties, never stay out late, don't touch a drop of alcohol, I have to turn down meetings with people I couldn't even get on the phone a few years ago, just so I can stay rested enough for the show, I don't speak a word on my days off. A friend from JERSEY BOYS asked me last night at Bob and Rick's party if all that sacrifice was worth it. I think the answer is yes: it's a small price to pay for getting to go out there on that stage and be engulfed by that overwhelming wave of affection from the audience night after night in a great, challenging role.

## **Monday, November 14, 2005**

JERSEY BOYS opened November 6th to rave reviews. A lot has happened over the past few weeks. Happily, much of it has been recorded in photos and on video. Check the photos and media pages for new JERSEY BOYS content.

On November 5th, I attended a party hosted by Charles Alexander and Frank Rovello for the international fans of the Four Seasons. Photos from that event as well as video clips from news segments about JERSEY BOYS and more, can be found here.

## **Sunday, October 16, 2005**

Today the Virginia Theatre, where JERSEY BOYS is playing, was officially re-named the August Wilson Theatre, for the late playwright.

JERSEY BOYS previews are well underway – two weeks under the belt with the official press opening steadily approaching, November 6th. Thank you to all the fans who have been e-mailing and sending letters and to the great audiences for their overwhelmingly warm and enthusiastic reception. It's a very busy time with performances at night and rehearsals and publicity appearances during the day, but I wanted to write just briefly to share some exciting news:

On October 25th, the JERSEY BOYS Original Broadway Cast Album will have its exclusive premiere on XM Satellite Radio's Broadway Channel (channel 28). An interview with the four of us actors who play the Four Seasons and the real Bob Gaudio (of the original Four Seasons) will air at 12 noon and again at 9 p.m. EST along with never-before-heard tracks from the album. The cast album of JERSEY BOYS has its official release on the Rhino record label November 1st.

## **Thursday, September 15, 2005**

JERSEY BOYS had a surprise visitor at rehearsals, yesterday. More photos from Broadway.com.

### **Monday, September 12, 2005**

Video from 'JERSEY BOYS' invited press rehearsal on 9/8/05 appeared today on Broadway.com.

<http://johnlloydyoung.club/media/video/jb-inrehearsal-08-09-2005.mp4>

### **Saturday, September 10, 2005**

Happy Birthday to friend Kate Wetherhead!

Another week of rehearsals under the belt. On Thursday, the press was invited to a rehearsal of JERSEY BOYS, at the 42nd Street Studios in Manhattan. Press Rep Adrian Bryan-Brown, director Des McAnuff and writers Rick Elice and Marshall Brickman all gave brief presentations, and the JERSEY BOYS cast performed two sections from Act One. Photos from the invited press rehearsal are linked here.

JERSEY BOYS choreographer, Sergio Trujillo, has another show on the boards, right now, The Great American Trailer Park Musical. Seeing that tomorrow.

### **Sunday, September 4, 2005**

Just ended week three of rehearsals for JERSEY BOYS, yesterday, with a run-through of the show. Things are in great shape. We made the JERSEY BOYS Original Broadway Cast Recording, last week, too. What a rush, recording all those great songs in the studio with original Four Seasons composer, Bob Gaudio. It was a lot of work, but the album is going to be incredible... To see more photos from the recording session, click here.

The Virginia Theatre, where JERSEY BOYS begins previews October 4th, will be re-named the August Wilson Theatre on October 17th, 2005, in honor of playwright August Wilson.

The signage for JERSEY BOYS is popping up all over Manhattan. Here's a snapshot of the Times Square billboard. The official JERSEY BOYS website has launched, too: [www.jerseyboysbroadway.com](http://www.jerseyboysbroadway.com).

Enjoying my first day off in two weeks, today. Saw THE 40 YEAR OLD VIRGIN this afternoon and had some laughs...