Silence is golden - Marceau show, gala benefit Performing Arts Chicago

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For a man who has very little to say, 74-year-old Marcel Marceau took Chicago by storm last week, with a schedule that would have flattened a younger performer.

Before his opening night there were autograph sessions, a luncheon at Brasserie Jo, a visit to 75 children at the Northwestern University Settlement House, a presentation of an honorary Chicago citizenship and proclamation from Mayor Daley, and three master classes for professionals at the Actors Gymnasium in Evanston. The opening of his show at the Shubert Theatre and a gala at the Palmer House Hilton afterward benefitted Performing Arts Chicago.

Chaired by Donna LaPietra with co-chairwomen Carol Prins and Carole Stone, the party in the Red Lacquer Room had a definite Gallic air with tables covered in red satin and tall centerpieces holding pink tulips. Cancan dancers and strolling accordionists entertained, and the 250 guests cheered as attorney Allen Turner received the imPACt award from PAC board President Helyn Goldenberg for his deep commitment to theater and the performing arts.

More than $200,000 was raised to support PAC's performances, commissions and educational activities. Guests included Roche Schulfer, Robert Falls (rejoicing at the New York success of his staging of "The Young Man From Atlanta"), Muriel Kallis Newman, Gwill and Bruce Newman, the brilliant PAC Executive Director Susan Lipman, Mary and Richard Gray, underwriters Carol Prins and John Hart, Gerald Arpino, Gigi and Michael Pucker, Kathy Abelson, and Irving and Joan Harris. On Sept. 14, the Harrises will be the first couple honored by the Weizmann Institute.

Outgoing Chicago Board Options Exchange Chairman Duke Chapman and incoming Chairman Bill Brodsky were honored at a Chicago Club reception for more than 250 guests last week.

Chapman presented the gavel he used during his tenure to Brodsky. "I could have used this earlier today," said Brodsky, who had chaired his first board meeting that morning. He added that he was thrilled to be back in the securities business.s ago. Wife Bea has had both portraits copied by the artist and "they are hanging side by side in our home," Chapman said with a big smile.

Chicago Youth Centers, the largest independent social service agency in Chicago, held its annual gala at the Renaissance Chicago Hotel with more than 500 guests who helped raise more than $300,000.

Chaired by James R. Donnelley, the evening featured a mime, a magician and a psychic, and honored First Chicago NBD Corp. for its 30 years of support. Ameritech also was saluted for its sponsorship of the dinner.

Among the guests dining and dancing to the music of the Bradley Young orchestra were co-chairwomen Nancy Kling and Joan Fadden, Roland Baker, David and Marilyn Vitale, Ruth and Alan McNally, and Barbara and Del Arsenault.

Caption: Incoming Chicago Board Options Exchange Chairman Bill Brodsky (left) and former Chairman Duke Chapman mark the passing of the gavel at a Chicago Club reception for more than 250 guests. Studs Terkel talks to his wife, Ida, just before entering the Shubert Theatre to see Marcel Marceau. Performing Arts Chicago co-chair Donna LaPietra with Bill Kurtis at the opening of Marceau's show. Allen Turner (with his wife,

Lynn) was honored by Performing Arts Chicago at its spring benefit. Roche Schulfer (left) with Robert Falls just before the opening of Marceau's engagement at the Shubert Theatre. James Donnelley (left) celebrates with Ronald Dules at the Chicago Youth Centers benefit "The Magic of Children" at the Renaissance Hotel Chicago. More than $300,000 was raised. Credit: Dom Najolia

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