On a mild mid-October Monday evening, Fountain House hosted a theatrical event headlining three-time Academy Award nominee Joan Allen and soon-to-be Broadway "Funny Girl" Lauren Ambrose.

This staged reading was based upon the acclaimed memoir Daughter of the Queen of Sheba by NPR's Jacki Lyden, in which she recounts her experiences growing up with a colorful and dramatic mother living with manic depression. The evening drew a full house to the Kaye Playhouse at Hunter College and benefited Fountain House, with support from NPR.
Ms. Allen and Ms. Ambrose summoned theatrical magic as "Sheba" and her daughter Jacki, respectively, ably abetted by noted actors David Aaron Baker and Dan Futterman in a variety of male roles. Acting as Narrator, Ms. Lyden chronicled everyday occurrences from tragic to comic, as these theatre artists called forth a range of complex and at times contradictory emotions. Among the enthralled audience members was the "Sheba" of the memoir's title, Arlene Marshall.

Fountain House is one of the world's leading mental health models, providing employment, education, and housing opportunities to people living with serious mental illness. This successful model has been replicated in more than 400 locations in 30 countries and 32 states and currently serves more than 55,000 people with mental illness worldwide. For more information, please visit: www.fountainhouse.org.
Irv and Elaine Schwartz with Carol and Richard Bernstein

Bloo Lyden, Jacki Lyden, Cyndi Lyden, and Arlene Marshall ("Sheba")

Scott Simon and Jacki Lyden, Jeff Aron, and Robyn Marks
Anne Mai and Kelly McClung

KC Williams and Arlene Skierawski

Christopher Scholz, Ines Elskop, and Hamilton Kean