

THE PLACE TO BE

Big News on Broadway

WHEN RUMORS swirled not long ago that a musical based on Donald Trump's *The Apprentice* might be hitting Broadway, the death of theater seemed assured. But this month three new shows debut that restore our faith in the Great White Way and provide the perfect excuse to visit New York City. At the Hilton Theatre, Alain Boublil and Claude-Michel Schönberg—the Tony-winning composers behind *Les Misérables* and *Miss Saigon*—contribute the score to **The Pirate Queen**, a baroque new musical about Grace O'Malley, swashbuckling seafarer of 16th-century Ireland (previews begin March 6).

A few blocks away, at the Lyceum Theatre, **Inherit the Wind** returns to Broadway. Doug Hughes (who won a Tony for *Doubt*) directs Christopher Plummer and Brian Dennehy (two more Tony winners) as opposing attorneys in the historic Scopes trial, debating schools' right to teach evolution (previews begin March 20). And at the Booth Theatre, legendary actress and Tony (and Oscar, and Emmy) winner Vanessa Redgrave headlines **The Year of Magical Thinking**, a one-woman show based on Joan

Didion's National Book Award-winning memoir of the same name (previews begin March 6). Expect Redgrave to be shattered but composed as Didion, the brilliant writer who—after

losing her husband and seeing her daughter fall gravely ill—creates a cathartic new idiom for the pain of living on after loss. For tickets to all shows, go to telecharge.com. —R.B.

