



## American Repertory Theater

LOEB DRAMA CENTER  
64 brattle street,  
cambridge, ma 02138

OBERON  
2 arrow street  
cambridge, ma 02138

617•495•2668 TEL  
617•495•1705 FAX  
617•547•8300 TICKETS

[americanrepertorytheater.org](http://americanrepertorytheater.org)

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Rebecca Curtiss 617.496.2000 x8841 | 617.872.8254

[rebecca\\_curtiss@harvard.edu](mailto:rebecca_curtiss@harvard.edu)

### Afterglow @ OBERON Series Continues February 21 With Acclaimed Comedian Desiree Burch in *Unf\*ckable*

Co-Presented by American Repertory Theater and Afterglow Festival

[Image available for download here.](#)

Cambridge, MA—American Repertory Theater (A.R.T.) at Harvard University, under the leadership of Terrie and Bradley Bloom Artistic Director **Diane Paulus** and Executive Producer **Diane Berger**, and the **Afterglow Festival**, under the artistic direction of **Quinn Cox**, are pleased to announce the upcoming appearance of **Desiree Burch** as the next event in the **Afterglow @ OBERON** series. The acclaimed comedian will perform her show *Unf\*ckable!* at the A.R.T.'s OBERON (2 Arrow Street, Cambridge) on Thursday, February 21 at 8PM.

In this stand-up performance, virtuoso comedian and storyteller **Desiree Burch** examines sex, sex work, and how to prevent sex from becoming work. Desiree goes from virgin to dominatrix in New York City, finding insights into race, sex and capitalism, and applying them with razor-sharp wit and unabashed curiosity to the personal and professional spaces that often prove even more complicated to navigate. Called “a comedian deservedly on the rise” by *The Guardian*, Burch is the winner of the 2015 Funny Women Stage Award and host of the upcoming Netflix gameshow “Flinch.”

*ScotsGay Magazine* calls Burch, “The funniest comedian I have ever seen in person. She left me breathless with laughter.”

**Desiree Burch** is a comedian, writer, solo performer, actor and NY-to-London transplant. She has been seen on “Frankie Boyle’s American Autopsy” (BBC), “8 Out of 10 Cats” (Channel 4), and “Before the Morning After” (NBC/SeeSo). She’s been heard as the voice of Pamela Winchell on #1 international hit podcast *Welcome to Night Vale*, as well as on podcasts including *The Guilty Feminist*, *Made of Human*, *Dumb White Guy*, *Friends Like Us*, and *Writing Excuses*.

Burch was the 2015 Funny Women Stage Award-winner. Her solo show *Tar Baby* was the winner of a 2015 Scotsman’s Fringe First Award, a 2016 Vault Festival Pick-of-the-Week, and was shortlisted (High-Commendation) for the 2015 Amnesty International Freedom of Expression Award. Other solo shows (*52 Man Pickup* and *This is Evolution*) have toured internationally and received widespread critical acclaim.

She was a founding member of the New York Neo-Futurists, writing and performing regularly in *Too Much Light Makes the Baby Go Blind* during its thirteen-year run in New York City. She and has worked with renowned American theatre artists as Young Jean Lee, Alex Timbers, Wu Tsang, and Anna Deavere Smith. She is a recipient of the 2014 Franklin Furnace Fund, an arts educator and public speaker (TEDx, NerdCon: Stories) and holds a B.A. in Theatre Studies from Yale University.

### **TICKETING INFORMATION**

Tickets are \$25 and currently available by phone at 617.547.8300, online at [americanrepertorytheater.org/AfterglowAtOBERON](http://americanrepertorytheater.org/AfterglowAtOBERON), and in person at the Loeb Drama Center Ticket Services Office (64 Brattle Street, Cambridge) and at 7PM at OBERON. Discounts are available to A.R.T. Members and Subscribers, as well as students.

OBERON is located at 2 Arrow Street at the corner of Mass Ave. in Harvard Square, Cambridge.

### **UPCOMING AFTERGLOW @ OBERON EVENTS**

Featuring playwrights, cabaret performers, and solo artists, **Afterglow @ OBERON** is curated by **Quinn Cox**, founder of Provincetown's annual Afterglow Festival. Past performers in the series, formerly known as Glowberon, include **Joey Arias**, **Erin Markey**, **Johnny Blazes**, and **Lady Bunny**.

#### **• THE BEARDED LADIES CABARET: JOHN JARBOE AS MX. ROGERS IN A MUSICAL HEALING RITUAL FOR ADULTS: YOU CAN NEVER GO DOWN THE DRAIN**

March 14 at 8PM

A goldfish funeral, gay romps into the land of make-believe, and some earnest questions about irony using and abusing iconic songs from *Mr. Rogers Neighborhood*.

#### **• TORI SCOTT: TORI SCOTT IS PICKLED!**

April 18 at 8PM

Tori examines her life, one martini at a time. A slurred autobiographical adventure of her biggest regrets with blackouts and belting, the shameless musical journey includes songs from Lady Gaga, Madonna, Dolly Parton, and more.

### **ABOUT AMERICAN REPERTORY THEATER**

American Repertory Theater (A.R.T.) at Harvard University is a leading force in the American theater, producing groundbreaking work in Cambridge and beyond. A.R.T. was founded in 1980 by Robert Brustein, who served as Artistic Director until 2002, when he was succeeded by Robert Woodruff. Diane Paulus began her tenure as Terrie and Bradley Bloom Artistic Director in 2008. Under the leadership of Paulus and Executive Producer Diane Borger, A.R.T. seeks to expand the boundaries of theater by producing transformative theatrical experiences, always including the audience as a central partner.

Throughout its history, A.R.T. has been honored with many distinguished awards including the Tony Award for Best New Play for *All the Way* (2014); consecutive Tony Awards for Best Revival of a Musical for *Pippin* (2013) and *The Gershwins' Porgy and Bess* (2012), both of which Paulus directed, and sixteen other Tony Awards since 2012; a Pulitzer Prize; a Jujamcyn Prize for outstanding

contribution to the development of creative talent; the Regional Theater Tony Award; and more than 100 Elliot Norton and IRNE Awards.

A.R.T. collaborates with artists around the world to develop and create work in new ways. It is currently engaged in a number of multi-year projects, including a collaboration with Harvard's Center for the Environment that will result in the development of new work over several years. Under Paulus' leadership, the A.R.T.'s club theater, OBERON, has been an incubator for local and emerging artists and has attracted national attention for its innovative programming and business models.

As the professional theater on the campus of Harvard University, the A.R.T. catalyzes discourse, interdisciplinary collaboration, and creative exchange among a wide range of academic departments, institutions, students, and faculty members, acting as a conduit between its community of artists and the university. The A.R.T. has trained generations of theater artists through its Institute for Advanced Theater Training, and also plays a central role in Harvard's undergraduate concentration in Theater, Dance & Media.

Dedicated to making great theater accessible, A.R.T. actively engages more than 5,000 community members and local students annually in project-based partnerships, workshops, conversations with artists, and other enrichment activities both at the theater and across the Greater Boston area.

Through all of these initiatives, A.R.T. is dedicated to producing world-class performances in which the audience is central to the theatrical experience.

### **ABOUT AFTERGLOW FESTIVAL**

**AFTERGLOW** is an annual live performance arts festival in Provincetown, MA. Founded in 2011 by Quinn Cox and John Cameron Mitchell, Afterglow has earned Provincetown a star on the international festival map, reclaiming its heritage as the birthplace of the modern American stage. Afterglow has premiered and developed award-winning solo plays that have moved Off-Broadway and beyond. Honoring Provincetown's artistic bond with New York's Greenwich Village and Cambridge, Massachusetts' progressive performance scenes, Afterglow has featured artists from all over the United States and Europe. Each September, Afterglow invites artists and audience alike to bask in the glittering light of pure, live artistic expression, after the full glare of summer.

**@americanrep @ClubOBERON**

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