



## 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)

### American Repertory Theater Announces May / June 2019 OBERON Programming

**Cambridge, MA**—American Repertory Theater (A.R.T.) at Harvard University announces May and June 2019 programming at **OBERON**, its club-style theater space for cutting-edge performance and a thriving incubator for local and emerging artists. Upcoming events include **Live @ OBERON**, A.R.T. presentations, and independently produced events.

**OBERON** is located at 2 Arrow Street at the corner of Massachusetts Avenue in Harvard Square, Cambridge.

**Tickets are available** online at [americanrepertorytheater.org](http://americanrepertorytheater.org), by phone at 617.547.8300, in person at the Loeb Drama Center Ticket Services Offices (64 Brattle Street, Cambridge), and 30 minutes before curtain at OBERON. Prices vary per event. A.R.T. subscribers and members receive discounts to **A.R.T. Breakout**, **Live @ OBERON**, and **Afterglow @ OBERON** series productions, as well as ***The Donkey Show***.

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#### PERLE NOIRE: MEDITATIONS FOR JOSÉPHINE

Friday, May 3 at 10PM

Free – Reservation required (sold out, unclaimed tickets will be released to a waitlist at the door)

**Perle Noire: Meditations for Joséphine** brings together the astonishing talents of several of today's most innovative artists. Conceived by director **Peter Sellars** and **Julia Bullock** and premiered at the Ojai Music Festival in June of 2016, *Perle Noire* spotlights Josephine Baker's iconic songs re-composed by the percussionist **Tyshawn Sorey** and sung by world-renowned soprano and activist **Julia Bullock**, who sees her work on the show not as an impersonation of Baker, but as a tribute. Other collaborators include poet **Claudia Rankine** and **International Contemporary Ensemble** (ICE).

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#### MAY THE FOURTH BE WITH YOU: REVENGE OF THE FIFTH

Sunday, May 5 at 8PM

Tickets from \$15

Join us at Mos Oberon Cantina, the watering hole where scum and villainy from around the galaxy come to see live music, dance performance, drag performance, circus arts, and burlesque. Rumors tell there is a hidden Jedi temple underground that is a powerful centering spot for Force users, but no

one knows for sure if that is true, or just a myth. Come in costume! Cosplay or dress as an original character. Prizes will be given for: best formal cosplay, best variant cosplay, and best original character.

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## **PROJECT CATAPULT SHOWCASE**

Tuesday, May 7 at 7PM

Tickets \$10

Five public radio stations across the country are changing the sound of public radio...with podcasts! Our five teams – from Salt Lake City to Atlanta – will assemble for the culmination of a 20-week training to launch podcasts they've meticulously refined throughout the second round of PRX's innovative podcast accelerator – **Project Catapult**. Maybe you're interested in how one Indiana fertility doctor misled dozens of families, or how Southern Hip Hop has shaped the world. Perhaps you'd like to explore how ordinary people navigate faith and spiritual identity, or what the country can expect now that marijuana legalization seems to be the trend. Or maybe you just want to learn how to love and appreciate music from the perspective of a kid. There's a little something for everyone! Join us and discover five new podcasts you'll need to add to your queue in 2019!

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## **SASKIA'S UTOPIA**

Thursday, May 9 & Friday, May 10 at 9PM and Saturday, May 11 at 2PM

Tickets from \$10

**Saskia's Incorporated** is a queer artist collective and community that seeks to provide a playful space in which people can explore alternate possibilities of being. Our creative foundations of electronic music and drag performance build sonic and visual landscapes in which we invite bodies to be ecstatic, connected, validated, affirmed, and liberated. This event, **Utopia**, is a practice in queer world-making; it is an escape from the violent and invalidating realities of the white, heteronormative world; and it is a realized imagination of the infinite possibilities of connectedness between bodies shaped by gender, sexuality, race, ability, and class.

**Saskia's Utopia** is a queer world-making project. After a year and a half of building our community around Boston in which, thematically, we have played with pre-existing cultural aesthetics (previous events include "Industrial Revolution," "Boot Camp," etc). We now seek to manifest something new altogether, to build an environment in which we can explore new and alternate possibilities of being and in which we can connect with each other as intimate and autonomous subjects, to build a "Utopia." We are so excited to share that new world with you.

- **Thursday: Local Night** celebrating all of the rich and diverse talent that the Boston area has to offer.
  - **Friday: New Horizons** featuring guest artists from around the country who are pushing the boundaries of drag, electronic music, and queer organizing.
  - **Saturday: Discussion** of the challenges and bright new future of organizing queer public space in Boston, and then we will send off the space with a casual Garden Party, dancing our last dance at OBERON to the rhythms of house music.
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## ENDLESS BURLESQUE: A VARIETY TRIBUTE TO NEIL GAIMAN'S SANDMAN

Sunday, May 12 at 8PM

Tickets from \$15

Nüqueer Power & Mx Macabre are delighted to present *Endless Burlesque: A Variety Tribute to Neil Gaiman's Sandman!* Calling all dreamers, nightmares, enchanters, and fae! You are cordially invited to an evening of dreamy delights to entice the mind, body, and soul celebrating the sublime world of Neil Gaiman's Sandman. With a variety of burlesque, drag, music and more inspired by the many immortal characters that populate Morpheus' realm and beyond.

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## WOMEN OF HARRY POTTER AND THE SACRED TEXT

Tuesday, May 14 at 7PM

Tickets from \$15

*Harry Potter & the Sacred Text* is a podcast that treats the Harry Potter Books as if they were sacred. Throughout the podcast, Vanessa (one of the co-hosts and a non-denominational, Harvard-trained chaplain) has dedicated herself to blessing a woman at the end of every episode. In *Women of Harry Potter and the Sacred Text*, we bring this practice to the center of each episode. **Vanessa Zoltan** and **Ariana Nedelman** (the producer) alternate picking a woman from the Harry Potter series to bless, and they spend time lifting up these women's successes and struggles. In these discussions, we hope to learn more about the text, ourselves, and the people around us.

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## THE LIBRARY IS OPEN

Thursday, May 16 at 8PM

Tickets from \$20

Following the success of their previous productions, *Exit, Pursued Bare* and *Mount Olympus*, Viscous & Tingle are back with an even broader spectrum of intellectual ecdysiasts (read: nerdy naked people doing art) with their tribute to the wonderful world of literature. A brilliant band of Boston's best burlesque babes (and beyond!) brings you an extensive catalogue of your favorite books, from classic and children's lit, to poetry and today's hottest reads. There will be more than a little something for every avid reader in the house.

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## BANG BANG EXPERIENCE LIVE: A NIGHT WITH DUTCH REBELLE

Live @ OBERON

Friday, May 17 at 9PM

Tickets from \$20

The *Bang Bang Experience LIVE* will be a night with **Dutch ReBelle** where fans will get to watch a live interview and interactive Q&A session with her about how her highly anticipated and successfully crowdfunded album BANG BANG was born. After, Dutch ReBelle and special guests including Lily Rayne will take the stage to perform one of her most successful records from the past few years.

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## **BOSTON ARM WRESTLING DAMES - FIGHT NIGHT**

Sunday, May 19 at 7:30PM

Tickets from \$15

**Boston Arm Wrestling Dames** is a bunch of fired-up Dames who toe the line between theatrical antics and hardcore athleticism. Eight wrestlers with big personas and money hungry entourages will throw down in an all-out arm wrestling brawl. Will **TinkerHell** be able to defend her title as Grand Champ? Featuring a halftime burlesque performance by **Thick Lizzy** and DJ sets by **7elucinations**. Rules and prizes are determined and managed by the referees and judges, whose calls are constantly manipulated by the influence of each wrestler's entourage and crowd hecklers with dolla dolla billz!

All proceeds raised at this event go to **Boston Abortion Support Collective**. Boston Abortion Support Collective provides free, compassionate, and empowering support to people experiencing pregnancy loss. We provide physical, emotional, spiritual and informational support for people throughout the full spectrum of reproductive experiences, with a focus on abortion and pregnancy loss. We work in clinics and in homes to support those experiencing abortion. We are a shoulder to cry on, a friend to laugh with, an ear to listen, a pair of hands to help out. We are witness to reproductive experiences and we are warmth and connection in a world that can be cold and silent around abortion.

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## **THE MOTH**

Tuesday, May 21 at 8PM

Tuesday, June 18 at 8PM

Tickets \$15

**The Moth StorySLAMs** are steadily spreading all over the map, gathering people and stories from all over the country. New York, Los Angeles, Chicago, and Boston have multiple shows each month. **The Moth** is open to anyone with a five-minute story to share on the night's posted theme. The brave of heart, or those with stories they're aching to tell, prepare personal, true tales. When the doors open, storyteller hopefuls put their names in The Moth Hat. A half hour later, names are picked, and one by one, storytellers take the stage. Each person has just five minutes! The ten featured stories are scored by teams of judges selected from the audience. Each StorySLAM generates a StorySLAM winner. After ten SLAMs, the winners face off in our GrandSLAM Championships. Come sign up to tell a story, or just enjoy the show!

The theme for May 21 is **Worship**. Prepare a five-minute story about coming to the altar. Waiting in line for the midnight release of the next book in the series or singing your heart out on a Sunday morning. Tell tales of seeing the light or giving it up in favor of something else. Feeling the glory of the end of a 10-mile run, becoming an adult at 13, or finally making it to the last level. Prayers, disillusionments, and everything in between. All are welcome here.

The theme for June 18 is **food**. Prepare a five-minute story about good food. Vittles, grub, cuisine, groceries, homemade, or take out. From frozen dinners to nuts and berries, bring us stories of nourishment. From gluttony to gluten intolerance, tales of your daily bread.

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## **HOT BITS XXX FILM FESTIVAL**

Friday, May 24 at 9PM

Tickets from \$15

*Hot Bits Film Fest* is an annual traveling queer sex-positive film and performance festival taking place in Philly, Baltimore, Boston, and beyond. We believe that erotic art, made by and for queer and marginalized people, uncovers the self-determination necessary for fully liberated connection and collective healing: bodily, creatively, and culturally. Our project is organized by and centers the work and sexual healing of QTBIPOC, sex workers, survivors of assault, trans and cis women/femmes, fat folks, disabled folks, freaks, aliens, and witches.

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## **INFINITEASE WAR: THE FINAL REVEAL!**

Sunday, May 26 at 8PM

Tickets from \$15

A burlesque tribute to the Marvel cinematic universe that brings your favorite heroes and villains to life and strips them down. Don't miss this gauntlet of marvelous burlesque, and circus which will thrill and amaze you faster than you can say "I am Groot!" Get your tickets now before someone snaps their fingers and they disappear!

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## **FEMFINITE: THE FEMME SHOW**

Thursday, May 30 and Friday, May 31 at 8PM; Friday, May 31 at 10:30PM dance party

Tickets from \$12 (dance party \$5)

*The Femme Show* explores infinite possibilities of queer femininity as resistance and celebration. The 2019 edition includes the return of **The Society for the Preservation and Promotion of Sapphic Social Mores**, a tribute to Gladys Bentley, a dancing carnivorous plant, drag, storytelling, spoken word, burlesque, and more! Friday night's show is ASL interpreted and will be followed by dancing with **Lady DJ Spindrift**.

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## **TTHEAMAZING'S 31ST BIRTHDAY: HIS BACKWARDS BAR MITZVAH**

Sunday, June 2 at 7:30PM

Tickets \$25

*The Amazing's Birthday Eleganza Extravaganza* has returned. This year he's turning 31, so he's having a **Backwards Bar Mitzvah!** He is back with another all-star cast ready to celebrate his birth and entertain you with world-class performances. You will see circus, you will see drag, burlesque, comedy, music, so much more. **T** only has a birthday once a year, do NOT miss this incredible show.

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## **ATLAS SOUL: ASSUME THE POSITION**

Thursday, June 6 at 8PM

Tickets from \$20

**Atlas Soul** is a—multiple award winning—band performing original music that celebrates poly-rhythm & melodies rooted in the Afro-Mediterranean traditions organically punched with deep funk, jazz and intelligent hip hop. Burning live performances with audience participation are their trademark! They have played scores of major venues such as The Montreal Jazz Festival, The Kennedy Center, The Festival International de Louisiane, the Boston Globe Jazz Festival, NYC's Joe's Pub, Montreal Festival Nuits d'Afrique, and more. They regularly sell out shows in the Boston area and beyond.

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## **OLD SCHOOL GAME SHOW'S FANTASY SPECIAL!**

Friday, June 7 at 8PM

Tickets from \$20

**Old School Game Show** never holds back. With trivia, live music, sketch comedy, and even more, you'll feel like you're in the audience of your favorite retro variety show. Join us in the Shire of Shag when Old School Game Show goes full on Dungeons & Dragons! Get out those magic wands and play to win at our first ever fantasy themed episode, where you can battle the centaurs of pop culture and emerge a High Wizard of Trivia with fabulous prizes. Not up to playing? No problem! Come sit with the muggles and be mystified by our on-stage antics. Our cast of characters will delight you while our bewitching Swinging OSGS House Band keeps the music flowing. **The Cubic Zirconia Dancers** will be shaking it like twenty-sided dice and your quest for entertainment will be fulfilled!

**Old School Game Show** is an interactive trivia experience like no other. Audience participants can get the chance to play our original pop culture games, competing to win fabulous prizes from local sponsors. Or we invite you to sit back and enjoy the spectacle of live music, special guests, dancers, and sketch comedy. It's all the fun of an afternoon spent rolling around in the rumpus room — without the rug burn.

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## **SCENE KWEEN (PRIDE PARTY) FT. ABHORA AND FLORIDA MAN!**

Sunday, June 9 at 10PM

Tickets from \$15

Pride dance party and alternative drag extravaganza! Featuring **Abhora** from *Dragula* and **Florida Man** from Miami, presented by **Static** and **24KVIDA**.

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## **EN-ER-GY X**

June 14, 2019 at 8:30PM and 11:30PM

Tickets from \$15

For the past 10 years, **Jha D** has produced **EN-ER-GY** with the dedication of highlighting and celebrating Boston's diverse art communities. This year, the Energizers have been voted in by the public based on their performances during previous EN-ER-GY productions, and therefore are GUARANTEED to deliver a night of talent, entertainment and inspiration unlike anything else you've ever experienced!

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## **POWERSTRIP: BURLESQUE...ELECTRIFIED!**

Sunday, June 16 at 8PM

Tickets from \$15

From the creator of **DIRTY POP** comes a burlesque event unlike anything Boston has seen. Pulling inspiration from the glitz of Studio 54, the glow of The Limelight, and the grunge of the contemporary club scene, **POWERSTRIP** promises a colorful cast of Boston's most seductive and stunning nightlife personalities for an evening of crotch-stirring entertainment. The tingles will be tangible from wall to wall, so prepare to plug yourselves in for **POWERSTRIP**.

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## **SPLASH**

Thursday, June 20 at 10PM

Tickets from \$15

Slacker University x SZND Media Present: **Splash** – Boston's Best Summer College Event.

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## **JIMMY TINGLE'S 20/20 VISION**

June 25 at 7:30PM

Tickets from \$15

**Jimmy Tingle's 20/20 Vision** is a funny, thought-provoking, and hopeful look at contemporary life and politics through his experience as a comedian, commentator, and 2018 political candidate for Lt. Governor of Massachusetts. The show will answer the question "why would a comedian run for office" as it illuminates the 2018 campaign of Jimmy Tingle with passion, purpose, and a sense of humor. As the nation looks ahead to the upcoming presidential campaign of 2020, **Jimmy Tingle's 20/20 Vision** will entertain, enlighten, and challenge the audience to move beyond the current politics of presidential tweets, sound bites, and the nightly news cycle and into the realm of long-term thinking and life affirming possibility. Through comedy, commentary, and audience Q & A, Jimmy aspires to contribute to the cultural conversation in a positive, hopeful, and funny way as America strives to create, in the words of Abraham Lincoln, "a more perfect union."

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## THE DONKEY SHOW

The Long-Running Hit

Presented by A.R.T.

Every Saturday night—Pride Night June 8!

Tickets from \$25

Tony Award-winner **Diane Paulus**' celebrated smash hit continues its tenth season at OBERON every Saturday night, bringing you the ultimate disco experience—a crazy circus of mirror balls and feathered divas, of roller skaters and hustle queens inspired by Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. The party rages on the dance floor to all the best '70s hits as the show unfolds around the audience. After the show, the party continues into the night so you can live out your own disco fever fantasy!

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**OBERON** is the American Repertory Theater's club theater space for cutting-edge performance, a thriving incubator for local and emerging artists pushing the theatrical form, and host to some of A.R.T.'s most boundary-breaking productions. It has attracted national attention for its innovative programming and business models. Thousands of artists and performance groups bring work to the space each year.

## ABOUT AMERICAN REPERTORY THEATER

**American Repertory Theater (A.R.T.)** at Harvard University is a leading force in the American theater, producing groundbreaking work that is driven by risk-taking, artistic inquiry and passionate inquiry. 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 Artistic Director in 2008. Under the leadership of Paulus as the Terrie and Bradley Bloom Artistic Director and Executive Producer Diane Borger, A.R.T. seeks to expand the boundaries of theater by programming 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. Under Paulus's leadership, A.R.T.'s club theater, OBERON, has been recognized annually as a top performance venue in the Boston area, and has attracted national attention for its innovative programming and business models.

As the professional theater on the campus of Harvard University, A.R.T. is committed to playing a central role in the cognitive life of the University, catalyzing discourse, interdisciplinary collaboration, and creative exchange among a wide range of academic departments, institutions, students, and faculty members. A.R.T. is engaged in a number of multi-year initiatives with partners at Harvard that explore some of the most pressing issues of our day, including a collaboration with the Harvard University Center for the Environment to develop new work that addresses climate change. A.R.T. plays a central role in Harvard's undergraduate Theater, Dance & Media concentration, teaching courses in directing, dramatic literature, acting, voice, design, and dramaturgy. A.R.T. staff also



mentors students in the Harvard Radcliffe Dramatic Club working at the Loeb Drama Center and OBERON.

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.

**@americanrep**

**@clubOBERON | #clubOBERON**

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