



American Repertory Theater

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2019 Best of Boston Musician of the Year Cliff Notez

To Kick off American Repertory Theater's 2019/20 Live @ OBERON Series

With *Why The Wild Things Are*

Album Release Celebration September 13

[Images 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 Borger, is pleased to announce that tickets are now on sale for *Why the Wild Things Are*, **Cliff Notez's** performance celebrating the release of his new album. The 9PM on Friday, September 13 kicks off the A.R.T.'s 2019/20 **Live @ OBERON** series.

Tickets to *Why The Wild Things Are* are \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door, and \$35 VIP reserved seating and are currently available online at AmericanRepertoryTheater.org, by phone at 617.547.8300, in person at the Loeb Drama Center Ticket Services Offices (64 Brattle Street, Cambridge), and at OBERON starting at 8:30PM on September 13.

Two years after the release of his celebrated debut album *When the Sidewalk Ends*, Cliff Notez brings his soon-to-be-released full-length project *Why the Wild Things Are* to OBERON for a very special album release show that will also feature performances by friends to be announced at a later date. The project is a testimony of existence, protest, and survival and how they all become synonymous and unified in the prolonging of the Black body. The first single from the album, "[Happy](#)" (feat. Latrell James, Moe Pope, Optic Bloom, Tyrek Greene) is available now.

Boston, Massachusetts native Cliff Notez is a musician, filmmaker, photographer, writer, and producer who has worked with Harvard University, MIT, Blavity, *Allston Pudding*, HubWeek, Museum of Fine Arts Boston, Boston University, RAW Art Works, and The Institute of Contemporary Art/Boston. He is the founder and co-owner of the media collective and production company HipStory in Boston and a professor at Berklee College of Music, helping to design the first Hip-Hop BA program. In 2018, Cliff Notez won the Boston Music Award for "New Artist of The Year." He was named Best of Boston "Musician of the Year" by *Boston* magazine in 2019.

Cliff received his M.A. in Digital Media in 2016 from Northeastern University and his B.A. in Music & Psychology from Wheaton College. Cliff created his first band, The ValidDictorians in 2011, with which he self-produced and recorded five records to date, tour the east coast, and establish himself as a notable Boston emcee and musician.

In 2017, he debuted his first narrative short film, "Vitiligo," which was accepted to 12 film festivals, named a finalist, and was a winner of best short, including the March on Washington Film Festival, where he was honored alongside Ta-Nehisi Coates. His first solo album, *When the Sidewalk Ends* (available on all streaming services) was released in 2017 and explores themes of racism, oppression, black mental health, and identity.

The **Live @ OBERON** concert series brings together an eclectic array of music artists for exceptional original shows that utilize A.R.T.'s club-style theater space for cutting-edge performance. **OBERON** is the American Repertory Theater's club theater space, 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.

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