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**American Repertory Theater  
presents  
William Shakespeare's  
*THE TEMPEST*  
Adapted and Directed by Aaron Posner and Teller  
Magic by Teller / Music by Tom Waits  
Movement by Pilobolus  
May 10 – June 15  
Loeb Drama Center**

**Cambridge, MA** — The American Repertory Theater (A.R.T.) at Harvard University, under the Artistic Direction of Diane Paulus, will present the last production of its 2013/14 Season, ***THE TEMPEST***, adapted and directed by **Aaron Posner** and **Teller** from the play by **William Shakespeare**, with magic by **Teller**, music by **Tom Waits**, and movement by **Matt Kent** of **Pilobolus**. Produced in association with The Smith Center for the Performing Arts in Las Vegas, Nevada, the production will begin performances in Cambridge on Saturday, May 10, 2014 at the Loeb Drama Center and run through Sunday, June 15, 2014. It will be available for press viewing from Wednesday, May 14 at 7:30pm. Press night invitations will be sent out in late April.

Experience Prospero's wizardry as never before in this thrilling new production featuring magic by the illusionist Teller (of the legendary duo Penn and Teller). When shipwrecked aristocrats wash up on the shores of Prospero's strange island, they find themselves immersed in a world of trickery and amazement, where Tom Waits' dusty music and Pilobolus' athletic movement animate the spirits and monsters. But the revels come to an end when the master magician realizes he has neglected his life in service of his art, and must now relinquish his conjuring in order to reclaim his life and provide for the future of his only child.

The cast will be led by **Patrick Page** as Prospero, whose Broadway credits include Scar in *The Lion King*, De Guiche in *Cyrano de Bergerac*, The Green Goblin in *Spider-Man: Turn Off the Dark*, Brutus in *Julius Caesar*, Lumière in *Beauty and the Beast*, and *The Kentucky Cycle*; most recently he was seen as Rufus Buckley in *A Time to Kill*. His Off-Broadway credits include *Rex*, *Richard II*, *The Duchess of Malfi*, and *The Sound of Music* at Carnegie Hall. He has performed nationwide in numerous regional theaters and has been nominated for Drama Desk & Outer Critics Circle Awards, and has received the Princess Grace Award, Helen Hayes Award, Craig Noel Award, Joseph Jefferson Award, Matador Award for Classical Theatre, Will Award for Classical Theatre, and the Utah Governor's Medal for the Arts.

**About the Creative Team:**

Director and adaptor **Aaron Posner** is a Helen Hayes and Barrymore Award-winning playwright and director. His adaptations include *Macbeth* (with Teller, from Shakespeare), *Stupid Fucking Bird* (adapted from Chekhov's *The Seagull*), *Who Am I This Time? (& Other Conundrums of Love)* adapted from Kurt Vonnegut short stories, *The Chosen* and *My Name is Asher Lev* (adapted from the Chaim Potok

novels), *Sometimes a Great Notion* (adapted from Ken Kesey), a nine-actor *Cyrano*, and musical adaptation of Mark Twain's *A Murder, A Mystery & A Marriage*, and many more. He is a founder and former Artistic Director of Philadelphia's Arden Theatre and has directed at major regional theaters from coast to coast. He is an artistic associate at Milwaukee Rep and the Folger Theatre in Washington, DC (where his recent production of *Romeo and Juliet* received rave reviews).

Director and adaptor **Teller** has been the smaller, quieter half of Penn & Teller since 1975. With Penn Jillette, he has played off and on Broadway, toured in North America and Britain, and is currently the longest-running headline act in Las Vegas. Penn & Teller have written and starred in television series and specials, including eight seasons of the Emmy-nominated Showtime series "Penn & Teller: Bullshit!;" "Penn & Teller Tell a Lie" on Discovery; "Penn & Teller's Sincity Spectacular" on FX; "Behind the Scenes," a PBS children's series on the arts; "The Unpleasant World of Penn & Teller," a magic and comedy series on England's Channel 4; and the recent ITV variety series, "Penn & Teller: Fool Us." Teller has written for *The Atlantic Monthly*, *Smithsonian*, *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *Esquire*, *GQ*, *The New Yorker*; as well as three books with Penn Jillette and two on his own. He is also a frequent contributor to *All Things Considered* on NPR. In 2008, Teller and Aaron Posner co-directed a version of Shakespeare's *Macbeth*, conceived as a supernatural horror thriller that employed stage magic to represent the play's uncanny hallucinations and manifestations. He also co-wrote and directed the original Off-Broadway and Los Angeles productions of *Play Dead* and co-directed the performance film *Tim's Vermeer*, a feature documentary film, which will be released in theaters internationally in 2014 by Sony Picture Classics.

Founded in 1971, **Pilobolus** has built its fervent and ever-expanding international following by proving the human body to be the most expressive, universal, and magical of media. Pilobolus maintains its own singular style while actively collaborating with the best and brightest minds from all conceivable professions the world over. Based in Washington Depot, Connecticut and New York City, in recent years Pilobolus has transformed from avant-garde dance company into an international entertainment brand featured on the likes of *Oprah*, *Late Night with Conan O'Brien* and the Academy Awards. The company has engaged in activities as varied as making circuses, creating television advertising, publishing books, breaking world records, teaching in schools, and producing music videos. Pilobolus has been awarded prestigious honors over the years, including the Berlin Critic's Prize, the Scotsman Award, the Brandeis Award, a Primetime Emmy Award for Outstanding Achievement in Cultural Programming, the Samuel H. Scripps American Dance Festival Award for Lifetime Achievement in Choreography, a TED Fellowship for presenting at the TED conference in 2005, and 2012 Grammy® Award nomination for its interactive music video collaboration with OK Go and Google Chrome Japan, "All Is Not Lost" ([allisnotlo.st](http://allisnotlo.st)). Pilobolus achieves all of this without ever losing sight of its core mission: to make art that builds community.

Choreographer **Matt Kent** is the Associate Artistic Director of Pilobolus and has worked with the company since 1996 as a dancer, collaborator, creative director, choreographer, and associate artistic director. Past Pilobolus projects include Head Choreographer for Andre Heller's *Magnifico*, a large-scale circus production; Choreographer for a Sports Emmy-nominated teaser created in collaboration with the NFL network; and Choreographer for a television appearance on *Late Night with Conan O'Brien*. Matt is one of the creators of the Pilobolus's European hit *Shadowland*, and he has performed in over 24 countries and on Pilobolus's appearance on the 79th Academy Awards. Outside of Pilobolus, he has worked as zombie choreographer for AMC's hit series "The Walking Dead" and as movement consultant on the Duncan Sheik musical, *Whisper House*. He lives in Connecticut with his wife and two sons.

**Tom Waits** is an American singer-songwriter, composer, and actor, with a distinctive voice, described by critic Daniel Durchholz as sounding "like it was soaked in a vat of bourbon, left hanging in the smokehouse for a few months, and then taken outside and run over with a car." With this trademark growl, his incorporation of pre-rock music styles such as blues, jazz, and vaudeville, and experimental tendencies verging on industrial music, Waits has built up a distinctive musical persona. He has worked as a composer for movies and musical plays and has acted in supporting roles in films, including *Paradise Alley* and *Bram Stoker's Dracula*; he also starred in the 1986 film *Down by Law*. He was nominated for an Academy Award for his soundtrack work on *One from the Heart*.

ASL interpreted performances are scheduled for June 3 at 7:30 PM and June 8 at 2:00 PM. Audio described performances for blind and low-vision patrons are scheduled for June 4 at 7:30 PM and June 7 at 2:00 PM.

For more information on **The Tempest** and the balance of the A.R.T. season call 617-547-8300 or visit us online at [americanrepertorytheater.org](http://americanrepertorytheater.org)

### **About the A.R.T.:**

The American Repertory Theater at Harvard University is a leading force in the American theater, producing groundbreaking work in Cambridge and beyond. The 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 in 2008, and has since advanced the A.R.T.'s core mission to expand the boundaries of theater by programming events that immerse audiences in transformative theatrical experiences.

Throughout its history, the A.R.T. has been honored with many distinguished awards, including consecutive Tony Awards for Best Revival of a Musical for **Pippin** (2013) and **The Gershwins' Porgy and Bess** (2012), both of which Paulus directed, a Pulitzer Prize, a Jujamcyn Prize for outstanding contribution to the development of creative talent, the Tony Award for Best Regional Theater, and numerous Elliot Norton and I.R.N.E. Awards.

The A.R.T. engages with artists around the country and the world to investigate new ways in which to develop and create work. It is currently developing a number of multi-year projects, including the Civil War Project, an initiative that will culminate in the staging of three new works in the 2014/15 season. Under Paulus's leadership, the A.R.T.'s club theater, OBERON, has become 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 and institutions, students and faculty, acting as a conduit between its community of artists and the university. A.R.T. artists also teach courses in directing, dramatic literature, acting, voice, design, and dramaturgy. The A.R.T. Institute for Advanced Theater Training, which is run in partnership with the Moscow Art Theater School, offers graduate-level training in acting, dramaturgy, and voice.

Dedicated to making great theater accessible, the 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, the A.R.T. is dedicated to producing world-class performances in which the audience is central to the theatrical experience.

The Loeb Drama Center, located at 64 Brattle Street, Harvard Square, Cambridge, is fully accessible. Visit [americanrepertorytheater.org/access](http://americanrepertorytheater.org/access) for more information.