



American Repertory Theater

LOEB DRAMA CENTER
64 brattle street,
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OBERON
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americanrepertorytheater.org

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American Repertory Theater Announces October / November 2019 OBERON Programming

Cambridge, MA—American Repertory Theater (A.R.T.) at Harvard University announces October and November 2019 programming at **OBERON**, its club venue for cutting-edge performance and thriving incubator for local and emerging artists. Upcoming events include **Afterglow @ OBERON**, **Live @ OBERON**, 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, 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.

HARRY POTTER & THE SACRED TEXT

Wednesday, October 2 at 7PM

Tickets \$20 adv. / \$25 day of and at the door

Harry Potter & The Sacred Text is coming back to Cambridge! Harvard Divinity graduates **Vanessa Zoltan** and **Casper ter Kuile** will deep-dive into a chapter of *Harry Potter*, tell stories from their own lives, and try out a medieval religious reading practice or two with this modern day classic. Come and enjoy a night of live music, spiritual engagement, great storytelling, and hanging out with two of your favorite podcasters!

THE MARTHA GRAHAM CRACKER CABARET

Afterglow @ OBERON

Thursday, October 3 at 8PM

Friday, October 4 at 8PM

Tickets \$25

This balls-to-the-wall drag cabaret is hosted by **Martha Graham Cracker**, who is, perhaps, the world's tallest and hairiest drag queen. Backed by a four-piece live band, Martha Graham Cracker, hailed as "The Drag Queen King" by *The Philadelphia Inquirer*, performs new arrangements and mashups of songs by artists ranging from Prince and Lady Gaga to Black Sabbath and Nina Simone, and a bit of everything in between.

Martha has performed for sold out crowds in places like Europe, California, Austin, Las Vegas, and New York City, and she and her band are pleased to be returning to OBERON for two nights—with two completely different shows, so come to both!

ASHLEY JORDAN

Live @ OBERON

Saturday, October 5 at 8:30PM

Tickets \$20

Described as “charismatic,” “honest,” and “a vocal powerhouse,” 27-year-old singer-songwriter and first ever female back-to-back Boston Music Awards Country Artist of the Year (2017 & 2018) Ashley Jordan has performed her music across the U.S. for the past 10 years. She received a Grammy Award nomination in 2015 for her song “Angels.”

Ashley has had the honor of supporting artists such as Easton Corbin, Unkle Cracker, Jimmie Allen, Ryan Upchurch, Charlie Daniels Band, Big Smo, The Beach Boys, Trace Adkins, Sam Hunt, Chase Rice, Rusted Root, Jason Mraz, Phillip Phillips, Christina Perri, O.A.R., Magic!, Alex Preston, Crystal Bowersox, Howie Day and more! Ashley has performed for audiences as large as 40,000. Come enjoy a wild “country outlaw revue” with Ashley and her band!

CHURCH OF SLUT: THOTS & PRAYERS

Sunday, October 6 at 7:30PM

Tickets from \$20

On October 6, **Church of Slut** aims to bring you to your knees. Come and witness our newest service **Thots and Prayers**: a night of thotful showing up, glowing up, and mind-blowing up, getting lost in all your fresh feels and finding yourself again a week later still aglow and trailing glitter. Witness sermons of provocative dance, burlesque, comedy, and more. Genuflect at our sparkle altar. Get lit at the Lipstick Criminal Library. Treat yourself to our blessed merch. Find rapture in a specialty cocktail or mocktail.

Divined by **Sugar Dish** and **Lipstick Criminals** (*The Slutcracker*, *Fifty Shades of Bey*, *Rain Dogs*), **Church of Slut** is a show, a party, a congregation, and a righteous grab at some good old-fashioned American civil rights protections, courtesy of the First Amendment.

RESISTANCE MIC!

A.R.T. of Human Rights

Tuesday, October 8 at 8PM

Wednesday, November 6 at 8PM

Tickets \$10

The 2016 election inspired a broad-based Resistance not seen in the United States in decades. People from all walks of life have been protesting, marching, mobilizing, and organizing in an effort to take back the country and create a more compassionate and just world. Artists are vital to this work. The American

Repertory Theater, in collaboration with the literary magazine *Pangyrus*, welcomes the second season of **Resistance Mic!**, a series of intimate, curated evenings where a diverse collective of artists will take the stage to perform truth to power in these troubled times.

Launched on November 9, 2017—the one-year anniversary of the day after the 2016 election—**Resistance Mic!** is part of the **A.R.T. of Human Rights** series, an ongoing collaboration between the American Repertory Theater and Harvard Kennedy School's Carr Center for Human Rights Policy. The host is **Timothy Patrick McCarthy**.

October 8 **Resistance Mic!** will feature Harvard University Professor of the Practice of Public Philosophy **Dr. Cornel R. West**, Zimbabwean American poet, author, speaker, singer and educator **U-Meleni Mhlaba-Adebo**, Pakistani author **Fatima Bhutto**, Boston-based Poet, performer, and educator **Krysten Hill**, author **Sue Katz**, and award-winning scholar and educator, public servant, and social justice activist **Tim McCarthy**.

YO SOY LOLA: LAS QUE SUEÑAN

Friday, October 11 at 9PM

Tickets from \$25

The highly celebrated **Yo Soy LOLA** presents **Las Que Sueñan**, a thought-provoking experience showcasing Latinas' resilience in the face of adversity recounted via spoken word, acting, dance, and music. Come be part of the **Yo Soy LOLA** world that transforms around you, and then stay for the Latin dancing that continues into the night after the show.

As if you needed another reason to attend, net proceeds fund scholarships for Latinx youth pursuing higher education in the arts with goals that directly impact their communities. **Yo Soy LOLA**'s mission is to raise awareness of the multi-dimensional Latina experience and to build a platform that unites Latinas to tell our stories, change our narrative, and give back to our communities.

MORTIFIED

Saturday, October 12 at 7PM and 10PM

Tickets \$15

Hailed as a "cultural phenomenon" by *Newsweek* and celebrated for years by the likes of *This American Life*, *The Today Show*, *The A.V. Club*, and *Entertainment Weekly*, **Mortified** is a comic excavation of teen angst artifacts (journals, poems, letters, lyrics, home movies, schoolwork) as shared by their original authors—in front of total strangers.

CIRQUE OF THE DEAD

Friday, October 18 to Thursday, October 31 at various times

Tickets from \$30

Follow the **Boston Circus Guild**'s "paranormal investigation team" as they explore the dark recesses of a haunted theater to look for evidence of evil spirits and nefarious creatures that manifest in the shadows.

Ghosts, ghouls, and creatures from beyond the grave will fill the evening with never-before-seen circus acts including aerials, acrobatics, hand balancing, and more. This immersive, adults-only Halloween spectacular is not for the faint of heart, but is filled with as much humor as it is with horror.

Take to the dance floor for an incredible view of the performers suspended above you and lurking all around the venue. Sit back and enjoy a custom cocktail at our table seats while getting up close and personal with an acrobatic monstrosity. Fall under the spell of the high-energy Synthrock and nerd-nostalgia band **Minusworld**, and dance the night away to their live music. The action happens all around you—every spot in the theater is a unique experience!

THE MOTH STORYSLAM

Tuesday, October 22 at 8PM (Tickets available October 15 at 3PM)

Tuesday, November 26 at 8PM (Tickets available November 11 at 3PM)

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 October theme is **INK**: Prepare a five-minute story involving things written or drawn in ink. Manifestos, diaries, contracts...dotted lines. Commitments! Tattoos you relish or regret. Documents that finally solve the mystery. Notes and letters you wish you take back. The pen is mightier than the sword? Ok, no pencils allowed.

The November theme is **GRATITUDE**: Prepare a five-minute story about blessings you can count or the ones in disguise. The times you looked a gift horse in the mouth or thanked your lucky stars. A wave of relief, a favor just for you, a hand to hold when you need it most.

THE STORY COLLIDER

Wednesday, October 23 at 8PM

Tickets \$12

From finding awe in Hubble images to visiting the doctor, science is everywhere in our lives. Whether we wear a white lab coat or haven't seen a test tube since eighth grade, science affects and changes us. We all have a story about science, and at **The Story Collider**, we want to hear those stories.

GAY BASH'D W/ MADDELYNN HATTER & FLORIDA MAN

Thursday, October 24 at 10PM

Tickets from \$15 / VIP Experience \$30

Join us for a queer celebration of alternative drag, techno, and self-expression! Recent staple in Boston nightlife, **Gay Bash'd** (@gaybashdboston) exists every fourth Thursday in Boston! We return to OBERON for our second annual *Spooky Ball* and final party of 2019! Costumes encouraged, there will be a contest!

HOCUS POCUS BURLESQUE

Wednesday, October 30 at 8PM

Tickets \$25

What happens when burlesque and drag performers light the black flame candle? It's a whole new, adult take on the film favorite that is sure to get your cauldron bubbling. The Sanderson sisters are back and they've got a little extra shimmy in their steps as your favorite characters take to the stage in burlesque, drag, comedy, and more. Come grown-ass adults we'll take you away, it's time to pay tribute to *Hocus Pocus*! It's just a little bit of Hocus Pocus! (And a whole lot of adult fun!)

SHAMELESS: MONSTER BALL

Friday, November 1 at 9:30PM

Tickets from \$15

Let the evil geniuses at **SHAMELESS** transport you to an eerie monster filled gala celebrating Mother Monster herself along with our other favorite patron saint divas! We're bringing all your favorite SHAMELESS classics: the Interactive Green Screen Experience™, glitter drops, custom cocktails, and blood-curdling drag performances with a bone-chilling twist! Glitz, gore, glamour, and more! AND HAIR-RAISING SURPRISES! Oh, and a costume contest, naturally!

AMBER MARTIN AND NATH ANN CARRERA: WITCH CAMP

Afterglow @ OBERON

Thursday, November 7 at 8PM

Tickets \$25

Take a journey to **Witch Camp** where Amber Martin and Nath Ann Carrera, the Ises Black, transport you through camp drop-off, Learning Yurts, the pre-dawn camp favorite "Morning Horses/Blood Sacrifice," and beyond. Isis and Isis rid the room of chode intentions while singing the face-melting duets of Aphrodite's Child, Black Widow, It's A Beautiful Day, Led Zeppelin, along with Sandy Denny, Yoko Ono, Pentangle, Pink Floyd, Buffy Sainte-Marie, The Stone Poneys, Black Sabbath, and more!

Grab your baggie full of hair and your black latex glove. Come gather around the campfire for a battle cry against the patriarchal rape heads in this ONGOING inquisition!

2ND ANNUAL BOSTON DRAG IDOL

Friday, November 8 at 8PM

Tickets from \$25

Join *Boston Spirit Magazine* for a fun and glitter-filled evening as six contenders compete in the 2nd Annual Boston Drag Idol! All proceeds to benefit Victory Programs' lifesaving work.

Six contenders will take the stage to win your hearts, and the praise of our three celebrity judges **Randy Price**, Host of *EyeOpener* on WCBV-TV; **Tiffani Faison**, owner of *Fool's Errand*, Sweetcheeks, Orfano, and Tiger Mama; **Kennedy Elsey** of WWBX Mix 104.1 and our reigning **Miss Massachusetts**; and majestic mistress of ceremonies, **Verna Turbulence**. Only one will leave with the coveted title of Boston's 2019 Drag Idol!

OOMPA: CLEO—AN INTIMATE EXPERIENCE

Live @ OBERON

Saturday, November 9 at 9PM

Tickets from \$17

Oompa is a nationally-acclaimed, Boston-born, poet, rapper, and educator, who is forever representing the queer, black, orphaned, hood kids and them. She is the winner of the 2018 Unsigned Artist of the Year award from Boston Music Awards after an unprecedented six nominations, the 2017 Women of the World Poetry Slam, is a finalist at the 2016 National Poetry Slam. She has been featured on NBC 10, in *Huffington Post*, *Allston Pudding*, *Mass Apparel*, and *Killer BoomBox*, *The Boston Globe*, *Dig Boston* among others. **Oompa's** debut album, Nov. 3, was named one of Dig Boston's Top 30 Local Albums of 2016, one of *Allston Pudding's* Favorite albums of 2016, and she just released her second full-length album, CLEO, in August 2019.

BRAS, BEETS, BATTLESTAR GALACTICA

Sunday, November 10 at 8PM

Tickets from \$15

This one night only show is going to be messier than Jan and Michael's Jamaican getaway—THATS WHAT SHE SAID.

Cupcake Damnation Productions is here to make their debut with their first neo burlesque creation-- the all *Office*-themed striptease you never asked for. (Except everyone did (You're welcome)). Join us for an evening of chili, pranks, illegal substances, hot bosses, workplace romance, big packages, kazoos, and..... Get ready for pretzel day.

COMPANY ONE THEATRE'S HYPE MAN

Thursday, November 14 at 7PM

Friday, November 15 at 7PM

Saturday, November 16 at 7PM

Tickets from \$35

By **Idris Goodwin**

Directed by **Shawn LaCount**

Limited Return Engagement to Support Company One Theatre's New Play Development

Frontman Pinnacle and his hype man Verb have been making Hip-Hop together since they were kids. Now that they've got top-notch beatmaker Peep One in the mix, the group is finally on the verge of making it big—until the police shooting of an unarmed black teenager shakes the trio to its core, and forces them to navigate issues of friendship, race, and privilege. Returning for THREE NIGHTS ONLY after acclaimed runs in Boston and Minneapolis, *Hype Man* asks us: who has the responsibility to speak up in the face of social injustice?

“★★★★★... *Hype Man* is theater at its urgent, vital best. See it and see it again”

-- *Dig Boston*

BAWD FIGHT NIGHT

Sunday, November 17 at 7:30PM

Tickets from \$15

Picture this: You're watching bawdy, brawny, bombastic dames arm wrestle while a T. Rex, a mime, and a Roman god compete for your attention to sell raffle tickets. No, it's not a dream, it's *BAWD's Fight Night!* This November **TinkerHell** will defend her title as grand champion yet again! Referees **Ruthless Badhair Sinsburg** and **Chaotic Neutral** will preside while **Punky Brewzer** crushes cans and arms, **Lady Jawbreaker** sweetens up the crowd, **Rosie Ringling** fights her way to the big top, and so much more. There's plenty of excitement between rounds too – with **DJ WhySham**, **Nüqueer Power**, and **Rowan Deepel**! And of course, all of the proceeds (remember those raffle tickets?) will be donated to BAGLY, the Boston Alliance for LGBTQ+ Youth.

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.

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