



American Repertory Theater

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**American Repertory Theater
Announces the 2017/18 Season:
*BURN ALL NIGHT • WARHOL CAPOTE • SENSE AND SENSIBILITY •
HEAR WORD! NAIJA WOMAN TALK TRUE •
THE WHITE CARD • JAGGED LITTLE PILL*
OBERON Presents Season to Include:
*THE BITTER GAME • THE FEVER • DRAGON LADY •
GLOWBERON***

Cambridge, MA — The American Repertory Theater (A.R.T.) at Harvard University under the leadership of the Terrie and Bradley Bloom Artistic Director Diane Paulus and Executive Director Diane Quinn, is pleased to announce its 2017/18 Season including:

- ***Burn All Night***, a synth-pop musical about millennial ambition on the eve of global catastrophe, with book and lyrics by **Andy Mientus**, music by **Van Hughes**, **Nick LaGrasta**, and **Brett Moses**, and directed by **Jenny Koons**; begins performances August 2017 at OBERON.
- ***Warhol Capote***, a “non-fiction invention” based on recorded conversations between two of America’s most enigmatic artistic personas, Truman Capote and Andy Warhol, adapted by **Rob Roth** and directed by **Michael Mayer**; begins performances September 2017 at the Loeb Drama Center.
- ***Bedlam’s Sense and Sensibility***, an exuberant staging of Jane Austen’s classic, by **Kate Hamill** and directed by **Eric Tucker**; begins performances December 2017 at the Loeb Drama Center.
- ***HEAR WORD! Naija Woman Talk True***, a powerful new play drawn from interviews with multiple generations of women who have broken the culture of silence, featuring leading Nigerian actresses directed by **Ifeoma Fafunwa**; begins performances January 2018 at the Loeb Drama Center.
- ***The White Card***, a world premiere play about the unnamed intentions behind America’s conversations about race, written by poet **Claudia Rankine**, best-selling author of *Citizen*, directed by **Diane Paulus**, co-produced with **ArtsEmerson**; begins performances February 2018 at the Emerson Paramount Center’s Robert J. Orchard Stage.
- ***Jagged Little Pill***, a world premiere musical adaptation of **Alanis Morissette**’s groundbreaking album, directed by **Diane Paulus** with a book by **Diablo Cody**; begins performances May 2018 at the Loeb Drama Center.

2017/18 Season subscriptions will be on sale to renewing subscribers on June 1. Season subscriptions will be on sale to the general public on June 8 and start at \$99. More information can be found at americanrepertorytheater.org/subscribe.

"The A.R.T.'s 2017/18 Season draws inspiration from pop art to a landmark alt-rock album, from poetry to classic literature," said Artistic Director Diane Paulus. "I am so excited about next season's visionary artists whose bold, uncompromising voices will resonant deeply with the world we are living in today."

As the A.R.T. pursues its mission to expand the boundaries of theater on its stages in Cambridge, the theater's work continues to reach audiences elsewhere in the US and around the world. Matthew Aucoin's opera **Crossing** (A.R.T. premiere May 2015) directed by Diane Paulus will have its NY premiere as part of Brooklyn Academy of Music's 2017 Next Wave Festival October 3 – 8, 2017. **In the Body of the World** (A.R.T. premiere May 2016) will begin performances at the Manhattan Theater Club on January 16, 2018. Tony Award-nominated **Natasha, Pierre & The Great Comet of 1812** (A.R.T. premiere December 2015) continues performances on Broadway at the Imperial Theatre. **Waitress** (A.R.T. premiere August 2015) continues performances on Broadway at the Brooks Atkinson Theater and will begin a national tour across the US on October 17, 2017 at Cleveland's Playhouse Square, returning to Boston in February 2018. **Finding Neverland** (A.R.T. premiere July 2016) continues to play on its national tour, returning to Boston in August 2017. The immersive phenomenon **Sleep No More** (A.R.T. premiere October 2009) has celebrated its sixth year running at The McKittrick Hotel Off-Broadway and runs in Shanghai until June 2017. Meanwhile, A.R.T.'s Tony Award-winning revival of **Pippin** (A.R.T. premiere December 2012) continues its world tour.

- 2017/18 SEASON –

BURN ALL NIGHT – WORLD PREMIERE

Book and Lyrics by Andy Mientus

Music by Van Hughes, Nick LaGrasta, and Brett Moses

Directed by Jenny Koons

Starts August 2017

In an age of uncertainty, four lost souls come to the city in search of themselves. An unflinching look at being young on the eve of global catastrophe, this world premiere musical directed by **Jenny Koons** (*A Sucker Emcee*, *In This Moment*) and choreographed by Tony nominee **Sam Pinkleton** (*Natasha, Pierre & The Great Comet of 1812*) features a synth-pop score by Teen Commandments members **Van Hughes, Nick LaGrasta, and Brett Moses** with a book and lyrics by **Andy Mientus** ("SMASH").

WARHOL CAPOTE – WORLD PREMIERE

From the words of Truman Capote and Andy Warhol

Adapted by Rob Roth

Directed by Michael Mayer

Starts September 2017

Somewhere in the disco-drunk 1970s, Truman Capote and Andy Warhol decided that they were destined to create a Broadway play together. On dozens of tapes, Warhol recorded their conversations about the show—and about everything else, including Studio 54 scandals and America's obsessive relationship with celebrity. Warhol and Capote never finished their play, and the tapes were forgotten—until now. With the support of the Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts and the Truman Capote Literary Trust, Tony Award nominee **Rob Roth** (*Beauty and the Beast*) has edited Warhol's unpublished recordings into an incisive portrait of two of America's most enigmatic artistic personas. Tony Award winner **Michael Mayer** (*Spring Awakening*, *Hedwig and the Angry Inch*) directs this world premiere "non-fiction invention."

Bedlam's SENSE AND SENSIBILITY

By Kate Hamill

Based on the novel by Jane Austen

Directed by Eric Tucker

Starts December 2017

Eric Tucker's exuberant, inventive staging of Jane Austen's classic novel follows the adventures (and misadventures) of the Dashwood sisters—sensible Elinor and hypersensitive Marianne—after their sudden loss of fortune. Bursting with humor, emotion, and bold theatricality, **Sense and Sensibility** asks: when

reputation is everything, how do you follow your heart?

CHARLOTTE'S WEB

Adapted by Joseph Robinette

Based on the story by E.B. White

Directed by Dmitry Troyanovsky

Featuring the A.R.T. Institute for Advanced Theater Training Class of 2018

Starts December 2017

On the Arable family farm, a miracle is about to begin. In order to save young Wilbur from the butcher, Charlotte—a very special spider—hatches a plan to show the world how “radiant” one pig can be in the eyes of a true friend. Adapted from E.B. White’s beloved children’s classic and directed by **Dmitry Troyanovsky** (*James and the Giant Peach*), *Charlotte’s Web* will feature graduate students from the A.R.T. Institute for Advanced Theater Training Class of 2018.

HEAR WORD! NAIJA WOMAN TALK TRUE

Directed by Ifeoma Fafunwa

Starts January 2018

Featuring a cast of leading actresses from the Nigerian stage and screen, *Hear Word! Naija Woman Talk True* is inspired by multi-generational stories of inequality and transformation. Staged by director and writer **Ifeoma Fafunwa**, the show grapples with the issues affecting the lives of women across Nigeria, and the factors that limit their potential for independence, leadership, and meaningful contribution in society. Combining song and dance with intimate portraits of resilience and resistance, the show celebrates the women who have broken the culture of silence, challenged the status quo, and moved beyond barriers to achieve solutions. The critically-acclaimed production of *Hear Word!* returns to the A.R.T. after its US premiere in a limited run last season.

THE WHITE CARD – WORLD PREMIERE

Written by Claudia Rankine

Directed by Diane Paulus

Co-produced by ArtsEmerson and A.R.T.

Starts February 2018 at the Emerson Paramount Center’s Robert J. Orchard Stage

At a dinner party thrown by an influential Manhattan couple for an up-and-coming artist, questions arise about what—and who—is actually on display. **Claudia Rankine**’s 2014 *New York Times* best-selling book, *Citizen*, unpacked the insidious ways in which racism manifests itself in everyday situations. Now, this world premiere play poses the question, “Can American society progress if whiteness stays invisible?” *White Card* is commissioned by ArtsEmerson, Boston, MA, in association with American Repertory Theater, Cambridge, MA, and The Broad Stage, Santa Monica, CA.

JAGGED LITTLE PILL – WORLD PREMIERE

Music by Alanis Morissette and Glen Ballard

Book by Diablo Cody

Directed by Diane Paulus

Starts May 2018

Introducing nineties anthems including “Ironic,” “You Oughta Know,” and “Hand In My Pocket,” *Jagged Little Pill* (1995) established Canadian singer-songwriter and Grammy Award winner **Alanis Morissette** as an alternative rock icon. **Diane Paulus** (*Waitress*, *Finding Neverland*, *Pippin*, *The Gershwin’s Porgy and Bess*) directs this world premiere musical based on the groundbreaking album with a book by Academy Award-winning screenwriter **Diablo Cody** (*Juno*).

- OBERON PRESENTS –

A.R.T.’s second stage is a destination for theater and nightlife on the fringe of Harvard Square. OBERON

produces risk-taking performances, supports emerging artists, and encourages genre-defying work for the 21st century. The 2017/18 OBERON Presents Season will include:

- ***The Bitter Game*** – Starts September 2017 at OBERON

Award-winning director, writer, and performer **Keith A. Wallace** presents a solo performance in the form of a basketball game, charged with pain, poetry, and laughter about what it means to survive while black in America. After a limited engagement at OBERON, ***The Bitter Game*** will tour to a series of venues around greater Boston.

- ***The Fever*** – Starts November 2017 at the Loeb Experimental Theater

New York-based theater company **600 HIGHWAYMEN** tests the limits of individual and collective responsibility, and our willingness to be there for one another. Performed in complete collaboration with the audience, ***The Fever*** examines how we assemble, organize, and care for the bodies around us. Who will you be when our eyes are on you? What will we see when we all look your way?

- ***Dragon Lady*** – Starts March 2018 at OBERON

It is the year of the Water Dragon and the eve of Grandma Maria's 75th birthday. By the light of the karaoke machine, fueled by pork dumplings and diet Pepsi, she shares a dark secret from her Filipino gangster past with one lucky grandchild. Traversing 50 years of faulty family memories, Seattle-based performer **Sara Porkalob** presents this timely new musical about what it means to come to America.

- **A Company One Theatre Production** – Starts April 2018 at OBERON

Like the critically acclaimed ***We're Gonna Die*** production, OBERON Presents will collaborate with Company One Theatre to present a new production at OBERON. Details forthcoming.

Additional programming includes:

GLOWBERON

Now in its third year at OBERON, GLOWBERON is an acclaimed series that features exceptional storytellers, solo playwrights, and cabaret and performance artists. The series was founded by Quinn Cox and is produced in partnership with Cambridge's GLOW Festival and Provincetown's Afterglow Festival. Past GLOWBERON performers include Molly Pope, Sage Francis, Stella Starsky, Dane Terry, Joey Arias, Erin Markey, Johnny Blazes and Brian King, and Lady Rizo.

GLOWBERON programming for the 2017/18 Season includes:

- **JOHN KELLY** – ***Time No Line*** on Thursday, September 21, 2017 at 8PM
- **BRIDGET BARKAN** – ***Dear Stranger I Love You*** on Thursday, November 16, 2017 at 8PM
- **PAUL IACONO** – ***Too Much*** on Thursday, December 14, 2017 at 8PM
- **LADY BUNNY** – ***Trans-Jester*** on Thursday, January 25, 2018 at 8PM
- **JOSEPH KECKLER** – ***Self-Portrait as an Opera*** on Thursday, April 5, 2018 at 8PM
- **FAUXNIQUE** – ***Imposter*** on Thursday, May 17, 2018 at 8PM

This is in addition to the previously announced GLOW Festival at OBERON July 27 – 30, 2017 featuring:

- **JUSTIN VIVIAN BOND** – ***Justin Vivian Bond Shows Up*** – Thursday, July 27, 2017 at 7:30 and 10PM
- **BRIAN KING & WHAT TIME IS IT, MR. FOX?** – ***Gravitational Fool*** – Friday, July 28, 2017 at 7PM
- **MARGA GOMEZ** – ***Pound*** – Friday, July 28, 2017 at 10PM

• **TAMMY FAYE STARLITE** – *Nico: Evening of Light* – Saturday, July 29, 2017 at 7PM

• **PENNY ARCADE** – *Longing Lasts Longer* – Sunday, July 30, 2017 at 8PM

And don't miss *The Donkey Show* directed by Diane Paulus, continuing for its 8th season at OBERON every Saturday night.

ABOUT THE A.R.T.:

The **American Repertory Theater** (A.R.T.) 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 as Artistic Director in 2008. Under the leadership of Paulus and Executive Director Diane Quinn, the A.R.T. seeks 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 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; 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 IRNE Awards.

The 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 new collaboration with Harvard's Center for the Environment that will result in the development of new work over several years. Under Paulus's 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. A.R.T. plays a central role in Harvard's newly launched undergraduate Theater, Dance, and Media concentration, teaching courses in directing, dramatic literature, acting, voice, design, and dramaturgy. The A.R.T. Institute for Advanced Theater Training, run in partnership with the Moscow Art Theatre School and the Harvard Extension School, offers graduate 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.

For further information visit americanrepertorytheater.org.

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