

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

american repertory theater.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Rebecca Curtiss 617.496.2000 x8841 rebecca curtiss@harvard.edu

American Repertory Theater Announces March/April 2020 OBERON Programming

Cambridge, MA—American Repertory Theater (A.R.T.) at Harvard University announces March and April 2020 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.

SOLEFUL BLISS: ARTS & MUSIC FESTIVAL 2020 KICK-OFF

Sunday, March 1 at 8PM Tickets \$15

Soleful Bliss: Arts & Music Festival is celebrating a kick-off fundraiser with music by local performers, art, vendors and culture produced by AfroDesiaCity. Artists appearing include, Treva Holmes, DJ MIDWID, DJ Make it Do What it Do, Miranda Rae, Amanda Shea, Tangela Mathis, and Najee Janey.

THE MOTH

Tuesday, March 3 at 8PM Tuesday, April 14 at 8PM (tickets available on Tuesday, April 7 at 3PM) Tickets from \$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!

DEALER MADE MUSIC PRESENTS: DREAMER AND MIKE DUBB

Friday, March 6 at 9PM Tickets \$10

With sold-out shows at The Red Room, The Middle East, Bella Luna, and The Lilypad, **Dreamer** is quickly rising to prominence in the Boston hip-hop scene. Raised just outside of Pittsburgh on boombap and legends Mac Miller and Wiz Khalifa, **Dreamer** has been a Boston local since 2016, bringing his unique genre-blending style to the table. His music spans the range from 90s rap to trap, all bound together by his strong Mexican heritage. In his OBERON debut, **Dreamer** performs his gold box of never-heard-before bangers that will change everything you thought you knew about the dynamic artist.

THE BOSTON SISTERS OF PERPETUAL INDULGENCE: CHRRRCH

Saturday, March 7 at 8PM Tickets from \$20

Welcome to *Chrrrch*! Let the **Boston Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence** lead you into a variety show featuring drag performers, aerialists, comedians, dancers, and live singers. Sit back and listen as their 2019 Community Grant recipients give short speeches about the incredible works they do. And try your luck at winning one of their amazing raffle prizes. All proceeds from this event go back into The Boston Sisters' Community Grants Fund—with zero overhead—to be disbursed to a whole new batch of non-profits next year! Enjoy the show and do good while doing so!

INSIDE STORIES: IN PARTNERSHIP WITH NIEMAN FOUNDATION FOR JOURNALISM AT HARVARD

Wednesday, March 11 at 7:30PM Tickets \$20

Around the corner and around the world, journalists are under assault—from autocratic leaders, failing business models, and accusations of 'fake news.' But journalism itself—the stories that expose wrongdoing, explain the world, change lives, and sometimes also change the reporters themselves—is thriving. In this intimate evening of live storytelling, seven Nieman fellows take us inside their work to explore how journalists do what they do and why it makes a difference, to them and to their audiences. Hosted by **Jeneé Osterheldt** of *The Boston Globe*.

BELOVED KING: A QUEER BIBLICAL MUSICAL

Thursday, March 12 at 7:30PM Friday, March 13 at 8PM Tickets from \$15

Beloved King is a faithfully adapted Biblical musical that happens to be gay AF. The show follows the young shepherd David as he is thrust from rural fields into the royal court. After his sudden rise to prominence, David finds himself the object of affection of both the heir to the throne, idealistic Prince Jonathan, and his father, the domineering King Saul, forcing him to re-navigate his relationship to love and power as he tries to follow the path laid out for him by a mysterious entity called God. **Beloved King** is the Master's Thesis of Harvard Divinity School Ministry Fellow and playwright, **Jade Sylvan**.

This is the first-ever staged reading of *Beloved King*, complete with all songs and a live band. The evening will be a full show and first look at this brand-new musical, as well as a fundraiser for the future of *Beloved King*, a wholly independent production. Ticket prices are tiered so you can pay what you want to support the project. Proceeds will go directly toward the future of *Beloved King*. The goal is to eventually produce a full theatrical run, so more people can experience this queer Biblical musical story. This event is the beginning! *This show contains the mention of sexual content, partial nudity, violence, a depiction of sexual coercion, strong language, the mention of sexual assault.*

PRIME TIME

Saturday, March 14 at 10PM Saturday, April 18 at 10PM Tickets from \$10

After a long week, rebound with good vibes and hit music at *Prime Time*, hosted by **Men of Melanin Magic** and **DJ Begbick**.

BOSTON ARM WRESTLING DAME'S (BAWD) FIGHT NIGHT

Sunday, March 15 at 7:30PM Tickets from \$15

It's time again for the dames to demonstrate fabulous feats of brachial brute force! Back in November we saw peerless **Punky Brewzer** pummel **TinkerHell** and take home the Grand Champ belt, but the scariest fairiest is back to rain down sparkly vengeance...if she can. These forcible fiends will also face off with six other formidable foes—including **Miss Inglink**, **Cocoa Carnage**, **ZomBee**, and more—in this not-to-be-missed tournament.

Meanwhile their money hungry entourages will hustle raffle tickets for unbelievable prizes to you, our dear audience—and all proceeds are going to The Network/La Red. Featuring a halftime drag performance by **Just JP** and DJ sets from **7elucinations**.

PODCAST PREVIEWS: A NIGHT OF STORYTELLING WITH AL LETSON AND PRX

Tuesday, March 17 at 7PM Tickets \$10

Join **PRX** and *Reveal's* **Al Letson** for a dynamic evening of storytelling featuring fascinating, unreleased podcasts. There will be custom cocktails, a killer playlist, a disco ball—the whole shebang.

The six podcasting teams – hailing all the way from San Diego to Murray, Kentucky—have spent the past 20 weeks rigorously developing their podcasts as part of **PRX**'s innovative podcast accelerator, Project Catapult. And YOU get to be the first to see (and hear) them unveiled!

Go beyond the headlines at the U.S.—Mexico border and learn more about the creativity, beauty, and art happening there. Follow the investigation into the disappearance of a young girl from a shelter in Washington, D.C., and find out how it's changing the way the city treats homelessness. Or maybe you just want to inject some levity into that big, huge, scary problem we call climate change (and learn what we can do about it). Discover all this and more in the perfect atmosphere of OBERON, Harvard Square's destination for theater and nightlife.

BRIAN DE LORENZO: "I KNOW MORE" CD RELEASE CONCERT

Wednesday, March 18 at 7:30PM Tickets \$22

After keeping a running list of songs he loves to sing and songs he has wanted to record for years, **Brian De Lorenzo** finally decided to go into the recording studio about one year ago. As he consulted his list and began collecting the sheet music, he came across even more songs he wanted to record. He's glad he did, because some of those last-minute choices ended up on the recording.

In addition to songs from the new CD, you'll hear songs from his first CD, *Found Treasures*, as well as other songs he thinks you really ought to hear. Selections may include songs by Marvin Hamlisch, Diane Warren, Johnny Mercer, Rodgers & Hammerstein, Pasek & Paul, Shaiman & Wittman, William Finn, Frank Loesser, and David Friedman.

PENNY ARCADE: NEW YORK VALUES

Afterglow @ OBERON

Thursday, March 19 at 8PM Tickets \$25

New York Values is **Penny Arcade**'s homage to the iconoclast, the outsider, the immigrant, the poor, the put-down, the visionary, the failed, the bohemian—those who live at the margins of what is an increasingly entrenched, fortified, and well-financed "mainstream" society. This emotional, informative, and interactive theater piece mediates through improvisational performance, storytelling, monologues, music, rants, and dance to elicit a sense of freedom and individuality in the audience itself. Told in the fragmented, disjointed vocabulary of today's post gentrified landscape, music and movement intersect with crackling observations on the commoditization of rebellion, the nobility of

failure, and the complex tapestry of art, criminality, rebellion, and iconoclasm that the great tradition of the "underground" is woven from. **Miss Arcade** will be joined by longtime collaborator **Steve Zehentner**, who creates a live sound score that will have you jumping in your seat.

HOUSEBOI

Friday, March 20 at 10PM Tickets \$10

Houseboi celebrates dance floor freedom, bringing together glittering and experimental drag performers with cutting-edge DJs who are helping to cultivate modern queer dance scenes in cities around the world. Houseboi prioritizes booking DJs and performers who are trans*, queer, non-binary, women, and people of color. This month, **Houseboi** presents a Residents' Night, with music from resident DJs along with mind-expanding drag and burlesque performances from **Sham Payne** and friends. Creative attire encouraged—everyone welcome!

GAY BASH'D WITH PRISCILLA CHAMBERS

Saturday, March 21 at 10PM Tickets from \$10

A Queer Escape Fueled by Captivating Performance. *Gay Bash'd* is back yet again for an evening of dancing and drag! 18+ event. VIP Meet & Greet and Professional photo op with **Priscilla Chambers** and **Violencia**! is available! This is a general admission open dance floor style event and there is limited seating available; purchase a VIP Experience to guarantee reserved seating as well as Meet & Greet. @gaybashdboston

Volume 17 starring:

PRISCILLA CHAMBERS (The Boulet Brothers Dragula Season 3) @erikaklash VIOLENCIA! (The Boulet Brothers Dragula Season 3) @violenciaexclamationpoint ONYX (Providence, RI) @yung.onyx MT HART (Boston, MA) @mt_hart_ BINX (Boston) @thatsbinx STATIC (Boston) @staticboston

Music by:

BRIAN HALLIGAN (Boston, SIP Tea Dance) @dj_brianh MATH3CA (Gay Bash'd Resident, Boudoir) @math3ca

Queer market offering art, jewelry, tarot, and other fun stuff! Market organized by **Tiamarie Michaels** @tiamariemichaels

Gay Bash'd is committed to creating a safe space that is accessible to marginalized members of our community. We offer a ticket discount code for trans people, queer people of color, and persons with disabilities. Please send a direct message to @gaybashdboston on Instagram or send an email to gaybashd@gmail.com to ask for the discount code. If you are able to, by selecting "General

Admission + Donation" you directly impact our efforts to make our event affordable as well as our efforts to tighten the wage gap between queer performance and more conventional lines of work. Once you are inside of the safe space, please note that Gay Bash'd and Oberon have a zero toleration policy for harassment of any nature. Be respectful, be safe, have fun!

DREAMGIRLS

Thursday, March 26 at 8:00 PM Friday, March 27 at 8:00 PM Saturday, March 28 at 2:00 PM Saturday, March 28 at 8:00 PM Tickets on sale soon

Dreams live forever. **Dreamgirls** chronicles the story of three talented Black ladies—Deena Lorrell, and Effie—and their rise into superstardom. Through beautiful music that ranges from R&B, gospel, soul, and more, this timely musical explores fame, hope, ambition, glamour, and betrayal as our three leading ladies become the superstar group The Dreams, fighting for success in a competitive music industry plagued by racism, sexism, and greed. A production by the Harvard-Radcliffe Dramatic Club.

P*SSY: A CATS PURRLESQUE

Wednesday, April 1 at 8PM Tickets from \$15

BACK DUE TO POPULAR DEMAND! The weird, wild minds of **Sherman** and **Micheal Geary** bring you the themed burlesque show you didn't know you needed, but now can't imagine your nine lives without. *P*SSY: A CATS PURRLESQUE* guarantees an unforgettable evening of striptease, comedy, dance, and so much more. Cum see the campiest musical reimagined by the Boston performing arts scene, and go home with something burned in the backs of your eyelids worse than the new movie trailer.

CHURCH OF SLUT: BABESGIVING

Sunday, April 5 at 8PM Tickets from \$20

Welcome to *Church of Slut*, intelligently designed to give you life.

On April 5 come engage in *Church of Slut*'s second annual *BABESGIVING* celebration: a night for praising all your best babes and favorite faves, including the beautiful and ferocious YOU. Let's practice radical self-love and glow up together. Featuring sermons of provocative dance, burlesque, spoken word, and more. Genuflect [or selfie] at our sparkle altar. Get lit[erature] at the Lipstick Criminal Library. Treat yourself at our blessed merch table. 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. *Contains adult content.*

Free legal clinic and voter registration with Attorney **CHRISTOPHER DIORIO** open pre-show (7:30PM-8PM) and during intermissions.

ROSE COUSINS: "BRAVADO" RECORD RELEASE

Wednesday, April 8 at 7:30PM Tickets from \$20

Canadian JUNO Award-winning songwriter **Rose Cousins** releases her new record *BRAVADO*. Rose will be joined by many special guests!

I WISH I WASN'T ROYALTY SLAM

Thursday, April 9 at 8PM Tickets from \$10

It's a chapbook; it's a deck of cards; it's a celebration; it's a poetry slam! *I Wish I Wasn't Royalty* (Game Over Books, Summer 2020) is a bipolar chapbook you can play, a richly illustrated deck of playing cards created by **Catherine Weiss** and featuring work from four nationally prominent poets writing about their lived experiences with extreme mood states: **Lyd Havens**, **Taylor Steele**, **Jaz Sufi**, and **John-Francis Quiñonez**. This event will feature work read and performed by the artists, a thematic poetry slam with new work from all-star local poets, and a chance to check out super-secret advance samples of the full playable deck.

ACOUSTICAELECTRONICA: REVEALED

Friday, April 10 at 10PM Saturday, April 11 at 10PM Tickets from \$20

A 360-degree immersive experience exploding with heart-pounding live music, contagious choreography, and breathtaking aerials that culminates with a cathartic dance party. You're invited to play, watch, feel, and dream as this sensorial rollercoaster takes you on an adventure you won't encounter anywhere else.

Look closer. Not everything is as it seems. Classical and contemporary worlds collide, resurrecting some of art history's most intriguing: Dorian Gray, Carmen, Pierrot Lunaire, Odette the Swan, and the Conductor find their stories tangled together. Will they remain true to their past or shatter the facade? Reveal the truth at *AcousticaElectronica*.

MIGGUEL ANGGELO: LATINXOXO

Afterglow @ OBERON

Thursday, April 16 at 8PM Tickets \$25

LatinXoxo is an outrageously queer and gender-bending concert experience. **Migguel Anggelo** peels onion layers of personas, putting on and stripping off "Latin lover" clichés as he reckons with the tragic death of his homophobic and disapproving father. BroadwayWorld says, "A Migguel Anggelo performance is guaranteed to entertain and enthrall." With musical direction by **Jaime Lozano** and a book by **J. Julian Christopher**, *LatinXoxo* is conceived by **Migguel Anggelo** and directed and developed by **Srđa Vasiljević**.

FOR THE HELLBOUND: A QUEER VICE PARTY FOR CREATURES OF THE NIGHT

Friday, April 17 at 8PM Tickets from \$15

The Roaring 20s parties are in full swing...But for true sinners there's only one event celebrating dark desires and delicious damnation... Welcome to *For The Hellbound: A Queer Vice Party for Creatures of the Night*! Put on your best green glad rags, grow out your horns and toss on some fringe for this fantastical one nightclub event! This is a party for dames and dolls of every gender and identity! All are welcome for those who welcome all! **The Slaughterhouse Society** is a long standing troupe of performance artists, horror burlesque performers, and weirdos from all corners of the underground. For the Hellbound is their first club night and it promises to be like nothing they've done before! DJ **Walter Sickert** will jazz it like the Axeman is prowling! If Walter is orchestrating the sound, then you better be wearing dancing shoes!

MACBETH IN STRIDE

A.R.T. Subscription Season

Thursday, April 23 - Sunday, May 10 at various times Tickets from \$25

Macbeth In Stride is a live concert and theatrical event that excavates the underbelly of female ambition. With throbbing orchestrations of vintage rock, creator/performer **Whitney White** traces the fatalistic arc of Shakespeare's Lady Macbeth while taking a look at black female power and desire. One in a five-part series all exploring Shakespeare's women set to music.

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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