



American Repertory Theater

64 brattle street, cambridge, massachusetts 02138

617.495.2668 TEL

617.495.1705 FAX

617.547.8300 TICKETS

www.americanrepertorytheater.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 5, 2025

CONTACT:

Rebecca Curtiss, Public Relations Director

rebecca_curtiss@harvard.edu

**AMERICAN REPERTORY THEATER ANNOUNCES ITS
2025/26 SEASON PROGRAMMING**

INCLUDING A SUBSCRIPTION SEASON WITH

TWO WORLD-PREMIERE MUSICALS;

**A DRAMA DESK AWARD-NOMINATED SOLO SHOW EXPLORING THE
RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN CREATIVITY AND MENTAL HEALTH;**

AND

THE RETURN OF GENRE-DEFYING CIRCUS COLLECTIVE, THE 7 FINGERS;

PLUS

***REAL WOMEN HAVE CURVES* ON BROADWAY AND MORE A.R.T. IN THE WORLD**

[IMAGES FOR DOWNLOAD](#)

CAMBRIDGE, MA—American Repertory Theater (A.R.T.) at Harvard University, led by Terrie and Bradley Bloom Artistic Director Diane Paulus and Executive Director Kelvin Dinkins, Jr., announced today its 2025/26 Season programming, including four productions in Cambridge; an A.R.T.-originated new musical on Broadway; a US tour directed by Diane Paulus of an A.R.T.-originated work; the premiere of an A.R.T. commission at the Royal Shakespeare Company; and the Lincoln Center production of an A.R.T. commission and co-production; as well as several special events and season-long partnerships.

In Cambridge, A.R.T. will begin its subscription season September 2 at the Loeb Drama Center with ***PASSENGERS***, a thrilling theatrical journey that showcases cirque, music, dance, and superhuman skills to explore travel as a metaphor for life's ever-changing landscape. Running through September 26, 2025

and directed by Shana Carroll, **Passengers** is created by The Seven Fingers collective, the artistic home of the circus choreographer for A.R.T.'s 2012 Tony Award-winning production of *Pippin*.

Starting October 1 at Harvard's Farkas Hall, A.R.T. will present Sam Kissajukian's wildly original, Drama Desk Award-nominated solo show **300 PAINTINGS**. An autobiographical exploration of the ties between art, mental health, and creativity, this deeply personal gallery talk-meets-stand-up performance will run through October 19, 2025.

Beginning December 9 at the Loeb Drama Center, A.R.T. will produce the world premiere of **WONDER**. This adaptation of R.J. Palacio's *New York Times* bestseller and the acclaimed film of the same name from Lionsgate and Mandeville in development at A.R.T. follows Auggie Pullman, a middle schooler with a facial difference, and his family as they navigate what it means to belong. Celebrating empathy, resilience, and the power of choosing kindness, this new musical for the entire family is currently scheduled to run through January 25, 2026.

Wonder features music by A Great Big World ("Say Something," "This Is the New Year"), comprised of the GRAMMY Award-winning duo Ian Axel and Chad King, and a book by MacArthur Fellow and Pulitzer Prize finalist Sarah Ruhl (*Eurydice*; *The Clean House*; *Smile, a memoir*) with direction by Taibi Magar (*Night Side Songs*; *The Half-God of Rainfall*; *Twilight: Los Angeles, 1992*; *Macbeth In Stride*; *We Live in Cairo* at A.R.T.), choreography by Katie Spelman (*The Hypocrites*; *The Mikado* and *Pirates of Penzance* at A.R.T., *The Notebook*), and music supervision by Nadia DiGiallonardo (*Real Women Have Curves, 1776, Waitress*, and *Pippin* at A.R.T. and on Broadway).

Beginning May 26, 2026 at the Loeb Drama Center, A.R.T. will produce **BLACK SWAN**, a world-premiere musical. This A.R.T.-developed adaptation of the 2010 Academy Award-nominated psychological thriller explores ambition, rivalry, and the cost of perfection. **Black Swan** will be directed and choreographed by Tony Award winner Sonya Tayeh (*Gatsby* at A.R.T., *Moulin Rouge! The Musical* on Broadway) with music supervision and direction by **Or Matias** (*Moby-Dick*, *The Great Comet*). It features a book by Guggenheim Fellow Jen Silverman (*The Roommate*, *Collective Rage: A Play in 5 Betties*) and a score by Obie Award winner Dave Malloy (*Moby-Dick*, *The Great Comet*, *Beowulf*, *Ghost Quartet*, *Three Pianos*), and is based on the Searchlight Pictures film **Black Swan**, story by Andres Heinz. **Black Swan** is currently scheduled to run through June 28, 2026.

A.R.T. will hold a **special gala performance** of **Black Swan** on Thursday, June 4, 2026, at the Loeb Drama Center. Details will be announced in the coming months.

"A.R.T.'s 2025/26 Season is a testament to the power of theater as a live event—from the thrilling physicality and choreography of **Passengers** and **Black Swan** to the intimate performance of **300 Paintings**, to the deeply inspiring and heartfelt experience of the new musical **Wonder**," said Terrie and Bradley Bloom Artistic Director Diane Paulus. "Exploring themes of ambition, empathy, transformation and discovery, these shows all grapple with what it means to be human."

Three- and four-play subscriptions starting at \$149 (including a \$20 per order subscription administration fee) are available to A.R.T. supporters on June 5 and will be available to renewing subscribers and the general public in the coming weeks. Visit AmericanRepertoryTheater.org/Subscribe for more information.

A.R.T. productions will also continue to be seen beyond its Harvard University headquarters.

The theater's Tony Award-nominated production of **REAL WOMEN HAVE CURVES: THE MUSICAL** continues its critically acclaimed run at the James Earl Jones Theater on Broadway. A.R.T. developed and premiered the new musical at the Loeb Drama Center in December 2023. The show about big dreams, female friendship, and the immigrant experience received 12 award nominations this spring. It features music and lyrics by Joy Huerta and Benjamin Velez and a book by Lisa Loomer with Nell Benjamin. Based on the play by Josefina López and HBO's *Real Women Have Curves* screenplay by Josefina López and George LaVoo, the production features direction and choreography by Sergio Trujillo and music supervision by Nadia DiGiallonardo.

Beginning in fall 2025, A.R.T. Artistic Director Diane Paulus will direct the US concert tour of **DEAR EVERYTHING**, which was commissioned and developed by A.R.T. and premiered in concert form as **WILD: A Musical Becoming** at the Loeb Drama Center in December 2021. **Dear Everything** is written by Tony and Obie Award-winning playwright V (formerly Eve Ensler), with music by Grammy and Golden Globe-nominated songwriter Justin Tranter, Caroline Pennell, and Eren Cannata, lyrics by V, Caroline Pennell, and Justin Tranter, with contributions by Tony and Obie Award winner, Idina Menzel. The tour will be produced by V-Day, the global activist movement to end violence against women, gender expansive people, and the Earth, and directed by Diane Paulus. Tour dates, stops, and cast will be announced at a later date.

In January 2026, the Royal Shakespeare Company (RSC) will premiere **ALL IS BUT FANTASY**, an A.R.T. commission written and composed by award-winning artist Whitney White. Across two high-energy performances, this groundbreaking theatrical event with by a red-hot soundtrack of musical genres from rock and soul to pop and gospel explores the stories of Shakespeare's Lady Macbeth, Juliet, Emelia, and Richard III and asks: Can you have ambition and love and still be alive in Act V? White stars in and directs **All Is But Fantasy**. A.R.T. commissioned **All Is But Fantasy** in 2021 in conjunction with producing the world premiere of **Macbeth In Stride**, Lady Macbeth's story, which *The Boston Globe* called, "Electric...powered by White's galvanizing performance." Learn more at rsc.org.uk/all-is-but-fantasy.

In February 2026, Lincoln Center Theater will produce the Off-Broadway premiere of **NIGHT SIDE SONGS** by the Lazours (Daniel Lazour and Patrick Lazour), which was commissioned by A.R.T. and received its world premiere production from A.R.T. and Philadelphia Theatre Company in spring 2025. Learn more at lct.org/shows/2025-26-season.

In addition:

- **WAITRESS**—developed and premiered at A.R.T. in August 2015—runs in Mexico City in the show’s first Spanish-language production. The Broadway production featuring Sara Bareilles is currently available to stream on various platforms.
- **LIFE OF PI**—which received its North American premiere at A.R.T. in December 2022—continues its US tour.
- **NOTES FROM THE FIELD**—which A.R.T. produced in August 2016—is currently available on HBO.
- **ALL THE WAY**—which A.R.T. produced in September 2013 and subsequently won the Tony Award for Best New Play—is currently available on HBO.

Throughout the 2025/26 Season, A.R.T. will continue to:

- Develop **Essential Questions** that will drive artistic exploration and audience engagement opportunities around each production;
- Partner with **Dr. Charmain Jackman** and **Innopsych** to support our artists and curate audience resources for learning, healing, and understanding around the themes and ideas sparked by our productions;
- Host free public events with Harvard scholars exploring themes related to its productions;
- Invest in creative artists and develop new theatrical work;
- Operate the **Lavine Learning Lab**, fostering season-long engagement rooted in A.R.T. programming with students from partner public high schools in Greater Boston.

See below for additional information about the titles. Additional programming and initiatives will be announced at a later date.

Season support is provided by **Harvard University, The Barr Foundation, The Bob and Alison Murchison New Work Development Fund, The Shubert Foundation, National Endowment for the Arts, Massachusetts Cultural Council, Barton & Guestier, and Meyer Sound.**

– A.R.T. 2025/26 SUBSCRIPTION SEASON –

[2025/26 Subscription Season Artist Bios](#)

• PASSENGERS

A Production by **The 7 Fingers**

Directed, Written, and Choreographed by **Shana Carroll**

Co-produced by TOHU (Montréal, Canada) and ArtsEmerson (Boston, États-Unis)

SEPT 2 – 26, 2025 | Loeb Drama Center

“Dazzling acrobatic and aerial feats. A SPELLBINDING PERFORMANCE.”—*The Boston Globe*

All aboard the thrilling theatrical journey.

Montréal’s acclaimed contemporary physical-theater troupe **The 7 Fingers** is pulling into Harvard Square with a must-see theatrical journey. The passengers on this train don’t sit in silence staring at their phones—they express their hopes and dreams through an astonishing blend of cirque, music, and dance, and superhuman skills. Poetic goodbyes. Anticipatory reunions. Fateful encounters. By exploring travel as a metaphor for the ever-changing landscape of life, each heart-stirring story from this community of strangers is filled with moments of amazement and wonder.

• 300 PAINTINGS

Created and Performed by **Sam Kissajukian**

Produced by Sally Horchow and Matt Ross in association with Octopus Theatricals

OCT 1 – 19, 2025 | Farkas Hall at Harvard University, 12 Holyoke Street, Cambridge

“Fascinating and moving! A MUST-SEE.”—*TheaterMania*

“A TRIUMPH! A visceral, funny, and deeply moving testament to resilience and the transformative power of art.”—*Times Square Chronicle*

Sometimes a breakdown coincides with the biggest breakthrough.

In 2021, Aussie comedian Sam Kissajukian quit stand-up, rented an abandoned cake factory, and became a painter. Over the course of what turned out to be a six-month manic episode, he created three hundred large-scale paintings, unknowingly documenting his mental state through the process. In his Drama Desk Award-nominated solo performance, Kissajukian brings audiences on a hilarious and wildly original rollercoaster ride exploring the ties between art, mental health, and creativity.

• **WONDER — A.R.T. WORLD PREMIERE**

Music and Lyrics by **A Great Big World (Ian Axel & Chad King)**

Book by **Sarah Ruhl**

Music Supervision by **Nadia DiGiallonardo**

Choreography by **Katie Spelman**

Directed by **Taibi Magar**

Based on the novel *Wonder* by R.J. Palacio and the Lionsgate and Mandeville film *Wonder*

DEC 9, 2025 – JAN 25, 2026 | Loeb Drama Center

“We can change the way we see.”

Based on the novel *Wonder* by R.J. Palacio and the Lionsgate and Mandeville film *Wonder*, this uplifting new musical follows the Pullman family as they navigate change, identity, and what it means to belong. Auggie Pullman has been homeschooled his entire life, often retreating to outer space in his imagination. But when his family decides it’s time for him to start going to school, Auggie must take off the space helmet he’s used to hide his facial difference. As Auggie navigates a world filled with kindness and cruelty, his parents and sister go on their own journeys of transformation and discovery. Featuring a driving, pop-inspired score, ***Wonder*** celebrates empathy, resilience, and the power of choosing kindness.

Taibi Magar (*Night Side Songs*, *Macbeth In Stride*, *We Live in Cairo*, and others at A.R.T.) directs this world-premiere adaptation with a score by Ian Axel and Chad King, the GRAMMY Award-winning duo behind *A Great Big World* (“Say Something,” “This Is the New Year”) and a book by MacArthur Fellow and Pulitzer Prize finalist Sarah Ruhl (*Eurydice*; *The Clean House*; *Smile, a memoir*).

• **BLACK SWAN — A.R.T. WORLD PREMIERE**

Book by **Jen Silverman**

Music and Lyrics by **Dave Malloy**

Music Supervision and Direction by **Or Matias**

Directed and Choreographed by **Sonya Tayeh**

Based on the Searchlight Pictures Film *Black Swan*, Story by Andres Heinz

MAY 26, 2026 – JUN 28, 2026 | Loeb Drama Center

“Could she be the dancer in the mirror?”

Tony Award winner Sonya Tayeh (*Gatsby* at A.R.T., *Moulin Rouge! The Musical* on Broadway) returns to the A.R.T. to bring a bold new musical adaptation of the 2010 Academy Award-nominated psychological thriller *Black Swan* to life on stage. As driven ballerina Nina fights for the lead role in *Swan Lake*, pressure increases and boundaries blur, and she begins to unravel. This haunting exploration of ambition, rivalry, and the cost of perfection features a book by Guggenheim Fellow Jen Silverman (*The Roommate*, *Collective Rage: A Play in 5 Betties*) and a score by Obie Award winner Dave Malloy (*Moby-Dick*, *The Great Comet*, and others at A.R.T.). ***Black Swan*** is presented by special arrangement with Buena Vista Theatrical. Production support of ***Black Swan*** is provided by **Katie and Paul Buttenwieser**.

— A.R.T. IN THE WORLD —

• **REAL WOMEN HAVE CURVES: THE MUSICAL**

Music and Lyrics by **Joy Huerta** and **Benjamin Velez**

Book by **Lisa Loomer** with Nell Benjamin

Based on the play by Josefina López and HBO's *Real Women Have Curves* Screenplay by Josefina López and George LaVoo

Music Supervision by **Nadia DiGiallonardo**

Director and Choreographer **Sergio Trujillo**

Now Playing | James Earl Jones Theatre, New York, NY

Ana dreams of flying away. But when her family's East Los Angeles garment business receives a make-or-break order for 200 dresses, Ana finds herself juggling her own ambitions, her mother Carmen's expectations, and a community of women all trying to make it work against the odds. Based on the play by Josefina López that inspired the iconic hit HBO film, with music by GRAMMY Award-winning composer Joy Huerta and directed by Tony Award winner Sergio Trujillo, the Tony Award-nominated *Real Women Have Curves: The Musical* "makes us feel we can all soar!" (WBUR)

More information at realwomenhavecurvesbroadway.com/.

• **DEAR EVERYTHING**

Beginning in fall 2025, A.R.T. Terrie and Bradley Bloom Artistic Director Diane Paulus will direct the US concert tour of **DEAR EVERYTHING**. Commissioned and developed by A.R.T. and premiered in concert form as **WILD: A Musical Becoming** at the Loeb Drama Center in December 2021.

Dear Everything is a riveting story driven by galvanizing and emotional pop and folk music, speaking to the dialectic of our times—adults focused on surviving the now, and youth with a fierce eye on the future. With empathy, complexity, and outrage it addresses the most pressing issue of our day—the climate crisis.

Dear Everything is written by Tony and Obie Award-winning playwright V (formerly Eve Ensler), with music by Grammy and Golden Globe-nominated songwriter Justin Tranter, Caroline Pennell, and Eren Cannata, lyrics by V, Caroline Pennell, and Justin Tranter, with contributions by Tony and Obie Award winner Idina Menzel. The tour will be produced by V-Day, the global activist movement to end violence against women, gender expansive people, and the Earth. Tour dates, stops, and cast will be announced at a later date.

• **ALL IS BUT FANTASY**

Written, Composed and Directed by **Whitney White**

Begins JAN 28, 2026 | Royal Shakespeare Company, Stratford-Upon-Avon, England

Some people make history. Lady Macbeth, Juliet, Emilia and Richard III. Each has a finger on the self-destruct button, sometimes by accident, sometimes by design. But why should loving too hard, aspiring too high or living too fast cut the story short? Award-winning artist Whitney White explodes into The Other

Place with a groundbreaking theatrical event, featuring four of Shakespeare’s most famous characters. Their stories are revisited across two high-energy gig-theatre performances, catalyzed by a red-hot soundtrack of musical genres from rock and soul to pop and gospel. With the three Witches as backing singers, one question comes up time and again: *Can you have ambition and love and still be alive in Act V?* More information at rsc.org.uk/all-is-but-fantasy.

• **NIGHT SIDE SONGS**

Words and music by **The Lazours**

Directed by **Taibi Magar**

Previews begin FEB 14, 2026 | Claire Tow Theater, Lincoln Center Theater, New York

Night Side Songs is about the small human connections that make up the vast tapestry of our lives. Inspired by Susan Sontag’s insight that “illness is the night side of life,” this transformative new musical brings us together to explore how song heals us and empowers our spirits. With a stirring folk score by the acclaimed duo **The Lazours** (*We Live in Cairo*) and visionary direction by **Taibi Magar** (*We Live in Cairo*, *Macbeth In Stride*), **Night Side Songs** amplifies the voices of those who navigate the complexities of health—patients, caregivers, and medical professionals alike. What emerges is a moving portrait of how we show up for one another. How love can be the most powerful medicine. **Night Side Songs** reminds us of the strength we find in community, and the healing that happens when we truly listen. More information at LCT.org/shows/2025-26-season.

— ABOUT AMERICAN REPERTORY THEATER —

THE AMERICAN REPERTORY THEATER (A.R.T.) AT HARVARD UNIVERSITY is a leading force in the American theater, producing groundbreaking theatrical experiences that catalyze dialogue and transformation. Terrie and Bradley Bloom Artistic Director Diane Paulus began her tenure in 2008 and co-leads the theater in partnership with Executive Director Kelvin Dinkins, Jr., who began in 2022. A.R.T. is a creative hub, launching productions seen on Broadway, across the US, and around the world and receiving dozens of Tony, Drama Desk, Olivier and other nominations and awards throughout its 45-year history. As the professional theater on campus, A.R.T. plays a central role at Harvard University, catalyzing discourse, interdisciplinary collaboration, and creative exchange, and sharing University resources with the broader community. Driven by its value to lead with inquiry, A.R.T. builds community with audiences, artists, students, staff, and neighbors across Greater Boston, embracing theater’s power to cultivate the full breadth and beauty of our shared humanity. The A.R.T.’s new home in Boston, the David E. and Stacey L. Goel Center for Creativity and Performance is currently under construction. This new, inspiring center will include flexible adaptive spaces to rehearse, create, teach, and convene in community, fueling A.R.T.’s vision and creative work for years to come.

###