

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 31, 2016

Media Contact:
Gina Hyams, PR Consultant
413.464.2851
ginahyams@gmail.com

High-resolution photographs are available for download at
<http://www.mahaiwe.org/press.html>

Mahaiwe June Programming

Highlights include a jazz concert by the Joshua Redman Quartet and Great Barrington Heritage Day

Great Barrington, Mass.— Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center will present a jazz concert by the Joshua Redman Quartet on Sunday, June 26 at 7:00pm and co-present Great Barrington Heritage Day on Saturday, June 18 from 9:00am to 9:00pm. In addition, the theater's Film Noir Classics Series continues with *The Third Man* (1949) on Saturday, June 25 at 7:00pm.

“Grammy Award nominated saxophonist Joshua Redman is one of the most esteemed and charismatic jazz artists of his generation,” said Mahaiwe Executive Director Beryl Jolly. “We are delighted to welcome him back to Great Barrington for his second appearance on our stage.” The Joshua Redman Quartet featuring Aaron Goldberg (piano), Reuben Rogers (bass), and Gregory Hutchinson (drums) performs new original music and jazz classics that Redman wrote and chose specifically for this group of musicians. This band's music can be challenging, provocative, and forward-looking, but also hard swinging, melodic, and soulful, with a strong link to the jazz idioms of the 1950s and 1960s. The musicians demand serious energy and engagement of themselves and their listeners, and create music with a joyous and celebratory spirit. Tickets are \$30 to \$80, plus a limited number of \$15 tickets available for audience members ages 30 and younger through the Mahaiwe ArtSmart Tix program.

Great Barrington Heritage Day

“I am very happy to participate in this community collaboration,” said Jolly. “Our consortium agrees that this day of festivities will celebrate the Housatonic River and Watershed as well as the region’s agriculture, industry, and culture—showcasing the spirit of independence that has made Great Barrington so vibrant for more than 250 years.”

Events include a guided canoe paddle, bike ride, outdoor walks, downtown tours, and screenings of three classic movies at the Mahaiwe: *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs* (1937, rated G) at 10:00am, *King Kong* (1933, rated PG-13) at 4:00pm, and *Pretty Poison* (1968, rated R), which was filmed in Great Barrington and stars Anthony Perkins and Tuesday Weld, at 7:00pm. At 12:00pm and 1:00pm, two behind-the-scenes tours of the Mahaiwe Theater will be led by long-time technical director Maia Robbins-Zust, and Paul Kakley who has served as Mahaiwe movie projectionist for 40 years. They will describe the many theatrical and film modernizations of the jewel-box 1905 historic theater and share numerous stories of their decades behind the scenes. (Note that this tour includes staircases to the backstage Green Room and Upper Balcony.) At 2:00pm, community members are invited to join Barby Cardillo on the stage of the Mahaiwe to share personal recollections and local history in a guided Story Circle.

At 9:00am, participants will meet in front of the Mahaiwe for an opportunity to “Explore Our Watershed” through a 3.5 mile guided hike with Christine Ward to Lake Mansfield. After the hike, Rachel Fletcher will lead a tour of the Housatonic River Walk and the William Stanley Exhibit. Later, Dennis Regan of the Housatonic Valley Association will lead a canoe paddle down the Housatonic River to the Sheffield covered bridge. (Canoe paddle reservations are extremely limited; early reservations are encouraged.)

Alternatively, a 9:00am bike ride led by GB Town Planner Chris Rembold will feature highlights of Great Barrington and Housatonic Village, including Rising Mills, Monument Mills, and the Guthrie Center, and joining a guided tour of the Truman Wheeler Farmstead at 817 South Main Street. Captain Truman Wheeler was a

revolutionary war patriot and his Farmstead is now home to the GB Historical Society: Farmstead Tours will take place at 10:00am, 11:00am, 12:00pm, and 1:00pm.

From 9:00am to 11:00am, the Great Barrington Fairgrounds will offer a Photo Walk with photographers Bruce Panock and Lynnette Najimy offering photographers' insights into the interesting natural landscape and historically significant photo opportunities.

At 9:30 am, meeting in front of the Mahaiwe, historian Bernie Drew will offer a 1.5 hour "Alternative History Tour of downtown Great Barrington," sharing aspects of town history not widely known.

The GB Farmers Market will be open on Church Street from 9:00am to 1:00pm; as part of GB Heritage Day, Alice Maggio, Susan Witt, Harry Conklin, and others will offer a 12:00pm Lunch Talk on "The History of Indian Line Farm: Birthplace of Community Supported Agriculture and an Unconventional Approach to Land Tenure."

At 10:00am, Massachusetts Certified Arborist Tom Ingersoll will lead a tour of Great Barrington's urban forest. See the 50-inch American elm tree at Town Hall, the last of the historic street trees planted in the 1800s, the 52-inch Sugar Maple at St. James Place, and other significant trees in downtown. Learn about the new trees planted as part of the Main Street project, with highlights about the variety of species and their traits. This wheelchair-accessible tour begins at the Mahaiwe and will last about an hour.

At 12:00pm, explore the life and legacy of Great Barrington's native son, W.E.B. Du Bois. Join David Glassberg and Camesha Scruggs for a free, guided walking tour of the Du Bois Homesite, Route 23, Great Barrington.

At 1:00pm, Bernie Drew will offer a two-hour moderate hike on "How to Find Iron Industry History in the Woods," starting at Fountain Pond on Three Mile Hill Trail, with some bushwhacking along an old charcoal road.

Many downtown restaurants will feature special offers and tastings from 5:00pm to 7:00pm.

GB Heritage Day partners include Berkshares, Great Barrington Fairgrounds, Great Barrington Farmers Market, Great Barrington Historical Society, Great Barrington Land Conservancy, Great Barrington Trails and Greenways, Housatonic Heritage, Housatonic River Walk, Housatonic Valley Association, Southern Berkshire Chamber of Commerce, W.E.B. DuBois National Historic Site, and the Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center. Buttons offering access to all events are \$5 and available at the Mahaiwe box office. Advance reservations are recommended as many tours and activities have limited capacity.

Film Noir Classics Series

The Mahaiwe Film Noir Classics Series is sponsored by Deb and Bill Ryan. A cinematic style popularized through 1940s and 1950s crime dramas, film noir is distinct in its dark visuals and themes, and often employs low-key lighting and cynical plots. “Film noir” is French for “black film” but is rooted in German Expressionist cinematography. *The Third Man* (1949) is a British film noir. In it, Joseph Cotten portrays Holly Martins, a writer swept into a murder mystery. Based on screenwriter Graham Greene’s novel of the same name, *The Third Man* is celebrated for its acting, score, and cinematography. Tickets are \$7 (general admission).

Community Presentations

In June, the Mahaiwe will host events by the Berkshire International Film Festival, Berkshire Playwrights Lab, and Close Encounters With Music.

Tickets

The Mahaiwe is located at 14 Castle Street in Great Barrington, Massachusetts. Box office hours are Wednesday through Saturday from 12:00pm to 6:00pm and three hours before show times. For tickets and information, see www.mahaiwe.org or call 413.528.0100.

About the Mahaiwe

Located in downtown Great Barrington, Massachusetts, the Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center is the year-round presenter of world-class music, dance, theater, classic films, Live in HD broadcasts, and arts education programs for the southern Berkshires and neighboring regions. The intimate jewel box of a theater opened in 1905. Since 2005, the performing arts center has hosted over 1,000 events and welcomed almost half a million people through its doors. The Mahaiwe has now welcomed over 15,000 students from 55 different schools for its school-time performances and residencies. The Mahaiwe generates in excess of \$1,000,000 in ticket revenue from 150 events each year. Over its first decade of presentations, the organization contributed \$40,000,000 in regional economic impact from its direct spending and audience's restaurant, lodging, and shopping activities.