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<http://www.mahaiwe.org/press.html>

Mahaiwe Announces Concerts by Ramblin' Jack Elliott, Arlo Guthrie, Melissa Etheridge, and John Pizzarelli, and Political Comedy by Mike Daisey

Great Barrington, Mass.— Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center Executive Director Beryl Jolly announced five additions to the 2016 schedule today, including Ramblin' Jack Elliott (October 14), Mike Daisey's *The Trump Card* (October 20), Arlo Guthrie (October 30), Melissa Etheridge (December 9), and John Pizzarelli (December 11). "We are very excited to bring audiences together for this all-star line-up of rock, folk and jazz artists, as well as hilarious political commentary," said Jolly.

Grammy Award-winner Ramblin' Jack Elliott will perform on Friday, October 14 at 8:00pm. With over 40 albums under his belt, he is considered one of the country's legendary foundations of folk music. He ran away from his Brooklyn home at 14 to join the rodeo and learned how to play guitar from a cowboy. In 1950, he met Woody Guthrie, moved in with the Guthrie family, and traveled with Woody to California and Florida, from the redwood forests to the Gulf Stream waters. In 1955, he traveled to Europe, bringing his genuine American folk, cowboy, and blues repertoire, inspiring a new generation of budding British rockers, among them Mick Jagger and Eric Clapton. When he returned to the United States in 1961, he met another young folksinger, Bob Dylan, at Woody Guthrie's bedside, and mentored the young Bob. At age 85, Ramblin' Jack is still on the road, bringing his songs and stories to new generations. Tickets are \$25 to \$50.

Mike Daisey is the preeminent monologist in the American theater today; he's been compared to a modern-day Mark Twain and a latter-day Orson Welles for his provocative

monologues that combine the political and the personal, weaving together secret histories with hilarity and heart. On Thursday, October 20 at 8:00pm, he will perform his latest work, *The Trump Card*. In it, he takes on the reigning world heavyweight of self-mythologizing, the short-fingered vulgarian who captured a nation's imagination through bullying, charm, one-syllable explosions, and occasionally telling the brutal truth: Donald J. Trump. Since his first monologue in 1997, Daisey has created over 15 monologues, including the critically-acclaimed *The Last Cargo Cult*, the controversial *How Theater Failed America*, the twenty-four-hour feat *All the Hours in the Day*, the unrepeatable series *All Stories Are Fiction*, the four-part epic *Great Men of Genius*, and the international sensation *21 Dog Years*. He has been nominated for the Outer Critics Circle Award, two Drama League Awards, and is the recipient of the Bay Area Critics Circle Award, five Seattle Times Footlight Awards, the Sloan Foundation's Galileo Prize, and a MacDowell Fellowship. Tickets are \$29 to \$39.

Folk music icon Arlo Guthrie will perform on Saturday, October 30 at 7:00pm. The legendary artist shares timeless stories and unforgettable classic songs as he carries on the Guthrie family legacy. With his singular voice as both a singer-songwriter and social commentator, he has maintained a dedicated fan base that spans the globe. On the heels of the sold-out Alice's Restaurant 50th Anniversary Tour, Guthrie plunges into another musical trip that promises to be a flashback-inducing, mind-expanding show. For the Running Down The Road Tour, he will again hit the road with his band to fully embody the best of his catalogue from the late sixties and early seventies. Featuring outstanding cuts from *Arlo* (1968), *Running Down The Road* (1969), and *Washington County* (1970), along with many others, this tour exemplifies the sound that shaped a generation. Tickets are \$26 to \$65. This concert is sponsored by Barrington Brewery.

Rock star Melissa Etheridge's Holiday Trio will perform on Friday, December 9 at 8:00pm. For this special holiday show, she will sing fan favorites and holiday classics, such as "Merry Christmas Baby," "Have Yourself A Merry Little Christmas," "O Night Divine," and more. Etheridge's critically acclaimed eponymous debut album was certified double platinum. Her popularity built around such memorable songs as "Bring

Me Some Water,” “No Souvenirs,” and “Ain’t It Heavy” (for which she won her first Grammy for Best Female Rock Vocal). Etheridge hit her commercial and artistic stride with her fourth album, *Yes I Am*, featuring the massive hits “I’m the Only One” and “Come to My Window,” a searing song of longing that brought her a second Grammy. The six-time platinum album spent more than two and a half years on the album chart. On June 20, 2016, she released a song called “Pulse” that she wrote in reaction to the mass shootings that took place in Orlando. As she told *Rolling Stone*, “We want to try to make sense. We want to try to heal. We want to bring some meaning, some purpose. We also want to put it down forever in history. That’s how I’m coping.” All proceeds from the sale of “Pulse” will benefit Equality Florida, the state’s largest LGBT civil rights organization. Tickets are \$70 to \$145. This concert is sponsored by Cyril and Dayne Artisan Eyewear.

On Sunday, December 11 at 7:00pm, legendary jazz guitarist and singer John Pizzarelli will present *Midnight McCartney* based on his recent Paul McCartney-inspired album of the same title. The album was actually Sir Paul’s idea; he proposed that Pizzarelli interpret some of his lesser-known tunes in a mellow jazz style. Pizzarelli, his wife Jessica Molaskey—co-producer of *Midnight McCartney*—and pianist Larry Goldings immediately went into research mode, digging through McCartney’s albums of the last 45-plus years to find songs that could be re-harmonized and adapted for Pizzarelli’s trademark style. As he told the *Wall Street Journal*, “I asked myself a couple of questions: ‘How can we take the style we do and communicate it to people who grew up on Gershwin and people who grew up on the Beatles? How do we communicate jazz to the non-jazz listeners?’” Pizzarelli will be joined onstage at the Mahaiwe by Molaskey and his band, the Swing 7. Tickets are \$29 to \$120.

Note: Due to health reasons, Buckwheat Zydeco’s previously announced Saturday, August 20 concert has been postponed until Saturday, February 11, 2017 at 8:00pm. Tickets for the original concert date are valid for the new concert date; if patrons are unable to attend the new concert date, refunds are available by contacting the Mahaiwe box office.

Tickets

Tickets to the just-announced concerts go on sale to Mahaiwe members on Wednesday, August 17 and to the general public on Friday, August 19. In addition, a limited number of \$15 tickets are available for audience members ages 30 and younger to the regular performances through the Mahaiwe ArtSmart Tix program. The Mahaiwe is located at 14 Castle Street in Great Barrington, Massachusetts. Box office hours are Tuesday through Saturday from noon to 6:00pm and three hours before show times. For tickets and information, see www.mahaiwe.org.

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.