

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 2, 2017

Media Contact:
Gina Hyams, PR Consultant
413.629.3175
ginahyams@gmail.com

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

**Mahaiwe November Events:
Thompson Square Duo, Bela Fleck and Abigail Washburn, Arlo Guthrie,
London's National Theatre and Met Opera in HD, and *The Wizard of Oz***

Great Barrington, Mass.—The Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center will present concerts by Thompson Square Duo, Bela Fleck and Abigail Washburn, and the Arlo Guthrie Family Show in November, as well as HD broadcasts of London's National Theatre production of Stephen Sondheim's *Follies* and the Met Opera production of Ades' *The Exterminating Angel*, plus a Thanksgiving weekend screening of *The Wizard of Oz*.

“We're looking forward to welcoming audiences in to the warmth of the Mahaiwe for a range of events this month—from powerful duos, such as Bela Fleck and Abigail Washburn and Thompson Square, to Re:Generation, Arlo Guthrie's family show the weekend before Thanksgiving,” says Mahaiwe Executive Director Beryl Jolly. “It's a great time to come together and enjoy these tremendous talents.”

Country music stars Thompson Square Duo will perform on Friday, November 3 at 8:00pm. The duo of Keifer and Shawna Thompson are a force to be reckoned with in modern day country music. The three-time “Vocal Duo of the Year” (ACM/CMA) achieved international success scoring three #1 hits with “Are You Gonna Kiss Me Or Not,” “If I Didn't Have You,” and “Everything I Shouldn't Be Thinking About.” Thompson Square have recently been in the studio working on their highly anticipated album with famed multi-Grammy award-winning producer Nathan Chapman (Taylor

Swift, Keith Urban, Lady Antebellum.). Big Elm Brewing will offer free tastings during this concert intermission. Tickets are \$30 to \$55.

Grammy Award-winning banjo and vocal duo Béla Fleck and Abigail Washburn will perform on Sunday, November 12 at 7:00pm. The husband and wife team are widely credited for revitalizing and revolutionizing the instrument. A 16-time Grammy winner, Fleck has devoted time away from his genre-busting ensemble Béla Fleck and the Flecktones to venture into a broad array of musical experiments—from writing a concerto for the Nashville Symphony and exploring the banjo’s African roots to laying down jazz duos with Chick Corea. Washburn has drawn critical acclaim for her solo albums, done folk musical diplomacy in China, presented an original theatrical production, contributed to side groups Uncle Earl and The Wu-Force, and become quite a live draw in her own right. Fleck and Washburn won the 2015 Grammy Award for “Best Folk Album” for their eponymous debut album on Rounder Records. It’s a front porch banjo and vocal album of new music, Appalachian ballads, gospel, chamber, and blues. Tickets are \$30 to \$80.

Folk music icon Arlo Guthrie will return to the Mahaiwe on Saturday, November 18 at 8:00pm with “The Arlo Guthrie Family Show.” The father of the American protest song (and Arlo’s father), Woody Guthrie, hoped one day to have enough kids to form a family band to travel the country and sing songs to the people. The Re:Generation Tour realizes Woody’s dream through the inspiring work of Arlo and his children, Sarah Lee Guthrie and Abe Guthrie. Woody built a legacy of activism that the Guthrie family continues to preserve with their leading voices in the current revolution against oppression and injustice. Tickets are \$26 to \$70.

The Mahaiwe will present Met Opera in HD broadcasts of *The Exterminating Angel* on Sunday, November 19 at 1:00pm and Wednesday, November 29 at 1:00pm. Following the rapturous response to his last opera, *The Tempest*, the Met presents the American premiere of Thomas Adès’s *The Exterminating Angel*, inspired by the classic Luis Buñuel film of the same name. Sung in English, the opera is a surreal fantasy about a dinner

party from which the guests can't escape. Tom Cairns, who wrote the libretto, directs the new production, and Adès conducts his own adventurous opera. Tickets are \$25 adults / \$10 for young people ages 21 and under. Popular scholar Scott Eyerly will give a pre-broadcast talk about the production at 11:30am before its first screening on November 19. Lecture tickets are \$10.

London's National Theatre in HD production of Stephen Sondheim's legendary musical, *Follies*, will be broadcast on Sunday, November 26 at 2:00pm. The play is set in New York City, 1971. On the eve of a once-glorious theater's destruction, all of life's might-have-beens take center stage as two jaded couples glamorize the old days in what proves to be a shattering experience. Tracie Bennett, Janie Dee, and Imelda Staunton play the magnificent *Follies* in this dazzling new production. Featuring a cast of 37 and an orchestra of 21, it's directed by Dominic Cooke. Winner of Academy, Tony, Grammy and Olivier awards, Sondheim's previous work includes *A Little Night Music*, *Sweeney Todd*, and *Sunday in the Park with George*. \$25 adults / \$10 everyone 21 and under.

The Mahaiwe continues its annual Thanksgiving weekend tradition with a screening of *The Wizard of Oz* (1939) on Saturday, November 25 at 4:00pm. The community is invited to join Dorothy and the eccentric band of friends she gathers along the way to Oz— a curious world far from her home Kansas. Tickets are \$7. Mahaiwe Movies of the Month are sponsored by Don Buchwald & Associates.

The Mahaiwe is located at 14 Castle Street in Great Barrington, Massachusetts. Box office hours are Wednesday through Saturday from noon 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 over half a million people through its doors. More than 18,000 students from 61 different schools have benefited from the Mahaiwe's school-time performances and residencies. For more information, see www.mahaiwe.org.

About the Berkshires

Less than three hours from New York City and Boston, the Berkshires offers culture and adventure year-round. The surrounding mountains provide plenty of opportunity for outdoor excursions in all seasons while world class culture and entertainment, along with a deeply rooted food culture and an array of lodging options amidst picturesque towns, set this region apart. For more information, visit berkshires.org.