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

Mahaiwe October Events
Paul Taylor Dance Company, Pink Martini, and More

Great Barrington, Mass.—The Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center will present three performances by Paul Taylor Dance Company over the holiday weekend on Friday, October 11 at 8:00pm, Saturday, October 12 at 8:00pm, and Sunday, October 13 at 2:00pm. The theater will also present a concert by Pink Martini on Friday, October 18 at 8:00pm. In addition to these two major live events, the theater will present two movies, London’s National Theatre in HD broadcast, and a school-time matinee.

“October brings music and dancing to the Mahaiwe at the height of our beautiful foliage season. We’ll create magical weekends by presenting ever-popular favorites,” says Mahaiwe Executive Director Beryl Jolly. “Three different evocative programs will celebrate the legacy of Paul Taylor’s tremendous range and perspective as a dance maker, plus Pink Martini will have the audience dancing in the aisles with music from around the world that they perform with unique flare.”

The celebrated modern dance company continues the legacy of its late founder Paul Taylor under the new leadership of Artistic Director Michael Novak. The performances will include a mix of masterpieces that Taylor choreographed over four decades. The opening night program on Friday features Syzygy (1987), Piazzolla Caldera (1997), and Brief Encounters (2009); the Saturday evening program includes Esplanade (1975), Piazzolla Caldera (1997), and Brief Encounters (2009); and the family matinee on Sunday consists of two pieces, Esplanade (1975) and Syzygy (1987). Sponsored by CBT and Kimball Farms, tickets are $5 (for youth 12 and under to the Sunday matinee) to $95.
In 1975, Paul Taylor, inspired by the sight of a girl running to catch a bus, created a masterwork based on pedestrian movement, *Esplanade*. If his contemporaries Jasper Johns and Robert Rauschenberg could use ordinary “found objects” like Coke bottles and American flags in their art, Taylor would use such “found movements” as standing, walking, running, sliding, and falling. In *Syzygy*, dancers hurtle across the stage like so many celestial bodies orbiting and eclipsing each other. Without a single authentic tango step, Taylor captured the essence of tango culture in *Piazzolla Caldera*. In a dimly lit dive, working class men and women confront each other in sizzling sexual duets and trios: men with women, men with men and women with women. *Brief Encounters* is a dance about people more concerned with momentary connections than ongoing relationships. Men and women converge at a secret trysting place in the dead of night—not for romance, but to satisfy their pure animal instincts.

The Pink Martini concert will feature bandleader Thomas Lauderdale, lead singer China Forbes, and special guest cabaret singer Meow Meow. The self-described “little orchestra” draws inspiration from the romantic Hollywood musicals of the 1940s and ‘50s and crosses genres to make an eclectic, modern sound. The group’s arrangements of Latin music, jazz, cabaret, and cinema scores come together in a sound that defies categorization but is guaranteed to get the audience up out of their seats and dancing in the aisles. This concert will include popular favorites from the band’s 23-year career, as well as songs from their latest release, *Je dis oui!*, taking the audience on a musical trip around the world from France to Iran, Armenia to South Africa and more. Sponsored by Allegrone Companies, tickets are $37 to $117.

The October Mahaiwe Movies of the month are *True Grit* (2010, rated PG-13) starring Jeff Bridges on Thursday, October 3 at 7:00pm and *Nightmare Before Christmas* (1993, rated PG) to celebrate Halloween on Thursday, October 31 at 7:00pm. Sponsored by Buchwald, tickets (general admission) are $8 for adults and $5 for children.
On Saturday, October 5 at 2:00pm, London’s National Theatre in HD will present an encore broadcast of the five-time Olivier Award nominated play, *The Lehman Trilogy*. Tickets are $17/ $10 ages 21 and under.

The Mahaiwe Education Program will present *Dino Light* by Lightwire Theater (which was a semi-finalist on *America’s Got Talent*) on Wednesday, October 16 at 10:00am. Recommended for grades K-3, this glow-in-the-dark adventure is about a famous scientist with magic powers who brings a friendly dinosaur to life. The production is designed with curriculum connections to art, science, and English. 395 students from Adams-Cheshire Regional School District, Berkshire Hills Regional School District, Pittsfield School District, and Southern Berkshire Regional School District, as well as from Northwest Connecticut have reserved tickets for this event. Advance reservations are required; for information, contact Judy Reinauer at education@mahaiwe.org or 413.644.9040 x103.

A limited supply of $15 youth tickets to the Paul Taylor Dance Company and Pink Martini is available for everyone ages 30 and under on a first-come, first-served basis via the Mahaiwe box office only (not online). The Mahaiwe is located at 14 Castle Street in Great Barrington, Massachusetts. Box office hours are Wednesday through Saturday from noon to 4:00pm 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 1,500 events and welcomed over half a million people through its doors. More than 22,000 students from 73 different schools have benefited from the Mahaiwe’s school-time performances and residencies. For more information, see www.mahaiwe.org.