Mahaiwe Announces March Events

Great Barrington, Mass.—Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center will present a rock concert by the Gin Blossoms in March, as well as movies, broadcasts by Met Opera Live in HD and Bolshoi Ballet in HD, and two school-time matinees. “Gin Blossoms is one of the top alt-rock bands of the ’90s,” says Mahaiwe Acting Executive Director Janis Martinson. “We’re looking forward to a rockin’ fun evening with them, as well as welcoming hundreds of local school children to the theater with our educational events.”

Live Music

Grammy-nominated Gin Blossoms will perform on Friday, March 6 at 8:00pm. From their breakout album, New Miserable Experience, through today, they have sold more than 10 million albums. Their hits include “Hey Jealousy,” “Allison Road,” “Until I Fall Away,” “Mrs. Rita,” “Found Out About You,” “‘Til I Hear It From You,” “Follow You Down,” “As Long As It Matters,” “Learning The Hard Way,” “Long Time Gone,” and “Miss Disarray.” The group, composed of Robin Wilson (lead vocals and guitar), Jesse Valenzuela (vocals and guitar), Scott Johnson (guitar), Bill Leen (bass), and Scott Hessel (drums) now play some 120 concerts per year. “This is what we most enjoy doing,” said Wilson. “It’s our job and I know all of us are really grateful that we can earn a living making records and entertaining people on the road. We’re doing something we really love! I don’t know many people that can say that when they go to work everyday.”

Tickets are $50 to $90.

Opera
Met Opera Live in HD will present an encore broadcast of Handel’s *Agrippina* on Wednesday, March 4 at 1:00pm. As the imperious title empress, mezzo-soprano Joyce DiDonato leads the Met premiere of Handel’s tale of deception and deceit. Harry Bicket conducts Sir David McVicar’s wry new production, which gives this Baroque black comedy a politically charged, modern updating.

Met Opera Live in HD will present Wagner’s *Der Fliegende Holländer* on Saturday, March 14 at 1:00pm (with an encore broadcast on Wednesday, March 18 at 1:00pm). Sir Bryn Terfel returns to the Met for the first time since 2012, as the mysterious seafarer searching for salvation. Director François Girard, whose production of *Parsifal* recently wowed Met audiences, returns to stage Wagner’s eerie early masterwork. Acclaimed composer and librettist Scott Eyerly will give a pre-broadcast lecture about the opera on Saturday, March 14 at 11:30am.

Met Opera Live in HD tickets are $25 adults / $10 for everyone 21 and under. Scott Eyerly lecture tickets are $10.

**Ballet**

On Sunday, March 29 at 1:00pm, Bolshoi Ballet in HD will broadcast *Romeo and Juliet*. Inspired by Prokofiev’s cinematic score, this ballet tells the story of Shakespeare’s star-crossed lovers’ tragic fate. Bolshoi stars Ekaterina Krysanova and Vladislav Lantratov wholly embody the two eternal lovers in Alexei Ratmansky’s evocation of love at first sight. The Mahaiwe will partner with Jacob’s Pillow to present a free pre-broadcast talk about the ballet at 12:40pm. Tickets are $17 adults / $10 everyone 21 and under.

**Film**

On Thursday, March 12 at 7:00pm, the Mahaiwe will screen *Grumpy Old Men* (1993, PG-13). Jack Lemmon and Walter Matthau star in this romantic comedy that examines the decades-old love-hate relationship between two neighbors.
The Mahaiwe will screen *The Blues Brothers* (1980, R) on Thursday, March 26 at 7:00pm in recognition of the comedy’s 40th anniversary. John Belushi and Dan Aykroyd co-star as brothers Joliet Jake and Elwood Blues in a musical mission to save the orphanage where they were raised.

Sponsored by Buchwald, Mahaiwe Movies tickets (general admission) are $8 for adults and $5 for children. The theater partners with Only in My Dreams Events to enrich each screening with a movie-themed treat. Popcorn, candy, and beverages are for sale at the lobby concessions stand.

**Education**

The Mahaiwe Education Program will present *The Boy Who Could Sing Stories* by David Gonzalez on Thursday, March 19 at 10:00am. Based on the book by Seymour Leichman and featuring the music of Villa-Lobos, Piazzola, Bach, Beethoven, and Daniel Kelly, this show is about a boy named Luca, son of the Bustelo-the-Jester, who discovers his gift of magical song. Storyteller/musician/poet/playwright Gonzalez received the Lifetime Achievement award from International Performing Arts for Youth, and was nominated for a Drama Desk Award for his original production of *The Frog Bride*. He holds a doctorate from New York University’s School of Education. Recommended for grades 2-7.

On Wednesday, March 25 at 10:00am, the Mahaiwe Education Program will present *The Snowy Day and Other Stories* by Childsplay. Ezra Jack Keats’ treasured characters come to life in this humorous and fun adaptation of the collected storybooks: *Whistle for Willie*, *Goggles!*, *A Letter to Amy*, and Caldecott Medal winner *The Snowy Day*. A classic since its publication in 1962, *The Snowy Day* was one of the first picture books for young people to feature an African American protagonist; it was recently honored as the most checked out book in the New York Public Library’s 125-year history. Founded in 1977, Childsplay is a nationally and internationally respected professional theater company whose chosen audience is children. Recommended for grades Pre-K-3.
Tickets are $6 per student with school groups. Advance reservations are required; for information, contact Mahaiwe Education Coordinator Judy Reinauer at education@mahaiwe.org or 413-644-9040 x 103. Mahaiwe education programs are sponsored by the Charles H. Hall Foundation, Berkshire Bank, Cain Hibbard & Myers, the Feigenbaum Foundation, the Dr. Robert C. and Tina Sohn Foundation, and Lee Bank.

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.