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

Mahaiwe Announces Summer and Fall 2013 Programming

Music: Pink Martini, The Fab Faux, Natalie Merchant with the Hudson Valley Philharmonic, Manhattan Transfer, Bela Fleck NY Banjo Summit, World Blues with Taj Mahal, Vusi Mahlasela, and Fredericks Brown

Comedy: Rita Rudner and Bill Cosby

Dance: Paul Taylor Dance Company and Pilobolus Dance Company

Talks: Food Scholar Francine Segan and *Free to Be...You and Me* with Marlo Thomas, Alan Alda, and Letty Cottin Pogrebin

Visual Art: EXHIBITION: Great Art in HD and Sterling and Francine Clark Art Institute Lecture about Winslow Homer

Theater: London's National Theatre in HD *The Audience* starring Helen Mirren and *Othello*

Family Fun: Sing-a-Long *Grease* and Free Fun Friday with *Magic Tree House*

Great Barrington, Mass.— Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center Executive Director Beryl Jolly announced the summer and fall 2013 schedule today. “This season celebrates the diversity and intimacy of the Mahaiwe experience with top-flight performers across all disciplines. From large-scale concerts like Natalie Merchant with the Hudson Valley Philharmonic and a return engagement by America’s national treasure Paul Taylor Dance Company, to solo appearances by stellar comedians Rita Rudner and Bill Cosby and a unique conversation with Marlo Thomas, Alan Alda, and Letty Cottin Pogrebin about the landmark 1970s album and book *Free To Be...You and Me*, as well as a program celebrating Mary Pope Osborne’s *Magic Tree House* children’s book series, we promise

extraordinary experiences for all ages in our beautiful small town. I'm very excited by all the ways we are delivering on that promise this year," said Jolly.

Music

Pink Martini will perform on Tuesday, July 2 at 8:00pm. With an eclectic set list featuring songs sung in French, Croatian, Japanese, Spanish, Portuguese, and Italian, the 12-piece mini-orchestra Pink Martini performs its romantic, multilingual repertoire on the world's most respected concert stages. "Pink Martini is like a romantic Hollywood musical of the 1940s or '50s...but with a global perspective which is modern," says founder Thomas Lauderdale. "We bring melodies and rhythms from different parts of the world together to create something new, exciting, and beautiful." The group performs on concert stages and with symphony orchestras throughout Europe, Asia, Greece, Turkey, the Middle East, Northern Africa, Australia, and North America. Their five albums have sold well over two million copies worldwide. Tickets are \$30 to \$95.

The Fab Faux will perform on Saturday, July 20 at 8:00pm. With a commitment to the accurate reproduction of The Beatles' repertoire, these musicians treat the seminal music with unwavering respect, and are known for their painstaking recreations of the songs (with emphasis on the later works never performed live by the Beatles). Far beyond a cover band, they play the music of The Beatles so impeccably that one must experience it to believe it. Imagine hearing complex material like "Strawberry Fields Forever" or "I Am the Walrus" performed in complete part-perfect renditions; or such harmony-driven songs as "Because," "Nowhere Man," and "Paperback Writer" reproduced not only note-for-note, but with extra vocalists to achieve a double-tracked effect. Calling them "the greatest Beatles cover band—without the wigs," *Rolling Stone* senior editor David Fricke wrote, "the Faux invigorate the artistry of even the Beatles' most intricate studio masterpieces with top chops and Beatlemaniac glee." Tickets are \$60 to \$80.

Natalie Merchant with the Hudson Valley Philharmonic will perform on Sunday, July

21 at 7:00pm. In conjunction with her next orchestral recording (release planned for this spring), Natalie Merchant will undertake an extensive touring project performing with symphony orchestras throughout the world, including a stop at the Mahaiwe to play with the Hudson Valley Philharmonic. She began her musical career as the lead vocalist and lyricist of the pop music band 10,000 Maniacs and released two platinum and four gold records with the group between 1981 and 1993 (*The Wishing Chair*, *In My Tribe*, *Blind Man's Zoo*, *Hope Chest*, *Our Time in Eden*, and *MTV Unplugged*). Together with artists like R.E.M., they defined college rock and created the first wave of alternative rock bands and what became known as the alternative rock format on FM radio. With her latest and highly acclaimed Nonesuch recording entitled *Leave Your Sleep*, which debuted on the Billboard Top 200 at No. 17, she embarks on a new artistic path, creating songs from literary inspiration that are composed for expanded musical ensembles and orchestra. Tickets are \$75 to \$105.

Manhattan Transfer will perform on Saturday, July 27 at 8:00pm. It's been about 40 years since Tim Hauser, a former New York City cab driver, aspired to form a harmony vocal quartet that could authentically embrace varied musical styles, and still create something wholly unique in the field of American popular song. The group, composed of Hauser, Janis Siegel, Cheryl Bentyne, and Alan Paul, has garnered ten Grammy awards, including simultaneously winning a Grammy for both the jazz and pop categories in 1981 and a historic 12 nominations for the 1985 album *Vocalese*. They were inducted into the Vocal Group Hall of Fame in 1998. They will be accompanied at the Mahaiwe by their touring band. Tickets are \$35 to \$75.

Bela Fleck NY Banjo Summit will perform on Sunday, October 6 at 7:00pm. Master banjo player Bela Fleck will be joined by fellow pickers Tony Trischka, Bill Keith, Richie Stearns, Eric Weissberg, and Noam Pikelnny in a concert that will find the banjo being performed in both conventional and unexpected ways. In performances ranging from solos and duets to full-tilt banjo blowouts with all the players and an acoustic band, the concert stage will range from the traditional backdrop of bluegrass and old-time country music to the more unconventional banjo genres including jazz, classical, and rock

music. Born and raised in Manhattan, Fleck began making waves with a series of progressive banjo-centric recordings in the 1970s and as a member of the Newgrass Revival in the 1980s. As leader of the genre-busting Bela Fleck and the Flecktones since 1989, he has used the banjo to define the band's one-of-a-kind fusion of jazz, rock, bluegrass, and world music. He has been nominated for Grammy awards in more categories than any artist in history, and has won 15 to date, with 30 nominations. Tickets are \$30 to \$70.

On Sunday, November 3 at 7:00pm, "World Blues" will grace the Mahaiwe stage. It will be a celebration of American blues music's global influence, as seen from three very diverse points of view and three international points of origin. Anchored by iconic folk-blues legend **Taj Mahal**, the evening will also feature the soulful South African blues of guitarist/vocalist **Vusi Mahlasela** and the more modern rock-and-roll perspective of **Fredericks Brown**, a band featuring Mahal's daughter, Deva Mahal, who hails from New Zealand. Over his five-decade career, the Grammy Award-winning Mahal has evolved into a master of global styles—from Mississippi Delta blues to Hawaiian stylings to African rhythms. In addition to headlining the program, he is also the binding thread throughout this evening of music. Fresh from their sessions together on Mahlasela's latest album, Mahal and Mahlasela explore the intersection of African and American musical forms; and with Fredericks Brown, it's clear that Mahal has influenced yet another generation, taking blues along to new and exciting places. Tickets are \$35 to \$75.

Comedy

Rita Rudner will perform on Sunday, August 4 at 7:00pm. One of the country's top comedians and a *New York Times* bestselling author, Rudner is also an award-winning television personality, screenwriter, playwright, Broadway dancer, and actress. A house-filling favorite in Las Vegas since she opened as one of the hottest tickets in town in June 2000, she is known for her epigrammatic one-liners. Over the course of a 2,000-plus show run in Las Vegas, she has sold more than one million tickets and become the

longest-running solo show in the history of Sin City. She was named Las Vegas Comedian Of The Year nine years in a row. Tickets are \$25 to \$66.

Bill Cosby will headline the Mahaiwe 2013 Gala on Sunday, October 13 at a time TBA. One of America's most prolific comedians of all time, Cosby has dazzled generations of fans with his comedy routines, iconic albums, best-selling books, such as *Fatherhood*, and his groundbreaking television series *The Cosby Show*. His comedy transcends age, gender, and cultural barriers. Gala tickets will go on sale later this spring.

Dance

Paul Taylor Dance Company will return to the Mahaiwe for its sixth consecutive summer season on Friday and Saturday, May 24 and May 25 at 8:00pm and Sunday, May 26 at 3:00pm and 7:00pm. The renowned modern dance company will perform the New England premiere of Mr. Taylor's *Perpetual Dawn*, which depicts young people experiencing the awakening of love, perhaps for the very first time. The new work is set to sprightly concertos by Baroque composer Johann David Heinichen. Other dances to be performed include *Cascade*, *Kith and Kin*, *Lost Found Lost*, and *Offenbach Overtures*. See the calendar section below for the specific dances to be performed at each performance. Tickets are \$10 to \$75, with 25% off purchases of both programs in one order.

Pilobolus Dance Company will perform on Saturday, October 12 at 8:00pm. Founded in 1971, Pilobolus has built its fervent international following by consistently proving the human body to be diversely expressive and universally powerful as a medium. Based in Washington Depot, Connecticut, the company manages to maintain its own singular style while actively collaborating with the best and brightest minds from robotics labs at MIT and rock band OK Go to master illusionists Penn and Teller and world-renowned choreographers, such as Inbal Pinto, Avshalom Pollak, and Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui. The results of these collaborations—moving, clever, and always employing human bodies in truly amazing ways, form a repertory of over 100 works that Pilobolus performs around

the world. Tickets are \$35 to \$80.

Talks

Food historian **Francine Segan** will give a series of delicious lectures this season, including “Food Talk for Movie Lovers” (Monday July 15 at 6:30pm), “Virtual Food Tour of the Berkshires” (Monday, July 29 at 7:00pm), “Shakespeare’s Kitchen” (Monday, August 12 at 6:30pm), “Opera Lover’s Cookbook” (Saturday, November 9 at 6:30pm), and “Gilded Age Holiday Entertaining” (Saturday, December 14 at 6:30pm). Segan is the author of *The Philosopher’s Kitchen*, *Shakespeare’s Table*, and *Movie Menus*. Her most recent books are *The Opera Lover’s Cookbook* and *Dolci: Italy’s Sweets*. She has appeared on numerous radio and TV programs. Tickets are \$20 to \$25 per lecture. Sponsored by Salisbury Bank.

The Mahaiwe will present a conversation about children, families, and the future, celebrating the 40th anniversary of *Free to Be...You and Me* with **Marlo Thomas, Alan Alda, and Letty Cottin Pogrebin** on Sunday, August 18 at 7:00pm. A project of the Ms. Foundation for Women, *Free to Be... You and Me*, conceived by Marlo Thomas, is a CD, illustrated book, DVD, and theater piece, first released as a record album and illustrated book and then as an Emmy Award-winning ABC television special. This iconic family entertainment features many acclaimed personalities, including actors Alan Alda, Marlo Thomas, Carol Channing, and Cicely Tyson, football star Rosey Grier, and singers Michael Jackson and Diana Ross. Its message challenges gender stereotypes by emphasizing strong positive values such as personal aspiration, individuality, cooperation, self-esteem, tolerance, and comfort with one’s identity. From its beloved songs and stories, three generations of children have learned that anyone—girls and boys, women and men —can achieve anything, and everyone has the right to pursue their dreams. Tickets are \$35 to \$200 (preferred seating and post-show reception with the artists). Proceeds will benefit the Free To Be Foundation and Mahaiwe Education programs.

Visual Art

EXHIBITION: Great Art in HD is a major new cinema event series that will capture and explore major world exhibitions bringing a wealth of artistic masterpieces to a broader audience than ever before via high-tech digital cinema technology. It will feature the world's foremost upcoming art exhibitions, creatively captured in HD especially for the big screen. The series begins with a career-encompassing collection of the works of **Edouard Manet** on exhibition at the Royal Academy of Arts London broadcast on Thursday, April 18 at 7:00pm and Saturday, April 27 at 7:00pm. The second event is a once-in-a-lifetime exhibition of the greatest number of **Edvard Munch**'s works ever, co-hosted by the National Museum and the Munch Museum in Oslo, broadcast on Thursday, June 27 at 7:00pm and Monday, July 8 at 7:00pm. The third exhibition takes place at the National Gallery in London where audiences will see a unique perspective on the masterpieces of **Johannes Vermeer** broadcast on Saturday, October 26 at 5:00pm. Tickets are \$12 to \$16 per exhibition.

On Thursday, July 11 at 7:00pm, the Mahaiwe and the Sterling and Francine Clark Art Institute will co-present **Winslow Homer: Making Art, Making History**. Michael Cassin, director of the Clark's Center for Education in the Visual Arts, will discuss the museum's summer exhibition. Winslow Homer's work encompasses a wide variety of themes and techniques. His early designs for *Harper's Weekly* illustrations and his later watercolors, prints, and oil paintings explore, in different ways, the lives of his contemporaries and the splendor—and power—of the natural world. Tickets are free.

Theater

The Mahaiwe will present two **London's National Theatre: Live in HD** broadcasts. Helen Mirren reprises her Academy Award-winning role as Queen Elizabeth II in the highly anticipated West End production of Peter Morgan's *The Audience*, directed by Academy Award-nominated director Stephen Daldry, on Thursday, June 13 at 7:00pm,

with an encore presentation on Sunday, July 7 at 3:00pm. Olivier Award-winning actor Adrian Lester takes the title role in director Nicholas Hytner's major new production of *Othello*, William Shakespeare's celebrated play about the destructive power of jealousy, on Thursday, September 26 at 7:00pm, with an encore presentation on Sunday, September 29 at 3:00pm. Tickets are \$18 to \$25.

The Mahaiwe will also continue its popular broadcasts of the **Metropolitan Opera's "Live in HD"** series. The 2013-2014 season of ten productions starts in October and will run through May. Tickets will go on sale in late August.

Family Fun

Ever wanted to know what it's like to be a T-bird or a Pink Lady, but never quite felt cool enough to pull it off? Well, now is your chance to don those poodle skirts or grease up your hair in a rockabilly style, and let your inhibitions go for an evening where you are the star in **Sing-a-Long Grease** on Saturday, July 6 at 7:00pm. Belt out songs like "Summer Lovin'" and "Greased Lightning" as the 1978 hit movie starring John Travolta and Olivia Newton-John plays, complete with on-screen lyrics. Fun for kids and adults alike, this interactive show features a costume competition, goody bags, and plenty of laughs. Tickets are \$15 to \$25.

On Friday, August 2 at a time TBA, the Mahaiwe will present a program and related activities celebrating **Mary Pope Osborne's Magic Tree House** internationally beloved and bestselling children's book series. Brother-sister duo Jack and Annie bring their time-traveling adventures to life in a 25-minute tribute to the magic of reading involving captivating performances, lively audience participation, and original songs. Children will be inspired to read and travel the world just like Jack and Annie. Tickets are free as this event is part of Free Fun Friday sponsored by the Highland Street Foundation.

Community Events

The Mahaiwe will host a wide variety of community events presented by **Aston Magna Festival**, **Berkshire International Film Festival**, **Berkshire Playwrights Lab**, **Boston Early Music Festival**, **Fairview Hospital**, and **Sohn Fine Art**. The full schedule follows in the calendar summary below.

Tickets

Tickets to all of the new shows, except The Fab Faux, go on sale to the general public on Friday, April 5 at noon. The Fab Faux tickets go on sale to Mahaiwe members on Wednesday, April 10 at noon and to the general public on Thursday, April 11 at noon. 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. A limited number of \$15 tickets are available for patrons ages 30 and younger to all Mahaiwe-produced programs through the Mahaiwe ArtSmart Tix program. 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 and has been in continuous operation for over 100 years. In 2005, the theater experienced a renaissance as a beautifully restored 681-seat venue to offer a broad range of cultural and community events. Today’s “Mahaiwe Mix” of diverse, high quality programming strives to provide meaningful, memorable entertainment for all ages and interests.

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Mahaiwe Schedule at a Glance

Summer and Fall 2013 (plus one newly announced April event)

Thursday, April 18 at 7:00pm

Saturday, April 27 at 7:00pm

Mahaiwe Presents

EXHIBITION: Great Art in HD

featuring Edouard Manet at the Royal Academy of the Arts London

Tickets are \$12 to \$16

Friday, May 24 at 8:00pm – *Kith and Kin, Lost Found Lost, Offenbach Overtures*

Saturday, May 25 at 8:00pm – *Perpetual Dawn* (New England premiere), *Cascade*

Sunday, May 26 at 3:00pm – *Kith and Kin, Lost Found Lost, Offenbach Overtures*

Sunday, May 26 at 7:00pm – *Perpetual Dawn* (New England premiere), *Cascade*

Mahaiwe Presents

Paul Taylor Dance Company

The Company returns to the Mahaiwe for its sixth consecutive year with the New England premiere of *Perpetual Dawn*, Mr. Taylor's newest work.

Tickets are \$10 to \$75

Thursday, May 30 through Sunday, June 2 at times TBA

Berkshire International Film Festival Presents

Berkshire International Film Festival

Events and ticket prices TBA

Friday, June 7 at 7:30pm

Berkshire Playwrights Lab Presents

Berkshire Playwrights Lab Gala Benefit Performance

Staged readings of new short plays

Tickets are \$52 to \$202 (includes post-show reception with artists)

Thursday, June 13 at 7:00pm

Sunday, July 7 at 3:00pm (Encore broadcast)

Mahaiwe Presents

London's National Theatre in HD

***The Audience* starring Helen Mirren**

Tickets are \$18 to \$25

Friday, June 21 at 7:00pm

Saturday, June 22 at 7:00pm

Sunday, June 23 at 2:30pm

Boston Early Music Festival Presents

Handel's *Almira*

Tickets are \$30 to \$95

Thursday, June 27 at 7:00pm

Monday, July 8 at 7:00pm

Mahaiwe Presents

EXHIBITION: Great Art in HD

featuring Edvard Munch in an exhibition co-hosted by the National Museum and the Munch Museum in Oslo

Tickets are \$12 to \$16

Saturday, June 29 at 8:00pm (pre-concert lecture at 7:00pm)

Aston Magna Festival Presents

Masterworks by J.S. Bach and Marin Marais

Tickets are \$20 to \$50

Tuesday, July 2 at 8:00pm

Mahaiwe Presents

Pink Martini

Swinging lounge music

Tickets are \$30 to \$95

Saturday, July 6 at 7:00pm

Mahaiwe Presents

Sing-a-Long *Grease* (1978)

Sing-a-long costume party and musical film

Tickets are \$15 to \$25

Wednesday July 10 at 7:30pm

Berkshire Playwrights Lab Presents

Staged Reading of New Play TBA

Tickets are free

Thursday, July 11 at 7:00pm

Mahaiwe and the Sterling and Francine Clark Art Institute Co-Present

Winslow Homer: Making Art, Making History

A lecture about the Clark's summer exhibition

Tickets are free

Monday July 15 at 6:30pm

Mahaiwe Presents

Francine Segan Lecture: Food Talk for Movie Lovers

Film buff, cultural historian and author of *Movie Menus* dishes amusing tidbits on the meaning of food in our favorite films

Tickets are \$20 to \$25

Thursday, July 18 at 7:00pm

Sohn Fine Art's Master Artist Series Presents

Greg Gorman: A Distinct Vision

Master portrait and celebrity photographer

Tickets are \$12 to \$20 (general admission)

Saturday, July 20 at 8:00pm

Mahaiwe Presents

The Fab Faux

The Beatles tribute band

Tickets are \$60 to \$80

Sunday, July 21 at 7:00pm

Mahaiwe Presents

Natalie Merchant with the Hudson Valley Philharmonic

Tickets are \$75 to \$105

Wednesday July 24 at 7:30pm

Berkshire Playwrights Lab Presents

Staged Reading of New Play TBA

Tickets are free

Saturday, July 27 at 8:00pm

Mahaiwe Presents

Manhattan Transfer

Jazz a cappella group

Tickets are \$35 to \$75

Sunday, July 28 at 3:00pm

GFour Productions Presents

Menopause The Musical

Tickets are \$45 to \$70

Monday, July 29 at 7:00pm

Mahaiwe Presents

Francine Segan Lecture: Virtual Food Tour of the Berkshires

Discover the Berkshires most fabulous foodie destinations

Tickets are \$20 to \$25

Friday, August 2 at time TBA

Mahaiwe Presents

Free Fun Friday with Magic Tree House®

A program and related activities celebrating Mary Pope Osborne's *Magic Tree House* bestselling children's book series

Tickets are free

Sponsored by: Highland Street Foundation

Sunday, August 4 at 7:00pm

Mahaiwe Presents

Rita Rudner

New York Times-bestselling author and comedian

Tickets are \$25 to \$66

Wednesday, August 7 at 7:30pm

Berkshire Playwrights Lab Presents

Staged Reading of New Play TBA

Tickets are free

Monday, August 12 at 6:30pm

Mahaiwe Presents

Francine Segan Lecture: Shakespeare's Kitchen

A talk about cooking and dining in the 1500s

Tickets are \$20 to \$25

Sunday, August 18 at 7:00pm

Mahaiwe Presents

Free to Be...You and Me with Marlo Thomas, Alan Alda, and Letty Cottin Pogrebin

A conversation about children, families, and the future, celebrating the 40th anniversary of *Free to Be...You and Me*

Tickets are \$35 to \$200 (preferred seating and post-show reception with the artists)

Proceeds will benefit the Free To Be Foundation and Mahaiwe Education programs

Wednesday, August 21 at 7:30pm

Berkshire Playwrights Lab Presents

Staged Reading of New Play TBA

Tickets are free

Thursday, September 26 at 7:00pm

Sunday, September 29 at 3:00pm (Encore broadcast)

Mahaiwe Presents

London's National Theatre in HD

Othello

Tickets are \$18 to \$25

Saturday September 28 at 8:00pm

Fairview Hospital Centennial Gala Presents

Arlo Guthrie

Ticket prices TBA

Sunday, October 6 at 7:00pm

Mahaiwe Presents

Bela Fleck NY Banjo Summit

Banjo master Bela Fleck joined by fellow pickers Tony Trischka, Bill Keith, Richie Stearns, Eric Weissberg, and Noam Pikelnny

Tickets are \$30 to \$70

Saturday, October 12 at 8:00pm
Mahaiwe Presents
Pilobolus Dance Company
Innovative contemporary dance troupe
Tickets are \$35 to \$80

Sunday, October 13 at time TBA
Mahaiwe Presents
Mahaiwe 2013 Gala: Bill Cosby
Legendary comedian
Gala tickets will go on sale later this spring

Saturday, October 26 at 5:00pm
Mahaiwe Presents
EXHIBITION: Great Art in HD
featuring Johannes Vermeer at the Royal Academy of the Arts London
Tickets are \$12 to \$16

Sunday, November 3 at 7:00pm
Mahaiwe Presents
World Blues with Taj Mahal, Vusi Mahlasela, and Fredericks Brown
Tickets are \$35 to \$75

Saturday, November 9 at 6:30pm
Mahaiwe Presents
Francine Segan Lecture: Opera Lover's Cookbook
A talk about the fascinating role of food in opera
Tickets are \$20 to \$25

Saturday, December 14 at 6:30pm
Mahaiwe Presents
Francine Segan Lecture: Gilded Age Holiday Entertaining
A talk about the fascinating time period when high society was at its peak
Tickets are \$20 to \$25

