

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Media Contact:
Gina Hyams, PR Consultant
413.464.2851
ginahyams@gmail.com

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

Mahaiwe March Programming

Chinese acrobats, Met Opera, Bolshoi Ballet, and London's National Theatre HD broadcasts, classic movies, children's theater, and more

Great Barrington, Mass.— Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center will present an array of programming in March, including the Chinese acrobatic troupe Golden Dragon Acrobats, Met Opera, London's National Theatre, and Bolshoi Ballet HD broadcasts, classic movies, and children's theater by the Omaha Theater Company. "We're offering timeless fun for the whole family this month," said Mahaiwe Executive Director Beryl Jolly.

Live Performances

The Omaha Theater Company will present *Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse* on Thursday, March 5 at 10:00am and 12:30pm (school field trip performances). Lilly, a mouse with a wild imagination, marches to the beat of her own drum in this adventurous, colorful story. Based on Kevin Henkes' children's books, *Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse* teaches that making mistakes is part of growing up, but it is what you learn from those mistakes that is most important. Founded in 1949, the Omaha Theater Company (known in Nebraska as The Rose) is one of the oldest, largest, and most well-respected children's theater companies in the country, serving more than 300,000 children and families each year at home and on national tour. Recommended for K through 3rd grade. Parents, teachers, or administrators interested in bringing students to the show should contact Laura at 413.644.9040 x105.

The Golden Dragon Acrobats will present *Cirque Ziva* on Sunday, March 15 at 7:00pm

(public performance) and on Monday, March 16 at 10:00am (school field trip performance). This new, world-class cirque spectacular has thrilled audiences across the United States since its creation in 2011. The fast-paced, technically innovative performance showcases traditional Chinese acrobats, dance and costumes, ancient and contemporary music, and modern theatrical techniques. The renowned acrobats perform amazing feats of athleticism and daring heart-stopping stunts with the grace of their centuries-old art form. The large cast and dazzling production designs illustrate just how breathtaking Chinese acrobatics can be. *Cirque Ziva* will entertain, delight, and keep audiences of all ages in suspense. Tickets are \$6 per student for the school field trip and \$25 to \$47 for the public performance.

HD Broadcasts and Movie

On Saturday, March 7 at 7:00pm, the Mahaiwe will screen Elvis Presley's classic musical comedy, *Viva Las Vegas* (1964). Elvis plays a musically gifted race-driver named Lucky Jackson who just wants to score enough money in Las Vegas for a new car motor so he can win the Grand Prix. When he encounters sexy swimming instructor Rusty (Ann-Margret), he considers staying around longer. Tickets are \$7 (general admission).

The Bolshoi Ballet's HD *Romeo and Juliet* on Sunday, March 8 at 1:00pm is Prokofiev's finest ballet, based on Shakespeare's tragic love story. Choreographed by the Bolshoi's legendary former artistic director Yuri Grigorovich, this production benefits from outstanding performances by Alexander Volchkov as Romeo and Anna Nikulina as Juliet. It was recorded live in 2013. Tickets are \$17.

The Met Opera will present a "Live in HD" production of Rossini's *La Donna del Lago* on Saturday, March 14 at 1:00pm, with an encore screening of the broadcast on Wednesday, March 25 at 1:00pm. Bel canto superstars Joyce DiDonato and Juan Diego Flórez join forces for this Rossini showcase of vocal virtuosity, set in the medieval Scottish highlands and based on a beloved novel by Sir Walter Scott. DiDonato is the "lady of the lake" of the title, and Flórez is the king who relentlessly pursues her, their vocal fireworks embellishing the romantic plot in this Met premiere production

conducted by Michele Mariotti. Tickets are \$18 to \$25. Scott Eyerly will give a pre-broadcast lecture about the opera at 11:00am prior to its live screening on March 14. Tickets to the lecture are \$10.

London's National Theatre in HD: *Behind the Beautiful Forevers* will be broadcast on Sunday, March 22 at 3:00pm. India is surging with global ambition, but beyond the luxury hotels surrounding Mumbai airport lies a makeshift slum, full of people with plans of their own. Pulitzer Prize-winner Katherine Boo spent three years in Annawadi recording the lives of its residents. From her uncompromising book, winner of the National Book Award for Non-Fiction 2012, David Hare has fashioned a tumultuous play on an epic scale. The production is directed by Rufus Norris and stars Meera Syal. Tickets are \$17.

London's National Theatre in HD: *A View from the Bridge* will be broadcast on Sunday, March 29 at 3:00pm. The visionary Ivo van Hove directs this stunning production of Arthur Miller's tragic masterpiece that confronts the American dream in a dark and passionate tale. In Brooklyn, longshoreman Eddie Carbone welcomes his Sicilian cousins to the land of freedom. But when one of them falls for his beautiful niece, they discover that freedom comes at a price. Tickets are \$17.

Community Presentations

The Mahaiwe will also host presentations by Close Encounters with Music and the Berkshire International Film Festival. Details follow in the March calendar summary below.

Tickets

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 almost half a million people through its doors. Its education program has served over 10,000 students from 35 different schools with school-time performances and residencies. The Mahaiwe generates in excess of \$1,000,000 in ticket revenue from 150 events each year, while contributing over \$4,000,000 in regional economic impact from the theater's direct spending and audience's restaurant, lodging, and shopping activities.

Mahaiwe March Programming at a Glance

Thursday, March 5 at 10:00am and 12:30pm (school field trip performances)

Mahaiwe presents

The Omaha Theater Company production of *Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse*

Play based on Kevin Henkes children's books, which teach that making mistakes is part of growing up, but it is what you learn from those mistakes that is most important.

Parents, teachers, or administrators interested in bringing students to the show should contact Laura at 413.644.9040 x105.

Saturday, March 7 at 7:00pm

Mahaiwe presents

Viva Las Vegas (1964)

Elvis Presley's classic musical comedy movie

\$7 (general admission)

Sunday, March 8 at 1:00pm

Mahaiwe presents

The Bolshoi Ballet in HD: *Romeo and Juliet*

Prokofiev's finest ballet, based on Shakespeare's tragic love story, choreographed by the Bolshoi's legendary former artistic director Yuri Grigorovich.

\$17

Saturday, March 14 at 1:00pm

Saturday, March 14 at 11:00am pre-screening lecture

Wednesday, March 25 at 1:00pm (encore)

Mahaiwe presents

Met Opera Live in HD: Rossini's *La Donna del Lago*

Bel canto superstars Joyce DiDonato and Juan Diego Flórez join forces for this Rossini showcase of vocal virtuosity, set in the medieval Scottish highlands and based on a beloved novel by Sir Walter Scott. Scott Eyerly will give a pre-broadcast lecture about the opera at 11:00am prior to its live screening on March 14.

\$18 to \$25 (broadcast)

\$10 (lecture)

Sunday, March 15 at 7:00pm (public performance) and Monday, March 16 at 10:00am (school field trip performance)

Mahaiwe presents

The Golden Dragon Acrobats in *Cirque Zíva*

Dazzling traditional Chinese acrobats, dance and costumes, mixed with ancient and contemporary music and modern theatrical techniques.

\$6 per student for the school field trip and \$25 to \$47 for the public performance

Saturday, March 21 at 6:00pm

Close Encounters with Music presents

Serge Rachmaninoff and Russian Orientalia

The mesmeric Russian pianist Vassily Primakov joins Yehuda Hanani in a program that explores the many facets of Rachmaninoff.

Tickets are \$25 to \$45

Sunday, March 22 at 3:00pm

Mahaiwe presents

London's National Theatre in HD: *Behind the Beautiful Forevers*

David Hare's play about India based on Pulitzer Prize-winner Katherine Boo non-fiction book.

\$17

Saturday, March 28 at 2:00pm

Berkshire International Film Festival and Austen Riggs present

Running From Crazy with special guest Mariel Hemingway

Film screening and a roundtable discussion on suicide, stigma, and mental health.

Tickets are \$18 to \$25 and can be purchased online at: austenriggs.org/runningfromcrazy or biffma.org.

Sunday, March 29 at 3:00pm

London's National Theatre in HD: *A View from the Bridge*

Ivo van Hove directs this stunning production of Arthur Miller's tragic masterpiece that confronts the American dream.

\$17