

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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

### **Mahaiwe Presents Singer-Songwriter Rufus Wainwright**

Great Barrington, Mass.— The Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center will present *The Best of Rufus Wainwright* on Saturday, May 9 at 8:00pm. “We look forward to an incredible evening with this exceptional artist,” said Mahaiwe Executive Director Beryl Jolly. “He is truly one of the great male vocalists and songwriters of his generation.”

The New York-born, Montreal-raised singer-songwriter is the son of folk music luminaries Loudon Wainwright III and Kate McGarrigle and the brother of Martha Wainwright, but he has achieved his success by carving out his own singular sound in the worlds of rock, opera, theater, dance, and film. He has released seven studio albums, three DVDs, and three live albums. He has also collaborated with a wide range of artists, including Elton John, David Byrne, Boy George, Joni Mitchell, Pet Shop Boys, Robbie Williams, and producer Mark Ronson, among others. His latest album, *Vibrate: The Best of Rufus Wainwright*, was released in 2014 on Universal.

In addition to being a celebrated contemporary pop singer, Wainwright has made a name for himself in the classical world. His much-acclaimed first opera, titled *Prima Donna*, premiered at the Manchester International Festival in 2009. The opera was subsequently performed in London at Sadler’s Wells, in Toronto at the Luminato Festival, and at the Brooklyn Academy of Music’s Howard Gilman Opera House. Now fully established as a composer of operas, he has been commissioned by the Canadian Opera Company to write his second opera based on the story of the Roman Emperor Hadrian and Antinous. The new opera will premiere in Toronto in October 2018.

### **Tickets**

Tickets are \$35 to \$80. A limited number of \$15 tickets are available for audience members ages 30 and younger through the Mahaiwe ArtSmart Tix program, sponsored by Greylock Federal Credit Union. This concert is sponsored by Cyril & Dayne Artisan Eyewear.

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](http://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 12,000 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.