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MAHAIWE ANNOUNCES FALL SCHEDULE

Highlights include concerts by Lucinda Williams, Audra McDonald, Art Garfunkel, and John Pizzarelli; a multi-media presentation by author Brian Selznick; London's National Theatre in HD production of *Hamlet* with Benedict Cumberbatch; Met Opera Live in HD broadcasts and movie screenings

Great Barrington, Mass.— Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center Executive Director Beryl Jolly announced the organization's 2015 fall schedule today. "Our 10th anniversary season celebrates a range of iconic artists. We are excited to add singer-songwriter Lucinda Williams to our autumn lineup, which also includes concerts by Audra McDonald, Art Garfunkel, and John Pizzarelli," said Jolly. "This year, we're also celebrating the power of storytelling, and have added a multi-media presentation by author Brian Selznick about his new illustrated novel, *The Marvels*."

Live Music

Three-time Grammy winner and legendary singer-songwriter Lucinda Williams performs at the Mahaiwe for the first time on Saturday, October 10 at 8:00pm. Her signature sound is a blend of rock, country, blues, and Americana. *Down Where The Spirit Meets The Bone*, the first release on Williams's own Highway 20 Records label, is easily the most ambitious creation in a body of work that's long on ambition. Over the course of two discs, she leaves no emotional crevice unexplored, drinking deeply from a well of inspiration that culminates with an offering that overflows with delta-infused country soul. Tickets are \$35 to \$85.

The Mahaiwe's 10th Anniversary Gala on Sunday, October 11 will star singer and actress Audra McDonald. It will honor Felda and Dena Hardyman, who have provided invaluable advice, encouragement, and extraordinarily generous support to the Mahaiwe's development and growth. McDonald is unparalleled in the breadth and versatility of her artistry. With a record six Tony Awards, two Grammy Awards, and a long list of other accolades to her name, she is among today's most highly regarded performers. Blessed with a luminous soprano and an incomparable gift for dramatic truth telling, she is equally at home on Broadway and opera stages as she is in roles on film and television. Earlier this year she was named one of *Time* magazine's 100 Most Influential People in the World. No other living singer interprets the American songbook with the voice and the passion of Audra McDonald. Tickets are \$80 to \$150. Gala packages, including premium seating and a preshow dinner, start at \$500 and are available by calling Dave Barrett at 413.644.9040 ext. 106.

Grammy winner and pop-folk icon Art Garfunkel will perform on Saturday, November 14 at 8:00pm. He has made an indelible mark on the music world as both a solo artist and half of the unrivaled Simon & Garfunkel. A Rock & Roll Hall of Fame member and Diamond selling artist, he has also enjoyed a successful film career, published a book of poetry, and released 12 original solo albums, the most recent being *Some Enchanted Evening* in 2007, plus a two-CD compendium of his full body of work, *The Singer*. Since *Sounds of Silence* marked its 50th anniversary in 2014, he has been touring with his guitarist Tab Laven. His intimate evening performance at the Mahaiwe will feature Simon & Garfunkel songs and his solo hits, along with songs by his favorite songwriters – Jimmy Webb, Randy Newman and AC Jobim—and selections from his new book. Tickets are \$64 to \$84.

On Saturday, December 19 at 8:00pm, jazz guitarist and vocalist John Pizzarelli will honor Frank Sinatra's 100th birthday with his "Swing 7 Frank Sinatra Centennial Celebration" concert. Pizzarelli has had a multi-faceted career as a jazz guitarist, vocalist, and bandleader. Internationally known for classic standards, late-night ballads, and the

cool jazz flavor he brings to his performances and recordings, he has recently established himself as the consummate entertainer and radio program host with the launch of “Radio Deluxe with John Pizzarelli,” a nationally syndicated radio program co-hosted with his wife, Broadway star Jessica Molaskey. He is among the premier contemporary interpreters of the great American songbook, bringing to the work his signature style and brilliant guitar playing. Tickets are \$25 to \$100.

Author Talk

Award-winning author Brian Selznick returns to the Mahaiwe on Sunday, September 20 at 3:00pm for a multi-media book presentation, Q & A with his Great Barrington-based editor Tracy Mack, and signing with his newest illustrated novel, *The Marvels*. In 2008, Selznick’s groundbreaking book *The Invention of Hugo Cabret* was awarded the Caldecott Medal. It was nominated for a National Book Award and was the basis for Martin Scorsese’s Oscar winning film, *Hugo*. His follow-up illustrated novel, *Wonderstruck*, debuted at #1 on the *New York Times* bestseller list. His books have been translated into more than 35 languages. Filled with mystery, vibrant characters, surprise twists, and heartrending beauty, and featuring Selznick's most arresting art to date, *The Marvels* is a moving tribute to the power of story. Tickets are \$5 and free to Mahaiwe members.

London’s National Theatre and Met Opera in HD

The Mahaiwe will present three broadcasts of London’s National Theatre in HD production of *Hamlet* with Academy Award nominee Benedict Cumberbatch on Thursday, October 15 at 7:00pm, Sunday, October 18 at 3:00pm (encore), and Saturday, November 21 at 7:00pm (encore). Benedict Cumberbatch (BBC’s *Sherlock*, *The Imitation Game*, *Frankenstein* at the National Theatre) takes on the title role of Shakespeare’s great tragedy. Directed by Lyndsey Turner (*Posh*, *Chimerica*) and produced by Sonia Friedman Productions, National Theatre Live will broadcast this eagerly awaited production live to cinemas. As a country arms itself for war, a family tears itself apart.

Forced to avenge his father's death but paralyzed by the task ahead, Hamlet rages against the impossibility of his predicament, threatening both his sanity and the security of the state. Tickets are \$17.

This fall, the Mahaiwe will broadcast three Met Opera Live in HD productions. Tickets are \$18 to \$25 per screening.

Marco Armiliato conducts Sir David McVicar's Goya-inspired production of *Il Trovatore* by Verdi on Saturday, October 3 at 1:00pm (with encore broadcast on Wednesday, October 14 at 1:00pm). Soprano Anna Netrebko's dramatic and vocal skills are on full display as Leonora, the Verdi heroine who sacrifices her own life for the love of the gypsy troubadour. Tenor Yonghoon Lee sings the ill-fated Manrico, baritone Dmitri Hvorostovsky is his rival, and mezzo-soprano Dolora Zajick is the mysterious gypsy with the troubled past.

On Saturday, October 17 at 1:00pm (with encore broadcast on Wednesday, October 28 at 1:00pm), Met Opera presents Verdi's masterful *Otello* based on Shakespeare's play, directed by Bartlett Sher. The outstanding cast includes tenor Aleksandrs Antonenko, as the doomed Otello; new soprano star Sonya Yoncheva as Desdemona, Otello's innocent wife and victim; and baritone Željko Lučić as the evil Iago, who masterminds Otello's demise. Dynamic maestro Yannick Nézet-Séguin conducts.

James Levine conducts Wagner's early masterpiece, *Tannhäuser*, in its first return to the Met stage in more than a decade on Saturday, October 31 at 12:00pm (with encore broadcast on Wednesday, November 11 at 12:00pm). Today's leading Wagnerian tenor Johan Botha takes on the daunting title role, opposite soprano Eva-Maria Westbroek as Elisabeth, adding another Wagner heroine to her Met repertoire after her acclaimed Sieglinde in the *Ring* a few seasons ago. On the heels of his recent triumph in *Parsifal*, baritone Peter Mattei sings Wolfram, and mezzo-soprano Michelle DeYoung is the love goddess, Venus.

Acclaimed artist and director William Kentridge (*The Nose*) applies his unique theatrical vision to Berg's *Lulu* on Saturday, November 21st at 12:30pm (with encore broadcast on Wednesday, December 2 at 12:30pm). *Lulu* is a notorious femme fatale who shatters lives, including her own. Musically, the masterful score is in the sure hands of Met Music Director James Levine. Soprano Marlis Petersen has excited audiences around the world with her portrayal of the tour-de-force title role, a wild journey of love, obsession, and death. Susan Graham joins a winning cast, including Daniel Brenna and Johan Reuter.

Education

The Mahaiwe will present a live theatrical production of *Goodnight Moon and The Runaway Bunny* by Mermaid Theatre of Nova Scotia on Wednesday, October 21 at 10:00am. Adapted from Margaret Wise Brown's sixty-year-old classics, *Goodnight Moon* is a celebration of familiar nighttime rituals, while *The Runaway Bunny*'s tale of leaving home evokes reassuring responses from his loving mum. Both feature endearing animal puppets, stunning scenic effects, and evocative music. Founded in 1972, the Mermaid Theatre of Nova Scotia has a global audience, having performed for over four million spectators on four continents. Recommended for pre-school through 2nd grade.

For tickets to Mahaiwe school field trip events, contact ☐ Judy Reinauer at 413.644.9040 x103 or education@mahaiwe.org.

Movies

Wednesday, October 21 is Back to the Future Day and the Mahaiwe will screen *Back to the Future* at 7:00pm in honor of the film's 30th anniversary. Directed by Robert Zemeckis, this science fiction/comedy stars Michael J. Fox as a young man named Marty McFly who accidentally travels in to the past and jeopardizes his own future existence.

The Mahaiwe will screen two films over Thanksgiving weekend. On Friday, November 27 at 7:00pm, the feature will be *Alice's Restaurant* (1969), Arthur Penn's adaptation of

Arlo Guthrie's folk song, "Alice's Restaurant Massacree." The Mahaiwe will also present its annual Thanksgiving screenings of *The Wizard of Oz* (1939) on Saturday, November 28 at 4:00pm and 7:00pm.

Tickets are \$7 (general admission). Mahaiwe movies are sponsored by Don Buchwald & Associates and Greylock Federal Credit Union.

Community Presentations

The Mahaiwe will host presentations by Berkshire International Film Festival, Close Encounters With Music, Fairview Hospital, and Deborah Zecher/Quintessential. Details about these events follow in the calendar section below.

Tickets

A limited number of \$15 tickets to each live performance are available for audience members ages 30 and younger through the Mahaiwe ArtSmart Tix program, sponsored by Greylock Federal Credit Union. 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 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.

Mahaiwe 2015 Fall Season at a Glance

Sunday, September 20 at 3:00pm

Mahaiwe presents

Award-winning author Brian Selznick

Multi-media presentation, Q&A, and book-signing event for his newest illustrated novel, *The Marvels*.

\$5 (and free to Mahaiwe members)

Saturday, September 26 at 8:00pm

Fairview Hospital Gala presents

Comedian Rita Rudner

\$53/Gala packages available

Saturday, October 3 at 1:00pm

Mahaiwe presents

Met Opera Live in HD

Verdi's *Il Trovatore*

\$18 to \$25

Sunday, October 4 at 4:00pm

Berkshire International Film Festival presents

Special pre-release screening of *Freeheld* (2015)

Starring Julianne Moore, Ellen Page and Steve Carell.

Based on the Academy Award-winning documentary by Berkshire-based filmmaker Cynthia Wade who will be in attendance.

\$17

Saturday, October 10 at 8:00pm

Mahaiwe presents

Lucinda Williams

Grammy-winning singer-songwriter known for delta-infused country soul.

\$35 to \$85

Sunday, October 11

Mahaiwe presents

10th Anniversary Mahaiwe Gala: An Intimate Evening with Audra McDonald

Singer and actress Audra McDonald has a record six Tony Awards, two Grammy Awards, and a long list of other accolades to her name.

\$80 to \$150. Gala packages, including premium seating and a fabulous preshow dinner, start at \$500 and are available by calling Dave Barrett at 413-644-9040 ext. 106.

Wednesday, October 14 at 1:00pm
Met Opera Live in HD (encore)
Verdi's *Il Trovatore*
\$18 to \$25

Thursday, October 15 at 7:00pm
Mahaiwe presents
London's National Theatre in HD
Hamlet with Academy Award nominee Benedict Cumberbatch (BBC's *Sherlock*, *The Imitation Game*, *Frankenstein* at the National Theatre) takes on the title role of Shakespeare's great tragedy.
\$17

Saturday, October 17 at 1:00pm
Mahaiwe presents
Met Opera Live in HD
Verdi's *Otello*
\$18 to \$25

Sunday, October 18 at 3:00pm
Mahaiwe presents
London's National Theatre in HD (encore)
Hamlet with Academy Award nominee Benedict Cumberbatch (BBC's *Sherlock*, *The Imitation Game*, *Frankenstein* at the National Theatre) takes on the title role of Shakespeare's great tragedy.
\$17

Wednesday, October 21 at 10:00am (school field trip)
Mahaiwe presents
Goodnight Moon and The Runaway Bunny
The Mermaid Theatre of Nova Scotia theatrical adaptation of Margaret Wise Brown's classic children's books.
For ticket information, please contact Judy Reinauer at 413-644-9040 x103 or education@mahaiwe.org.

Wednesday, October 21 at 7:00pm
Mahaiwe presents
Back to the Future (1985)
30th anniversary screening on Back to the Future Day
\$7

Saturday, October 24 at 6:00pm
Close Encounters With Music presents
Grand Piano Quartets—Brahms and Dvorak
\$25 to \$45

Wednesday, October 28 at 1:00pm
Mahaiwe presents
Met Opera Live in HD (encore)
Verdi's *Otello*
\$18 to \$25

Saturday, October 31 at 12:00pm
Mahaiwe presents
Met Opera Live in HD (encore)
Wagner's *Tannhäuser*
\$18 to \$25

Wednesday, November 11 at 12:00pm
Mahaiwe presents
Met Opera Live in HD (encore)
Wagner's *Tannhäuser*
\$18 to \$25

Saturday, November 14 at 8:00pm
Mahaiwe presents
An Intimate Evening with Art Garfunkel
Grammy winner and pop-folk icon Art Garfunkel has made an indelible mark on the music world as both a solo artist and half of the unrivaled Simon & Garfunkel.
\$64 to \$84

Thursday, November 19 at 7:00pm
Deborah Zecher and Quintessential present
Warm Up the Winter
A benefit concert for local fuel assistance
\$25 to \$75

Saturday, November 21 at 12:30pm
Mahaiwe presents
Met Opera Live in HD
Berg's *Lulu*
\$18 to \$25

Saturday, November 21 at 7:00pm
Mahaiwe presents
London's National Theatre in HD (encore)
Hamlet with Academy Award nominee Benedict Cumberbatch (BBC's *Sherlock*, *The Imitation Game*, *Frankenstein* at the National Theatre) takes on the title role of Shakespeare's great tragedy.
\$17

Friday, November 27 at 7:00pm

Mahaiwe presents

Alice's Restaurant (1969)

Arthur Penn's film adaptation of Arlo Guthrie's folk song, "Alice's Restaurant Massacree"

\$7

Saturday, November 28 at 4:00pm and 7:00pm

Mahaiwe presents

The Wizard of Oz (1939)

The Mahaiwe's annual Thanksgiving screening of this beloved family classic film.

\$7

Wednesday, December 2 at 12:30pm

Mahaiwe presents

Met Opera Live in HD (encore)

Berg's *Lulu*

\$18 to \$25

Saturday, December 12 at 6:00pm

Close Encounters With Music presents

Dually Noted—Music for Four Hands

\$25 to \$45

Saturday, December 19 at 8:00pm

Mahaiwe presents

John Pizzarelli's *Swing 7 Frank Sinatra Centennial Celebration*

Jazz guitarist and vocalist John Pizzarelli honors Frank Sinatra's 100th birthday.

\$25 to \$100

Thursday, December 31 at 6:00pm

Berkshire Bach Society presents

Bach at New Year's