

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 11, 2016

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

**Mahaiwe Announces January and February Programming and
New Partnership with Jacob's Pillow for Bolshoi Ballet HD Broadcasts**

Great Barrington, Mass.— Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center will present an array of events during January and February, including a concert by bluegrass legends Del and Dawg and screenings of two ski movies, as well as classic films to celebrate Martin Luther King Jr. Day and Valentine's Day, and HD broadcasts by London's National Theatre, Kenneth Branagh Theatre Company, and the Met Opera. The Mahaiwe will also forge a new partnership with Jacob's Pillow in conjunction with the theater's ongoing HD broadcasts of Bolshoi Ballet productions.

"The Mahaiwe is delighted to co-present pre-screening talks by Jacob's Pillow Scholar-in-Residence Brian Schaefer before our Bolshoi Ballet broadcasts," said Mahaiwe Executive Director Beryl Jolly. "His insights into the ballets will greatly enhance the viewing experience for our audience members."

Brian Schaefer will speak at 12:40pm before each 1:00pm Bolshoi Ballet broadcast. Upcoming dance productions include *The Taming of the Shrew* (January 31), *Spartacus* (March 13), and *Don Quixote* (April 24). The cost of each talk is included in the \$17 ticket per broadcast. Schaefer is a New York-based writer and journalist. He contributes regularly to dance coverage at the *New York Times*, *Out Magazine*, and *Dance Magazine*. He holds bachelor degrees in Dance and Communication from the University of California, San Diego and a master's degree in Literature/Creative Writing from Bar Ilan University in Tel Aviv. He is the recipient of an NEA fellowship for dance criticism at the American Dance Festival, served on the board of the Dance Critics Association from

2011-2014, and was a finalist for the 2013 Livingston Award for Young Journalists in International Reporting.

Movies

Ski Butternut and Catamount are sponsoring screenings of two ski movies at the Mahaiwe. *Pretty Faces* (2014) on Saturday, January 16 at 7:30pm celebrates women who thrive in snow. The concept for the film was originated by professional big mountain skier and SheJumps co-founder Lynsey Dyer with the objective of giving women and girls—young and old—a source of inspiration through a look at what is possible when boundaries are broken, dreams captured, and friendships cultivated. Tickets are \$7 (general admission).

Warren Miller's *Chasing Shadows* (2015) on Saturday, February 20 at 7:30pm is Warren Miller Entertainment's 66th snow sports film. It follows members of the U.S. freestyle ski team as they pursue turns in Chamonix, Alaska's Chugach, Utah's Wasatch, and the mightiest range of them all: the Himalaya. These athletes are masters in their element, living on the edge with every cliff drop, perfect line, and knee-deep powder turn. General admission tickets are \$15/\$10 for Ski Butternut and Catamount season pass holders and Mahaiwe members. To take advantage of the Butternut and Catamount season pass-holder discount, please call the Mahaiwe box office at 413-528-0100. Free lift vouchers for Sugarbush will also be offered at this screening.

The Mahaiwe will screen *Gandhi* (1982) on Sunday, January 17 at 3:00pm. "As we kick off a brand new year, the Mahaiwe is sharing *Gandhi* over Martin Luther King weekend as an opportunity to consider how each of us can create change, locally or globally. It's inspiring to be reminded of the kind of difference one person can make for a better world," said Beryl Jolly. Directed by Richard Attenborough, this film is the eighth-highest Oscar winning film of all time—claiming eight awards from 11 nominations, including best film. It stars Ben Kingsley, Candice Bergen, John Gielgud, and Martin Sheen.

This year's Mahaiwe Valentine's Day treat for the community will be a screening of *Roman Holiday* (1953) on Sunday, February 14 at 7:00pm. William Wyler directed this delightful, Oscar-winning romantic comedy, which stars Audrey Hepburn and Gregory Peck and was shot entirely on location in Rome. Tickets to *Gandhi* and *Roman Holiday* are \$7 (general admission). Movies at the Mahaiwe are sponsored by Don Buchwald and Associates.

The Met Opera in HD Broadcasts

On Saturday, January 16 at 1:00pm, the Mahaiwe will broadcast the Met Opera Live in HD production of Bizet's *Les Pêcheurs de Perles*. There will be an encore broadcast of this production on Sunday, January 24 at 1:00 pm. Set in the Far East, this gorgeous opera of lust and longing returns to the Met stage for the first time in 100 years. Soprano Diana Damrau stars as Leïla, the beautiful Hindu priestess pursued by rival pearl divers competing for her hand. Her suitors are tenor Matthew Polenzani and baritone Mariusz Kwiecien. Director Penny Woolcock explores the timeless themes of pure love, betrayal, and vengeance in a production that vividly creates an undersea world on the stage of the Met. Conductor Gianandrea Noseda brings his romantic flair to the lush score from the composer of *Carmen*.

On Saturday, January 30 at 1:00pm, the Mahaiwe will broadcast the Met Opera Live in HD production of Puccini's *Turandot*. There will be an encore broadcast of this production on Sunday, February 7 at 1:00pm. Nina Stemme, one of opera's greatest dramatic sopranos, takes on the title role of the proud princess of legendary China. Tenor Marco Berti is Calaf, the brave prince who sings "Nessun dorma" and wins her hand. Franco Zeffirelli's golden production is conducted by Paolo Carignani. Met Opera Live in HD and encore broadcast tickets are \$18 to \$25.

Theater in HD Broadcasts

On Saturday, February 6 at 1:00pm, the Mahaiwe will screen Kenneth Branagh Theatre Company's production of *The Winter's Tale* in HD, captured live from the Garrick Theatre in London. Sir Kenneth Branagh and Dame Judi Dench star in Shakespeare's

timeless tragicomedy of obsession and redemption. Rob Ashford and Kenneth Branagh co-direct this imaginative new production.

On Thursday, January 28 at 7:00pm, the Mahaiwe will present the London's National Theatre in HD live broadcast of Donmar Warehouse's highly anticipated new production of *Les Liaisons Dangereuses*. Directed by Josie Rourke (*Coriolanus*), the cast includes Michelle Dockery (*Downton Abbey*), Janet McTeer (*The White Queen*), and Dominic West (*The Wire*).

On Sunday, February 28 at 3:00pm, the Mahaiwe will present the London's National Theatre in HD production of *As You Like It*. Shakespeare's glorious comedy of love and change comes to the National Theatre for the first time in over 30 years, with Rosalie Craig (*London Road*, *Macbeth* at MIF) as Rosalind.

Tickets to Kenneth Branagh Theatre Company and National Theatre in HD are \$17 per broadcast. London's National Theatre and Bolshoi Ballet intermission teas are sponsored by Harney & Sons Fine Teas.

Live Music

Bluegrass legends Del and Dawg (Del McCoury and David Grisman) will perform a concert on Saturday, February 27 at 8:00pm celebrating the nearly 50-year friendship that these two musicians have shared. McCoury met Grisman at the first show he ever played (on banjo) with Bill Monroe in the spring of 1963 at New York University in Greenwich Village. Three years later, the duo played their first gig together in Troy, NY at the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. They both celebrated the arrival of first-born sons, Monroe Grisman and Ronnie McCoury, within a month of each other. Through the years, they have shared the stage at venues and festivals across the country and in 2012 released *Hardcore Bluegrass*, a unique collection of bluegrass classics, made at two Dawg studio jam sessions in the 1990s. Tickets are \$34 to \$79.

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 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.