

UNICORN · COLONIAL · FITZPATRICK

# BERKSHIRE

## THEATRE GROUP

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### **Berkshire Theatre Group presents Noam Pikelny and Stuart Duncan**

**Pittsfield, MA**– Berkshire Theatre Group presents folk music duo Noam Pikelny and Stuart Duncan at the Colonial Theatre on Thursday, October 16 at 8pm. "Fans and students of the banjo and fiddle know Stuart Duncan and Noam Pikelny as among the very finest to have ever plied their trade, with all the attendant awards and critical acclaim that entails. This should be a must see event!" -*Bluegrass Today*

Tickets to Noam Pikelny and Stuart Duncan are \$35-\$15. Contact the Colonial Ticket Office at 111 South Street, Pittsfield by calling 413-997-4444. Tickets can also be bought online at [www.berkshiretheatregroup.org](http://www.berkshiretheatregroup.org). The Ticket Office is open Monday-Friday 10am-5pm, Saturdays 10am-2pm or on any performance day from 10am until curtain.

Noam Pikelny has emerged as the preeminent banjoist among a new generation of acoustic musicians. Noam is a founding member of Punch Brothers, a string ensemble which *The Boston Globe* calls "a virtuosic revelation." In 2010, he was awarded the first annual Steve Martin Prize for Excellence in Banjo and Bluegrass. In 2012, Noam's second album, *Beat The Devil and Carry A Rail* received a GRAMMY nomination for Best Bluegrass Album. Pikelny has shared the stage with The Decemberists, Marcus Mumford, Béla Fleck and more and continues to broaden the awareness of the banjo in the mainstream through his work with Punch Brothers, collaborating with Wilco, Fiona Apple, Norah Jones, & Jon Brion for the soundtrack to *This is 40*, and a collaboration with Marcus Mumford for the Coen Brothers' film, *Inside Llewyn Davis*.

Stuart Duncan is one of the finest and fully realized violin players in any genre. He is able to improvise perfect and utterly new ideas that are exactly what the musical moment requires, and he is able to do this, with perfect tone, at the frighteningly fast tempos required in today's contemporary bluegrass. This combination of perfection and inspiration has not gone unnoticed, and so Stuart has performed on thousands of recording sessions, featuring all of Nashville's finest players and singers. His discography is approaching the size of a metropolitan telephone directory, and his recording career demonstrates his ability to shift easily from the most ancient sounding Appalachian tune, to some deeply jazz and funk-inflected contemporary melody. Stuart's fiddle playing is deeply rooted in the tradition of such masters as Benny Martin and Byron Berline, but is itself something completely and thrillingly new. In addition to his extensive recording and performing career as a fiddler, Stuart also sings, writes songs, and plays mandolin, guitar, and banjo.

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### **About Berkshire Theatre Group**

The Colonial Theatre, founded in 1903, and Berkshire Theatre Festival, founded in 1928, are two of the oldest cultural organizations in the Berkshires. Having united in November of 2010 under the leadership of Artistic Director and CEO Kate Maguire, these two institutions are providing the Berkshires and beyond with the finest in live theatre, music, dance and the visual arts on five stages in Stockbridge, MA and Pittsfield, MA. The Fitzpatrick Main Stage (400 seats), cataloged by the National Register of Historic Places, was originally

designed and built by Stanford White as the Stockbridge Casino in 1888. The intimate Unicorn Theatre (122 seats) is a home for emerging artists and new theatrical ideas. The Colonial in Pittsfield (780 seats) re-opened in August of 2006, following a \$21 million restoration, and boasts pristine acoustics, classic gilded age architecture and state-of-the-art technical systems. BTG also performs at the outdoor Neil Ellenoff stage, located on the grounds of BTF in Stockbridge, and at The Garage, a music venue located in the lobby of The Colonial. BTG serves over 100,000 patrons per year and reaches over 17,000 students through its educational and outreach programs. For more information on BTG call (413) 448-8084. To purchase tickets, call (413) 997-4444 or go online to [www.BerkshireTheatreGroup.org](http://www.BerkshireTheatreGroup.org).