

UNICORN · COLONIAL · FITZPATRICK
BERKSHIRE
THEATRE GROUP

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Berkshire Theatre Group Announces 2015 Summer Season Musicals, The Fitzpatrick Main Stage productions and a Medley of Lively Acts Scheduled to Perform at The Colonial Theatre and The Unicorn Theatre

Summer Season Musical: Tony Award-Winning Sweetheart Musical **Bells Are Ringing** featuring Tony Award-Nominated **Kate Baldwin** and Broadway and Television actor **Graham Rowat**

10th Annual Community Theatre Production:
Disney's Beloved Tony Award-Winning Musical **Mary Poppins**

The Fitzpatrick Main Stage: Tony Award-Nominated Comedy Thriller **Deathtrap** and Tony Award-Nominated Timeless Love Tale **Frankie and Johnny In the Clair de Lune**

Highlights of the 2015 Season:
American Made Band **BoDeans**
Alice's Restaurant: 50th Anniversary Tour, Folk Legend, **Arlo Guthrie**
Acclaimed Comedian **Robert Klein**
Dynamic Celtic Fiddler **Natalie MacMaster**

Pittsfield, MA – Berkshire Theatre Group and Artistic Director/CEO, Kate Maguire, are pleased to announce 2015's Summer Season Musical, the 10th Annual Community Theatre Production, The Fitzpatrick Main Stage productions and a medley of lively acts scheduled to perform at The Colonial Theatre and The Unicorn Theatre. BTG will be announcing a second round of programming, including The Unicorn Theatre's Summer Season, in the next several weeks.

"Our 87th Season offers a mix of unforgettable musicals and classic, influential plays," says Maguire. "At the Colonial, we have the sweetheart musical, **Bells Are Ringing**. Ethan Heard is directing this romantic show, once again working with Kate Baldwin and Graham Rowat, as he did in last year's *A Little Night Music*. For our 10th Annual Community Theatre Production, we bring you the iconic **Mary Poppins**. This delightful show will transport you back to your childhood, as you watch 100 children and adults from the community soar over the Colonial stage.

With its 87-year history of theatre classics, The Fitzpatrick Main Stage is the perfect place to escape, whether you're sitting in the great mystery **Deathtrap** or the bittersweet love story **Frankie and Johnny in the Clair de Lune**. Aaron Mark returns this year to direct Ira Levin's cherished comedic mystery, *Deathtrap*. BTG Alum Karen Allen will direct Terrence McNally's contemporary love tale, *Frankie and Johnny in the Clair de Lune*. As a whole, this Season will illustrate the essence of theatre—to allow the audience to feel moved to places they have not been familiar with, and to remind them of what lies deep in their hearts."

Berkshire Theatre Group's 2015 lineup is filled with chart-topping musical artists, acclaimed comedians and community events.

The Season holds an array of talented musical performances: legendary rock 'n' roller **George Thorogood & The Destroyers**, all-American band **BoDeans**, folk legend **Arlo Guthrie's Alice's Restaurant: 50th Anniversary Tour**, dynamic Celtic fiddler **Natalie MacMaster** and more to be announced at a later date.

For community events: during school vacation week, the Colonial offers, for ages 3 and up, **Going to the Farm with Spot**, and, for fans of illusions and magic of all ages, **Bill Blagg's 10 Illusions!**. For its 10th anniversary, The Jazz Ensembles' of Mount Holyoke College's **The Big Broadcast!**, featuring WWLP-TV meteorologist **Brian Lapis** as emcee, comes to the Colonial stage. This production is a benefit for Berkshire Theatre Group's education program, BTG PLAYS!

For comedy: Tony and Grammy Award-nominated comedian, **Robert Klein**, will be hitting the Colonial stage.

To round out the season, as part of Made in the Berkshires, celebrating Berkshire women writers, **Through The Looking Glass: Musings from the Pens of Berkshire Women Writers** comes to The Unicorn Theatre Larry Vaber Stage. This event will include readings performed by **Karen Allen, Lauren Ambrose, Amber Chand, Hilary Somers Deely, Kate Maguire, Corinna May** and **Barbara Sims**.

"As always, when booking shows I'm constantly looking for talent that's not only fresh and exciting, but that's also affordable for the patron," says Berkshire Theatre Group Programmer, Simon Shaw. "I'm beyond thrilled about the 2015 lineup, as well as the artists I am working to confirm later in the year!"

Tickets are now on sale. Summer season passes are available for purchase at \$75 for a four-show preview pass, \$95 for a six-show preview pass, \$100 for a four-show pass, and \$150 for a six-show pass.

BTGy is a youth outreach initiative for theatre-goers 25 years of age and younger to experience the joy and wonder of live theatre and the performing arts on our stages. Tickets to BTG's summer theatre productions for ½ of a regular priced ticket and 10% off BTG's presented shows (some restrictions apply). To join BTGy please contact the BTG Ticket Office at 111 South Street, Pittsfield by calling 413-997-4444. Tickets for BTGy are subject to availability and proof of age.

Tickets may be purchased in person at the Colonial Ticket Office at 111 South Street, Pittsfield or by calling (413) 997-4444 or online at www.BerkshireTheatreGroup.org. The Ticket Office is open Monday-Friday 10am–5pm, Saturdays 10am–2pm or on any performance day from 10am until curtain. All plays, schedules, casting and prices are subject to change.

SUMMER SEASON 2015 OVERVIEW

Deathtrap

by Ira Levin

directed by Aaron Mark

at The Fitzpatrick Main Stage, Stockbridge Campus

Previews: Wednesday, July 1 and Thursday, July 2

Press Opening/Opening Night: Friday, July 3 at 8pm

Talkback: Monday, July 6 after 7pm performance

Closing: Saturday, July 25 at 8pm

Tickets: Preview: \$42

Tickets: \$62

Sponsored by: Blantyre, Country Curtains and The Red Lion Inn

Performance Dates

Wednesday, July 1 at 7pm (Preview)
 Thursday, July 2 at 7pm (Preview)
 Friday, July 3 at 8pm (Opening)
 Saturday, July 4 at 2pm
 Monday, July 6 at 7pm (Talkback)
 Tuesday, July 7 at 7pm
 Wednesday, July 8 at 7pm
 Thursday, July 9 at 7pm
 Friday, July 10 at 8pm
 Saturday, July 11 at 2pm
 Monday, July 13 at 7pm
 Tuesday, July 14 at 7pm
 Wednesday, July 15 at 7pm
 Thursday, July 16 at 2pm and 7pm
 Friday, July 17 at 8pm
 Saturday, July 18 at 2pm and 8pm
 Monday, July 20 at 7pm
 Tuesday, July 21 at 7pm
 Wednesday, July 22 at 7pm
 Thursday, July 23 at 2pm and 7pm
 Friday, July 24 at 8pm
 Saturday, July 25 at 2pm and 8pm (Closing Night)

Recognized as the longest-running comedy thriller on Broadway, *Deathtrap* is a sidesplitting romp of a play within a play. **Aaron Mark**, who brilliantly directed *The Mystery of Irma Vep* last year, directs Ira Levin's treasured Tony Award-nominated play. This witty thriller tells the tale of defeated playwright, Sidney Bruhl, who would do almost anything to write a hit Broadway play. Former student, Clifford Anderson, tells Sidney that he's written a suspense play with a seamless plot that's sure to be Broadway-bound. When Sidney lures Clifford into his colonial style home, adorned with eclectic antique weaponry, both men's motives become unclear as unforeseen happenings unfold. Jaw-dropping hilarity ensues as the zany characters weave a web of mystery in two acts.

"*Deathtrap* ran for four years on Broadway after opening in 1978, and it's remained ubiquitous in theaters around the world," says Aaron Mark. "It's the play theatregoers think we know but shocks us every time. What struck me reading it again recently, though, is how eerily relevant it is prophetic, even—in our increasingly "success"—obsessed culture. Ira Levin (*Rosemary's Baby*, *The Stepford Wives*) not only created the mother of all contemporary meta-thrillers when he created *Deathtrap*, he created a potent cautionary tale about greed. As one with "thrilleritis" (Levin's term, not mine), myself, I couldn't be more thrilled that The Fitzpatrick Main Stage is the frighteningly perfect setting for this ingenious puzzle of a 'who'll-do-it.'"

Bells Are Ringing

book and lyrics by Betty Comden and Adolph Green

music by Julie Styne

entire original production directed by Jerome Robbins

dance and musical numbers of original production staged by Jerome Robbins and Bob Fosse

produced on the Broadway Stage by The Theatre Guild

directed by Ethan Heard

featuring Kate Baldwin and Graham Rowat

at The Colonial Theatre, Pittsfield Campus

Previews: Thursday, July 9 and Friday, July 10

Press Opening/Opening Night: Saturday, July 11 at 8pm

Talkback: Monday, July 13 after 7pm performance

Closing: Sunday, July 26 at 2pm

Tickets: Preview: \$50

Tickets: A: \$65 B: \$50 C: \$25

Sponsored by: Blantyre, Country Curtains, The Red Lion Inn, Greylock Federal Credit Union and Greylock Insurance Agency

Performance Dates

Thursday, July 9 at 7pm (Preview)

Friday, July 10 at 8pm (Preview)

Saturday, July 11 at 8pm (Opening)

Sunday, July 12 at 2pm and 7pm

Monday, July 13 at 7pm (Talkback)

Tuesday, July 14 at 7pm

Thursday, July 16 at 2pm and 7pm

Friday, July 17 at 8pm

Saturday, July 18 at 2pm and 8pm

Sunday, July 19 at 2pm

Monday, July 20 at 7pm

Tuesday, July 21 at 7pm

Thursday, July 23 at 2pm and 7pm

Friday, July 24 at 8pm

Saturday, July 25 at 2pm and 8pm

Sunday, July 26 at 2pm (Closing)

The Tony Award-nominated musical that made Judy Holliday a star, *Bells Are Ringing* is a classic comedy with a sweet heart. Written by seven-time Tony Award-winners Betty Comden and Adolph Green (*On The Town*, *Wonderful Town*), *Bells Are Ringing* was originally directed by five-time Tony Award-winner Jerome Robbins (*Gypsy*, *Fiddler on The Roof*, *West Side Story*) and choreographed by Robbins and eight-time Tony Award-winner Bob Fosse (*Chicago*, *Sweet Charity*, *Pippin*). This fetching and farcical love story includes notable show tunes, "Long Before I Knew You," "Just in Time," and "The Party's Over."

Telephone service operator, Ella Peterson, played by Tony Award-nominated **Kate Baldwin** (*A Little Night Music*, *Finian's Rainbow*) is not your typical phone operator. Using a variety of comical personae's, Ella meddles with her clients' lives as she takes and delivers their phone messages. Ella's busybody ways trigger trouble when she falls for one of her customers, Jeff Moss, played by Kate Baldwin's real life husband, Broadway and television actor, **Graham Rowat** (*A Little Night Music*). A hilarious mesh of mistaken identity and mishaps follow in this delightful musical directed by BTG Alum, **Ethan Heard** (*A Little Night Music*, *Cat and The Canary*). *Bells Are Ringing* is an irresistibly charming musical, bursting with breathtaking dance numbers.

"Like Comden and Green's other beloved classics *On The Town* and *Wonderful Town*, *Bells Are Ringing* is a love letter to New York City—a wacky world of colorful characters, crazy coincidences, and dreams-come-true. It's also a love story about a muse, her man, and all the other people she inspires," Ethan Heard explains. "With some of the greatest songs from Broadway's golden age including "Just in Time" and "The Party's Over," this is American musical comedy in its purest form. Kate Baldwin and her husband Graham Rowat are experts with this genre—and each other! Their chemistry is bound to infuse Ella and Jeff's romance with fresh exuberance." Heard directed both Kate Baldwin and Graham Rowat in last year's celebrated *A Little Night Music*, which *Playbill* named one of "The Year's Best: Playbill Contributors Choose Unforgettable Theatre Experiences of 2014," and is sure to give *Bells Are Ringing* the same fresh and fashionable feel.

Frankie and Johnny In the Clair de Lune

by Terrence McNally

directed by Karen Allen

at The Fitzpatrick Main Stage, Stockbridge Campus

Previews: Wednesday, July 29–Friday, July 31

Press Opening/Opening Night: Saturday, August 1 at 8pm

Talkback: Monday, August 3 at 7pm
 Closing: Saturday, August 22 at 8pm
 Tickets: Preview: \$42
 Tickets: \$62
 Sponsored by: Blantyre, Country Curtains and The Red Lion Inn

Performance Dates

Wednesday, July 29 at 7pm (Preview)
 Thursday, July 30 at 7pm (Preview)
 Friday, July 31 at 8pm (Preview)
 Saturday, August 1 at 2pm and 8pm (Opening Night)
 Monday, August 3 at 7pm (Talkback)
 Tuesday, August 4 at 7pm
 Wednesday, August 5 at 7pm
 Thursday, August 6 at 7pm
 Friday, August 7 at 8pm
 Saturday, August 8 at 2pm and 8pm
 Monday, August 10 at 7pm
 Tuesday, August 11 at 7pm
 Wednesday, August 12 at 7pm
 Thursday, August 13 at 7pm
 Friday, August 14 at 8pm
 Saturday, August 15 at 2pm and 8pm
 Monday, August 17 at 7pm
 Tuesday, August 18 at 7pm
 Wednesday, August 19 at 7pm
 Thursday, August 20 at 7pm
 Friday, August 21 at 8pm
 Saturday, August 22 at 2pm and 8pm (Closing Night)

The bewildering journey of finding love in the modern world sets the premise for Terrence McNally's (*Master Class, Love! Valour! Compassion!*) bittersweet comedy, *Frankie And Johnny In the Clair de Lune*. After a one-night rendezvous in Manhattan's West Side, Johnny, a compulsive, starry-eyed, short-order cook, is convinced he has found his life companion in Frankie, a wisecracking waitress. Frankie's poor history with men leaves her hesitant to commit, but as the night progresses, she lets her guard down and an unlikely romance begins to blossom. This contemporary love story will be directed by beloved BTG Alum **Karen Allen** (*Moonchildren, Extremities*).

"Just as she did with Berkshire Theatre Group's *Moonchildren* and *Extremities*, Karen Allen has a passion to get Frankie and Johnny's tender story on the stage," says Artistic Director/CEO, Kate Maguire. "Audiences are going to be completely enthralled in this raw, realistic love story, and I think that's what *Frankie And Johnny In the Clair de Lune*, is—we sit there and realize how naked we all feel when we're in love. And that's where the heart of the play lives."

Karen Allen has been in acclaimed On and Off-Broadway productions such as, *The Monday After the Miracle, Extremities*, and most recently, *A Summer Day*. Allen is an award-winning theatre and film actress and director, starring in countless renowned films including *Raiders of the Lost Ark, Scrooged, Animal House, The Perfect Storm* and *The Glass Menagerie*.

Mary Poppins

original music and lyrics by Richard M. Sherman and Robert B. Sherman
 book by Julian Fellowes
 new songs and additional music and lyrics by George Stiles and Anthony Drewe
 co-created by Cameron Mackintosh
 directed by Travis G. Daly

music direction by Mark Gionfriddo
 choreography by Kathy Jo Grover/"Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious," and "Step in Time" choreography by Ilana Ransom Toeplitz

10th Annual Community Theatre Production
 at The Colonial Theatre, Pittsfield Campus

Preview Performance: Thursday, August 13 at 7pm

Special Note: As a community production, there is no press night for *Mary Poppins*

Tickets: Adult A: \$30, Child A: \$20, Adult B: \$25, Child B: \$15

Sponsored by: Greylock Federal Credit Union, Greylock Insurance Agency, Lyon Aviation, Inc., Richard M. Ziter, M.D, The Berkshire Eagle

Performance Dates:

Thursday, August 13 at 7pm (Preview)

Friday, August 14 at 7pm (Opens)

Saturday, August 15 at 2pm and 7pm

Sunday, August 16 at 2pm

Monday, August 17 at 7pm

Thursday, August 20 at 7pm

Friday, August 21 at 7pm

Saturday, August 22 at 2pm and 7pm

Sunday, August 23 at 2pm (Closing)

Mary Poppins flies onto the Colonial stage for Berkshire Theatre Group's 10th Annual Community Theatre Production. In this beloved musical, written by Julian Fellowes of *Downton Abbey* fame, a practically perfect nanny teaches us "anything can happen if you let it." For the third time in a BTG community production, actors will fly through The Colonial Theatre, the first two years ago in *Peter Pan*, the second in last year's community production *Seussical*. This year's 10th annual community production will feature over 100 talented Berkshire County natives tap dancing and chimney sweeping their way to your heart.

There is magic stirring in London, England at No. 17 Cherry Tree Lane, home to the troubled Banks family. George and Winifred Banks are frustrated and fed-up with their misbehaving children, Jane and Michael, who have once again sent a nanny running out the door. The seemingly endless search for a suitable caretaker comes to a halt when a nanny by the name of Mary Poppins appears at their door. Through whimsical lessons and unforgettable adventures, Mary Poppins shows Jane and Michael the magic of everyday life. Bert, an elusive renaissance gent, narrates this timeless tale that captivates audiences with its alluring story, beautiful dance numbers and unforgettable songs including, "Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious," "A Spoonful Of Sugar," and many more!

This year marks the exciting 10th anniversary of Berkshire Theatre Group's Annual Community Theatre Production. For the past 10 years, BTG's community production has brought together children and adults who have learned from each other all in the midst of collaboration and creativity. "What could be better than watching Bert and Mary fly over the audience, with 100 children on stage for our 10th annual community production," says Berkshire Theatre Group Artistic Director/CEO, Kate Maguire. "The iconic Mary Poppins represents love and sensibility—a perfect message to send to an audience of all ages. This enchanting production is filled with phenomenal dance numbers, giving the children the opportunity to show off their dancing chops."

DIRECTOR BIOS:

Karen Allen: returns to BTF having directed William Mastrisimone's *Extremities* in 2013 and Michael Weller's *Moonchildren* in 2011. Most recently, she won an Obie Award for directing the world premiere of Lucy Thurber's new play *Ashville* at the Cherry Lane Theatre in NYC. Her theatre roles On and Off Broadway have included, William Gibson's *The Monday After the Miracle*, *Extremities*, *The Glass Menagerie*, *Miss Julie*, *The Miracle Worker*, *The Country Girl*, *Beautiful Bodies*, *Temporary Help*, *Speaking in Tongues*, and most recently,

Jon Fosse's *A Summer Day*. In 1981, Karen came to the Berkshires and to BTF for the first time to play Gittel in William Gibson's *Two for the Seesaw*. She has also worked at The Williamstown Theatre Festival (*Tennessee Williams: A Celebration*, *The Royal Family*, *Glass Menagerie*) and at Shakespeare and Co (*As You Like It*). Films include: *Animal House*, *The Wanderers*, *A Small Circle of Friends*, *Shoot the Moon*, *Raiders of the Lost Ark*, *Starman*, *Until September*, *The Glass Menagerie*, *Scrooged*, *Malcolm X*, *King of the Hill*, *The Sandlot*, *Falling Sky*, *Poster Boy*, *The Perfect Storm*, *Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull*, and *White Irish Drinkers* and *Bad Hurt*, which will be released later this year. Karen is on the faculty of the theatre department at Bard College at Simon's Rock where she began to work as a director with a production of Joan Ackermann's *The Batting Cage*. Karen is presently directing her first film which is an adaptation of Carson McCullers short story "A Tree, A Rock, A Cloud."

Aaron Mark: is most recently the writer-director of *Another Medea*, starring Tom Hewitt, presented by All For One at The Wild Project. Other directing credits include: *The Mystery of Irma Vep* (Berkshire Theatre Festival), Ben Rimalower's *Patti Issues* and *Bad With Money* (Duplex and tours) and *Hedwig and the Angry Inch* (BC/EFA at New World Stages). As a writer, his plays have been developed by New York Theatre Workshop, Labyrinth Theater Company, the Cherry Lane Theatre, Theater for the New City, the Blank Theatre, and American Theater Group. His independent feature films (as writer-director) are *Commentary*, *Random Unrelated Projects*, *Zbornik Developing*, and *Do Not Duplicate* (upcoming). He is a NYTW Usual Suspect and he does not have aaronmark.com because it belongs to a German gay porn star with the same name, so his website is aaronmark.info.

Travis G. Daly: BTG directing credits: *Atlantis, Lost!*, *Seussical*, *Peter Pan*, *The Emperor's New Clothes*, *Pinocchio*, *OLIVER!*, *Way Out West*, *The Wizard Of Oz*, *History's Mysteries Revealed*, *Annie*, *The Great Beyond*, *Hansel & Gretel's Grimm Tale*. Co-directing credits: *A Christmas Carol* (2012-2014).

Ethan Heard: directs plays, musicals, and opera. He is equally at home creating productions of new work, Shakespeare, Sondheim, and Monteverdi. BTG: *A Little Night Music* and *The Cat and the Canary*. Recent world premieres: Cady, Siegel and Welch's *Sisyphus* (Experiments in Opera), Campbell and Michelson's *The Other Room* (Inner Voices). Heartbeat Opera: *Kafka-Fragments*, *The Fairy Queen*, and *The Seven Deadly Sins*. Yale School of Drama: *Sunday in the Park with George*, *Julius Caesar*, and *Lottie in the Late Afternoon*. Yale Cabaret (Artistic Director): *Pierrot Lunaire*, *Basement Hades*, and *Trannequin*. Yale Baroque Opera Project: *Erismena*, *L'Orfeo*, and *Ardo, Ardo*. Other: *L'incoronazione di Poppea* and *The Producers* (Princeton), *The Gay Ivy* (Dixon Place), and *Pullman WA* (Williamstown Workshop). Assisting: Nicholas Martin, Steve Cosson, and Mark Brokaw. Teaching: Princeton University and the O'Neill Theater Center. Founding Co-Artistic Director of Heartbeat Opera, Resident Director of Cantata Profana, and SDC member. ethanheard.com

CALENDAR OF 2015 PRESENTED SHOWS

Going to the Farm with Spot: The Colonial: Wednesday, February 18 at 2pm

Bill Blagg's 10 Illusions!: The Colonial: Thursday, February 19 at 2pm

George Thorogood & The Destroyers: Badder Than Ever Tour: The Colonial: Tuesday, March 3 at 7:30pm

The Big Broadcast!: The Colonial: Friday, March 13 at 7pm

Through The Looking Glass: Musings from the Pens of Berkshire Women Writers

The Unicorn: Sunday, March 22 at 3pm

BoDeans: The Colonial: Thursday, April 16 at 7:30pm

Robert Klein: The Colonial: Saturday, August 1 at 8pm

Arlo Guthrie: Alice's Restaurant: 50th Anniversary Tour: The Colonial: Fall 2015

Natalie MacMaster Visions from Cape Breton and Beyond: A Celtic Family Celebration

The Colonial: Saturday, November 7 at 8pm

PRESENTED SHOWS 2015 OVERVIEW

Going to the Farm with Spot

at The Colonial Theatre

Wednesday, February 18 at 2pm

School Vacation Week
 Suitable for ages 3-9
 Tickets: \$15

Join Spot the Dog, his dad Sam, and his friend Helen on a new adventure! Great fun for young theatre-goers and their parents, *Going to the Farm with Spot* takes the audience on an interactive journey to Sam's farm where all the animals are lost. Spot and Helen need the audience's help to find his lost animal friends by identifying the sounds of the animals to bring them back safely to the farm.

Bill Blagg's 10 Illusions!
 at The Colonial Theatre
 Thursday, February 19 at 2pm
 School Vacation Week
 Suitable for ages 5 and up
 Tickets: \$15

Bill Blagg's 10 Illusions is the most entertaining magic and illusion show on tour today! Bill's latest show is filled with NEW never-before-seen, mind-blowing illusions such as Walking Through Steel and the world's only Hoverboard! Bill combines his original illusions along with audience participation, comedy and his trademark off-the-cuff personality which creates a show unlike anything you've ever seen before!

George Thorogood & The Destroyers: Badder Than Ever
With Special Guest Barrence Whitfield
 at The Colonial Theatre
 Tuesday, March 3 at 7:30pm
 Tickets: A: \$85 B: \$65 C: \$45

For George Thorogood and his longtime band The Destroyers—Jeff Simon (drums, percussion), Bill Blough (bass guitar), Jim Suhler (rhythm guitar) and Buddy Leach (saxophone)—their new Badder Than Ever tour is indestructible proof that staying true to yourself and the music can still mean something. And, with a catalog of iconic hits that includes “Who Do You Love,” “I Drink Alone,” “One Bourbon, One Scotch, One Beer,” “Move It On Over,” “Bad To The Bone” and more, being able to share it with audiences is what will always matter. Ultimately, Badder Than Ever is 50% celebration, 50% declaration, and 100% Thorogoodthrowdown.

Barrence Whitfield is a full-throttle soul screamer in the spirit of Little Richard, Wilson Pickett and Solomon Burke. He has been described as the owner of one incredible pair of lungs, with limitless energy and unmatched enthusiasm for his music and his audience. Barrence is a rarity in this business—one of a few black, rock 'n' roll singer/entertainers who *SPIN* magazine says maintains a frenzied performance.

The Big Broadcast!
 at The Colonial Theatre
 Friday, March 13 at 7pm
 Tickets: Adults: \$15 Students and Children: \$10

The Jazz Ensembles' of Mount Holyoke College's 10th annual presentation of a live 1940's radio broadcast created by Mark Gionfriddo (onstage as “Matt Morgan”) with WWLP-TV meteorologist Brian Lapis (as emcee “Fred Kelley”). Under Gionfriddo's direction, the Mount Holyoke Big Band, Vocal Jazz, and Chamber Jazz Ensembles perform well-known tunes from the swing era, including music by Bing Crosby, The Andrews Sisters, Glenn Miller, Benny Goodman, and more! This production is a benefit for Berkshire Theatre Group's education program, BTG PLAYS!

Through The Looking Glass: Musings from the Pens of Berkshire Women Writers
 at the Unicorn Theatre
 Sunday, March 22 at 3pm

Tickets: \$30

A Benefit for the Berkshire Festival of Women Writers and part of Made in the Berkshires.

The Berkshire women we are honoring exemplify the diversity of women's writing in the 19th and 20th centuries; we are also honoring the thread that joins these women together—the dilemma of self-realization versus the socially accepted self-sacrifice of the times in which they lived: Desire versus Duty.

With the Berkshires as their palette, these women filled their journals, letters and stories with their concern for broad cultural and social issues, as well as issues of particular interest to women. Their individual voices resonate with recognition as we see ourselves in the looking glass of their experience.

Selected readings from writers including Francis Anne Kemble, Harriett Beecher Stowe, Catharine Maria Sedgwick, Sheila Weller and Edith Wharton.

Performed by Karen Allen, Lauren Ambrose, Amber Chand, Hilary Somers Deely, Kate Maguire, Corinna May and Barbara Sims. Performers are subject to change.

BoDeans

at The Colonial Theatre
Thursday, April 16 at 7:30pm
Tickets: A: \$45 B: \$25

BoDeans high energy performances make them one of the best live acts in the business. Chart-topping songs like "Fadeaway," "Only Love," and "Dreams" won them a *Rolling Stone* reader's poll for Best New American Band in 1987. In the years following, the band played with U2, Bob Dylan, Paul Simon, Tom Petty, George Thorogood, The Pretenders, David Bowie, and more. They released several albums with multiple songs that defined the sound of a generation, playing heavily on radio, in TV shows, and movies, including: "Good Things," "You Don't Get Much," "Idaho," "If It Makes You," "Closer to Free," "Stay," "American," and, "All the World."

The summer of 2013 marked the return of legendary drummer, Kenny Aronoff. One of the greatest drummers in the world today, Stockbridge, MA native Aronoff has shared the stage with some of the biggest names in music, including: John Mellencamp, The Rolling Stones, The Smashing Pumpkins, Bruce Springsteen, Ringo Starr, Bob Seger, John Fogerty, Melissa Etheridge, Jon Bon Jovi, Elton John, Bob Dylan, Rod Stewart, Steven Tyler, Willie Nelson, Johnny Cash, Sheryl Crow, Joe Cocker, B. B. King, Mick Jagger, Ray Charles, Alice Cooper, Gladys Knight, and many others. Aronoff was named the #1 Pop/Rock Drummer for five consecutive years by the readers of *Modern Drummer* Magazine, and in addition has played on over 30 Grammy-nominated recordings. BoDeans will release a new album, *I Can't Stop*, this spring that will feature the heartfelt, trend-free, American-made music the BoDeans are known for.

Current band members are:

Kenny Aronoff: Drummer
Ryan Bowman: Bassist
Warren Hood: Fiddle/Violin
Kurt Neumann: Founder/Songwriter/Frontman
Michael Ramos: Keyboard/Accordion

Robert Klein

at The Colonial Theatre
Saturday, August 1 at 8pm
Tickets: A: \$55 B: \$45 C: \$25

For more than forty years, Robert Klein has entertained audiences, and he continues to have an acclaimed career in comedy, on Broadway, on television, and in film. Born in the Bronx, he was a member of the famed

“Second City” theatrical troupe in Chicago.

He was nominated twice for Grammy Awards for Best Comedy Album of the Year for his albums *Child of the Fifties* and *Mind Over Matter*. He received a Tony Award-nomination for Best Actor, and won a Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle Award for his performance in the hit Neil Simon musical, *They're Playing Our Song*. In 1993, Klein won an Obie and the Outer Critics Circle Award for Outstanding Performance by an Actor in Wendy Wasserstein's, *The Sisters Rosensweig*.

In 1975, Klein was the first comedian to appear in a live concert on HBO. He has gone on to do nine one-man shows for the network; his most recent, *Robert Klein: Unfair and Unbalanced* aired in 2010. He co-starred in the hit NBC series, *Sisters*, and recently has a recurring guest-starring role on *Law and Order*. He regularly appears on talk-shows, making more than 100 appearances on *The Tonight Show* and *Late Show with David Letterman* alone. Klein has also appeared in many notable films including, *Hooper*, *The Owl and the Pussycat*, *Primary Colors*, *People I Know*, *Two Weeks Notice*, *How to Lose a Guy in 10 Days*, and *The Back-Up Plan* with Jennifer Lopez.

Arlo Guthrie: Alice's Restaurant: 50th Anniversary Tour

at The Colonial Theatre

Fall 2015

Tickets: TBA

Eighteen-year old Arlo Guthrie wrote a song that would become a fan-favorite and help launch his career. "Alice's Restaurant" is eighteen-minutes long and tells a winding, interwoven tale of a true story that took place over a Thanksgiving weekend in 1965. Rarely played on recent tours, Arlo is reviving this classic for the *Alice's Restaurant 50th Anniversary Tour*. Arlo's band for the tour includes Terry Hall (drums), Bobby Sweet (guitar, vocals), Darren Todd (guitar), and his son, Abe Guthrie (keyboards). Each show is curated with a special multi-media presentation featuring previously unseen images from the Guthrie archives.

Natalie MacMaster Visions from Cape Breton and Beyond: A Celtic Family Celebration

at The Colonial Theatre

Saturday, November 7 at 8pm

Tickets: A: \$65 B: \$55 C: \$35

Since marrying in 2002, two of Canada's brightest stars have been captivating audiences all over North America with their exceptional musical skills and obvious joy of performing together. Natalie MacMaster and Donnell Leahy have received both industry-acclaim and a loyal fan following by combining their incredible individual talents, giving audiences a remarkable musical experience. Now, for the first time on stage, they'll feature their children alongside dancers and singers from their hometowns of Cape Breton and Lakefield, Ontario. The evening will highlight the unique talents, influences, and stories of the first family of traditional fiddlers through dancing, singing, and, of course, world-class music-making. This multimedia tour, features exclusive video footage of both Natalie and Donnell, as well as endearing stories of their native island that will help audiences understand the land, lives, and loves that have shaped these two musical families into one.

For more information about Berkshire Theatre Group and our upcoming season, please visit www.BerkshireTheatreGroup.org

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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 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 Garage, a music venue located in the lobby of The Colonial. BTG serves over 100,000 patrons per year and reaches over 13,000 students through its educational and outreach programs. To purchase tickets, call (413) 997-4444 or go online to www.BerkshireTheatreGroup.org.