

UNICORN · COLONIAL · FITZPATRICK

# BERKSHIRE

## THEATRE GROUP

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**For Immediate Release, please:**

### **5<sup>th</sup> Annual Made in The Berkshires Festival Announces Full Schedule of Events**

**Pittsfield, MA**—Berkshire Theatre Group is pleased to announce that **The Made in the Berkshires Festival** will be held on October 23-25, at the Colonial Theatre in Pittsfield, MA and the Unicorn Theatre in Stockbridge, MA celebrating the fifth year of this wonderful festival of local art and artists.

Kate Maguire, Berkshire Theatre Group's Artistic Director/CEO says, "We are so excited to present the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Made in the Berkshires Festival! This year's line-up is bursting with Berkshire's top talents, and is sure to be the best year yet."

Tickets to Made in the Berkshires Festival are now on sale, and range in price from \$10-\$48, as well as a **3-Day All-Access Pass for \$75, including: VIP Access to all events, 20% off of tickets for the run of *The Homecoming* and an invitation to the closing party at Hotel on North.** Contact the Colonial Ticket Office at 111 South Street, Pittsfield by calling 413-997-4444. Tickets can also be purchased 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.

**Opening Night Celebration Friday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Colonial Theatre**  
**Visual Art Show in the Colonial lobby at 6:30pm**  
**Opening Night Program on the Colonial stage at 7:30pm**  
**Taste of the Berkshires Reception**

**Visual Art Show in the Colonial lobby at 6:30pm** (Ticket price: \$35; includes Opening Night Program and Taste of the Berkshires)

Celebrate the talented visual artists in the Berkshires with a **cocktail hour and visual art show: DRAWN | a curated collection of works by artists based in the Berkshires** co-curated by Carrie Wright and Rebecca Weinman. The installation will be on view in the lobby of the Colonial from October 23<sup>rd</sup> through Sunday, October 25<sup>th</sup> and features works, in a variety of mediums, by artists including Lucie Castaldo, Catherine Delphia, Huckleberry Delsignore, Ben Evans, Nathan Hanford, Tatianna Klacsmann, Stephan Lanphear, Matthew Larkin, Wendy Rabinowitz and Bill Wright.

**Opening Night Program on the Colonial stage at 7:30pm**

The lineup will include: a film by **Joe Wheaton** highlighting the incredible five-year journey of the Made in the Berkshires Festival; jazz prodigy **Nico Wohl** and the incredible **Andy Wrba** with his **Darrow Music School** students; **Xfinity Theatre Company** performing Verbatim theatre with *The Today Show* as the theme; **Albany Berkshire Ballet** performing two dances from *The Rockwell Suite*; Amber Chand reading Elizabeth

Young's poignant poetry entitled *Vulnerabilities* in **Poetry Out Loud**; Williamstown Band, **Long Journey**, fresh from opening the 2015 Fresh Grass festival at MASS MoCA; celebrated cellist **Ivan Trabka** performing Sonata no. 1 in B minor by Hungarian composer Zoltan Kodaly; Stockbridge-based dancer **Ruslan Sprague** with partner Giorgia Comeau; and for the finale, Andres Ramirez and his Bboys performing as **Funk Box Studio**.

### **Taste of the Berkshires Reception**

Close out the evening in the Colonial lobby for a "Taste of the Berkshires" reception featuring Berkshire farm to table produce and locally crafted foods.

### **Saturday, October 24th, events at The Unicorn Theatre and the Colonial Theatre**

#### **Two performance Blocks:**

**Block One: The Shorts 12:30-2:30pm** (Ticket price: \$10)

#### ***Spell Breaking***

by Donaldson Brown

A beautiful memoir about a young girl navigating her way through the maze that is her childhood.

#### ***Vulnerabilities***

by Elizabeth Young

Using her work as a hospice care giver as the backdrop for her writing, Elizabeth Young has written a poignant collection of poetry titled, *Vulnerabilities*.

#### ***Stone Toss***

by Rik Barberi

"One again we woke up arguing. Used to be, we resolved any quarrels before going to sleep. Recently, they've been harder to settle," say Rik Barberi. This poignant story takes us deep into the paradox of marriage.

#### ***Fifteen Dollar Family***

by Paul G. O'Connor

Anyone who has struggled with finding the answers to some of the big questions that come up in life will relate to this story. Sometimes the solution is the uncluttered wisdom of a couple of kids.

#### ***Little Dickens***

scripted for stage and directed by Ralph L. Petillo

Thirty-four drama students from Lenox Memorial Middle and High School researched young characters from a variety of stories written by Charles Dickens, and were asked to compose a monologue in which they would become the young character of their choice. These monologues, when presented, inspired this original one-act play.

**Block Two 3:30-5:30pm** (Ticket price: \$10)

#### ***Hurricane Hotel***

by Aimee Michel

adapted from the novel *Hurricane Hotel* by J.K.Lawson

with an Introduction by Mark Fischetti, Senior Editor of Scientific American and author of *Drowning New Orleans*.

*Hurricane Hotel* is a tribute to the many creative souls who made New Orleans a mecca for artists, some living on the edge of existence, who were lost in Hurricane Katrina. It is also a tribute to the resilience of us all, as we face the evergrowing challenges of racism, environmental catastrophe and the ravages of capitalism. It is performed in remembrance of the tenth year anniversary of Hurricane Katrina's destruction.

### **Saturday, October 24<sup>th</sup>, at The Colonial Theatre**

**Visual Artist Panel and Reception in the Colonial lobby at 5pm**

**Dance Extravaganza on the Colonial stage at 7:30pm**

***The Homecoming* at The Unicorn Theatre at 7pm**

**Visual Artist Panel and Reception in the Colonial lobby at 5pm** (Ticket price: FREE)

Please join us for **10 IN 45** 10 questions and a few artists in 45-ish minutes, a less-than-formal artist panel discussion moderated by Rebecca Weinman and Carrie Wright. Refreshments and a cash bar will be available.

**Dance Extravaganza on the Colonial stage at 7:30pm** (Ticket price: \$15)

Featuring: **Darrell Pucciarello Dance/Ballets Metropolis, Berkshire Dance Theatre, Albany Berkshire Ballet, Ruslan Sprague** and partner Giorgia Comeau and **Funk Box Studio**.

**Saturday, October 24<sup>th</sup>, at The Unicorn Theatre**

***The Homecoming* at The Unicorn Theatre at 7pm** (Ticket price: \$48)

**The Homecoming**

by Harold Pinter

directed by Eric Hill

Runs: October 1<sup>st</sup>-25<sup>th</sup>

Berkshire Theatre Group's *The Homecoming* is a thought provoking piece of theatre that invites audiences to delve deep into hidden crevices of the human condition (contains adult themes).

**Sunday, October 25<sup>th</sup>, at The Colonial Theatre**

**Sebastian the Magician in the Colonial lobby at noon**

**Film Fest on the Colonial Stage; Two Performance Blocks: 1pm & 3:30pm**

**Closing Reception at Hotel on North at 5:30pm**

**Sebastian the Magician in the Colonial lobby at noon** (Ticket price: FREE)

**Sebastian the Magician: *Incantation: the Spell of Magic***

This fun afternoon of magic and illusion opens with a choreographed sequence of silks, candles, and cards followed by elements of suspense, humor, clairvoyance and surprise.

**Film Fest on the Colonial stage at 1pm; Two Performance Blocks**

**Block One at 1pm** (Ticket price: \$15)

***Cherry Cottage* (film followed by live performance)**

produced by Hans Morris

directed by Dave Simonds

This feature-length documentary tells the story of America through the owners and inhabitants of a small cottage in Stockbridge, Massachusetts. We meet Hans Morris and follow him as he discovers the history of the little house on the edge of his property. From the Native American inhabitants of New England to the 1960s counterculture, the history of *Cherry Cottage* is intertwined with the history of the region and the country as a whole. After the film, *Cherry Cottage* comes alive as a select group of letters written by the Hopkins/Sedgwick families is read by local actors.

**Block Two at 3:30pm** (Ticket price: \$10)

***You Can Call Me Sal***

by Eric J. Shepherd

This short film features a local runner who we have all probably seen in our travels. "We've all seen this icon running all over Berkshire County. I wanted to find out what makes him tick, and how he keeps going, mile after mile, year after year," explains filmmaker Eric J. Shepherd.

***A Small Good Thing***

by Pamela Tanner Boll

This feature-length documentary, set in the Berkshires, examines how our ideal of the American Dream has come to the end of its promise. The film follows innovative farmer Sean Stanton, social work student Tim Durrin and yoga teacher Mark Gerow, whose earlier careers in the armed forces have now shifted to service of a different kind; Jen and Pete Salinetti, a college-educated couple with two small children who have chosen to be farmers as a way to connect with their community; and Shirley Edgerton, community activist and founder of both the Youth Alive Step Team and the Women of Color Giving Circle.

**Closing Reception at Hotel on North at 5:30pm**

**Closing festival party** for passholders and invited guests at Hotel on North in Pittsfield.

For more information about Berkshire Theatre Group and our upcoming season, please visit our website at [www.BerkshireTheatreGroup.org](http://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. 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).