

UNICORN · COLONIAL · FITZPATRICK

# BERKSHIRE

## THEATRE GROUP

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**For Immediate Release, Please:**

## **Berkshire Theatre Group Presents Shirley Valentine**

### **A Warm and Humorous Journey About a Transformational Holiday Abroad**

**Pittsfield, MA** – Brilliantly told with warmth and humor by the author of *Educating Rita*, **Shirley Valentine** follows a bored, middle-aged Liverpool housewife trapped in a stale, loveless marriage, who finds herself talking to the wall while she prepares her husband's chips 'n' egg, wondering what happened to her life. Feeling like she's stagnated and in a rut and finding solace in her daily glass of wine, she muses over the lack of excitement in her life. When a friend invites her on holiday to Greece, she leaves the drudgery of cooking dinner for her husband, packs her bags and heads for the sun. While relaxing on holiday, she rediscovers the woman she used to be and the happiness she has been missing; Shirley begins to see the world, and herself, in a different light.

This production is directed by BTG Artistic Associate **Eric Hill** (BTG: *Holiday Memories; The Goat or, Who is Sylvia?*; *Naked; At Home at the Zoo; The Homecoming; Thoreau or, Return to Walden; Poe; Benefactors; A Christmas Carol*) and features one of the Berkshires' best loved actors **Corinna May** as Shirley Valentine (BTG: *The Importance of Being Earnest, Holiday Memories, Benefactors, Same Time Next Year, Homestead Crossing, Two-headed*. WAM/BTG: *The Bakelite Masterpiece*).

Tickets are on sale now. BTG is offering a 10% discount on tickets for all front line workers. All plays, schedules, casting and prices are subject to change. Tickets may be purchased online at

[www.BerkshireTheatreGroup.org](http://www.BerkshireTheatreGroup.org) or by calling (413) 997-4444. Ticket office hours are every day from 12pm–5pm, or on any performance day from 12pm until curtain.

## **At Berkshire Theatre Festival in Stockbridge**

### **At The Unicorn Theatre**

#### **Shirley Valentine**

by Willy Russell

directed by Eric Hill

featuring Corinna May as Shirley Valentine

at The Unicorn Theatre, The Larry Vaber Stage  
BTG's Stockbridge Campus, 6 East Street

**Preview:** Friday, October 1 at 7:30pm

**Opening:** Saturday, October 2 at 7:30pm

**Press Performance:** Sunday, October 3 at 2pm

**Closing:** Sunday, October 24 at 2pm

**Tickets:** Preview: \$40

**Tickets:** \$50

### **ABOUT THE ARTISTS:**

**Eric Hill (Director)** directed Berkshire Theatre Group's productions of *Holiday Memories*; *The Goat, or Who is Sylvia?*; *Naked*; *At Home at the Zoo (The Zoo Story)*; *The Homecoming*; *Thoreau or, Return to Walden*; *Poe*; *Benefactors*; *A Christmas Carol*; *Oklahoma!*; *A Chorus Line*; *The Who's Tommy* as well as *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs* at the Neil Ellenoff Stage at the Mount. Additional BTG directing credits include: *Macbeth*, *Endgame*, *Faith Healer*, *The Einstein Project*, *Amadeus*, *The Glass Menagerie*, *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* and *The Caretaker*. Previous acting credits include: *Deathtrap*, *A Man for All Seasons*, *Dimetos*, *The Father* and *Scrooge* in *A Christmas Carol* (2006–2019).

**Corinna May (Shirley Valentine)** Berkshire Theatre Group's productions of *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *Holiday Memories*, *Benefactors*, *Same Time Next Year*, *Homestead Crossing*, *Two-headed*. WAM/BTG: *The Bakelite Masterpiece*. Shakespeare & Company: 30+ productions, (selected): *Morning After Grace*, *Fullness of Life*, *Roman Fever*, *The Unexpected Man*, *The Memory of Water*, *A Winter's Tale*, *Enchanted April*, *Jack and Jill*, *Betrayal*, *Fortune and Misfortune*, *House of Mirth*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Hamlet*. Wharton Salon: *The Long Run*, *Autre Temps*, *Xingu*. Pythagoras: *Roman Fever*. Broadway National Tour: *The Graduate* with Jerry Hall/ Linda Gray/Lorraine Bracco/Kelly McGillis/Morgan Fairchild. Regional (selected): Portland Stage Co., Merrimack Rep., Syracuse Stage, Rep. Theater of St. Louis, Capital Rep. Film: *Split Ends* (starring); *Speck's Last*. TV: *House of Cards*, *Unforgettable*, *Law & Order*, *PBS: Evening at the Pops*. Playwright: *Dancing With the Czar*. Designated Linklater Voice teacher. Feldenkrais Method practitioner. Faculty at Actors Studio Drama School/Pace University. Proud to be a union member: AEA, SAG-AFTRA.

## **Safety Protocols**

At this time, proof of vaccination is required for all indoor events. Patrons must present a photograph or physical vaccination card upon arrival to their performances. This policy will be evaluated as recommendations are made by the CDC. If this policy changes patrons will be notified. Masks are mandatory for all indoor events for all patrons regardless of age (unless eating or drinking in specified areas). Patrons are strongly encouraged to wear masks for all outdoor events. No-contact scanning stations for tickets will be at the point of entry. Free-standing hand sanitizer stations will be placed at various locations throughout the spaces. Seating and surface areas are sanitized frequently using an electrostatic sprayer. Theatres have upgraded HVAC filters, added ozone-free NPB ionization and otherwise comply with all local and state safety requirements. A doctor/nurse will be on duty for all performances. Patrons who are not feeling well should contact BTG's box office to discuss rescheduling options.

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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. In 2010, under the leadership of Artistic Director and CEO Kate Maguire, the two organizations merged to form Berkshire Theatre Group (BTG). Berkshire Theatre Group's mission is to support wide ranging artistic exploration and acclaimed performances in theatre, dance, music and entertainment. Every year, BTG produces and presents performances to over 68,000 attendees and, through our Educational Program, serves over 11,000 Berkshire County school children annually. In July 2020, Berkshire Theatre was the first company in the United States to earn approval from Actors' Equity Association to produce a musical (*Godspell*) in the wake of the COVID-19 Pandemic.