

**WALLIS ANNENBERG CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS
Announces Theater, Dance, Music, Lectures and Theater for Young
Audiences Programming for its 2014 – 2015 Season**

Season to Include:

Oregon Shakespeare Festival's production of *INTO THE WOODS*
National Theatre of Scotland and Royal Shakespeare Company's *DUNSIANE*
Long Wharf Theatre and Shakespeare & Company's *SATCHMO AT THE WALDORF*
ENTER LAUGHING – THE MUSICAL Based on Carl Reiner's Semi-Autobiographical Novel
LOVE, NÖEL: THE LETTERS AND SONGS OF NÖEL COWARD

Concerts: Brentano String Quartet, The Soloists of La Scala and Nazzareno Carusi,
Igor Levit, *Marsalis "Well-Tempered": An Evening with Branford Marsalis* featuring the
Philadelphia Chamber Orchestra, SFJAZZ Collective, Keyboard Conversations® with
Jeffrey Siegel and Dan Zanes and Friends

Kibbutz Contemporary Dance Company
DanceBrazil
Les Ballet Jazz de Montréal

POTTED POTTER: The Unauthorized Harry Experience – A Parody by Dan and Jeff
Puppet State Theatre Company's *THE MAN WHO PLANTED TREES*
Erfreuliches TheatErfurt's *THE QUEEN OF COLORS*
Catherine Wheels Theatre Company's *LIFEBOAT*

New Lecture Series *Art & Ideas: Conversations at The Wallis* – Featuring Leon Panetta, Dick Cavett in partnership with Writers Bloc; and Ken Downing, in partnership with Neiman Marcus

September 8, 2014 (Beverly Hills, CA) -- The Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts announces its theater, music, dance, lectures and Theater for Young Audiences programming for the 2014-2015 Season, which begins October 7-19 with the Edinburgh-based Puppet State Theatre Company production of *The Man Who Planted Trees* in the Lovelace Studio Theater; and in the Bram Goldsmith Theater a new lecture series in partnership with Writers Bloc, presenting a conversation with **Leon Panetta** on October 15 and *Marsalis Well Tempered: An Evening with Branford Marsalis featuring the Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia* on October 16.

In the Bram Goldsmith Theater, the theatre programming features the acclaimed Oregon Shakespeare Festival's production of *Into the Woods*, music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim, book by James Lapine, and directed by Amanda Dehnert, December 2-21 (press opening December 3). Charles McNulty in the *Los Angeles Times* said, "I was wowed by the entire ensemble ... left me rapturous."

Into the Woods is followed by the National Theatre of Scotland and the Royal Shakespeare Company production of ***Dunsinane***, March 27-April 12 (press opening March 28). Macbeth is dead, long live the King! Under cover of night, an English army has swept through the landscape, killed the tyrant and taken the seat of power. “David Greig gleefully seizes on Shakespeare’s tragedy and writes a thrilling sequel that has more to do with the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan than with 11th century Scotland.” – *Sunday Times*

In the Lovelace Studio Theater, The Wallis presents two theatrical events: ***Enter Laughing – The Musical***, based on the semi-autobiographical novel by iconic writer-comedian Carl Reiner, directed by Stuart Ross (*Forever Plaid*) February 10-March 1 (opening February 11). The book is by Joseph Stein (*Fiddler on the Roof*) and the music and lyrics by Stan Daniels. The 2014-2015 Season closes with the hit Long Wharf Theatre and Shakespeare & Company production of ***Satchmo at the Waldorf*** May 26-June 2 (opening May 27), starring Obie-winner John Douglas Thompson. In ***Satchmo at the Waldorf***, written by noted *Wall Street Journal* theatre writer Terry Teachout and directed by Gordon Edelstein, the year is 1971 and Louis Armstrong unwinds backstage after his final concert, recounting and reflecting on the heartbreaks and triumphs of his extraordinary life.

This 2014 holiday season sees the return of The Wallis’ hit cabaret production of ***Love Noel: The Letters and Songs of Noël Coward***, December 5-21 (press opening December 6) featuring a new cast of **Harry Groener** and **Emily Bergl** and directed by Jeanie Hackett.

Dance programming in the Bram Goldsmith Theater for The Wallis’ second season includes a return engagement by **Les Ballets Jazz de Montréal** April 16-18, with new repertoire; **Kibbutz Contemporary Dance Company**, from Israel, November 19-21, performing their signature piece *If At All*; and Afro-Brazilian contemporary dance company **DanceBrazil**, February 6-7, performing its fusion of contemporary dance and Capoeira, the traditional dance form that had its origins in Africa and evolved in colonial Brazil.

Following ***Well Tempered: An Evening with Branford Marsalis*** featuring the Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia (October 16), additional classical concerts include **The Soloists Of La Scala And Nazzareno Carusi** with a trio of violin, cello and piano; **Brentano String Quartet**, May 9; renowned Russian pianist **Igor Levit**, April 21, with an evening of Beethoven; and **Keyboard Conversations® with Jeffrey Siegel** performing **The Romantic Music of Chopin** on January 17.

Popular and jazz concerts in the Bram Goldsmith Theater include family concerts by Grammy-winner **Dan Zanes and Friends**, October 19. *The New York Times* said that Zanes is “true children’s music, but executed such sweet (and un-goey!) humor, casual multiculturalism, and shambling groove that you can call it your own.” Zanes is followed by super-group **SFJAZZ Collective**, April 19, from the Bay Area.

In the Lovelace Studio Theater, Theater for Young Audiences’ programming features the return of Catherine Wheels Theatre Company, whose production of *White* was a sold-out hit last season, presenting ***Lifeboat***, March 10-22, based on a true story of courage and friendship; ***The Man Who Planted Trees***, October 7-19, from Scotland’s The Puppet State Theater Company; and ***The Queen of Colors*** January 5-18 (opening January 10) from Germany’s Erfreuliches TheatErfurt, making its West Coast debut, adapted from the children’s book by German author Jutta Bauer.

A Special Event in the Bram Goldsmith Theater is the Off-Broadway hit ***POTTED POTTER: The Unauthorized Harry Experience – A Parody by Dan and Jeff***, February 25 – March 1. Written and performed by two-time Olivier Award-nominated actors Daniel Clarkson and Jefferson Turner, ***POTTED POTTER*** is perfect for ages six to Dumbledore (who is very old indeed). *The New York Times* calls it “Gloriously Goofy!”

The Wallis launches a new lecture series entitled ***Arts & Ideas: Conversations at The Wallis***, which includes two events in partnership with **Writers Bloc: Leon Panetta**, October 15, moderated by Jessica Yellin, former Chief White House Correspondent for CNN; and **Dick Cavett** on November 6, moderated by comedienne Paula Poundstone; and in partnership with Neiman Marcus, **Designer as Dramatist: The Intersection of Fashion and Theater with Ken Downing**, Fashion Director, Neiman Marcus, in the Spring of 2015. The lecture series events will also feature guest moderators and/or guest panelists to be announced at a later date. The Wallis’ *Arts & Ideas* series marks the beginning of a new collaboration with Writers Bloc, a prestigious non-profit organization dedicated to the written word as an art form and is currently in its 19th season.

Additional programming is to be announced shortly including theater, music, lecture, and film series.

Located in the heart of Beverly Hills, the **Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts** opened its doors in October 2013. This fall marks its second season as the first and only performing arts center in Beverly Hills. This new venue transformed a Beverly Hills city block into a vibrant new cultural destination in the heart of Los Angeles with two distinct, elegant buildings: the historic 1933 Beverly Hills Post Office (now the Paula Kent Meehan Historic Building) and the new, contemporary 500-seat, state-of-the-art Bram Goldsmith Theater. Within the treasured Post Office, existing spaces are re-imagined into the 150-seat Lovelace Studio Theater, a theater school for young people, a gift shop (both scheduled to open Fall 2014) and a café. Together these two structures embrace the city's history and future, creating an arts lover's dream come true – all within walking distance of some of the finest dining, hotels and shopping in Los Angeles.

Subscription packages will be available to the public beginning September 3, 2014. Regular ticket prices will range from \$25.00 to \$110.00 per event. Single tickets will be available for purchase on September 22, 2014. For more information on subscription packages please call 310-746-4000 or visit www.thewallis.org.

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ABOUT THE PRODUCTIONS

THEATER

The Oregon Shakespeare Festival Production of
INTO THE WOODS

Music & Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim

Book by James Lapine

Originally directed on Broadway by James Lapine

Orchestrations by Jonathan Tunick

Directed by Amanda Dehnert

December 2, 2014 (Preview); December 3 – 21, 2014 (Opening Night – December 3)

Bram Goldsmith Theater

Tuesday - Friday at 8:00 PM; Saturday at 3:00 & 8:00 PM; Sunday at 2:00 & 7:00 PM

Careful the wish you make! Cinderella, Little Red Riding Hood, Jack (of beanstalk fame), a Baker and his Wife find that out when they each take a journey into the forest that tests how far they would go to make their wishes come true. It's a magical, bewildering place full of witches, wolves, giants and mysterious strangers - where familiar tales get tangled up together. Wishes come true here, but at a price. Even storybook characters must face the music in Sondheim and Lapine's Tony Award-winning musical fractured fairytale that looks beyond "happily ever after." "I was wowed by the entire ensemble...left me rapturous." – *Los Angeles Times*.

ENTER LAUGHING – THE MUSICAL

Produced by Special Arrangement with Dan Whitten and Tiger Theatricals

In Association with Carl Reiner

Book by Joseph Stein

Music & Lyrics by Stan Daniels

Directed by Stuart Ross

February 10, 2015 – Preview; February 12 – March 1, 2015 (Opening Night February 11)

Lovelace Studio Theater

Tuesday – Friday Eve at 8:30 PM; Saturday at 3:30 & 8:30 PM; Sunday at 2:30 & 7:30 PM

David Kolowitz wants to be a big-time Broadway star – is that so much to ask? But, oy vey, his parents have plans for him to become a pharmacist! Based on the semi-autobiographical novel and play by iconic writer-comedian

Carl Reiner, ***Enter Laughing – The Musical*** centers on the journey of a stage-struck errand boy from the Bronx with dreams of making it big. He encounters the madcap eccentrics that inhabit the Great White Way, in this tuneful adaptation. "Flat-out hilarious!" says *The New York Times*. *The New York Post* claims ***Enter Laughing – The Musical*** is "The funniest tuner to hit town since *The Producers*" and *New York Magazine* raves that the show is "an honest-to-God musical comedy!"

DUNSINANE

By David Greig

Directed by Roxana Silbert

Presented by the National Theatre of Scotland and the Royal Shakespeare Company

March 27 at 8:00pm & March 28 at 3:00pm, 2015 – Previews

March 28 – April 12, 2015 (Opening Night March 28 at 8:00pm)

Bram Goldsmith Theater

Tuesday – Friday Eve at 8:00 PM; Saturday at 3:00 & 8:00 PM; Sunday at 2:00 & 7:00 PM

Macbeth is dead, long live the King! Under cover of night, an English army has swept through the landscape, killed the tyrant and taken the seat of power. Attempting to restore peace and put in place a new ruler, Siward, the commanding officer, is beset by a brutal guerrilla uprising. Increasingly isolated from his own men and Scottish allies alike, his efforts to restore order appear futile as the situation spins out of control. ***Dunsinane*** is a vision of one man's attempt to restore peace in a country ravaged by war. "David Greig gleefully seizes on Shakespeare's tragedy and writes a thrilling sequel that has more to do with the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan than with 11th-century Scotland" states the *Sunday Times*. "If it's riveting spectacle, challenging ideas and human drama you want, this is the show to see...a triumph!" said *The Times*. "A work of compelling intelligence, provocation and wit," said *The Guardian*. "A gripping first-rate drama" said the *Evening Standard*.

The Long Wharf Theatre and Shakespeare & Company Production of

SATCHMO AT THE WALDORF

By Terry Teachout

Directed by Gordon Edelstein

Starring John Douglas Thompson

May 26, 2015 – Preview

May 28 – June 7, 2015 (Opening Night May 27)

Lovelace Studio Theater

Tuesday – Friday Eve at 8:30 PM; Saturday at 3:30 & 8:30 PM; Sunday at 2:30 & 7:30 PM

It's March 1971 at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel, and Louis Armstrong has just played one of the final performances of his extraordinary career. Unwinding backstage, he recounts events that transformed him into the world-famous "Satchmo." With no-nonsense manager Joe Glaser at his side, Armstrong kept steady through an era of enormous social change...but at what cost? This is ***Satchmo at the Waldorf***, an absorbing and uplifting new play about the music, struggles and triumphs of the man who invented jazz. Starring Obie-winner John Douglas Thompson as both Armstrong and Glaser in a tour de force performance, this exhilarating production arrives in Los Angeles following smash-hit, sold-out engagements at the Long Wharf Theatre and Shakespeare & Company. "One of the most compelling actors of his generation...a top-notch performance," said *The New York Times*. "Extraordinary! Riveting! Tour de force would be an understatement," said *The Boston Globe*.

LOVE, NOËL: THE LETTERS AND SONGS OF NOËL COWARD

An Entertainment Devised and Written by Barry Day

Directed by Jeanie Hackett

Starring Harry Groener and Emily Bergl

November 29 – December 21, 2014

Lovelace Studio Theater

Thursday – Friday Eve at 8:30 PM; Saturday at 3:30 & 8:30 PM; Sunday at 2:30 PM

Following a sold-out engagement last season, ***Love, Noël***, based on Barry Day's book *The Letters of Noël Coward*, returns just in time for the holidays, starring Harry Groener (Broadway's *Crazy for You*, *Cats* and *Oklahoma!*) as Noël Coward and Emily Bergl ("*Shameless*," "*Desperate Housewives*," and "*Southland*") as the many women who

came into his life and influenced his work. *Love, Noël*, transforms the Lovelace Studio Theater into an intimate lounge for an entertaining performance that interweaves the music of Coward and witty letters between his famous friends across the years. Coward's career as a playwright, composer, director, actor and singer spanned six decades. Known for his wit, flamboyance, and what *Time* magazine called "a sense of personal style, a combination of cheek and chic, pose and poise," his works remain as universal and relevant as ever and continue to influence pop culture today.

DANCE

KIBBUTZ CONTEMPORARY DANCE COMPANY

November 19 – 21, 2014, Wednesday – Friday at 8:00 PM

Bram Goldsmith Theater

Kibbutz Contemporary Dance Company (KCDC) was established in 1970 in Kibbutz Ga'aton, situated in the Western Galilee of northern Israel. Since then, KCDC has established itself as one of the leading dance companies in the world and has developed a thriving and active International Dance Village that is unlike any other. KCDC is widely identified with the work of Artistic Director Rami Be'er whose exclusive and unique choreographic character has become the company's trademark both in Israel and abroad. With its technically strong and physically eclectic cast of dancers and its dynamic sensibility, KCDC characterizes Israeli dance at its best and performs regularly in the most respected theaters and at leading festivals around the world. Performing their 2012 piece entitled *If At All* a moving theatrical event in figurative and abstract circles, from the closed form to the open structure. Physical space in motion, whose essence is a chain of events of diverse and ever-changing interpersonal relationships.

DANCEBRAZIL

February 6 – 7, 2015, Friday at 8:00 PM; Saturday at 3:00 & 8:00 PM

Bram Goldsmith Theater

For over thirty years, DanceBrazil has thrilled audiences across the United States and throughout the world with its dazzling artistry, which is inspired by the cultural tapestry of Brazil. Whether in the streets or on stage in the most prestigious theaters, the dancers and musicians of DanceBrazil never fail to enthrall audiences with the company's unique fusion of Afro-Brazilian movement, contemporary dance and Capoeira, the traditional dance form that had its origins in Africa and evolved in colonial Brazil.

LES BALLETS JAZZ DE MONTRÉAL

April 16 – 18, 2015, Thursday – Saturday at 8:00 PM

Bram Goldsmith Theater

Following their sold-out debut at The Wallis this past season, Les Ballets Jazz de Montréal (BJM) returns with a program of new works. An internationally renowned repertory company led by Artistic Director Louis Robitaille, BJM has continued to grow with all the energy and spirit of exploration for which it has been known since its birth in 1972. While preserving the essence of the company, BJM works today with some of the most prestigious figures in the world of dance and contemporary ballet. Displaying its radiant and expressive style, BJM explores the creative side of contemporary trends, yet is still firmly committed to classical aesthetics, in their unique style which often has an uplifting effect on the soul.

MUSIC

MARSALIS "WELL-TEMPERED": AN EVENING WITH BRANFORD MARSALIS FEATURING THE CHAMBER ORCHESTRA OF PHILADELPHIA

October 16, 2014, 8:00 PM

Bram Goldsmith Theater

Renowned Grammy Award-winning saxophonist and Tony Award nominated composer Branford Marsalis joins the highly celebrated Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia in *Marsalis "Well-Tempered"*, performing Baroque masterpieces by Albinoni, Bach, Handel, Vivaldi and others. "A gracious poise and supple tone...and an insouciant swagger." — *The New York Times*

DAN ZANES AND FRIENDS

October 19, 2014 at 11:00 AM & 2:00 PM

Bram Goldsmith Theater

Dan Zanes occupies a unique place in American music where sea shanties, English music hall, North American and West Indian folk music, play party songs and the spirit of early rock n' roll and soulful originals collide. With his band, **Dan Zanes and Friends**, he has toured the world sharing handmade 21st century social music with enthusiastic crowds of kids and kids at heart. The Grammy Award-winner has been introducing new songs and reconnecting people to songs that have always been there, and still are—although people may have forgotten about them. Referred to as “the family-music genre’s most outspoken and eloquent advocate” by *Time* magazine, his widely-acclaimed music has all been featured on “Sesame Street,” Playhouse Disney, Nickelodeon, HBO Family and Sprout. “Wry, rootsy, real American folk music – songs that twist a little plangency into the sweetness of a melody, songs that feel like life,” claims *Rolling Stone*. And *The New York Times* says **Dan Zanes and Friends** offers “True children's music, but executed with such sweet (and un-gooney!) humor, casual multiculturalism and shambling groove that you can call it your own.”

KEYBOARD CONVERSATIONS® WITH JEFFREY SIEGEL

The Romantic Music of Chopin

January 17, 2015, 8:00 PM

Bram Goldsmith Theater

As an internationally acclaimed pianist, Jeffrey Siegel has toured the globe, appearing as soloist with some of the world’s greatest orchestras. With **Keyboard Conversations®**, Siegel performs a brilliantly polished concert-with-commentary in a format where lively, captivating remarks precede virtuoso performances of piano masterpieces.

The Romantic Music of Chopin program includes the beloved composer’s compositions whose familiar melodies are not only heard in concert halls, but in movie scores and television commercials. **Keyboard Conversations®** is a perfect concert for avid music lovers and newcomers looking for inviting, instant access to the joys of great music. The *Los Angeles Times* says “Jeffrey Siegel has everything: massive technique, musical sensitivity and character, wide tonal resources, immense reserves of power, and the ability to communicate.”

THE SOLOISTS OF LA SCALA AND NAZZARENO CARUSI

March 19, 2015, 8:00 PM

Bram Goldsmith Theater

A trio formed by two of the most renowned principal clarinet and first viola soloists of the Orchestra of the Teatro alla Scala and the La Scala Philharmonic Orchestra, and a pianist with a unique personality. Here is the formula of a concert dedicated to the masterpieces of chamber music by Mozart, Schumann and Schubert. The three musicians are: Danilo Rossi, who at the age of twenty was chosen by Riccardo Muti to fill the role of first viola soloist, becoming the youngest principal violist in the history of the prestigious theater in Milan; Fabrizio Meloni, for almost thirty years, has played the role of principal clarinet and the exceptional pianist, Nazzareno Carusi, who combines his international concert performances with teaching at some of the most prestigious music academies in the country. They represent the best tradition of Italian music in the world.

SFJAZZ COLLECTIVE

April 19, 2015, 7:00 PM

Bram Goldsmith Theater

The SFJAZZ Collective is an all-star jazz ensemble comprising eight of the finest performer/composers at work in jazz today. Launched in 2004 by SFJAZZ, the Collective has quickly become one of the most exciting and acclaimed groups on the American and international jazz scenes. As soloists, composers and bandleaders, they represent what’s happening now in jazz. More than master instrumentalists, each member is possessed of a totally individual creative voice, working collectively to express a unified musical identity. They also demonstrate that jazz has truly become an international language. Hailing from Puerto Rico, New York, Venezuela, Philadelphia, New Zealand, and Israel, the Collective's multi-cultural lineup mirrors the explosion of jazz talent around the globe. The award-winning all-star SFJAZZ Collective roster includes alto saxophonist Miguel Zenón, tenor saxophonist David Sánchez, vibraphonist Warren Wolf, trumpeter Avishai Cohen, trombonist Robin Eubanks, pianist Edward Simon, bassist Matt Penman and drummer Obed Calvaire. *The New York Times* raves that SFJAZZ Collective is “A reliably superb all-star confab...a superbrain for what serious jazz sounds like now.”

IGOR LEVIT

April 21, 2015, 8:00 PM

Bram Goldsmith Theater

Igor Levit began playing piano at age three, and as a child he had his first successes on the concert stage in his hometown of Nizhny Novgorod, Russia. At age eight, his family moved to Hannover, German where he completed his piano studies at Hannover Academy of Music, Theatre and Media in 2009 with the highest academic and performance scores in the history of the institute. He has appeared in major concert halls and music festivals in the world, and has won several international awards, amongst them second prize at the International Maria Callas Grand Prix, Athens (2004), first prize at the International Piano Academy Competition in Hamamatsu (2004), silver medal and three awards at the Arthur Rubinstein International Piano Master Competition in Tel Aviv (2005) and the Luitpold Prize for young artists in Bad Kissingen (2009). The *London Telegraph* states that “he is set to be one of this century’s big names” and for his Wallis debut, Igor Levit will perform an evening of Beethoven sonatas.

BRENTANO STRING QUARTET

May 9, 2015, 8:00 PM

Bram Goldsmith Theater

Named for Antonie Brentano, whom many scholars consider to be Beethoven’s “Immortal Beloved,” the Brentano String Quartet (Mark Steinberg, violin; Serena Canin, violin; Misha Amory, viola; Nina Lee, cello) was founded in 1992, and has appeared throughout the world to popular and critical acclaim. “Passionate, uninhibited and spellbinding,” raves the *London Independent*; *The New York Times* extols its “luxuriously warm sound [and] yearning lyricism...a gripping performance”; the *Philadelphia Inquirer* praises its “seemingly infallible instincts for finding the center of gravity in every phrase and musical gesture”; and *The Times* (London) opines, “the Brentanos are a magnificent string quartet...This was wonderful, selfless music-making.” In addition to performing the entire two-century range of the standard quartet repertoire, the Brentano String Quartet has a strong interest in both very old and very new music. It has performed many musical works pre-dating the string quartet as a medium, among them Madrigals of Gesualdo, Fantasias of Purcell, and secular vocal works of Josquin. Also, the quartet has worked closely with some of the most important composers of our time including Elliott Carter, Charles Wuorinen, Chou Wen-chung, Steven Mackey, Bruce Adolphé, and György Kurtág. In July 2014, Brentano String Quartet was named Artists in Residence at Yale University.

THEATRE FOR YOUNG AUDIENCES

SPECIAL EVENT

POTTED POTTER

The Unauthorized Harry Experience – A Parody by Dan and Jeff

February 25 – March 1, 2015

Bram Goldsmith Theater

Tuesday – Thursday Eve at 8:00 PM; Friday at 5:00 & 8:00 PM; Saturday at 12:00, 4:00 & 8:00 PM; Sunday at 12:00, 3:00 & 7:00 PM

Playing to sold-out houses all over the world, the Olivier Award nominated ***POTTED POTTER – The Unauthorized Harry Experience – A Parody by Dan and Jeff*** takes on the ultimate challenge of condensing all seven *Harry Potter* books (and a real life game of Quidditch) into seventy hilarious minutes. Even if you don’t know the difference between a horcrux and a Hufflepuff, ***POTTED POTTER*** will make you roar with laughter. Created by two-time Olivier Award-nominated actors Daniel Clarkson and Jefferson Turner, ***POTTED POTTER*** is perfect for ages six to Dumbledore (who is very old indeed). “CRITICS’ PICK! The duo casts the perfect spell over the audience.” – *The New York Times*. “A fabulously funny parody. Will tickle the funny bone of every age group.” – *The London Daily Telegraph*. “CRITICS’ CHOICE! Gloriously irreverent!” – *Time Out London*. “The single funniest thing I’ve seen in ages. You’re gonna love this show.” – *Toronto Star*.

Puppet State Theatre Company

THE MAN WHO PLANTED TREES

Adapted from Jean Giono’s story by Ailie Cohen, Richard Medrington and Rick Conte

Directed by Ailie Cohen

October 11 – 19, 2015

Lovelace Studio Theater

Saturday at 12:00, 2:30 & 5:00 PM; Sunday at 12:00 & 2:30PM

This multi-sensory theatrical adaptation of Jean Giono's environmental classic tells the inspiring story of a shepherd who plants a forest, acorn by acorn, transforming a barren wasteland. As much a touching tale as it is a hilarious puppet show, ***The Man Who Planted Trees*** shows us the difference one man (and his dog!) can make to the world. "Laughs, heartbreak, war, regeneration, scented breezes, sparkling wit and the best dog puppet ever. Perfect for children and grown-ups. Terrific!" – *The Guardian*.

Recommended age 7+/Running time 65 minutes.

Erfreuliches TheatErfurt

THE QUEEN OF COLORS

Based on the book by Jutta Bauer

January 9 – 18, 2015

Lovelace Studio Theater

Friday at 6:00 PM; Saturday at 12:00 & 2:30 PM; Sunday at 12:00 & 2:30PM

Color takes on a giant rainbow of meaning in a smart and sweet tale for young children. Based on the children's book by German author Jutta Bauer, ***The Queen of Colors*** uses ingenious puppetry to weave a simple story about kindness and originality. The Court Painter, who is accompanied by a Court Musician, creates vivid backdrops for the feisty little puppet queen as she ventures into her kingdom to experience the personalities of each color of the rainbow. We soon learn that while fun comes in all colors, too much of a good thing can turn into a mucky, yucky mess. Full of kaleidoscopic wonder and vivid imagination, ***The Queen of Colors***, is a whimsical story about choosing not to color within the lines and unleashing creativity. Winners of the Children's Jury Award at the International Puppet Theater Festival, Germany's Erfreuliches TheatErfurt makes its West Coast debut with a delightful production that weaves music, painting and puppetry which "provides a magnificent, multilayered, multimedia show that educates and entertains." – *The Star Phoenix*.

Recommended age 4-7 / Running time 45 minutes.

Catherine Wheels Theatre Company

LIFEBOAT

By Nicola McCartney

Directed by Gill Robertson

March 13 – 22, 2015

Lovelace Studio Theater

Friday at 6:00 PM; Saturday at 12:00 & 2:30 PM; Sunday at 12:00 & 2:30PM

Lifeboat is the extraordinary true tale of Bess Walder and Beth Cummings, who in 1940 set sail on a ship from Liverpool to Canada to escape the relentless bombing and dangers of war-torn Britain. Four days into the journey, their ship *The City of Benares* was torpedoed and sank. Bess and Beth spent nineteen terrifying hours in the water on an upturned lifeboat through a pounding storm, living to tell their story of survival and friendship. This new production from the extraordinary Catherine Wheels Theatre Company is recommended for ages 10+ and runs 70 minutes.

ARTS & IDEAS: CONVERSATIONS AT THE WALLIS

Writers Bloc and The Wallis present: Leon Panetta

Moderated by Jessica Yellin

October 15, 2014, 7:30 PM

Leon Panetta served in the Barack Obama administration as Director of the Central Intelligence Agency from 2009 to 2011 and as Secretary of Defense from 2011 to 2013. His book *Worthy Fights: A Memoir of Leadership in War and Peace* will be released October 7.

Writers Bloc and The Wallis present: Dick Cavett

Moderated by Paula Poundstone

November 6, 2014, 7:30 PM

Dick Cavett is widely regarded as one of the foremost interviewers of our time, having appeared as a talk show host on American broadcast television from the 1960s through the 2000s. His book *Brief Encounters: Conversations, Magic Moments, and Assorted Hijinks*, will be released on October 28.

Neiman Marcus and The Wallis present: Designer as Dramatist - The Intersection of Fashion & Theater

Spring 2015, 7:00 PM

Ken Downing, Fashion Director, Neiman Marcus

Ken Downing is credited for re-inventing Neiman Marcus of Beverly Hills, and has appeared as a fashion industry expert on the "Oprah Winfrey Show," "The Rachel Zoe Project" and "Project Runway All-Stars."