

****FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****

April 2, 2018

Asolo Rep to Host Auditions for 2018-19 Season

WHAT:

Asolo Rep will host auditions for its upcoming 2018-19 season on Wednesday, April 25 and Thursday, April 26 from 12pm - 6pm.

WHEN:

Wednesday, April 25 and Thursday, April 26 from 12pm - 6pm

WHERE:

Robert and Beverly Koski Production Center
1009 Tallevast Rd
Sarasota, FL 34243

HOW:

To make an appointment, and to view a breakdown of the roles the theatre is seeking to fill, visit <http://www.asolorep.org/auditions>

ASOLO REPERTORY THEATRE 2018-19 SEASON

MEREDITH WILLSON's

THE MUSIC MAN

NOVEMBER 17-DECEMBER 29 • Previews begin November 13

Book, Music and Lyrics by MEREDITH WILLSON

Based on a story by MEREDITH WILLSON and FRANKLIN LACEY

Directed by JEFF CALHOUN

THE MUSIC MAN was the sensation of Broadway when it opened in 1957 and scored six Tony Awards®, including Best Musical (beating out *West Side Story*). Sixty years later it's still an American institution with its one-of-a-kind score including rousing marches ("Seventy-Six Trombones"), soaring ballads ("Till

There Was You”), and Willson’s snap-crackle-pop vocal arrangements that could be considered the Broadway precursors to rap. Fast-talking salesman Harold Hill brings trouble to River City, Iowa when he cons the townspeople into buying instruments for an imaginary band – but his plans to skip town with the cash are foiled when his heart is stolen by the town librarian. For this new, innovative, tap-infused production, Tony Award-nominated director Jeff Calhoun (*Newsies*) returns to Asolo Rep (*Bonnie & Clyde, Pulse*) to direct and award-winning actor, dancer and choreographer Noah Racey (*Pulse*) returns to dazzle in the role of Harold Hill.

THE CRUCIBLE

JANUARY 11–MARCH 10 • Previews JANUARY 9 & 10

By ARTHUR MILLER

Directed by MICHAEL DONALD EDWARDS

Spring, 1692. In the black of night, a Salem village reverend discovers a group of teenage girls dancing devilishly around a fire in the woods. When his daughter exhibits strange catatonic symptoms the following morning, the townsfolk are frenzied with rumors of witchcraft. Deep-seated jealousy, deadly accusations, and seething resentments pit neighbor against neighbor as a deeply religious community is thrown into turmoil. A timeless parable about morality, silence and the devastating consequences when fear takes root in a community, ***THE CRUCIBLE*** is Arthur Miller’s thinly veiled condemnation of the Communist “witch hunt” of his time. The play won the 1953 Tony Award for Best Play and is a landmark work in the canon of American drama.

A DOLL’S HOUSE, PART 2

JANUARY 18–MARCH 31 • Previews January 16 & 17

By LUCAS HNATH

Directed by PETER AMSTER

In the final scene of Ibsen’s 1879 groundbreaking masterwork, Nora Helmer famously slammed the door on her marriage and bourgeois life, leaving her husband and children behind. What happened to the iconic heroine next? This snappy sequel imagines her 15 years later as a successful writer and independent woman, but a skeleton from her past has her returning home to the one man who can help her. Universally acclaimed during its recent Broadway run, this smart and sophisticated new comedy raises fascinating questions about

marriage and the ways the roles of women have – and have not – changed.
(Please note: you will enjoy this play whether you are familiar with Ibsen or not!)

SWEAT

FEBRUARY 8-APRIL 13 • Previews February 6 & 7

By LYNN NOTTAGE

Directed by NICOLE A. WATSON

Winner of the 2017 Pulitzer Prize for Drama, Lynn Nottage's gripping and timely play looks at life in the heart of working class America. It's the year 2000 in the steel town of Reading, Pennsylvania, and all that best friends Tracey and Cynthia need are their steady factory jobs, their favorite bar, and each other. But when layoffs and picket lines begin to chip away at their trust, the friends find themselves pitted against each other in the hard fight to stay afloat. Filled with warm humor and tremendous heart, this stunning new play confronts issues of race, class, family and friendship – and the tragic, unintended costs of a community without opportunity.

NOISES OFF

MARCH 22-APRIL 20 • Previews March 20 & 21

By MICHAEL FRAYN

Director to be announced

Precision timed, cunningly constructed, rip-roaringly hilarious: ***NOISES OFF*** is a comedy of epic proportions, and the laugh-until-you-cry guilty pleasure of audiences for decades. With opening night just hours away, a motley company of actors stumbles through a frantic, final rehearsal of the British sex farce *Nothing On*, and things couldn't be going worse. Lines are forgotten, love triangles are unraveling and sardines are flying everywhere. Complete pandemonium ensues. Brace yourself for a world class production of this incomparable comedy and relish every delicious moment of the show that *The New York Times* exclaims, "voyages to the outer limits of hilarity!"

THE CAKE

IN THE COOK THEATRE

APRIL 5-28 • Previews April 3 & 4

By BEKAH BRUNSTETTER
Directed by LAVINA JADHWANI

Faith, family and frosting collide in this heartfelt new comedy by Bekah Brunstetter, writer/producer of the hit TV series, *This is Us*. Thirty-something Jen wants her deceased mother's best friend Della, a talented but struggling baker, to create her wedding cake. She returns from New York with her betrothed to her North Carolina hometown and finds that Della is tickled pink to honor her wish, until she discovers that there isn't just one bride, but two. Moral quandaries, reality TV, and lots of butter collide in this touching new play told with generosity, humor, and more than a few surprises

SWEENEY TODD
THE DEMON BARBER OF FLEET STREET

A Musical Thriller

MAY 4-26 • Previews begin May 1

Music and Lyrics by STEPHEN SONDHEIM

Book by HUGH WHEELER

From an adaptation by CHRISTOPHER BOND

Directed by PETER ROTHSTEIN

Winner of eight Tony Awards including Best Musical, this dark and twisted tale of love, murder and revenge in 19th-Century London has shocked and delighted audiences worldwide for four decades. Unjustly imprisoned for 15 years, barber Sweeney Todd returns to take his revenge on the judge who took him from his wife and young daughter. Todd's need for vengeance becomes murderous – and profitable – when he partners with the unscrupulous Mrs. Lovett and opens a barber practice above her meat pie shop. With his busy straight razors and her new secret ingredient, their notoriety soars until Todd comes face to face with the judge. In a stunning new staging by Theatre Latte Da of Minneapolis (*Ragtime*, 2018), this thrilling theatrical treat is Sondheim at his very best.

AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS

GREAT FOR ALL AGES!

JUNE 7-23 • Preview June 6

By JULES VERNE • Adapted by LAURA EASON

Directed by THERESA HESKINS

Kenny Wax Family Entertainment and Simon Friend present the New Vic Theatre Production in association with Royal Exchange Theatre

Eight actors, 109 characters, six trains, six boats, four flights, one storm, a circus act and an elephant take center stage when Asolo Rep partners again with UK's Kenny Wax Family Entertainment (*Hetty Feather*, 2016) to bring **AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS** to Sarasota. When the mysterious and fabulously wealthy Phileas Fogg and his faithful servant Passepartout board the train in London in 1875, he has only 80 days to travel around the world to win a wager with his fellow members at the Reform Club. A grand adventure lies ahead in a journey that includes romance, danger and surprises with the illustrious Scotland Yard pursuing him at every turn.

ABOUT ASOLO REP

Now in its 59th season, Asolo Repertory Theatre is recognized as one of the premier professional theatres in America and one of the largest in the Southeastern United States. One of the few select theatres in the nation that performs in true rotating repertory, Asolo Rep's highly skilled acting company and extensive craftsmanship bring to life this unique performance method that gives audiences the opportunity to see multiple productions in the span of a few days. Asolo Rep presents up to 10 productions each season including contemporary and classic works and provocative musical theatre experiences. A theatre district in and of itself, Asolo Rep is committed to expanding its reach into the community, furthering its collaboration with the best theatre artists working in the industry today and cultivating new artists through its affiliation with the FSU/Asolo Conservatory for Actor Training. Under the leadership of Producing Artistic Director Michael Donald Edwards and Managing Director Linda DiGabriele, Asolo Rep's ambitious theatrical offerings and ground-breaking education and community programming engage audiences and ensure its lasting legacy for future generations.

For more information, visit www.asolorep.org

