

Asolo Repertory Theatre is where brilliant artists take on big ideas and produce world class theatre. Join us as a subscriber and participate in our season-long exchange of ideas about how we live now. Our 59th season is filled with incredible stories that reflect our common experiences and promote integrity, determination, and love. Staging Our World.

EVITA

NOVEMBER 18–DECEMBER 30 • Previews November 15-17
Lyrics by TIM RICE • Music by ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER
Directed and Choreographed by JOSH RHODES

The crowning dramatic achievement of Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice, winner of seven Tony Awards, including best musical and best score, *Evita* is among the most passionate and memorable works in musical theater history. Eva Perón used her beauty and charisma to rise from her poverty-stricken roots on the outskirts of Buenos Aires to become the powerful and controversial First Lady of Argentina at the age of 27. She won international acclaim and adoration as a champion of the poor, while glamour, power and greed made her the world's first major political celebrity. With an electrifying score inspired by Latin, pop and jazz including the riveting anthem, "Don't Cry for me Argentina," this iconic musical is set to dazzle with a spectacular new staging at Asolo Rep.

SHAKESPEARE IN LOVE

JANUARY 13–March 28 • Previews January 10-12
Based on the screenplay by MARC NORMAN
and TOM STOPPARD

Adapted for the stage by LEE HALL
Directed by RACHEL ROCKWELL

Tom Stoppard and Marc Norman's brilliant seven-time Academy Award winning film, including Best Picture, bursts to life on the Asolo Rep stage. Promising young playwright Will Shakespeare is tormented by writer's block while two competing theatre managers are demanding new comedies replete with romance, adventure and maybe a funny bit with a dog. To his rescue comes the beautiful and vibrant Viola, Will's greatest admirer and the inspiration he's been longing for. But Viola has a secret and Will finds himself star-cross'd. This sweeping romantic comedy is a love letter to the arts, as Viola proclaims: "I will have poetry in my life. And adventure. And love. Love above all."

THE MORNING AFTER GRACE

JANUARY 19–MARCH 4 • Previews January 17 & 18
By CAREY CRIM

Directed by PETER AMSTER

Hilarious and heart-warming, this unconventional new comedy tackles love, loss, and coming to terms with growing old. After hooking up at a funeral, Angus and Abigail find themselves waking up the next morning wrapped in sheets on Angus' sofa. Strangers just the day before, Abigail thinks she may finally be ready to take another chance on love, but Angus has a few issues to work through first. Enter neighbor Ollie, formerly a baseball player for the Detroit Tigers who now enjoys golf and yoga. Nothing is as it seems with this trio and every disclosure reveals a new perspective. Set in a nearby Florida retirement community, this charming and big-hearted comedy takes us on an unexpected journey toward a new lease on life.

RHINOCEROS

FEBRUARY 9-APRIL 14 • Previews February 7 & 8
By EUGÈNE IONESCO

Translated by DEREK PROUSE

Directed by FRANK GALATI

A farce. A tragedy. A brilliant experiment for the mind. Brace yourself for an exhilarating experience staged by two-time Tony Award winner Frank Galati. Berenger is a simple man with a simple life. He has a regular job, drinks too much, and has a flirtatious relationship with his coworker Daisy. But his day is interrupted by a rhinoceros charging through town – then another and another. Berenger begins to ponder the ramifications of literally following the herd. Written just after World War II, *Rhinoceros* is still considered a masterpiece of absurdist theatre, where the world is incomprehensible and anything a writer can imagine can happen. Don't miss this hilarious satire about mass culture, conformity, and integrity.

ROE

MARCH 16-APRIL 14 • Previews March 14 & 15

By LISA LOOMER

Directed by LAVINA JADHWANI

As the U.S. adjusts to a new administration and millions of women march in solidarity around the world, *Roe* emerges at a pivotal time in our nation's history. The lawyer: a young, brilliant, courageous woman arguing *Roe v. Wade* before the Supreme Court. The plaintiff: a hard-living, single woman who, in 1969, found herself poor and pregnant for a third time. The landmark 1973 case legalized abortion, but also began unforeseen transformations for these women, mirroring the polarization in American culture. With shocking turns and surprising humor, *Roe* illuminates the difficult choices women make and the passion each side has for its cause.

RAGTIME

MAY 4-27 • Previews May 1-3

Book by TERENCE MCNALLY

Music by STEPHEN FLAHERTY

Lyrics by LYNN AHRENS

Directed by PETER ROTHSTEIN

A collaboration with Seattle's 5th Avenue Theatre

It's the dawn of the 20th Century in New York... a time of enormous change, of new ideas, and the world is moving to the music of ragtime. This epic Tony Award winning musical depicts the struggles, successes, hopes and dreams of a white, upper-middle class family in New Rochelle, an African-American musician and his girlfriend in Harlem, and a Jewish immigrant and his daughter on the Lower East Side. Interwoven with their stories are the newsmakers of the era including Harry Houdini, Booker T. Washington, J.P. Morgan and Henry Ford. Minneapolis director Peter Rothstein has re-envisioned this originally massive musical into an innovative, highly theatrical production that, in today's world, resonates to the very heart.

ADDITIONAL 2017-18 PRODUCTIONS:

GLORIA

IN THE COOK THEATRE

APRIL 6-29 • Previews April 4 & 5

By BRANDEN JACOBS-JENKINS

Directed by GREG LEAMING

Style. Status. Success. A group of twenty-something editorial assistants are pursuing it all at one of New York's most esteemed cultural magazines. But declining readership, diminishing advertising revenue and forced layoffs have employees tense and compative behind their cubicle walls. When a seemingly normal day at the office turns out to be anything but, these aspiring journalists are given inspiration in a way they never expected. A Pulitzer Prize finalist and one of The New York Times Best Theater Picks of 2015, this hilariously dark and shocking play takes audiences on an unpredictable, unnerving journey to a simple and very human insight.

SUMMER FAMILY PRODUCTION

JUNE 8-30 • Previews June 6 & 7

Asolo Rep continues its commitment to present world class, family friendly productions each June. To be announced very soon!

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