



AMERICAN PLAYERS THEATRE

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AMERICAN PLAYERS THEATRE ANNOUNCES 2022 Season

Lineup includes five plays originally slated for the theater's canceled 2020 season

SPRING GREEN, WIS: American Players Theatre (APT) has announced the 2022 season lineup, including five plays originally planned to run in the 2020 season, which was canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The summer season will run June 11 through October 9, 2022. The lineup in the 1,089-seat, outdoor Hill Theatre includes William Shakespeare's *Hamlet*, directed by James DeVita, and *Love's Labour's Lost*, directed by Artistic Director Brenda DeVita; Richard Brinsley Sheridan's comedy of manners *The Rivals* directed by Aaron Posner; Jane Austen's *Sense and Sensibility*, adapted by Jessica Swale and directed by Marti Lyons; and Lorraine Hansberry's great American classic, *A Raisin in the Sun*, directed by Tasia A. Jones. And in the 200-seat indoor Touchstone Theatre, the season includes *The River Bride* by Marisela Treviño Orta, directed by Robert Ramirez; *The Brothers Size* by Tarell Alvin McCraney, directed by APT Core Company Member Gavin Lawrence; and *The Moors* by Jen Silverman, directed by Keira Fromm. *Stones in His Pockets* by Marie Jones, directed by Tim Ocel, will run in fall of 2022, dates to be announced later.

Artistic Director Brenda DeVita said, "2022 is about moving forward and building on all that we've accomplished, not just this year – and let's be clear, our 2021 season was a huge, amazing accomplishment – but building on the plans that we've been making over the last decade. That examination of what makes a classic, and how do we continue to evolve and grow as an organization and a company? And you'll see that conversation continue in the 2022 plays."

"We are welcoming back a big, beautiful, quintessential APT season, with two Shakespeares and a restoration comedy, which our company is singularly suited to perform. We are returning to our repertory structure, which we missed more than we ever would have imagined. And we are exploring incredible plays by playwrights that APT has not been able to stage in the past, like Lorraine Hansberry and Tarell Alvin McCraney and Jen Silverman. It all feels like both a part of our foundation and a part of our future, and it's just thrilling to be starting work on what we hope and expect will be a glorious summer."

Ticket on-sale dates will be released at a later date. The season calendar will be released in early January, 2022. More information at americanplayers.org.

The 2022 Plays

In the Hill Theatre

The Rivals

By Richard Brinsley Sheridan

Directed by Aaron Posner

Lydia Languish is bound and determined to marry only for love, a situation that she expects (and, oddly, hopes) will land her in the poor house. This causes a conundrum for the wealthy Jack Absolute, who is in love with Lydia, but doesn't meet the requirement of being destitute. So to woo her, Jack takes on the persona of Ensign Beverly, a poor enlisted man. But Lydia's aunt, the ridiculous Mrs. Malaprop, can never allow such a love connection, setting the couple and their cohort into a hilarious comedy of manners; the kind that APT hits right in the sweet spot.

Featuring Kelsey Brennan, Phoebe González, David Daniel, Brian Mani & Marcus Truschinski

Jane Austen's

Sense and Sensibility

Adapted by Jessica Swale

Directed by Marti Lyons

When the well-off Henry Dashwood passes away, his estate, by law, goes to his eldest son, John, leaving Henry's second wife and three daughters – young Margaret, tempestuous Marianne and reserved Elinor – with no home, and little income. Those are high stakes for women in the early 1800s, and the ladies are forced to rely on the kindness of the good-hearted Middletons. Though times are hard, the sisters meet many new friends along the way, and soon Marianne and Elinor find that, while love is easy enough to fall into, it can be a hard emotion to negotiate when your family and future are on the line. A charming romance from Jane Austen.

Featuring Tracy Michelle Arnold, Sarah Day, Tim Gittings, Jamal James, Brian Mani, Laura Rook & Marcus Truschinski

Hamlet

By William Shakespeare

Directed by James DeVita

Returning home from school after the death of his father and rapid remarriage of his mother to his uncle, Hamlet is pondering his options. Did his uncle, Claudius, murder his father? How much does his mother, Gertrude, know about the perceived crime? How far will the young prince go while investigating, and who will pay the price for what he finds? Family bonds balance on the head of a pin, as the collective father-son relationship pulses through every word; a play that revels in contradictions and defies categorization, last seen at APT in 2013.

Featuring Nate Burger as Hamlet. Also featuring Kelsey Brennan, David Daniel, Alys Dickerson, Jamal James, Chiké Johnson, Colleen Madden & Triney Sandoval.

A Raisin in the Sun

By Lorraine Hansberry

Directed by Tasia A. Jones

On the South Side of Chicago in the 1950s, the Youngers have lost their patriarch. But with this tragedy comes a rare financial boon for the family - a \$10,000 insurance payment that could change their lives and fulfill dreams long postponed. As their family dynamics spin, it soon becomes clear that everyone has different ideas about how the money should be used, causing divisions and mistrust. A stunning American classic that examines how racism suppresses the lives and aspirations of Black families.

Featuring Chiké Johnson, Gavin Lawrence & Greta Oglesby

Love's Labour's Lost

By William Shakespeare

Directed by Brenda DeVita

An early Shakespeare comedy returns to our stage for the first time in two decades. The King of Navarre and his three companions, Berowne, Dumaine and Longaville, commit themselves to three years of hard study with no distractions. To firm up his resolve, the King declares that no woman will be allowed within a mile of the court. When a French Princess arrives with her attendants, Rosaline, Maria and Katherine, the men immediately regret their oath in this fun and satisfying summer Shakespeare.

Featuring Nate Burger, David Daniel, Melisa Pereyra, James Ridge, Marcus Truschinski & Triney Sandoval

In the Touchstone Theatre

The River Bride

By Marisela Treviño Orta

Directed by Robert Ramirez

Helena's feelings about her sister Belmira's wedding to Duarte are complicated, much like her relationships with both Belmira and Duarte themselves. But Helena's thoughts are redirected when her father literally fishes a mysterious man out of the Amazon River, sending everyone's plans into upheaval in this lyrical fable about the complexities of love.

Featuring Erica Cruz Hernández, Melisa Pereyra, Ronald Román-Meléndez & Triney Sandoval

The Brothers Size

By Tarell Alvin McCraney

Directed by Gavin Lawrence

In the Louisiana bayou, Ogun Size is the hardworking and steady brother to the younger Oshoosi. Ogun worries constantly about his brother, who's fresh out of jail, and when Elegba, Oshoosi's former prison-mate, arrives with a gift, the brothers' relationship is thrown out of balance. Influenced by the rich culture of the Yoruba people of West Africa, this contemporary tale begins in ritual and evolves into a tough and tender drama of what it means to brother and be brothered. Combining flights of poetry, music and dance, *The Brothers Size* explores the tenuousness of freedom and the need to belong.

Featuring Nathan Barlow, Jalen Gilbert & Rasell Holt

The Moors

By Jen Silverman

Directed by Keira Fromm

A young governess arrives at a remote manor after exchanging semi-romantic correspondence with the mysterious Mr. Branwell. But when the door opens, the only residents of the house seem to be Branwell's two sisters, a maid (or maybe two maids?) and a lovelorn mastiff. And no man to be found, or child to be cared for. An inspired, whimsical satire that both embraces and sends up the gothic musings of the Brontë sisters; a play the New York Times called "...the reason we go to theater."

Featuring Tracy Michelle Arnold, Kelsey Brennan, Jim DeVita & Colleen Madden.

Stones in His Pockets

By Marie Jones

Directed by Tim Ocel

Two down-on-their-luck men in a down-on-its-luck Irish town are given what they hope is a chance at the good life. Jake and Charlie have been cast as extras in a Hollywood movie – a shaft of light through the clouds of their dreary rural existence. Like most sets, this one is rife with drama on stage and off – some hilarious and some heartbreaking – as the American cast and crew try to immerse themselves in Jake and Charlie’s culture, and vice-versa. A two-hander with each actor playing multiple characters in this unique and enthralling tragicomedy.

Featuring Nate Burger & Marcus Trushinski playing every role.

About the Theatre

APT is a professional repertory theater devoted to the great and future classics. It was founded in 1979 and continues to be one of the most popular outdoor classical theaters in the nation.

The Theatre is located in Spring Green, Wis., on 110 acres of hilly woods and meadows above the Wisconsin River. The outdoor amphitheater is built within a natural hollow atop an oak-wooded hill. Under the dome of sky, 1,089 comfortably cushioned seats encircle three sides of the stage. In 2009, APT opened the 201-seat indoor Touchstone Theatre, offering a different type of play and experience.

For more information, visit www.americanplayers.org

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