

## American Players Theatre Celebrates Two More Play Openings

*The River Bride* by Marisela Treviño Orta, and *Sense and Sensibility* by Jane Austen and adapted by Jessica Swale open this weekend.

**SPRING GREEN, WI:** American Players Theatre (APT) will open two more plays this week. In the Touchstone Theatre, *The River Bride*, directed by returning APT artist Robert Ramirez, will hold its official opening night on Sunday, June 25, 2022, at 2:00 pm following two previews. In the Hill Theatre, *Sense and Sensibility*, directed by Marti Lyons, will also open Sunday, June 25, 2022, at 8:00 pm.

Romantic, lush and magical, *The River Bride* is the first show of APT's 43<sup>rd</sup> season to take place in the Touchstone Theatre, the indoor venue completed in 2009. *The River Bride* has a small, powerful ensemble of six actors, including Core Company member Melisa Pereyra. Ronald Román-Meléndez, Eduardo Xavier Curley-Carrillo, Triney Sandoval, and Erica Cruz Hernández return to APT, welcoming newcomer Gabriela Castillo to complete the cast.

*Sense and Sensibility* is a staple of Jane Austen's repertoire of timeless love stories. Austen's work has only been performed once before at APT (*Pride and Prejudice* in the 2015 season), and *Sense and Sensibility* was originally slated for the 2020 season. So it is far time to welcome audiences back to this romance of the Regency Era. With a large ensemble cast featuring Tracy Michelle Arnold, Isabelle Bushue, Sarah Day, Ty Fanning, Tim Gittings, Jamal James, Brian Mani, Samantha Newcomb, Nancy Rodriguez, Laura Rook and Marcus Truschinski, the stage is set to bring the story of the Dashwood sisters to life.

Artistic Director Brenda DeVita said of the new arrivals, "*The River Bride* is a play that we've been wanting to produce for a long time now. It was a Winter Words reading in 2018, and we knew right away it was something special – beautiful and romantic and just exquisitely written. The playwright, Marisela Treviño Orta is a genius with poetic language and family dynamics. And our director, the lovely Robert Ramirez, was the Voice & Text Director on the original production at Oregon Shakespeare Festival, and Triney Sandoval was in the original cast of the play. So it's all come together in a way that feels kind of perfect."

DeVita continued, "When we produced our first Austen play, *Pride and Prejudice* in 2015, the enthusiasm was kind of amazing. I mean, who doesn't love Jane Austen? Her storytelling is so graceful, and her grasp of human emotions, and the deals we make with ourselves to balance happiness with our own sense of duty, and identity, and self-worth is all so relatable. And at the same time it's so lush and romantic. This adaptation really focuses in on the relationship between these sisters, these women, and their love for each other, without sidelining their feelings for the men in their lives. I could not be more excited to share these very romantic, and very different, plays with our amazing audience. It's going to be a good weekend."

*The River Bride* will play through September 30, 2022. *Sense and Sensibility* will play through October 9, 2022. For more information on tickets, please visit the APT website at [www.americanplayers.org](http://www.americanplayers.org), or call the APT box office at (608) 588-2361.

## **About the Theater**

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. APT is located in Spring Green, Wis., on 110 acres of hilly woods and meadows above the Wisconsin River. The 1,089-seat outdoor amphitheater is built within a natural hollow atop an oak-wooded hill. 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](http://www.americanplayers.org).

## **Also Playing at APT this Season**

### **Hill Theatre**

#### **The Rivals**

By Richard Brinsley Sheridan  
Directed by Aaron Posner  
June 11 – September 17

Jane Austen's

#### **Sense and Sensibility**

Adapted by Jessica Swale  
Directed by Marti Lyons  
June 17 – October 9

#### **Hamlet**

By William Shakespeare  
Directed by James DeVita  
June 24-October 8

#### **A Raisin in the Sun**

By Lorraine Hansberry  
Directed by Tasia A. Jones  
August 5- October 7

#### **Love's Labour's Lost**

By William Shakespeare  
Directed by Brenda DeVita  
August 12- October 2

### **Touchstone Theatre**

#### **The River Bride**

By Marisela Treviño Orta  
Directed by Robert Ramirez  
June 17- September 30

#### **The Brothers Size**

By Tarell Alvin McCraney  
Directed by Gavin Lawrence  
June 28 – October 8

#### **The Moors**

By Jen Silverman  
Directed by Keira Fromm  
August 13 – October 9

#### **Stones in His Pockets**

By Marie Jones  
Directed by Tim Ocel  
October 27 – November 20