

**SRQ**

SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT TO  
THE OCTOBER 2017 EDITION  
OF *SRQ* MAGAZINE

Theater  
Performances  
Museum Exhibits  
Art Galleries  
Festivals  
Dance

Sarasota  
Bradenton  
Venice

# CULTURE PRIMER

2017-18 GUIDE TO  
THE ARTS + CULTURE SEASON



## ArtCenter Manatee

Founded in 1937, ArtCenter Manatee stakes its claim as the nexus of Bradenton's visual arts scene. Within the 10,000-square-foot complex, three galleries bring new exhibits monthly, five classrooms provide arts education to more than 3,000 students and the gift shop offers singular and handcrafted items from local artists. All exhibits are free to the public. [artcentermanatee.org](http://artcentermanatee.org)

### AMERICAN WATERCOLOR SOCIETY

#### TRAVELING EXHIBITION Feb 13–Mar 23.

The American Watercolor Society celebrates 150 years of fine art with a traveling exhibit making a stop right in Bradenton. Featuring the work of near 150 artists, including Sarasota's own Judy Saltzman, the show hangs in the Kellogg Gallery.

### SOUTHERN WATERCOLOR SOCIETY

#### CURATED SHOW May 15–June 22.

Bringing its 41st Annual Juried Exhibition to Bradenton, the Southern Watercolor Society takes over all three of ArtCenter Manatee's galleries with a collection juried by international award-winning master watercolorist John Salminen. In addition to the exhibit, Salminen will be teaching a watercolor workshop for interested artists.

## ArtCenter Sarasota

Located off Tamiami Trail, Art Center Sarasota has made a name for itself as the community gallery for the city and county. Between bringing artists from across the state and beyond for solo and collaborative exhibitions, and the Center's many open and juried competitions seeing submissions from hundreds of local artists across the region, Art Center Sarasota keeps all four of its galleries filled as much as possible, free and open to all visitors. [artsarasota.org](http://artsarasota.org).

#### SLOW TURBULENCE Oct 19–Dec 1.

International artist Abhidnya Ghuge brings her large-scale installations to the gallery for a site-specific creation in Gallery 3. Using hand-carved birch woodblocks

and printing her designs on thousands of paper plates, Ghuge creates monumental paper sculptures and forms that seem to unfold throughout the room, allowing visitors to walk under, around and through the transformed space.

**FLOATING CUBES Dec 15–Jan 19.** Recently showing with the *Skyway: A Contemporary Collaboration* exhibition uniting The Ringling Museum with the Museum of Fine Arts in St. Petersburg and the Tampa Museum of Art, artist Akiko Kotani comes to Art Center Sarasota for another site-specific installation. Working in weaved plastic, Kotani explores minimalism and simplicity as she pushes the boundaries of her medium.

**MY SARASOTA Feb 1–Mar 9.** An illustrator, graphic designer and former student of the great Paul Rand, John Pirman unites influences from modern architecture and Swiss design to pop culture and old posters of the WPA for his own distinct, minimalist and symbolic style. See vibrant illustrations of Florida life, as well as Pirman's own renderings of modern architecture pieces.

## Artist Series Concerts

With a mission to present concerts to the community that promote both enjoyment and cultural appreciation, Artist Series Concerts presents primarily classical music programming, with a focus on piano and voice, but its versatile performers regularly expand the repertoire to incorporate Broadway, cabaret, opera and even the sounds of cinema. [artistseriesconcerts.org](http://artistseriesconcerts.org)

### BACHFEST SARASOTA

**Nov 15–19.** Celebrate the life and work of Johann Sebastian Bach through six concert events in this weeklong festival from the mind of Artist Series Concerts Artistic Director Joseph Holt. Kicking off with *The Illegitimate Bach*, a satirical spoof featuring composer Peter Schickele (and alter-ego P.D.Q. Bach), four hands piano and guest performances from Choral Artists of Sarasota, the festival continues through the week with an intimate harpsichord and violin concert, a lunchtime performance dedicated to Bach's works for the organ, a full choral presentation from Choral Artists and a documentary narrated by Kenneth Branagh.

### TANGO!! PABLO ZIEGLER QUARTET

**FOR NEW TANGO Jan 28.** All the way from Buenos Aires, Latin Grammy-winning pianist and composer Pablo Ziegler celebrates the tango in all its forms in an intimate chamber music setting. Credited with helping shape the modern tango, Ziegler brings his own compositions, as well as works of tango legends such as Ángel Villoldo, Gerardo Matos Rodríguez and Ástor Piazzolla, for whom Ziegler served as pianist for many years and iconic recordings.

### GLOBAL JAZZ & EXOTIC CHAMBER MUSIC MR. HO'S ORCHESTROTICA

**Feb 25.** Pulling from disparate influences across the globe, Mr. Ho's Orchestrotica references everything from Tchaikovsky and Shostakovich to George Gershwin, Martin Denny, and John Adams, for a jazzy sound all its own, sprinkled with world music traditions from Asia, the Middle East, the Balkans and Latin America. Performing as a quintet, selections range from Gershwin's Preludes to the original "Would You Like Bongos with that Fugue?"

### FROM BROADWAY TO HOLLYWOOD

**March 17.** Acclaimed pianist and winner of four Telly Awards for Outstanding Achievement in Entertainment, Richard Glazier takes the audience down memory lane with a concert dedicated to some of Broadway's most famous tunes to make the jump to cinema. Bringing in medleys from *West Side Story* and *My Fair Lady*, next to hit singles like "Send in the Clowns" and "People," Glazier shares origin stories and backstage tidbits alongside rare film clips.

### JAMES BOND IN CELLO CASE

**April 28.** Putting the debonaire and danger back into the cello, the Rastrelli Cello Quartet thrills and entertains with nontraditional programming and performance leading back to a single source—MI6 superspy James Bond. Founded by artistic director Kira Kraftzoff with a mission to perform music "between the genres," the quartet brings iconic Bond songs to new life, ranging from the days of Sean Connery and *From Russia with Love* to Daniel Craig's modern incarnation and grunge god Chris Cornell's "You Know My Name."



**COVER:** David Bintley's *'Still Life'* at the Penguin Cafe, photo by Bill Cooper. **THIS PAGE, L-R:** EnsembleNewSRQ's George Nickson and Samantha Bennett, Photo by MHoller, Ringling International Arts Festival; *Gloria*, Asolo Repertory Theatre.



## Asolo Repertory Theatre

A leading artistic force on the creative coast, Asolo's theatrical scene is a major contributor to Sarasota's rich cultural atmosphere and is well known for its diverse spread of yearly productions. With inspiring and engaging performances, the theatre never fails to envelop their audience in a vibrant and entertaining environment. In this first year since the close of its five-season American Character Project, Asolo Rep revives old classics and brings brand new productions, providing both escapist entertainment and needed social commentary. [asolorep.org](http://asolorep.org)

### EVITA

**Nov 14–Dec 30.** Directed and choreographed by Josh Rhodes and winner of eight Tony Awards, *Evita* is among the most passionate and memorable productions in music theater history. The musical retells the story of Eva Perón, Argentina's celebrated and controversial First Lady. With an electrifying Latin-infused score by Andrew Lloyd Webber, including the captivating anthem, "Don't Cry for Me Argentina," this exemplary musical is set to impress with a spectacular new staging at Asolo Rep.

### SHAKESPEARE IN LOVE

**Jan 10–March 28.** Adapted for the stage by Lee Hall and directed by Rachel Rockwell, *Shakespeare in Love* will offer an entrancing theater production that follows the story of Will Shakespeare, a struggling playwright tormented by writer's block. To his rescue comes the vivacious 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 in this sweeping romantic comedy that is a sincere love letter to the arts.

### RHINOCEROS

**Feb 7–April 14.** A biting absurdist satire from Eugene Ionesco, written in the face of the horrors of World War II, a seemingly normal man wakes up, goes to work, drinks too much and flirts with his coworker, when normalcy is shattered by the thundering arrival of a full-grown rhinoceros. As the townsfolk transform into horned beasts around him, this simple man must contemplate the temptation and tragedy of following the herd. Directed by the Tony Award-winning Frank Galati.

### ROE

**March 14–April 15.** Written by Lisa Loomer and directed by Lavina Jadhvani, *Roe* takes the viewer inside the personal and public battles of the two women at the heart of the landmark Supreme Court case, *Roe v.*

*Wade*. From recreating the case itself, with the help of actual audio recording from the justices of the time, to exploring the aftereffects on the lives of both, Loomer gives nuanced and surprisingly humorous life to both sides of the contentious debate, for a show less about preaching one side and more about understanding all.

### GLORIA

**April 4–April 29.** Directed by Greg Leaming, this biting commentary on the office environment and the drive to succeed marries the horror of shocking workplace violence with a satirical sendup of how individuals respond, whether taking advantage or falling apart. A Pulitzer Prize finalist and selected by *The New York Times* as one of the best shows of 2015, beyond the blood and banter lies a simple but arresting truth.

### JUNGLE BOOK

**Jun 6–24.** Asolo Rep is thrilled to present this world premiere from the creators of the hit show *Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea*. Using the same jaw-dropping multimedia theatrical approach, *Jungle Book* reimagines Kipling's classic stories through modern eyes to transport audiences to the world's jungles. From Mowgli the Man-Cub to Baloo the Bear, Kaa the Snake and more, *Jungle Book* brings the characters audiences know and love to life while also introducing some of the other colorful inhabitants of





Kipling's books. Through eye-popping video, interactive technology and the whimsical and soulful stories, poems and songs from the original novel, this time-honored tale promises to be a feast for the senses.

## Florida Studio Theatre

Located in the heart of downtown, Florida Studio Theatre is one of Sarasota's oldest and funkiest professional theaters, filling its veritable village of theaters—the historic Keating and Gompertz theaters, the Parisian-style Goldstein, the John C. Court Cabaret stage and the Bowne's Lab Theatre—with productions both original and classic. With an ongoing dedication to the improvisational and cabaret arts, audiences can find everything from the traditional straight play to a night of impossible-to-predict shenanigans. [floridastudiotheatre.org](http://floridastudiotheatre.org).

### ONCE

**Nov 8–Dec 31.** *Once* tells the heartfelt story of a Dublin street musician on the verge of hanging up his instrument when a striking woman begins to fancy his haunting love songs. As their chemistry bonds them more tightly, his music expands to new heights. *Once*'s first note will captivate you and never let go in this remarkable story about the connective power of music.

### HEISENBERG

**Dec 13–Mar 4.** Initiating a comic and electric dance of love, young Georgie falls for the much older Alex, planting a surreptitious kiss on his neck as the two collide in the crowded London train station. Strangers now connected through an impulsive act of affection, the two engage in a back and forth of romantic stakes, where everything is uncertain, including human connection.

### NATIVE GARDENS

**Jan 24–Mar 25.** Good fences make good neighbors, but bad fences can start a feud. When lawyer Pablo and his pregnant wife Tania move into a new house next to Frank and Virginia, two respected members of the community, a dispute over a longstanding fence spirals out of control into a battle of comical proportions. Clashing on everything from taste and privilege to accusations of entitlement, when a molehill becomes a mountain, nobody wins.

### IMPENETRABLE

**Apr 4–May 25.** Inspired by true events, when a local spa hits on a new marketing technique—a billboard of a bikini-clad woman with all her bodily flaws highlighted and suggesting a trip to the spa—the business finds itself at the center of controversy. But as the people of the town protest the message of the billboard, messages get muddled and it becomes unclear whether the spa or society's self-image is under attack. Whip-smart with a comic edge.

**THIS PAGE:** *Once*, coming to Florida Studio Theatre.

## La Musica

Specializing in chamber music presentation and production, La Musica has carved a place in its decades-long tenure as a musical meeting of the minds, bringing esteemed performers from Europe and the US together for collaborative performances. Under the direction of Artistic Director Bruno Guiranna and President Sally Faron, La Musica continues to explore this season. They produce an annual La Musica Chamber Festival every April. [lamusica.org](http://lamusica.org).

### SONATA A DUE

**Dec 6.** La Musica opens its season at The Field Club with an intimate recital performance. Enjoy cocktails and a fine dinner with fellow chamber music enthusiasts while violist David Avshalomov and pianist Derek Han perform a recital.

### "SOURCES OF INSPIRATION" FESTIVAL

**Apr 9–18.** Hosted at the Sarasota Opera House, La Musica stages four concerts for a springtime festival celebrating musical virtuosity and the grandeur of the concert stage. With single concert tickets at \$40 and bundled deals for the entire festival run, rehearsal passes are also available for sale, for those wanting a behind-the-scenes look at how professional musicians prepare for their next performance.

## Manatee Players

Housed in the Manatee Performing Arts Center, the Manatee Players reign as Bradenton's most prominent theater and performing arts troupe. With producing artistic director Rick Kerby at the helm, The Manatee Players showcases the area's extensive talent pool through comedies, dramas and musicals, sometimes wrangling it all together for one big community event. [manateeperformingartscenter.com](http://manateeperformingartscenter.com)

### ANNA IN THE TROPICS

**Oct 12–29.** Set in 1929 Florida, this touching play explores the relationship between workers in a Cuban–American cigar factory and their new "lector," someone charged

with educating and entertaining the workers. The workers become entranced by the new lector's choice to read aloud from Leo Tolstoy's *Anna Karenina*. Armed with Tolstoy's compassionate and radical views calling for the empowerment of laborers, the lector will inspire a strong sense of rugged individualism.

#### FLOWERS FOR ALGERNON

**Nov 30–Dec 17.** When a laboratory experiment successfully increases the intelligence of a mouse, Charlie Gordon, a spirited autistic man, volunteers as the first subject for human trials. He is a character with conflicting energies—he is a fool, a genius, a man in search of himself and the willing victim of a strange experiment. The play grapples with society's less-than-ideal treatment of mental illness, the ethics of human experimentation and the difficulty faced in accepting and loving ourselves.

#### NINE

**Jan 11–28.** Guido Contini is a wreck and dreading his 40th birthday, a dread that stifles the easy flow of his creative juices. Torn between his film star wife and the voices of the many muses and mistresses from his past, he runs off to Venice in search of inspiration. In a swirl of present issues, revisiting traumatic memories and grasping at women like straws, Contini finds himself on the verge of total annihilation.

#### GOOD

**Apr 5–22.** Set in pre-war Germany, the story probes the cultural and psychological process of normalizing racism. John Halder is a liberal-minded college professor with a seemingly innocuous home life whose best friend is a Jewish psychiatrist named Maurice. Halder is initially sceptical of the Nazi party's exaggerated message of hate, but eventually his lack of moral development sees him overrun by the Nazi propaganda machine, culminating in his one-time best friend being deported to Auschwitz.



#### NICE WORK IF YOU CAN GET IT

**Apr 26–May 13.** A play written in the spirit of Gatsby, *Nice Work* tells the riveting story of a wealthy bachelor in search of meaning. Jimmy Winter is marrying just to appease his mother and retain his inheritance, but when he drunkenly stumbles into a team of bootleggers, his life unwittingly takes a turn for the new. The bootleggers at first use Winter to gain access to his empty beach house in order to store their stolen gin. But a series of escalating events illuminates many new truths that will change the lives of all characters.

#### Mote Marine

Mote Marine is an independent marine research institution comprised of world-class marine scientists committed to the belief that the conservation and sustainable use of the oceans begins with research and education. Meet their fish and their scientists at the working aquarium which gives visitors an up-close experience with a variety of marine animals and fish, including two touch tanks and a 125,000 gallon shark habitat. Say hello to star residents like the manatees Hugh and Buffett and the sea turtles Hang Tough, Harry, Shelley, Montego and Squirt2. More than 100 species of marine life call Mote their home. Enjoy their newest exhibits, *The Teeth Beneath: The Wild World of Gators, Crocs and Caimans and Otters and Their Waters*. [mote.org](http://mote.org)

#### SEA DEBRIS—AWARENESS THROUGH

**ART Dec 9–Jun.** Huge and beautiful artworks made of marine debris including *Greta the Great White Shark* and *Natasha the Turtle* will arrive at Mote Marie this winter to heighten awareness of the 4.4 pounds on average of trash generated by each American daily. The exhibit features larger-than-life, marine-inspired sculptures made entirely of plastic and other debris gathered from the Oregon coastline. These handmade pieces range from 15 feet long and 10 feet wide to 7 feet long and 8 feet high. More than seven of these realistic but whimsical sculptures at Mote will fascinate and educate children, the young at heart and all those who seek creative solutions to environmental challenges.

#### Perlman Music Program

The Perlman Music Program (PMP) has held a winter residency in Sarasota since 2004. This intensive 17-day program was founded by Toby Perlman, wife of internationally acclaimed concert violinist and conductor Itzhak Perlman. PMP offers unparalleled musical training for international students, ages 12 to 20+, who play the violin, viola, cello and bass. With a faculty led by Toby and Itzhak Perlman and comprising some of the most gifted musical talents of our time, the PMP Sarasota Winter Residency offers an artistic and personal experience that changes students' lives forever. The winter residency's free public events include orchestra and chorus rehearsals, master classes and works-in-progress student recitals, which attract more than 13,000 audience members each year. Question and answer sessions with the Perlman family and PMP students and faculty follow many of these events. These events take place in a heated, outdoor performance tent on the grounds of the USF Sarasota-Manatee campus. Each year, the winter residency culminates with the Celebration Concert with Itzhak Perlman conducting the PMP String Orchestra and Patrick Romano leading the PMP Chorus at the Sarasota Opera House. Visit [perlmanmusicprogramsuncoast.org](http://perlmanmusicprogramsuncoast.org)

#### The Players Centre for Performing Arts

Sarasota's longest running community theater, the newly rebranded Players Centre for Performing Arts has woven itself into the fabric of the cultural landscape by putting the community on stage, season after season. With the annual Broadway series bringing some of the biggest musicals to town and S.N.A.P. shows offering a taste of "Something New" each season, artistic director Jeffery Kin keeps the audience guessing. [theplayers.org](http://theplayers.org).

ABOVE: Sarasota Orchestra, courtesy of Sarasota Orchestra



LEFT: Sarasota Cuban Ballet, courtesy of Soho Images.

### MOON OVER BUFFALO

**Nov 2–19.** With its situational comedy, sexual innuendo and slapstick, this play will offer audiences a laughing ab workout. A married pair of has-been travelling actors are aching for one more shot at stardom, but the husband, George, could derail his marriage to Charlotte and squash their dreams when he has an affair with a young ingénue. In a tornado of quirky twists that often threaten to break the fourth wall and immerse the audience, *Moon Over Buffalo* is a locomotive of emotions that ends in pure catharsis.

### THE 1940'S RADIO HOUR

**Dec 7–23.** WOV is a fictional radio station manned by an eccentric ensemble cast. The narrative concerns a frazzled producer, an often-tipsy leading singer, an understudy that dreams of singing a ballad, a delivery boy who has his eyes set on being behind the mic and the young trumpet-player who chooses a fighter plane over Glenn Miller. The play portrays the tense action of their final holiday broadcast in 1942, replete with old-timey music and euphemisms from the WWII-era. Well isn't that just swell!

### SINGIN' IN THE RAIN

**Jan 18–Feb 4.** Based on the famous film with the same name and backed by a score bordering on canonization, Players Theatre will be presenting *Singin' in the Rain*. Don Lockwood, with humble roots as a musician, dancer and stuntman, must navigate his movie studio's transition into "talkie" production. Lockwood falls in love with Kathy Selden, the lovely back-up singer dubbing over the tone-deaf Lina Lamont. A classic love-battle ensues and will determine who shall have their happy ending, as if audiences don't already know.

### BULLETS OVER BROADWAY

**Feb 22–Mar 11.** In this theater adaptation of Woody Allen's award-winning film, audiences with a keen eye for black comedy will be left chuckling into the night. An idealistic young playwright is battling to break into the Broadway scene at the tail-end of the 1920's, but his first play is shaping up to be a career-ender. His cast includes the talentless daughter of a mafioso set to ruin his first play, until her bodyguard comes to the rescue with surprisingly brilliant ideas. The web of connections between the actors, producers and directors thickens the plot and makes for some tense comedy characteristic of Woody Allen's twisted mind.

### FUNNY GIRL

**Mar 28–Apr 15.** Originally written in 1963, *Funny Girl* is a semi-biographical account of Fanny Brice, Broadway star, film actress and comedian. Told as a flashback, the story recounts Brice's unexpected rise to fame through sheer grit and determination before retelling her fall from grace when her self-destructive but well-meaning husband is sent to prison for embezzlement. Their relationship will never be the same, but one thing Brice knows how to do is keep her chin up and move on.

### POPS Orchestra

With conductor Robyn Bell wielding the baton, the Pops Orchestra gears up for its 41st season as Sarasota-Bradenton's community orchestra, showcasing local musical talent and giving the town's hidden gems a chance to shine. [thepopsorchestra.org](http://thepopsorchestra.org).

### NEIL DIAMOND'S AMERICA

**Nov 12.** Returning this year is the Military Officers Association of America – Sarasota Chapter, who will join the Pops to honor veterans with Neil Diamond's "Salute to America's Veterans." Audiences will hear tribute artist Bobby Palermo perform "Song Sung Blue," "Forever in Blue Jeans," "Love on the Rocks" and "Sweet Caroline" followed by a rousing tribute to America's veterans including "Coming to America," "God Bless the USA," "Salute to the Armed Forces" and many more. Audiences will be seeing stars and stripes.

### HOLIDAY POPERA

**Dec 10.** Hometown soprano superstar Jenny Kim-Godfrey heralds in some holiday cheer with the Pops. They will be performing holiday standards like "Sleigh Ride," "My Favorite Things," "O Holy Night," "I'll Be Home for Christmas" and more. In addition, audiences will be floored by Kim-Godfrey's renditions of opera arias by Donizetti, Bellini, Verdi and Mozart—big names for an equally big voice. Ring in the yuletide spirit and do your ears a favor.

### FROM DALLAS WITH LOVE

**Feb 11.** Audrey Lander's accolades are numerous enough to fill an anthology, with prominent roles in "Dallas," "Love Boat," "Fantasy Island," "The Dukes of Hazard," "MacGyver," "Hollywood Squares," "\$100,000 Pyramid" and "Password." And those are just her acting credits. Lander will be joining The Pops Orchestra to perform her favorite songs from the Great American Songbook. Witness a bonafide star and Lifetime Achievement Award winner in her element.

### HYMAN IN THE HOUSE

**Mar 25.** Dick Hyman is one of the most accomplished pianists alive today. His background as a pianist, composer, arranger, music director and organist have helped him establish a fruitful career spanning decades. He has won numerous awards, including an Emmy and an MVP from the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences. Pops Orchestra is proud to share the stage with this Hall of Fame musician for an evening of jazz tunes and original compositions.

RIGHT: *Aftermath*, The Ringling Museum, photo by Lynsey Addario



## Realize Bradenton

A nonprofit organization dedicated to invigorating Bradenton's cultural scene, this community-focused organization seeks to create a more active and culturally connected downtown for Bradenton, regularly organizing large-scale events in conjunction with private businesses, public resources and local artists, celebrating the city's heritage and place within the cultural fabric of the Suncoast. [realizebradenton.com](http://realizebradenton.com).

### BRADENTON BLUES FESTIVAL

**Dec 1-3.** Realize Bradenton's premier concert event brings storied blues musicians from around the country to the heart of Bradenton for three days of soulful, rocking, blazing blues in the Florida sunshine. Kicking off with a free "Blues Appetizer" concert on the Riverwalk with performances from TC Carr & Bolts of Blue and Doug Deming & the Jewel Tones, the blues will flow through the weekend with appearances by Blues Hall of Fame inductee and four-time Blues Music Award winner Joe Louis Walker, elder statesman of the blues Curtis Salgado, the zydeco sounds of Chubby Carrier and the Bayou Swamp Band, 2017 BMA nominee Vanessa Collier and more.

### ARTSLAM 2018

**Mar 3.** Bradenton's Main Street becomes canvas for the city's multitudinous scribblers, doodlers, sketchers and creatives of all stripes, as ArtSlam brings 23 teams of students and artists out onto the pavement for a day of free-wheeling expressive enterprise. Take a stroll to appreciate the art and jump right in if the inspiration strikes.

## Ringling College of Art and Design Galleries

Beginning in October 2017 and running through May 2018, the Ringling College Galleries will offer a diverse array of exhibitions and related programs. The focus of these exhibitions will be to provide the visitors with numerous opportunities to engage with artists' creativity. [ringling.edu/galleries](http://ringling.edu/galleries)

### WARREN REINECKER-GENERAL MOTORS AUTOMOTIVE DESIGNER

**Oct 17-Dec 8.** This exhibition was curated by the General Motors Design Archive and Special Collections and features a firsthand look at the evolutionary creative process of automotive design. Warren Reinecker joined a small team that consisted of two design-

ers, two lettering artists, a studio engineer and a studio manager who he worked with to create the badging and emblems that identified all of general Motors' cars, trucks and non-automotive products.

### FREEDOM OF THE PRESSES

**Oct 20-Dec 2.** *Freedom of the Presses* is a collaborative exhibition co-curated by Marshall Weber of Booklyn, Inc. and members of the Ringling College of Art and Design community. The project focuses on the creative and democratic processes of 21st Century independent artist's publishing and offers models of empowering and educational art publishing practices. The exhibition will include a selection of artists' publications from Booklyn, Inc. and the Brizdle Schoenberg Special Collections Center at Ringling College of Art and Design. Highlights include the Streetopia artist's book, alternative art fair and text book project; performances and publications by Sheryl Oring; and community publishing projects from the multi-generational collective, Mobile Print Power. Artists' books, zines, prints, and items of ephemera will be exhibited, along with a curators panel and book fair.

### CAST AND CUT - GLASS

**Jan 8-Mar 24.** Technically amazing and visually stunning examples of creations by more than two dozen masters of glass art including Peter Bremers, Vadlec Ciglar, Irene Frolic and Seth Randal in *Cast and Cut-Glass*. This exhibition represents numerous examples, styles and methods of glass casting and etching. Viewing these works will change the visitor's perspective on glass, hopefully leading them to an enlightening, inspiring and enjoyable experience.

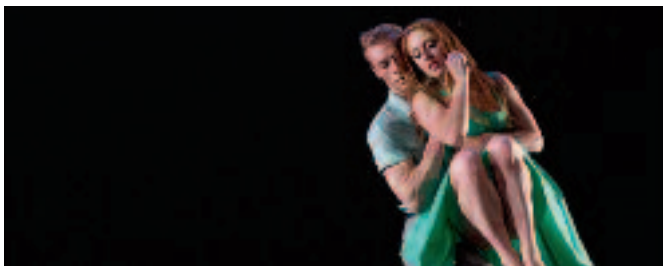
### EMILY LARNED/ ILSSA

**Jan 12-Mar 17.** This exhibition celebrates the ten-year anniversary of Impractical Labor in Service of the Speculative Arts (ILSSA), a social engaged art project founded in 2008 to investigate labor, time and what we value. Currently taking form as a Union and Research Institute, the project creates opportunities for ILSSA members to nurture alternative, authentic value systems for their labor and their time. The exhibition will feature a selection of publications and ephemera from the first ten years of the project, as well as the interactive creation of a collaborative, community-based publication, produced on-site and facilitated by ILSSA co-founder Emily Larned, who will be in-residence in the gallery for the first two weeks of the show.



**THE RINGLING BRINGS EXCEPTIONAL ART, PERFORMANCE AND EXPERIENCES** to Sarasota. It kicks off in October, with the Ringling International Arts Festival (RIAF) presenting an array of music, dance, and theater from around the world. Following RIAF, is New Stages, which includes a world premiere titled, *Circus - Wandering City*, by the esteemed string quartet, ETHEL. The piece is inspired by the heroes behind the magic of the Big Top. The Museum of Art will be hosting many noteworthy exhibitions. In October, the Searing Wing showcases *Aftermath* and in February *Embodied Machines*. Also on view this season is *Defining Moments*, an exhibition of works from the noted photojournalist Alfred Eisenstaedt. Through January the Monda Gallery for Contemporary Art will feature cutting edge video installations in *Approaching the Border* and then a selection of work by conceptual artist and photographer Hank Willis Thomas with *Branded/Unbranded*. Throughout the year there are lectures, gallery walks, and panel discussions as well as monthly events that have become synonymous with season at The Ringling. Come watch the sunset and dance the night away on the beautiful bay front at Ringling by the Bay, or spend the night experiencing indy rock bands and local artists in the museum's courtyard at Ringling Underground.

## A FEW OF THIS COMING YEAR'S EVENTS, PROGRAMS AND EXHIBITIONS



### RINGLING INTERNATIONAL ARTS FESTIVAL

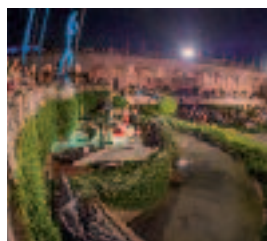
**OCTOBER 18 - 21, 2017** For ardent aficionados of adventurous art, the 2017 Ringling International Arts Festival (RIAF) presents a dynamic array of ingenious and inventive contemporary performance. With music ranging from the folkloric to the avant-garde, dance that explores the comedy and pathos of 21st-century life, and theatrical narratives both intimate and massive in scope and in scale, this is your opportunity to explore the unexpected and expect the unexplored. With affordably priced performances you can enjoy the entire day. Lunch and dinner are available on-site. Tickets may be purchased online, in person or by calling 941-360-7399



### NEW STAGES

**NOV 2017 - MARCH 2018** New Stages, an integral piece in The Art of Our Time visual and performing arts initiative brings unique works from genre defying artists to The Ringling. The 2017-2018 series presents "A World of Music" with a six-part series of global music featuring ensembles from Europe, South America, and the US. For more information and to purchase tickets visit [Ringling.org](http://Ringling.org) or call 941.360.7399.

**AFTERMATH: THE FALLOUT OF WAR - AMERICA AND THE MIDDLE EAST** **OCT 8, 2017 - JAN 21, 2018** *Aftermath* presents a timely examination of photography and video art created in response to the conflicts and uprisings that have erupted in the Middle East over the last 15 years. On view are 90 photographs and two videos that raise important questions, provoke compassion and inspire reflection. Throughout the duration of this exhibition will be programming designed to provide multiples ways to engage with this subject, including lectures, gallery walks, and panel discussions. Visit [ringling.org](http://ringling.org) for details. **HOLIDAY SPLENDOR** **DECEMBER 7, 2017** Celebrate the sights and sounds of the holiday season and help support the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots, serving Sarasota and Manatee counties. Visit The Ringling during extended evening hours and enjoy holiday music and performances by local elementary, middle and high schools. All Museum venues will be open for self-touring including the Ca' d'Zan, Museum of Art, Tibbals Learning Center and the Circus Museum. Food and beverages will be available for purchase. **TONI DOVE: EMBODIED MACHINES** **FEBRUARY 25 - MAY, 20** The first survey exhibition of Dove's groundbreaking work in the creation of hybridized interactive, live-mix performance and virtual narrative experiences. Her collaborative practice brings together visual artists, filmmakers, fashion designers, robotics engineers, computer programmers, musicians, actors, and writers—each at the vanguard of their field. This exhibition will present artefacts and objects from Dove's projects as well as unique interactive environments and video work. In conjunction, Toni Dove will present live performances of *Spectropia* (March 9) and *Lucid Possessions* (April 13-14.)



### RINGLING UNDERGROUND

#### FIRST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH

Enjoy live music, and art in the Museum of Art Courtyard 8pm-11pm. This event features an eclectic mix of local and regional live music as well as up-and-coming artists displaying their work in the Museum of Art Courtyard. Select galleries will be open until 11pm.



### RINGLING BY THE BAY

#### NOV, 2017 - MAY, 2018

An evening of dancing to great live bands on the Sarasota Bayfront. Food and beverage are available for purchase. This season we have added three additional nights. For dates and to purchase tickets visit [Ringling.org](http://Ringling.org) or call 941.358.3180.





# RINGLING INTERNATIONAL ARTS FESTIVAL OCT 18 - 21



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Photo by Matthew Holier

**PORTRAITS IN MOTION**  
VOLKER GERLING, GERMANY

**ENSEMBLENEWSRQ**  
USA

**ING AN DIE**  
JAMES MCGINN, BELGIUM

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**WHITE RABBIT RED RABBIT**  
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## ASOLO REPERTORY THEATRE

**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, giving audiences the opportunity to see on the same stage multiple productions in the span of a few days. Asolo Rep is committed to expanding its reach into the community, collaborating with the best theatre artists in the industry today and cultivating new artists through its affiliation with the FSU/Asolo Conservatory for Actor Training.



The cast of *West Side Story*. Photo by Cliff Roles.



The cast of *The Great Society*. Photo by Cliff Roles.

"At this time, when the world needs a sense of cohesion and shared values, Asolo Rep is deeply committed to telling the stories that make people feel that they need to come to the theatre – the stories that we must hear again and again, and also experience in new ways. From the passion that fuels *Evita*, to the artist yearning for inspiration in *Shakespeare In Love*, the idea of love having no expiration date in *Morning After Grace*, the cautionary tale of conformity in *Rhinoceros*, the urgency of women's rights in *Roe*, the isolation of the modern workplace in *Gloria*, the power of immigrant voices in *Ragtime*, to the exploration of humankind's distinct relationship with nature in the world premiere of *Jungle Book* – the 2017-18 Season, *Staging Our World*, is about championing the artists and stories that could not be more crucial."

–Michael Donald Edwards, Producing Artistic Director, Asolo Rep

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WorldClass  
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2017-18 SEASON

**EVITA**  
SHAKESPEARE IN LOVE  
MORNING AFTER GRACE  
RHINOCEROS  
ROE  
GLORIA  
RAGTIME  
JUNGLE BOOK

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Ana Isabelle is *Evita*. Photo by John Revisky.



## SARASOTA ORCHESTRA

**SARASOTA ORCHESTRA'S 2017-2018 SEASON** features Music Director Anu Tali, world-renowned violinist Midori and a roster of acclaimed guest soloists. A tribute to Leonard Bernstein's 100th anniversary is featured throughout the season. Pops concerts will thrill audiences as the Orchestra pays tribute to American musical experiences of Doo Wop, Broadway and Jazz. The new Discoveries series offers a refreshing classical music experience at the Sarasota Opera House. These 75-minute programs feature works by Beethoven and Copland and today's living composers.

"From Doo Wop to a night at The Cotton Club, our Pops season is sure to be an experience not to be missed."

—Andrew Lane, Principal, Pops Conductor

**MIDORI  
HONORS BERNSTEIN**  
Feb. 22-25, 2018  
Neal Performing Arts  
Center and Van Wezel

**MUSICAL LANDSCAPES**  
January 6, 2018  
Sarasota Opera House

**THE DOO WOP PROJECT**  
January 19-20, 2018  
Van Wezel



Byron Stripling,  
guest conductor  
and soloist

17  
18

## SUBSCRIBE TODAY

2018 Pops Series

Sarasota Orchestra's Pops series features the music of DooWop, the Best of Broadway, and jazz from The Cotton Club in three thrilling concert experiences. Subscribers to the Sarasota Orchestra Pops series benefit from discounts of up to 25%, preferred seating and free ticket exchanges. Don't miss your chance. These concerts sell out! Buy your subscription now.

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**SarasotaOrchestra.org**



**OUR 43RD SEASON IS FILLED WITH AWARD-WINNING WORKS** and new play premieres that were selected with our audience in mind. The Mainstage will bring to life the 8-Time Tony Award-winning musical *Once* and the vibrant and emotionally-charged *Heisenberg*. Following these two dynamic productions will be the culture-clash comedy *Native Gardens* and the Regional Premiere of the slicing and poignant *Impenetrable*. The *Cabaret* celebrates some of music's most legendary artists. Songs from the original Bronx boy who made it big are highlighted in *Mack the Knife: The Bobby Darin Songbook*. Next is a rocking revue with songs from the greats such as the father of Rock 'N' Roll, Chuck Berry to the King himself, Elvis Presley in *Blue Suede Shoes*. Rounding out the season is a tongue-in-cheek musical revue, *Shakespeare's Greatest Hits*. Enjoy the best of the Bard with this collection of songs inspired by the world's greatest playwright. FST is a theatre big enough to serve you, and small enough to know you. These plays are your plays: the reflection of your life and of the world we live in. Florida Studio Theatre is dedicated to providing you with a theatrical experience that challenges with as much gusto as it entertains.



### ONCE

NOVEMBER 8, 2017 – DECEMBER 31, 2017,  
OPENING NIGHT: NOVEMBER 10, 2017

Winner of 8 Tony Awards including Best Musical. The enchanting tale of a Dublin street musician about to give up on his dreams when an unlikely connection forces him to reconsider. Emotionally captivating and breathtaking, it's an unforgettable story about going for your dreams and the power of music to connect us all.



### NATIVE GARDENS

JANUARY 24, 2018 – MARCH 25, 2018,  
OPENING NIGHT: JANUARY 26, 2018

Stately Gardens and cultures clash turning friendly neighbors into feuding adversaries. Pablo, a high powered lawyer, and doctoral candidate Tania, his very pregnant wife, are realizing the American dream when they purchase the house next door to community stalwarts, Virginia and Frank. But a disagreement over a longstanding fence soon spirals into an all-out comic battle of taste, privilege, and entitlement. In this battle of the backyard, no one comes out smelling like a rose.



### BLUE SUEDE SHOES

NOVEMBER 29, 2017 – APRIL 1, 2018,  
OPENING NIGHT: DECEMBER 1, 2017

In the 1950s, Rock 'N' Roll took America by storm. With its roots in rhythm and blues, country western, swing, and do-wop, this new sound would forever change the world of music. From the father of Rock 'N' Roll, Chuck Berry, to The King himself, Elvis Presley, this revue celebrates the birth of rock and roll with such great hits as "Rock Around the Clock," "Blue Suede Shoes," "Mustang Sally," and "Johnny B. Goode."



### IMPENETRABLE APRIL 4, 2018 – MAY 25, 2018, OPENING NIGHT: APRIL 6, 2018

When a billboard of a gorgeous bikini-clad young woman appears in a well-to-do suburb, outrage ensues. Not because of the model's beauty, but because of the arrows pointing out her flaws. The town's most prestigious spa advertises "solutions" for "problem areas," and quickly finds itself at the center of protest. But just what are these people protesting? The spa, or their own self-image? Inspired by true events, this smart and revealing play delves into society's impossible expectations in our quest for beauty—especially the ones we place on ourselves.

### CABARET– MACK THE KNIFE: THE BOBBY DARIN SONGBOOK

OCTOBER 4, 2017 – FEBRUARY 4, 2018, OPENING NIGHT: OCTOBER 6, 2018 Bobby Darin was the original Bronx boy who made it big. Determined to be a legend by age 25, he conquered show business as a singer, songwriter, actor, and producer. Headlining everywhere from the legendary Copacabana to Las Vegas, Darin was a consummate showman. Mack the Knife celebrates the spirited and immense talent of one of the great performers of the 20th century. Featuring his greatest hits such as "Splish Splash," "Beyond the Sea," "Dream Lover," and of course, "Mack the Knife."

**HEISENBERG** DECEMBER 13, 2017 – MARCH 4, 2018, OPENING NIGHT: DECEMBER 15, 2017 Amidst the bustle of a crowded London train station, Georgie spots Alex, a much older man, and plants a kiss on his neck. This electric encounter thrusts these two strangers into a fascinating and life-changing game. *Heisenberg* brings to blazing, theatrical life the uncertain and often comical sparring match that is human connection.

**SHAKESPEARE'S GREATEST HITS** FEBRUARY 7, 2018 – JUNE 10, 2018, OPENING NIGHT: FEBRUARY 9, 2018 "Brush Up Your Shakespeare" with the best of the Bard! This tongue-in-cheek musical revue is a collection of songs inspired by the world's greatest playwright. From relevant to irreverent, from soulful to sinful, from "Get Thee To A Nunnery" and "Othello's Rap" to "What A Piece of Work is Man" and "Tonight," when it comes to William Shakespeare all the world truly is his stage and his work will play on and on!

"I'm looking forward to a season of both electricity and depth. We have a lineup of plays and musicals rich in meaning and diverse in theatricality. Audiences today ask for substance with their Theatre. You can expect a season of plays that are in tune with the FST audience. You can expect a season of plays that do not pander to the audience, but listen to their needs. You can expect a season of plays that are international in scope, and deeply touching in their quest for human understanding."

—Richard Hopkins, Producing Artistic Director

# florida studio theatre

## MAINSTAGE

4 Shows For As Little As \$49!

### Once

Book by Enda Walsh  
Music & Lyrics by Glen Ballard and Marketa Irgler

WINNER OF 8 TONY AWARDS INCLUDING BEST MUSICAL.

Experience the enchanting tale of a Dublin street musician who is about to give up on his dreams when an unlikely connection forces him to reconsider.

"Distinctive and evocative" - *The New York Times*

### Heisenberg

By Simon Stephens

REGIONAL PREMIERE. Amidst the bustle of a crowded London train station, Georgie spots Alex, a much older man, and plants a kiss on his neck. This electric encounter thrusts these two strangers into a fascinating and life-changing game. "Spectacularly vivid" - *New York Magazine*

### Native Gardens

By Karen Zacarias

Gardens and cultures clash, turning friendly neighbors into feuding enemies in this funny skillful comedy about a disagreement over a longstanding fence line.

"Ample humor and wit." - *Broadway World*

### Honor Killing

By Sarah Bernstein

WORLD PREMIERE. An American reporter for *The New York Times*, heads to Pakistan to cover the honor killing of a young woman. One culture mirrors the other, asking questions about forgiveness, self-worth, and justice.

## CABARET

3 Shows For As Little As \$39!

### Mack The Knife: The Bobby Darin Songbook

By Richard Hopkins, Richard Hopkins and Catherine Randolph starring presents by The Producer

*Mack the Knife* celebrates the spirited and immense talent of one of the great performers of the 20th century. Featuring Bobby Darin's greatest hits such as "Splish Splash," "Beyond the Sea," "Dream Lover," and of course, "Mack the Knife."

### Blue Suede Shoes

By Richard Hopkins and Richard Hopkins, arranged and lyric by Tim Moore

In the 1950s, Rock 'N' Roll took America by storm. From the father of Rock 'N' Roll, Chuck Berry, to The King himself, Elvis Presley, this revue celebrates the birth of rock and roll with such great hits as "Rock Around the Clock," "Blue Suede Shoes," "Mustang Sally," and "Johnny B. Goode."

### Shakespeare's Greatest Hits

By Richard Hopkins and Richard Hopkins, arranged and lyric by Tim Moore

"Brush Up Your Shakespeare" with the best of the Bard! This tongue-in-cheek musical revue is a collection of songs inspired by the world's greatest playwright.

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Richard Hopkins, Producing Artistic Director



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## SARASOTA OPERA

**SARASOTA OPERA, FONDLY KNOWN AS “VERDI’S AMERICAN HOME,”** enters its 59th consecutive season of bringing world class opera to the southwest gulf coast. Consistently garnering international attention as one of the few places to experience rarely performed operatic works, Sarasota Opera continues to distinguish itself as one of the premiere opera companies in the United States by finding innovation through tradition. The 2017 fall season features the return of Giuseppe Verdi’s *La traviata* followed by the Sarasota Youth Opera production of *Rootabaga Country* by Rachel J. Peters, the company’s sixth world premiere. The Winter Festival Season will include *Manon Lescaut* by Giacomo Puccini, *Carmen* by Georges Bizet, *Norma* by Vincenzo Bellini and *Tiefland* by Eugen d’Albert.



**VINCENZO BELLINI** brings passion, vengeance and defiance in his eighth opera, *Norma*, which premiered in 1831 and has been a tour-de-force role for famous sopranos throughout history. This production, running March 3 – 24, 2018, will mark the first opera by Vincenzo Bellini performed at the Sarasota Opera House.



**SARASOTA YOUTH OPERA**, currently the most comprehensive youth opera program in the United States, will present its sixth world premiere this fall with *Rootabaga Country* by Rachel J. Peters on November 11 and 12, 2017. Based on the writings of Carl Sandburg, *Rootabaga Country* is sure to delight audiences young and old.

**THE FOURTH OPERA** of the 2018 Winter Festival Season brings the Sarasota Opera premiere and a rare American production of *Tiefland* by Eugen d’Albert running March 10 – 25, 2018. This passionate example of early 20th century verismo opera is seen regularly in Germany and Austria, but will only be the third production in the United States in the last 100 years.



### EXPERIENCE THE EXTRAORDINARY

#### 2017 FALL SEASON

**VERDI'S  
LA  
TRAVIATA**  
NOV 3-21

**RACHEL J. PETERS'  
ROOTABAGA  
COUNTRY**  
NOV 11 & 12  
A WORLD PREMIERE YOUTH OPERA

#### THE 2018 WINTER OPERA FESTIVAL

**PUCCINI'S  
MANON  
LESCAUT**  
FEB 10-MAR 23

**BIZET'S  
CARMEN**  
FEB 17-MAR 24

**BELLINI'S  
NORMA**  
MAR 3-24

**D'ALBERT'S  
TIEFLAND**  
MAR 10-25

**TICKETS START AT JUST \$19 | SUBSCRIBE AND SAVE 10%**  
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of Cultural Affairs, and the Florida Council on Arts and Culture.





## THE VENICE SYMPHONY

**THE VENICE SYMPHONY** is celebrating its 44th season as the premiere professional orchestra in South Sarasota County, performing classical and pops concerts from November through May at the state-of-the-art Venice Performing Arts Center. This season, The Venice Symphony will present "7 Conductors 7 Concerts: Finding Maestro," the culmination of a Conductor Search that narrowed a field of 164 applicants to seven. Each finalist will present a dynamic musical program she or he designed for The Symphony's accomplished musicians and renowned guest soloists. At the end of the season, one conductor will be named Maestro for 2018-19 and beyond. For nearly three decades, The Venice Symphony has been a champion of music education, bringing classical music and hands-on instruction to more than 40,000 Sarasota County students, through its Symphony in The Schools (SITS) and Summer Music Camp programs. [TheVeniceSymphony.org](http://TheVeniceSymphony.org)

The Venice Symphony presents a Meet the Conductor Pre-Concert Talk Series at 6:20 pm before evening concerts and 2:20 pm before afternoon concerts, at The Venice Performing Arts Center. This moderated panel discussion with the conductor, concertmaster and soloists offering insight into the musical program, is sponsored by Bank of America and free to the public.



**ACCLAIMED VIOLINIST GLENN DICTEROW**, concertmaster of the New York Philharmonic from 1980 to 2014, is the featured guest soloist at "A Tribute to Music in Cinema," May 4-5. Other renowned soloists this season include Danish cellist Jonathan Swensen, Nov. 17-18; Grammy-nominated soprano Angela Brown, Jan. 12-13; international recording artist and violinist, Irina Muresanu March 16-17 and Classical Recording Foundation's 2010, Young Artist of the Year, pianist Orion Weiss, April 13-14.

Marcus Ratzenboeck, Concertmaster for The Venice Symphony

"I can't imagine a more exciting and important season for The Venice Symphony and I am thrilled that our dedicated musicians and loyal patrons will play a part in choosing our next Maestro."

—Christine Kasten, Executive Director

Student tickets to The Venice Symphony are always half-price and start at \$12.50. Group discounts are also available.



# 7 CONDUCTORS 7 CONCERTS FINDING Maestro! 2017-2018 SEASON

at The Venice Performing Arts Center



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COMMUNITY  
FOUNDATION



## OUR 44TH SEASON

FRI, NOV 17 7:30pm and SAT, NOV 18 3:30pm

*Majestic Moments*

Conductor: Teresa Cheung

Cello Soloist: Jonathan Swensen

FRI, DEC 15 7:30pm and SAT, DEC 16 3:30 & 7:30pm

*Holiday Pops*

Conductor: Wesley Schulz

FRI, JAN 12 7:30pm and SAT, JAN 13 3:30pm

*Emotional Landscapes*

Conductor: Stillian Kirov

Soprano Soloist: Angela Brown

FRI, FEB 16 7:30pm and SAT, FEB 17 3:30pm

*Beethoven to Broadway*

Conductor: Steven Jarvi

FRI, MAR 16 7:30pm and SAT, MAR 17 3:30pm

*A Symphonic Journey*

Conductor: Janna Hymes

Violin Soloist: Irina Muresanu

FRI, APR 13 7:30pm and SAT, APR 14 3:30pm

*Taking Flight*

Conductor: Silas N. Huff

Piano Soloist: Orion Weiss

FRI, MAY 4 7:30pm and SAT MAY 5 3:30pm

*A Tribute to Music in Cinema*

Conductor: Troy Quinn

Violin Soloist: Glenn Dictorow

**TICKETS...CALL: 941-207-8822 or VISIT: [TheVeniceSymphony.org](http://TheVeniceSymphony.org)**

**BOX OFFICE: 230 S. Tamiami Trail, Ste. 3A • Venice, FL 34285 • M-F 10-4**

## PEACE PAPER PROJECT

**Jan 12–Mar 24.** In collaboration with Yale University, Peace Paper Project is an international community-arts initiative that utilizes traditional paper making as a form of trauma therapy, social engagement and community activism. Since 2011, the group has conducted over two hundred workshops worldwide in conjunction with community leaders, mental health professionals and art therapists. They have helped launch 35 papermaking programs that use paper making as a form of healing and community engagement. For two millennia, humankind has created paper by hand from old rags. Whatever the intention behind the paper, be it to represent wealth, to carry spirituality, or to convey messages, every fiber that goes into the making of paper has a story to tell. Peace Paper Project uses the ancient tradition of hand papermaking as a vehicle for personal expression and cultural change. Because of the project's innovations in portability and interest in resolving current social issues, paper is no longer just a chapter in a history textbook; it has become a beacon for socially engaged art.

## KATIE DOBSON CUNDIFF –

### MODERN IMPRESSIONIST PAINTER

**Jan 19–Mar 23.** Katie Dobson Cundiff – Modern Impressionist Painter will be an exhibition of oil paintings and illustrations on board by Katie Cundiff, an internationally known wildlife illustrator and painter. Katie Cundiff excels in all forms of art, but painting is her passion. Her work shows and often wins top prizes in the American Impressionist National Shows, Oil Painters of America, and Forgotten Coast. She is a Signature member of Plein Air Painters of the South East. Recently Cundiff studied at the Flemish Classical Atelier in Bruges, Belgium.

## OCTAVIO PEREZ – ILLUSTRATIONS

**Mar 30–May 18.** The insightful and absorbing illustrations of Octavio Perez will be presented from March through May 2018. Octavio Perez has worked at Hallmark Cards and currently works on concept design and execution of editorial illustrations and news graphics for the St. Petersburg Times. His numerous national clients include Hallmark Cards Inc., GEAR Inc., Cabela's, and Humanities Magazine. Octavio Perez will give a talk about his inspiration and process.



## Sarasota Ballet

Under the guidance of director Iain Webb, the Sarasota Ballet has grown by leaps and bounds, continually adding to a repertoire that includes both iconic and uncommon ballets from renowned choreographers such as Sir Frederick Ashton, George Balanchine, Antony Tudor and more, in addition to commissioning new works from up-and-coming choreographers and established greats. Garnering an international reputation, the Sarasota Ballet regularly compounds its performances with guest performances from traveling companies, bringing ballet from around the world. [sarasotaballet.org](http://sarasotaballet.org).

## THE SECRET GARDEN

**Oct 27–29.** Commissioned for the Sarasota Ballet, *The Secret Garden* brings Olivier Award-winning choreographer Will Tuckett back to Sarasota for the show that wowed audiences with its 2014 debut. Uniting the graceful choreography audiences expect from the Sarasota Ballet with gorgeous large-scale puppetry and a commissioned score from composer Jeremy Holland-Smith, experience the children's classic like never before.

## METROPOLITAN

**Dec 1–2.** This three-part production includes a performance of company favorite Sir Frederick Ashton's enigmatic ballet *Illuminations*—one of only two ballets Ashton choreographed for the New York City Ballet—as well as the world premiere of new choreography from American Ballet Theatre's Marcelo Gomes, in his first collaboration with Sarasota Ballet. Concluding the night, the performers will present the company premiere of George Balanchine's *Theme and Variations*, celebrating the heyday of the Russian Imperial Ballet. Accompanied by the Sarasota Orchestra.

## MOVING IDENTITIES

**Jan 26–29.** Opening with another company premiere, Paul Taylor's *Airs* kicks off the night with a beautiful and flowing performance that showcases the choreographer's passion for modern dance and ballet. Following *Airs*, Sarasota Ballet Resident Choreographer Ricardo Graziano brings the return of his *Valsinhas*, which premiered in 2013. The show closes with the Sarasota premiere of Robert North's *Troy Game*, presenting the piece with both an all-male and all-female cast.

## THE SARASOTA BALLET PRESENTS

**BALLET HISPÁNICO Feb 23–25.** Since its founding in 1970 by Venezuelan-American dancer and choreographer Tina Ramirez, Ballet Hispánico has dedicated itself to the exploration and celebration of Latin dance of all kinds. Now under the direction of Eduardo Vilario, the Manhattan-based company fuses classical, contemporary and Latin dance into one beautiful presentation.





#### DREAMS OF NATURE

**Mar 2–3.** Sir Frederick Ashton's imaginative and beautiful interpretation of Shakespeare's immortal *A Midsummer Night's Dream* opens this program of company premieres with lavish sets, astonishing costumes, expressive choreography—and all set to the timeless score of Felix Mendelssohn. Following *The Dream*, David Bintley's *'Still Life' at the Penguin Cafe* makes its company premiere as well, melding the beauty of ballet with some social commentary, as endangered animals seek shelter from the storm at the Penguin Cafe. Lushly costumed and prophetic in content, *Still Life* and *Dream* look to be a season standout.

#### GREAT MASTERS OF DANCE **Apr 27–28.**

Closing the season with two company premieres and one of the sexiest shows in ballet, the night begins with Antony Tudor's *The Leaves Are Fading*. A company premiere, this epic romance celebrates pure dance with unfettered passion. Following *Leaves*, the company premiere of George Balanchine's *Bugaku* illustrates the choreographer's genius, as he steps out of his comfort zone for a tribute to Japanese music and dance. The season concludes with another production of company favorite Sir Frederic Ashton—the tragic and beautiful *Marguerite and Armand*.

#### Sarasota Contemporary Dance Company

Entering its 11th season bringing the best in contemporary dance to the region and creating new works right here, Sarasota Contemporary Dance is recognized in the area for its collaborative performances and eclectic choreography, which fuses various dance styles—traditional, modern, Middle Eastern, aerial, Afro-modern and even technologically-infused work. In addition to a variety of community collaborations and performances at local venues, the Sarasota Contemporary Dance Company has also been presented at the Alabama Ballet Center for Dance, John F. Kennedy Center, Merce Cunningham Studio Theatre and the Aily Citygroup Theatre. [sarasotacontemporarydance.org](http://sarasotacontemporarydance.org).

#### SCD + PIAZZOLLA

**Oct 12–15.** Don't call me pizza! The music of Astor Pantaleon Piazzola inspired this piece that will feature a collaboration between seasoned SCD dancers and two distinguished musicians. Harpist Ann Hobson Pilot, a highly-trained retiree of

the Boston Symphony Orchestra, will join world-travelling violinist Tai Murray in this fusion of sound and movement that will enthrall a broad array of music and performance art aficionados.

#### VOICES OF SCD

**Nov 30–Dec 3.** An annual showcase spotlighting the company's approach to dance, see original works choreographed by company members and guest choreographers from across the country. Full of physicality, thought and delight, Voices of SCD provides one of the most intimate looks inside the company.

#### DANCE MAKERS 12TH ANNUAL CONCERT

**Jan 25–28.** Internationally acclaimed choreographers come to Sarasota for this annual concert that asks viewers to open their hearts and imaginations to new movements, ideas and mergings of the two.

#### EVOLVING/REVOLVING

**May 10–13.** This season-end performance unites the old and the new by bringing past collaborators and dancers back to Sarasota for a host of new works. See where SCD has been and where its members and friends are going with this final evening of dance for the season.





**THIS SPREAD CLOCKWISE:** *National Geographic's* "50 Greatest Photographs", South Florida Museum: *Kabul, Afghanistan 1967*, photo by Thomas J. Abercrombie (red fabric and birdcage); *California, United States, 1997*, photo by Bruce Dale (futuristic plane); and *Moscow, Russia 1983*, photo by Sam Abell (pears on a windowsill), photos courtesy of the South Florida Museum

## Sarasota Opera

Hot off the heels of the 2016 completion of the Verdi Cycle—wherein the company and Maestro Victor DeRenzi received international acclaim for successfully performing every note the Italian composer wrote—Sarasota Opera returns for its 58th season staging sumptuous classic opera and reviving rarely produced works from notable composers. Additionally, the company remains dedicated to youth opera education through its Sarasota Youth Opera program, which is currently the most comprehensive youth program of its kind in the nation. [sarasotaopera.org](http://sarasotaopera.org)

### LA TRAVIATA

**Nov 3–21.** Bringing the work of Giuseppe Verdi back to the Sarasota Opera House stage, this classic tale of tragic romance brings audiences to the courts of Paris, where young Violetta must choose between her heart and the honor of her family. Elevated by some of Verdi's best work, *La Traviata* has earned its place as a repertoire cornerstone around the world.

### ROOTABAGA COUNTRY

**Nov 11–12.** A Sarasota Youth Opera world premiere, *Rootabaga Country* puts Sarasota's young voices on the stage for an original opera centered around Gimme the Ax and Gimme's two children, Please Gimme and Ax Me No Questions, who want to know more about their mysterious mother and the *Rootabaga Country* she loved. Based on the work of Carl Sandburg, this imaginative and delightful opera may seem a bit bonkers, but the message is as down-to-earth as it gets.

### CARMEN

**Feb 17–Mar 24.** One of the form's most famous works, *Carmen* comes to Sarasota in all its glory and passion. A story of tumultuous love wrought with passion and jealousy, travel from the bullrings of Seville to the smuggling caves of the nearby mountains and back again as the eponymous *Carmen* and her hotheaded paramour Don Jose perform a deadly duet of doomed love. Complete with some of the most recognizable music in opera, *Carmen* stands the test of time for good reason.

### NORMA

**Mar 3–24.** Traveling back in time to Roman-occupied Gaul, forbidden love looms large in this epic opera from Vincenzo Bellini, proving the love triangle is no modern invention. A Druid priestess falls for a Roman official and breaks her vows to bear his children, but when the official sets his sights on the temple virgin, the priestess finds herself torn between love and duty and the cleansing fires of the sacrificial pyre.

### TIEFLAND

**Mar 10–25.** When Sebastiano wants to take a wealthy wife, but keep his unwilling mistress, Marta, he marries her off to a local shepherd to keep her nearby. But as the shepherd falls in love and discovers Marta's secret, he's presented with a choice—fight for his love or lose it. A passionate example of 20th-century verismo opera, *Tiefland* receives regular productions in Germany and Austria, but this will be one of only two in the United States in the last century.

## Sarasota Orchestra

An 80-member orchestra performing more than 100 concerts in a given year, the Sarasota Orchestra has made a name for itself in the area as both entertainer and educator, offering concerts and experience to the community through a variety of performances designed to engage and enthuse. A celebrator of the classics as well as contemporary gems, Sarasota Orchestra holds the distinguished title of being the oldest continuing orchestra in the state. [sarasotaorchestra.org](http://sarasotaorchestra.org)

### STRING SPECTRUM CHAMBER SOIRÉE

**Nov 2.** A new spin on the classical music tradition of perfection and stoicism, the end goal of the *Failing* performance is, you guessed it, failing. SO's string bass soloist will read amusing text and instructions while simultaneously trying to tackle very challenging sections of music. Backtracking to the pursuit of sublime perfection and technical prowess, Schubert's Quartet in G Major will be performed. The quartet is considered by many to be one of the most beautiful ever composed, though so technically difficult to play that it is not often performed.

## Sarasota Cuban Ballet

Founded by Wilman Hernandez and Ariel Serrano, the Sarasota Cuban Ballet School teaches the curriculum of the Cuban Ballet School of National Ballet of Cuba. Husband-wife team Serrano and Hernandez were influenced by the great master teachers in Cuba—Fernando Alonso, Estele Garcia, Aurora Bosch and Ramona de Saa, among others. In the Cuban tradition, they were selected at a young age to learn the art, and through their diligence, intense training and natural talent emerged to become principal dancers with various companies throughout the world. [srqcubanballet.com](http://srqcubanballet.com)

### THE NUTCRACKER

**Dec 9.** Performing for the first time at the Venice Performing Arts Center, the students of the Sarasota Cuban Ballet School again bring their annual presentation of *The Nutcracker* to the stage this year. Putting their own spin on the classic, the performance is conceived and choreographed by the school's artistic directors, Ariel Serrano and Wilman Hernandez, master teacher Delia Bellart Arcia and resident choreographer Tania Vergara.

### SYMPHONIC CARNIVAL

**Dec 8–10.** Snapping audiences awake is Berlioz's inventive *Roman Carnival Overture*. Along the exciting journey, audiences will visit American icon Leonard Bernstein's "Symphonic Dances" from his popular musical *West Side Story*, before being set ablaze by the powerful pyrotechnics of Barber's Violin Concerto. Finally, listeners will be subdued by the emotional intensity of Stravinsky's *Firebird*, the perfect close to an electrifying evening spearheaded by guest conductor Larry Rachleff and violin soloist Benjamin Beilman.

### MUSICAL LANDSCAPES

**Jan 6.** See the world from your seat in the Sarasota Opera House with an evening of musical panoramas. Whitacre's luminous reimagining of the River Cam, which flowed past his window at Cambridge University, features Sarasota Orchestra's own principal cellist Natalie Helm. Hailed for his "energy and enthusiasm" (Buffalo News), guest conductor Stefan Sanders is your dynamic guide on this matchless musical tour. Featuring Smetana's *The Moldau from Má vlast*, Whitacre's *The River Cam*, Copland's Suite from *The Tender Land* and Maxwell Davies' *An Orkney Wedding, With Sunrise*.

### AMADEUS

**Jan 24–27.** The maniacal and quirky music prodigy stereotype exists for a reason. From Mozart's impishness to Schubert's obsessive work habits, this presentation explores the intriguing and outrageous stories behind many of the best known musicians and composers. Guest conductor Stefan Sanders will be joined by operatic tenor Jason Collins and Principal Bass John Miller for a program of neat anecdotes and classical music.

### IT'S BEEN REEL

**Feb 14–17.** Movies and their musical scores go hand in hand. *Gone with the Wind*, *The King and I* and *Raiders of the Lost Ark* all are as memorable for their music as their lasting lines and compelling stories. We won't need a movie screen in this orchestral concert to say Hooray for Hollywood.

### MIDORI HONORS BERNSTEIN

**Feb 22–25.** Internationally acclaimed violin legend Midori makes her Sarasota Orchestra debut with this tribute concert to iconic American conductor Leonard Bernstein. Settling on the theme of love, Midori interprets Bernstein's serenade for violin and orchestra, bringing the passion and virtuosity that audiences first saw when Midori took the New York Philharmonic stage at age 11. Also performing Beethoven's ode to love, the Pastoral symphony, and Rossini's Barber of Seville overture, Midori promises an evening of musical magic and emotional awakening.

### MAVERICKS OF RHYTHM

**April 11–14.** This concert showcases the mavericks who were inspired by the distinctive rhythms of American music. You'll experience popular American composers such as Bernstein, Copland, Mancini and Ellington, as well as a few lesser known, but no less intriguing and accessible pioneers of the American sound.

### THE COTTON CLUB

**Apr 20–21.** Exuding the energy and flair of Harlem's famous Cotton Club, Byron Stripling will take the stage with Carmen Bradford and Ted Louis. Stripling is a consummate performer—a trumpet virtuoso, vocalist, showman and conductor. He will be swirling his baton while being backed by vocalist Carmen Bradford and the multi-talented Ted Louis. Covering everything from American jazz greats like Duke Ellington, Ella Fitzgerald and Billie Holiday, audiences are encouraged to bring their dancing shoes and a sweat rag.



## OUTDOOR POPS— FIELD OF DREAMS

**May 11–12.** Join the Sarasota Orchestra for a fan-friendly outdoor Pops concert at the Baltimore Orioles' Ed Smith Stadium. Get yourself a hot dog, some popcorn, and sit back to enjoy the Orchestra in the outfield. Winning Pops selections, vocals by fan favorites and a spectacular fireworks display all contribute to an evening of hits and home runs. Tickets from \$15 will be sold by the Baltimore Orioles at Ed Smith Stadium beginning in December.

## South Florida Museum

The largest natural and cultural history museum on the Gulf Coast, the South Florida Museum puts the world, both past and present, in context for its visitors through permanent collections, traveling exhibitions, a state-of-the-art planetarium and numerous community activities and educational outreach programs. Explore fossil evidence of Florida's oldest animal inhabitants (including marine life) and peruse the Montague Tallant collection of prehistoric and post-contact artifacts. Other permanent exhibits showcase maritime history and the history of Spanish colonization (including full-scale replicas of a 16th century manor house, chapel and Hernando DeSoto's birthplace). [southfloridamuseum.org](http://southfloridamuseum.org)

## NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC'S "50 GREATEST PHOTOGRAPHS"

**Sept 22–Jan 18.** Enrich the visual impact of some of the most famous images to ever be printed in National Geographic's almost 130-year celebrated history. From Steve McCurry's powerful Afghan Girl and Michael "Nick" Nichol's canonized photograph of primatologist Jane Goodall and a chimpanzee to Thomas Abercrombie's unique view of Mecca, the exhibition features a total of 50 memorable images ingrained in the American conscience. Each photograph will offer a glimpse behind the lens and contextualize the content.

## The Ringling

Situated along 66 acres on the bay, The Ringling boasts an impressive array of classics and works from the Old Masters, with a Rubens collection of note, as well as regularly hosting traveling exhibitions on the forefront of contemporary art in the United States and abroad. The on-site Circus Conservatory houses the area's local circus history, in addition to exploring the form's greater reach. The historic Ca d'Zan mansion stands freshly renovated by the water, with tours available. Rich in history, the museum's roots date back to 1924, and the establishment serves as a legacy of the original owners, John and Mable Ringling. [ringling.org](http://ringling.org)

## EXTRAORDINARY ANIMALS

**Sep 22–Jan 14.** Circus animals are the unsung heroes and stars of many a childhood fantasy. Their remarkable intelligence and highly developed skills made for some eye-popping and inspiring performances characteristic of The Greatest Show on Earth. Fans of the circus will be touched by the nostalgia fairy in this Amazing Animals exhibit, which features many antique posters from the pinnacle of the circus era, lovingly preserved and on display in the Circus Museum's Tibbals Learning Center.

## AFTERMATH: THE FALLOUT OF WAR – AMERICA AND THE MIDDLE EAST

**Oct 15–Jan 21.** Featuring artists from Iraq, Afghanistan, Syria, Lebanon, Libya, Palestine and Israel, this exhibit will depict pieces that express the anguish and turmoil of living through a war. Pertinent today in the current climate of geopolitical tension, this incendiary exhibit will force viewers to question the true cost of war and the US's troubled relationship with the Middle East region. Bring an open heart and an open mind to this emotive exhibit.

## APPROACHING THE BORDER

**Nov 5–Jan 21.** Poignant and relevant, this exhibit will feature video pieces by five international artists that will challenge viewers to examine their thinking about the US/Mexico border. Each piece offers a meditation on the social phenomena and politics of the border in a reemergent age of nationalistic fervor. While some will address the question of how borders shape and affect our identities as powerful signifiers, others will capture the nuanced local flare each borderland region assumes in this contentious discourse.

## FIRST FIVE YEARS OF ART OF OUR TIME

**Nov 4–30.** When James Turrell's skyspace "Joseph's Coat" opened in 2011, it signaled the beginning of a new era for The Ringling, an era that would engage more with contemporary artists. The vision of Chick Austin, a museum innovator, has been gradually blossoming into the current state of The







Ringling. First Five Years will offer a survey of the many great, living artists who have contributed to the museum during its Art of Our Time program. The juxtaposition of classical European art and conceptually challenging contemporary art is sure to fire disparate synapses simultaneously.

#### ALFRED EISENSTAEDT: DEFINING

**MOMENTS Nov 18–Mar 18.** Audiences are encouraged to peruse the collection of photographs shot by one of the most iconic photojournalists of the 20th century. The German-born Alfred Eisenstaedt learned his craft in Europe during the 20s and 30s, pioneering the use of the small Leica 35mm camera to get closer to his subjects and imbue his pieces with an intimacy that touches viewers still. With a prolific career spanning 40 years, most of them with *LIFE* magazine, the exhibit presents a fractional and special selection of his work.

#### THIS PAGE:

*Aftermath*, The Ringling, image by Ben Lowy from the scenes iLibya: Uprising iPhone; *Illuminations*, Sarasota Ballet, photo by Frank Atura.

## Urbanite Theatre

The newest addition to the Suncoast's theatrical scene, founders Summer Dawn Wallace and Brendan Ragan made a statement upon arrival with an opening summer season featuring sold-out, cutting-edge shows performed in the black box style, shifting effortlessly from heavy drama to heady comedy, and haven't let up since. In addition to regular productions this season, the Urbanite also joins forces with The Ringling Museum to bring Nassim Soleimanpour's acclaimed and daring production *White Rabbit Red Rabbit* to the stage. [urbanitetheatre.com](http://urbanitetheatre.com).

#### WHITE RABBIT RED RABBIT

**Oct 25–Nov 5.** Forbidden to leave his home country of Iran, playwright Nassim Soleimanpour delivers his words via sealed envelope, which is not opened until the moment of the performance. A single actor, alone onstage, interprets Soleimanpour's words and performs as the audience watches, both experiencing the play for the first time together. With a new actor each night, no two shows are ever the same. Coming to Sarasota as part of the Ringling International Arts Festival, this extended run offers a chance for those who missed it.



#### ECHOES

**Nov 17–Dec 17.** Directed by Ragan, *Echoes* presents parallel stories separated by 175 years but with startling similarity. A Victorian pioneer woman, Tillie is sent to Afghanistan to serve as wife to an officer of the British Raj; a modern-day Muslim schoolgirl, Samira runs away to Syria to become the bride of an ISIS fighter. With both onstage concurrently and addressing the audience in turn, as these twin stories unfold, commonalities speak louder than their differences.

#### NORTHSIDE HOLLOW

**Jan 26–Mar 11.** Directed by Wallace, *Northside Hollow* continues Urbanite's season of unlikely duos with the story of a coal miner trapped in a deadly collapse with only an inexperienced first responder for company. As the pair waits for a rescue that may or may not come, they find in each other more of themselves than previously thought.

#### WOMEN LAUGHING ALONE WITH SALAD

**Apr 5–May 6.** Award-winning playwright Sheila Callaghan takes a shot at an image-obsessed culture with a raucous and unapologetic show inspired by, of all things, the countless photos and advertisements of women seemingly overjoyed with their salad. Raw, vulgar, hilarious and joyous itself, *Women Laughing Alone with Salad* masterfully walks the line between a good-natured ribbing and earnest satire.



LEFT: Stanley Tucci at the 2016 Sarasota Film Festival.

## Van Wezel Performing Arts Hall

Playfully dubbed “The Purple Cow” by locals, this distinctive Frank Lloyd Wright creation abuts the Sarasota Bayfront, where it serves as Sarasota’s primary connection to the world of national and international touring performance, bringing storied performers and productions to the local stage as a regular stop on the regional, national and international touring circuits. [vanwezel.org](http://vanwezel.org)

### CHICAGO

**Oct 30.** One of the greatest rock acts in popular music, this band from the windy city came in at #9 on Billboard Magazine’s recent Hot 200 All-Time Top Artists. Their first studio album, *Chicago Transit Authority*, is in the Grammy Hall of Fame, inducted in 2014. Bill Clinton, this nation’s grooviest and most stately saxophonist, said they are one of the “most important bands in music since the dawn of the rock and roll era.” Immerse yourself in some blue-jean nostalgia to their mammoth-hits “Saturday In The Park” and “25 or 6 to 4.”

### CIRQUE DREAMS HOLIDAZE

**Dec 21.** Showcasing the beauty, skill and spectacle of dance and acrobatics, Cirque Dreams Holidayze’s critically acclaimed extravaganza will mesmerize audiences. All of the tell-tales of circus pageantry will be on display—death-defying daring-do, 300 imaginative costumes, 20 world-class acts, elaborate production numbers and illusions that will make you question the true nature of reality. This 2-hour theatrical phenomenon is hailed by *BroadwayWorld* as “colorful, imaginative and thoroughly entertaining.”

### MOSCOW BALLET GREAT RUSSIAN

**NUTCRACKER Dec 29.** No Christmas celebration is complete without hearkening back to those little wooden dolls used for cracking chestnuts. Marking the 25th Anniversary, this year’s tour will offer audiences a chance to ogle larger-than-life puppets and nesting dolls while admiring the well-trained and spritely dancers of Moscow Ballet. In existence since 1993, the show employs Tchaikovsky’s complete “Nutcracker Suite” score and features classically trained dancers from Mother Russia.

### MUSICAL THRONES: A PARODY OF

**ICE AND FIRE Jan 21.** No spoiler alerts here! This *Game of Thrones* satire will satisfy fantasy fans in need of a fix. All of the revered and reviled characters will be present and brought to life as all six seasons of the show are given the slapstick treatment. With elaborate set designs for all the famous magical locations serving up Thrones’ infamous gore, power struggles, manipulation, sex and maybe a ballad or two, Musical Thrones will leave fans of the show in stitches.

### THE SILK ROAD ENSEMBLE WITH

**YO-YO MA Apr 19.** Spearheaded by the most recognized cellist alive, Yo-Yo Ma, the Ensemble has been redefining classical music for contemporary aficionados since 2000. The roster of musicians represents a global cornucopia of cultures, pulling from disparate influences to form a cohesive sound that weaves a new tapestry. A marriage of the foreign and familiar and winner of this year’s Grammy for Best World Music Album, the Ensemble will leave audiences feeling well-travelled.

## Venice Symphony

Since its inception in 1974, the Venice Symphony has grown from a passion project playing three concerts a year in the Venice High School to the town’s premier musical performers, still playing at the Venice High School, but at its state-of-the-art Venice Performing Arts Center. In recent years, as the symphony continues to grow, the introduction of a Pre-Concert Talk Series has brought the community even closer to the people behind the music. This season, Venice Symphony brings a different conductor for each concert. [thevenicesymphony.org](http://thevenicesymphony.org)

### MAJESTIC MOMENTS

**Nov 17–18.** The season opens with an ode to the shining examples of the Romantic Era, including Weber’s “Overture to Oberon,” Tchaikovsky’s epic “Symphony No. 5 in e minor, Op. 64,” and Dvorak’s “Cello Concerto in b minor, Op. 104.” 18-year-old cello prodigy Jonathan Swensen joins in as guest soloist. Swensen, who began playing at 7, has already bloomed into a decorated soloist, winning Öresunds Competition in 2011 and Berlingskes Classical Music competition in 2012.

### EMOTIONAL LANDSCAPES

**Jan 12–13.** Stilian Kirov’s interpretations will transport you to dreamy places. Imagine snowy white idylls of winter in Tchaikovsky’s *Snow Maiden Suite*. Sense the ebb and flow of the tide in Debussy’s sweeping *La Mer*. Guest soloist Angela Brown checks off all the boxes requisite of a world-class soprano—untempered vocal power, effortless finesse, and glittering high pianissimos. Able to cover styles from opera, pop and gospel, Brown’s jaw-dropping and Grammy Award-winning voice will massage ear drums and lift spirits.

### A SYMPHONIC JOURNEY

**Mar 16–17.** Conductor Janna Hymes will lead attendees on an auditory visionquest with melodic selections as a soundtrack. Featuring *Die Fledermaus Overture* from the operetta by Johann Strauss, Dvorak’s well-known *New World Symphony* and Samuel Barber’s Violin Concerto. Sitting in as guest soloist will be the incomparable Irina Muresano. Muresano, a Romanian violinist, plays with gusto and passion that excites and woos audiences and critics alike.

### A TRIBUTE TO MUSIC IN CINEMAS

**May 4–5.** The season reaches its denouement with potency and a bit of intermedia flair in the performance of John Williams’ themes from *Far and Away* and *Schindler’s List*, as well as soundtrack selections from Oscar-winners Henry Mancini, Jerry Goldsmith and Ennio Morricone. Conductor Troy Quinn will be charged with making the cinematic music come to life, and along with Glenn Dicterow, violin soloist and former concertmaster of the New York Philharmonic, listeners will be guided through a cinematic rollercoaster that tells the musical story of each film.



## Venice Theatre

Charming, wowing and moving audiences since 1950, Venice Theatre stands as, per capita, the largest community theater in the United States. From classics and musical favorites on the main stage to the daring and raucous productions populating the theater's Stage II, Venice Theatre pulls out all the stops for a theater-going population always looking for something new. [venicestage.com](http://venicestage.com)

### FLAMING GUNS OF THE PURPLE SAGE

**Nov 2–19.** Following the zany tradition of pulp westerns, this farcical-bordering-on-absurdist tale mixes gothic horror and hilarity to offer a fun satire on the cowboy mentality. Big 8, a fiery rodeo competitor, is staring down the barrel of a foreclosure on her Wyoming cowboy rehabilitation ranch. When the eccentric woman named Shedevil and a one-eyed Ukrainian biker named Black Dog arrive, the tension builds into a bag em' and tag em' romp.

### THE SANTALAND DIARIES

**Nov 30–Dec 23.** From the mind of renowned satirist David Sedaris comes a Joe Mantello adaptation of *The Santaland Diaries*. This adaptation focuses on Sedaris' snarky, hilarious and sometimes-touching observations when he, an out-of-work writer, dons an elf costume for the Macy's holiday crush. Mus-ing on everything from spoiled kids and anxious parents to disgruntled coworkers and overbearing managers, Mantello's adaptation will make you want a hot toddy as you brace for the holidays.

### SMOKEY JOE'S CAFÉ,

### THE SONGS OF LEIBER AND STOLLER

**Jan 9–Feb 4.** Feast your eyes and ears on an adaptation of Broadway's longest-running production ever. This iconic musical revue presents the greatest songs written and recorded by Jerry Leiber and Mike Stoller, everything from "Love Potion #9" and "On Broadway" to "I'm a Woman" and "Stand By Me." Audiences will be sweating through their socks and shoppin' for clothes as they yakety-yak out the door.

### THE GRAPES OF WRATH

**April 10–29.** Tony Award-winning director Frank Galati returns to the show that earned him a 1990 Best Play win with *The Grapes of Wrath*. Set during the Great Depression, the story follows the Joad family as they

head West from Oklahoma in search of existential security. Tenant farmers living in the dust bowl, they are forced to relocate due to the dire economic prospects in their native state. Poor, homeless and jobless, they will strive for land, jobs, dignity and a future.

### DEBBIE DOES DALLAS: THE MUSICAL!

**Apr 26–May 20.** A tongue-in-cheek musical adaptation of a film that audiences would be ashamed to recognize. It's a coming-of-age story about an all-American small-town sweetheart. Debbie is captain of her high-school cheerleading team, but she has her sights set on becoming a Texas Cowgirl Cheerleader. How will she and her friends raise enough money for her to get to Dallas? We think you know the answer to that.

## Annual Festivals

### RINGLING INTERNATIONAL ARTS FESTIVAL

**Oct 18–21.** Showcasing the latest happenings in the world of contemporary performance art, once a year The Ringling invites a select group of performers to bring their shows to Sarasota for four jam-packed days of music, theater and dance. With an array of carefully juxtaposed performances this year, from the large-scale acrobatics of eVenti Verticali to the 'thumb cinemas' of Volker Gerling's *Portraits in Motion*, the Ringling International Arts Festival asks its audience to take a leap and explore the unexpected. Embodying this spirit, *White Rabbit Red Rabbit* comes to the festival this year for a slate of once-in-a-lifetime performances. [ringling.org](http://ringling.org)

### CINEWORLD FILM FESTIVAL

**Nov 3–12.** Historically, this festival has been a non-stop marathon of films dedicated to various genres. The Sarasota Film Society anticipates this year will be no different, resulting in a collection of must-see films to satisfy each individual's palate. Attending the Toronto Film Festival each year and selecting the best to bring back to Florida, the Cine-World Film Festival serves as one of Sarasota's two main portals to the greater film world. [filmsociety.org](http://filmsociety.org)

### SARASOTA CHALK FESTIVAL

**Nov 10–13.** Founded by local artist Denise Kowal, the award-winning and world record-breaking Sarasota Chalk Festival returns for its 10th anniversary and another installment of street art spectacles, bringing professionals from around the world and amateurs from around the country together in a celebration of the ephemeral art form. With this

year's theme, "Evanescence," featured events include the pavement music festival, young and young at heart, interactive, poetry magic and more. With more pavement available than ever before, this looks to be the biggest chalk festival. [chalkfestival.org](http://chalkfestival.org)

### FORKS AND CORKS: GRAND TASTING

**Jan 28.** Hosted in the courtyard of The John and Mable Ringling Museum of Art by the Sarasota-Manatee Originals, The Grand Tasting offers a broad look at the area culinary scene, with flavorful injections from across the globe. With more than 50 area restaurants participating, wine from 80 top international wineries and a selection of microbrews and craft beers available, it's a must for the sophisticated foodie. [dineoriginal.com/forksandcorks](http://dineoriginal.com/forksandcorks)

### SARASOTA MUSIC HALF MARATHON

**Feb 4.** One of Sarasota's newest events, the Sarasota Music Half Marathon melds marathon running with an outdoor music festival for a rock-and-roll party more than a mile long. With a mission to create a signature event for Sarasota by providing a cool experience for athletes and spectators alike, involving the community and raising money for local nonprofits, the Sarasota Music Half Marathon is going full-steam. [sarasotahalf.com](http://sarasotahalf.com)

### 28TH ANNUAL FLORIDA WINEFEST AND

**AUCTION** **Apr 5–8.** An annual event held for charity, the Winefest and Auction spans four days of great wine and delectable food for those that like to throw some flair into their philanthropy. Hundreds of wineries and businesses donate products and services for the auction, ranging from exquisite dinners for two at local restaurants to vacations across the country to works of art for the wall. [floridawinefest.org](http://floridawinefest.org)

### SARASOTA FILM FESTIVAL

**Apr 13–22.** Showcasing the latest and greatest of cutting edge and independent film, the Sarasota Film Festival takes over the town for ten days out of the year, bringing filmmakers from around the world and more than a couple stars, such as last year's Stanley Tucci, Diane Lane and Aisha Taylor, to present their latest projects and talk film with the gathered community. With over 200 films showing and signature social events including Opening Night and the high-legendary festival closing party always in tow, SFF has grown to be a truly international event in the world of film. [sarasotafilmfestival.com](http://sarasotafilmfestival.com)



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