

THE UMBRELLA KICKS OFF BOLD THEATER SEASON IN NEW STATE-OF-THE-ART FACILITY

The Umbrella Stage Company - Greater Boston's Newest Professional Theater

September 1, 2019

Concord, MA—The Umbrella Stage Company is pleased to announce its 2019/2020 season, including an expanded six-show lineup staged in two newly constructed theaters at 40 Stow Street, as well as a variety of flexible new ticketing and subscription offerings.

In its inaugural season as a newly minted professional company, the award-winning team led by Producing Artistic Director **Brian Boruta** is dedicated to bringing bold, daring and innovative theater to regional audiences. From tap-dance fueled spectacles to a cutting-edge folk-punk premiere and socially engaged dramas, the season is perhaps The Umbrella's most ambitious and unique to date, and promises to showcase the capability and versatility of its new venues.

The lineup includes: The musical extravaganza, *42nd Street*; August Wilson's classic *Fences*; the New England regional premiere of *Hundred Days*; the timely and moving *Bent*; the beloved Disney title, *Tuck Everlasting*; and *War Paint*, the true-to-life story of Elizabeth Arden and Helena Rubinstein, starring Boston's leading ladies, **Leigh Barrett** and **Shana Dirik**.

NEW SPACES FOR A NEW SEASON

The shows will rotate between The Umbrella's brand-new 344-seat proscenium-style Main Stage and a flexible 80-100 seat Black Box performance space. Designed for comfort, accessibility and sustainability, the new facilities are part a \$20 million dollar capital campaign which broke ground in 2017, and also house newly refinished artist studios, classrooms, dance studio, ceramics wing, art gallery and outdoor exhibition space.

Each venue is fully equipped with state of the art lighting, sound, and projection equipment. The Main Stage will feature a full fly system, unobstructed sight lines, and a custom-designed orchestra facility. Support spaces such as expanded green rooms, set shop, and storage will support performances across both stages.

NEW TICKETING OPTIONS

The Umbrella has also expanded its options for ticketing, with special pricing on season subscriptions, groups, and convenient new Flex Passes – flexibly scheduled, transferable ticket bundles that can be redeemed all at once or one at a time.

Graphics [here](#). Or, contact: Stewart Ikeda, 978-371-0820 x211, stewart@theumbrellaarts.org

MEDIA ADVISORY: THE UMBRELLA STAGE COMPANY 2019/2020

40 Stow Street, Concord, MA | TheUmbrellaStage.org/Pressroom

PRESS OPENINGS

The Umbrella Stage Company is pleased to invite members of the press to the following Press Openings for our 2019/2020 Season. To reserve tickets, or request an alternate date, please email Brian Boruta at brian@theumbrellaarts.org.

- 42nd STREET – Saturday, September 28th, 8 pm
- August Wilson’s FENCES – Saturday, November 2nd, 8 pm
- TUCK EVERLASTING – Saturday, December 7th, 8 pm
- HUNDRED DAYS – Saturday, January 25th, 8 pm
- BENT – Saturday, March 14th, 8 pm
- WAR PAINT – Saturday, April 25th, 8 pm

PERFORMANCES

42nd STREET - Sep 27-Oct 20, 2019

Music by Harry Warren, Lyrics by Al Dubin; Book by Michael Stewart and Mark Bramble; Directed by Brian Boruta

The grand opening production in our new space is a moment to celebrate, and 42nd STREET is nothing short of the greatest celebration of musical theatre and the people who make it happen. Aspiring chorus girl Peggy Sawyer comes to the big city from Allentown PA, and soon lands her first big job in the ensemble of a glitzy new Broadway show. But just before opening night, the leading lady breaks her ankle. Will Peggy be able to step in and become a star? Splashy and grand, this tap-dance fueled musical is a visual feast, and is the ultimate showcase for the capabilities of our new main stage.

FENCES - Nov 1-23, 2019

By August Wilson; Directed by Michelle Aguillon

Winner of both the Pulitzer and the Tony Award, August Wilson’s FENCES is a true American masterpiece. Deeply affecting and a profound theatrical experience, FENCES focuses on Troy Maxon, a former star of the Negro baseball leagues who now works as a garbage man. Excluded as a black man from the major leagues, his bitterness takes its toll on his relationships with his wife and his son, who now wants his own chance to play ball. With one of the greatest roles ever written for the stage, FENCES is a perfect way to introduce audiences to our new Black Box.

TUCK EVERLASTING - Dec 6-22, 2019

Book by Claudia Shear and Tim Federle; Music by Chris Miller, Lyrics by Nathan Tysen; Based on the novel by Natalie Babbitt; Directed by Nancy Curran Willis

Based on the book by the same name which also inspired a 2002 Disney movie, this magical, musical adventure is fun for the whole family and a dazzling spectacle for our award-winning design teams. 11 year old Winnie Foster yearns for a life of adventure beyond her white picket fence when she stumbles upon the Tuck family and their secret to everlasting youth and faces the extraordinary choice of returning to her ordinary life or continue with the Tucks on their infinite journey. We are the first professional company to bring this show -- recently on Broadway -- to our local audiences.

HUNDRED DAYS - Jan 24 - Feb 16, 2019

New England Regional Premiere

Book by The Bengsons and Sarah Gancher; Music and Lyrics by The Bengsons

HUNDRED DAYS is an uncensored, exhilarating and heartrending true story about embracing uncertainty, taking a leap and loving as if you only had 100 days to live. A luminous musical memoir scored to anthemic folk music, HUNDRED DAYS shines a light in the darkness and is “ablaze with the ephemeral nature of life and love.” Staged in our Black Box, this intimate and engaging concert-musical is the perfect vehicle to highlight the versatility of our new home.

BENT - Mar 13-29, 2019

By Martin Sherman; Directed by Peyton Pugmire

Profound and provocative, BENT is the story of courage and survival in the face of extreme hate and circumstance. Set in 1930's Berlin where homosexuality is viewed as worse than being Jewish, Max and Rudy attempt to flee before being caught by Nazi soldiers. Strikingly relevant, global, and moving, BENT will keep audiences thinking and talking about the experience of it long after the lights come down.

WAR PAINT - Apr 24-May 16, 2019

Book by Doug Wright; Music by Scott Frankel, Lyrics by Michael Korie; Directed by Julia Deter

Hailed as “thoroughly compelling and masterfully entertaining” WAR PAINT is the true-to-life story of Elizabeth Arden and Helena Rubenstein, masters of self-invention and titans of the cosmetics industry who became the country's first major female entrepreneurs in a time when only men were thought to be capable of building international empires. This fascinating, female-forward bio-musical spans their 50 year rivalry, is a master-class for two stars and will feature Boston's own leading ladies, Leigh Barrett and Shana Dirik in one of the first productions in the country since the musical closed on Broadway in November, 2017.