

For immediate release

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THE PEAR THEATRE ANNOUNCES SEASON 23: BE TRANSPORTED



Mountain View, CA (April 22, 2024) The Pear Theatre is proud to announce its Season 23 lineup where audiences will *Be Transported* to worlds inhabited by the daring, the defiant, and the dazzling; featuring stories you know and people you've heard of - presented in ways you've never seen before. Season 23 will deliver deeply immersive productions and unique, transformative theatrical experiences unlike anywhere else in the South Bay. SEASON 23 ARTWORK can be found **here**.

"It is a hard time for theatres and we have decided to really double down on the things that we think we do best," shares Executive Artistic Director, Sinjin Jones. "At The Pear you can always count on stories that are going to be told in groundbreaking ways. You can count on unique theatrical experiences that you can only have at The Pear. When you step through our doors, we guarantee that you are in for something that is quality, that is deeply meaningful, that is intriguing and that is going to be a version of a production that you have never seen before. Season 23 will be immersion on a whole new level. It will be about *being transported* – because theatre, at the end of the day, is all about being transported and being connected with things that are larger than yourself."

In Season 23, The Pear is excited to continue partnerships with Harmony Werks (*Pear Pressure Cabaret Show*), Sunnyvale Community Players (*Studio Series* co-production and director

training program), and Greg Burton & Friends (*Improv Show*), while also debuting <u>new</u> alliances with The Breath Project (*Black Experience Festival: What to Send Up When It Goes Down*) and Bootstrap Productions (*Penelope* by Ellen McLaughlin).

MAINSTAGE SHOWS

Once On This Island

by Lynn Ahrens | Music by Stephen Flaherty Director TBA. Playing SEPT. 13 - OCT. 13, 2024

Ti Moune, a peasant girl, rescues Daniel, a wealthy boy from the other side of the island, with whom she falls in love. Unbeknownst to Ti Moune, the pompous gods who preside over the island make a bet with one another over which is stronger - love or death. The stakes? Ti Moune's life.

Tony Award® Nominee

- Best Musical | 1991
- Best Book of a Musical | 1991

Tony Award® Winner

- Best Revival of a Musical | 2017
- "... a joyous marriage of the slick and the folkloric, of the hard-nosed sophistication of Broadway musical theater and the indigenous culture of a tropical isle... [you are] likely to emerge from the theater ready to dance down the street." The New York Times

The Agitators

by Mat Smart | Director TBA. Playing NOV. 22 - DEC. 22, 2024

The Agitators tells of the enduring but tempestuous friendship of Susan B. Anthony and Frederick Douglass. Great allies? Yes. And at times, great adversaries. Young abolitionists when they met in Rochester in the 1840s, they were full of hopes, dreams, and a common purpose. As they grew to become the cultural icons we know today, their movements collided and their friendship was severely tested. This is the story of that forty-five year friendship: from its beginning in Rochester, through a civil war, and to the highest halls of government. They agitated the nation, they agitated each other, and, in doing so, they helped shape the Constitution and the course of American history.

"...a compelling portrait of two flawed but inspiring agents of change." – Pioneer Press

The Gods of Comedy

Everybody

by Ken Ludwig Director TBA.

by Branden Jacob-Jenkins

Playing IN REPERTORY | FEB. 21 - MAR. 16, 2025

In *The Gods of Comedy*, Daphne and Ralph are young classics professors who have just made a discovery that is sure to turn them into academic superstars. But something goes disastrously wrong, and Daphne cries out in a panic, "Save me, gods of ancient Greece!" And the gods actually appear! The Ivy League will never be the same as a pair of screwball deities encounters the carnal complexity of college coeds, campus capers, and conspicuous consumption.

"A charming, clever comedy!" - Phindie.com

"A very funny, Mel-Brooksian romp through academia, Greek mythology, and personal empowerment." – *Broadway Street Review*

A modern riff on the fifteenth-century morality play, *Everyman* follows Everybody (chosen from amongst the cast by lottery at each performance) as they journey through life's greatest mystery - the meaning of living.

"...[a] very meta and saucy adaptation..." – *Time Out New York*"EVERYBODY... is not only provocative and involving, it is also funny. Wildly funny, in fact." – *Huffington Post*

Henry V

by William Shakespeare Director TBA.

She Who Dared

WORLD PREMIERE by Pear Playwrights' Guild

Playing IN REPERTORY | APR. 18 - MAY 18, 2025

After an insult from the French Dauphin, King Henry V of England invades France to claim the throne he believes should be his. Henry stops an assassination plot, gives powerful speeches, and wins battles against the odds. In the end, he woos and marries the Princess of France, linking the two nations.

The world premiere production of She Who Dared is an immersive journey exploring the paths

of great female leaders of history; what we know about them, what we do not, and what stories that have been left untold.

Constellations

by Nick Payne | Director TBA. Playing JUN. 27 - JUL. 20, 2025

Roland, a beekeeper, and Marianne, a theoretical physicist, meet at a party. In that single moment, an unfathomable multitude of possibilities unfold. Their chance meeting might blossom into a meaningful relationship or a brief affair - it might lead to nothing at all. What happens next defies the boundaries of the world we think we know—delving into the infinite possibilities of their relationship and raising questions about the difference between choice and destiny.

"Who knew that higher physics could be so sexy, so accessible—and so emotionally devastating? This story of parallel universes is universal in every sense of the word."— The New York Times

CORE COMMUNITY EVENTS

Black Experience Festival: What to Send Up When It Goes Down

The Breath Project August 9 - 25, 2024

Fresh Produce

Staged readings of new works from members of The Pear Playwrights' Guild November 8, 9, & 10, 2024

Tick, Tick... Boom!

Music, Lyrics and Book by Jonathan Larson January 17, 18, & 19 2025

Co-production with Sunnyvale Community Players as part of Studio Series, a training program for directors from historically marginalized backgrounds under the mentorship of theatre professionals.

Pear Slices One-Act Play Festival

New works from members of The Pear Playwrights' Guild May 23 - June 8, 2025

Pear Pressure Cabaret Show

Presented at The Pear Theatre by Harmony Werks August 31 & November 2, 2024 January 25, 2025 April 4, 2025 June 13, 2025

Greg Burton & Friends Improv Shows

August 11, October 27, November 10, & December 8, 2024 January 12, February 9, March 9, May 11, & June 8, 2025

Bootstrap Productions

Penelope by Ellen McLaughlin March 17 - 30, 2025

RECAP

WHAT: The Pear Theatre announces Season 23: *Be Transported.* The Pear's most adventurous season yet will feature deeply immersive productions of new and classic works, as well as continued and new partnerships within the Bay Area artistic community.

SEASON 23 SCHEDULED LINEUP

Artwork for each slot can be found here.

- Black Experience Festival: What to Send Up When It Goes Down
 The Breath Project
 August 9 25, 2024
- Once on This Island by Lynn Ahrens, Music by Stephen Flaherty Sept. 13 – Oct. 13, 2024
- The Agitators by Mat Smart Nov. 22 – Dec. 22, 2024
- The Gods of Comedy by Ken Ludwig Everybody by Branden Jacob-Jenkins In Repertory | Feb. 21 – Mar. 16, 2025
- Henry V by William Shakespeare
 She Who Dared by members of The Pear Playwrights' Guild
 In Repertory | April 18 May 18, 2025
- Constellations by Nick Payne June 27 – July 20, 2025

WHERE: The Pear Theatre; 1110 La Avenida St., Suite A, Mountain View, CA 94043.

SUBSCRIBE: Full Season Flex Pass: \$270-\$280. Half Season Flex Pass: \$150-\$160. Full

Immersion Pass: \$430-\$450 (LIMIT 10). Immersion Pass includes tickets, drinks and delivery package for every production, special collectors show merchandise and special access when applicable. Subscriptions and more details available at thepear.org/season23 & thepear.org/seas

ABOUT THE PEAR THEATRE

The Pear Theatre was founded in 2002 by Diane Tasca and came under the leadership of its third Artistic Director, Sinjin Jones, in 2020. Its goal is to deliver unique theatrical experiences, and intimate theatre that is big, bold, brave and magical, while fostering community connection and inspiring the lives of patrons and artists in transformative ways. The theatre, a state-of-the-art black box with a capacity of 75-99 seats, has been recognized by the San Francisco Bay Area Theatre Critics Circle with the Paine Knickerbocker Award and multiple cast and crew nominations for Excellence in Theatre. In 2022, The Pear began hosting the monthly Pear Pressure Cabaret presented by Harmony Werks and monthly Improv Nights with Greg & Friends. The Pear is also home to the Pear Playwrights' Guild which hosts a developmental reading series (Fresh Produce), an annual festival of new one-act plays (Pear Slices), and an annual playwriting festival featuring new works (Fresh Baked Pears). The theatre is also home to a student outreach and education program (Pear Roots), and the recently launched Pear Seeds Theatre Camps.

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