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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Tuesday, January 31, 2022

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AMERICAN REPERTORY THEATER ANNOUNCES  
“TAKE FIVE” \$5 TICKET PROGRAM FOR UPCOMING PRODUCTIONS  
OF  
*THE WIFE OF WILLESDEN* AND *EVITA*

A.R.T.’s “Take Five” and Harvard’s “ArtsThursdays” Are  
Newest Programs Lowering Cost Barriers to Attend

[IMAGES FOR DOWNLOAD](#)

Cambridge, MA—American Repertory Theater (A.R.T.) at Harvard University, led by Terrie and Bradley Bloom Artistic Director Diane Paulus and Executive Director Kelvin Dinkins, Jr., announced today the **Take Five** program, which designates blocks of tickets priced at just \$5 for A.R.T.’s upcoming productions of *The Wife of Willesden*, adapted by Zadie Smith from Chaucer’s *The Wife of Bath*, and its revival of the Andrew Lloyd Webber/Tim Rice rock opera *Evita*.

**Take Five** invites community members who feel attending theater is financially out of reach or want to take a chance on something new to experience the A.R.T. with a \$5 ticket.

A select number of **Take Five** tickets to *The Wife of Willesden* are available for purchase online beginning today for anyone who chooses to benefit from the deeply subsidized ticket. Additional blocks of **Take Five** tickets will be released in the coming weeks as the program continues to be promoted in the Greater Boston community. Learn more at [AmericanRepertoryTheater.org/TakeFive](http://AmericanRepertoryTheater.org/TakeFive).

**Take Five** ticket subsidies are supported by a lead gift from the **Richard K. Lubin Family Foundation** and further supported by individual contributions.

“With last fall’s ticket initiative, supported with a lead gift by the Crimson Lion / Lavine Family Foundation, A.R.T. successfully expanded our civic dialogue with diverse audiences for our production of *Twilight: Los Angeles, 1992*,” said A.R.T. Executive Director **Kelvin Dinkins, Jr.** “We are grateful for the lead support from the **Richard K. Lubin Family Foundation** allows us to extend this pilot program through the remainder of our 2022/23 Season. Partnerships like these enable us to strengthen connections to our community while lowering the cost barrier as we endeavor to make A.R.T. a more welcoming and accessible space for our audiences.”

“We believe the performing arts improve the quality of life in Greater Boston. The Foundation is delighted to support American Repertory Theater’s **Take Five** program, helping to make a trip to the theater affordable for all,” explained one of the Trustees of the Richard K. Lubin Family Foundation.

### **FREE & DISCOUNT TICKET PROGRAMS**

A.R.T.’s mission is to expand the boundaries of theater, always including the audience as a central partner. Access is key to this partnership, and the **Take Five** initiative is one of the many ways A.R.T. is lowering cost barriers to its productions.

Additionally, **200 free tickets to the March 9, 7:30PM performance of *The Wife of Willesden*** are available through Harvard’s **ArtsThursdays** program, a new University-wide initiative supported by Harvard University Committee on the Arts to provide free access to Harvard’s many arts offerings. Learn more at [AmericanRepertoryTheater.org/ArtsThursdays](https://AmericanRepertoryTheater.org/ArtsThursdays).

**Standard tickets start at \$30, and discounts on tickets are available** to students and ticket-buyers under the age of 25, Blue Star families, EBT card holders, seniors, Harvard faculty and staff, and others.

Please visit [AmericanRepertoryTheater.org/Tickets](https://AmericanRepertoryTheater.org/Tickets) for more information on all available discounts.

### **HOW TO BOOK TICKETS**

After selecting their performance date at [AmericanRepertoryTheater.org/The-Wife-of-Willesden](https://AmericanRepertoryTheater.org/The-Wife-of-Willesden), ticket-buyers can enter the code **TAKEFIVE** in the promotion code box, then select seats at the \$5 price point at performances Saturday, February 25 through Friday, March 10 (Thursday, March 9 is excluded). Limit 4 tickets per online order; for larger parties, please call Ticket Services at 617-547-8300.

Information about booking \$5 tickets to ***Evita*** through **Take Five** will be available in the coming weeks.

**ArtsThursdays** tickets can be booked at [AmericanRepertoryTheater.org/ArtsThursdays](https://AmericanRepertoryTheater.org/ArtsThursdays). RSVP for one or two tickets. Tickets will be available for pickup on Thursday, March 9 between 12PM and 7PM. Any unclaimed tickets will be released to the public at 7PM before the show begins.

Questions about the **Take Five** program can be directed to [TicketServices@amrep.org](mailto:TicketServices@amrep.org) or 617-547-8300. Those who wish to support the program are invited to contact [DonorEmails@amrep.org](mailto:DonorEmails@amrep.org).

**Audience, artist, and staff safety is A.R.T.’s top priority.** Visit A.R.T.’s website for a full list of current ticketing and attendance protocols and procedures: [AmericanRepertoryTheater.org/Covid19Protocols](https://AmericanRepertoryTheater.org/Covid19Protocols).

## **MORE ABOUT THE WIFE OF WILLESDEN**

***The Wife of Willesden*** begins performances at the Loeb Drama Center in Harvard Square on Saturday February 25; opens officially on Thursday, March 2; and closes on Friday, March 17, 2023.

“A celebration of community and local legends, of telling a good story and living a life worth telling.”  
- *The Guardian*

“★★★★★ A stunning piece of freewheeling stagecraft. Clare Perkins is magnificent.” - *The Times of London*

A proper local legend, Alvita will tell her life story to anyone in the local West London pub—there’s no shame in her game. The question is: are you ready to hear it? Because this woman’s got the gift of the gab: she can rewrite mistakes into triumphs, turn pain into parables. And her love life? It’s an epic poem. They call her the Wife of Willesden. Join her for an evening that celebrates the human knack for telling elaborate tales, especially about our own lives. Winner of the 2022 Critics’ Circle Theatre Award for Most Promising Playwright, critically acclaimed and multi award-winning best-selling author Zadie Smith transforms an excerpt from Chaucer’s *The Canterbury Tales* into the unbelievable—and unforgettable.

Adapted by **Zadie Smith** from Chaucer’s *The Wife of Bath* from *The Canterbury Tales* and directed by **Indhu Rubasingham**, ***The Wife of Willesden*** begins performances at the Loeb Drama Center in Harvard Square on Saturday, February 25; opens officially on Thursday, March 2; and completes its limited run Friday, March 17, 2023. ***The Wife of Willesden*** is a Kiln Theatre Production and is presented in association with BAM.

The A.R.T. production is sponsored by **The Linda Hammett Ory & Andrew Ory Charitable Trust**. Additional Production Support is provided by **Brenda and Kevin Jarrell**.

A.R.T.’s 2022/23 programming is supported by **Harvard University, The Barr Foundation, The Bob and Alison Murchison New Work Development Fund, The Shubert Foundation, National Endowment for the Arts, Massachusetts Cultural Council, Bank of America, Barton & Guestier, Meyer Sound, and JetBlue**.

## THE WIFE OF WILLESDEN PERFORMANCE DATES

THE WIFE OF WILLESDEN						
IN PERSON: FEB 25 - MAR 17, 2023						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						25 FEB 7:30PM
26 7:30PM	27	28 7:30PM	1 MAR 7:30PM	2 7:30PM	3 7:30PM	4 2PM 7:30PM
5 2PM	6	7 7:30PM	8 7:30PM	9 7:30PM	10 7:30PM	11 2PM 7:30PM
12 2PM	13	14	15 10AM 7:30PM	16 7:30PM	17 7:30PM	

**Teacher Tuesday Performance:** Tuesday, February 28 at 5PM / performance at 7:30PM

Learn more and register at [AmericanRepertoryTheater.org/TeacherTuesday](https://www.amrep.org/TeacherTuesday)

**ASL Interpreted Performances:** Sunday, March 12 at 2PM & Wednesday, March 15 at 7:30PM

Book seats online, by contacting [Access@amrep.org](mailto:Access@amrep.org), or calling 617.547.8300.

**Audio Described Performances:** Saturday, March 11 at 2PM & Thursday, March 16 at 7:30PM

Book seats online, by contacting [Access@amrep.org](mailto:Access@amrep.org), or calling 617.547.8300.

**Open Captioned Performances:** Saturday, March 11 at 2PM & Thursday, March 16 at 7:30PM

Book seats online, by contacting [Access@amrep.org](mailto:Access@amrep.org), or calling 617.547.8300.

**Morning Matinee Performances:** Wednesday, March 15 at 10AM

For booking availability for student or other group tickets contact [Groups@amrep.org](mailto:Groups@amrep.org) or call 617.547.8300.

**Relaxed Performance:** Friday, March 17 at 7:30PM

Open to all audience members who could benefit from a more relaxed atmosphere at the theater

## ABOUT AMERICAN REPERTORY THEATER

The American Repertory Theater (A.R.T.) at Harvard University is a leading force in the American theater, producing groundbreaking work that is driven by risk-taking and passionate inquiry. A.R.T. was founded in 1980 by Robert Brustein, who served as Artistic Director until 2002, when he was succeeded by Robert Woodruff. Diane Paulus began her tenure as Terrie and Bradley Bloom Artistic Director in 2008 and co-leads the theater in partnership with Executive Director Kelvin Dinkins, Jr., who began his tenure in June 2022.

The Loeb Drama Center where the A.R.T. performs is located on the traditional and ancestral land of the Massachusetts, the original inhabitants of what is now known as Boston and Cambridge. We pay respect to the people of the [Massachusetts Tribe](#), past and present, and honor the land itself which remains sacred to the Massachusetts People.

## MISSION

The American Repertory Theater is dedicated to expanding the boundaries of theater, always including the audience as a partner.

## VISION

We focus on the research and development of groundbreaking theatrical experiences that catalyze dialogue and transformation. We believe that by engaging our hearts, minds and bodies, theater has the power to heal and imagine collective pathways forward.

We commit to advancing public health in our practice and our programming, recognizing that racism in America is a national public health crisis. Our new home in Allston will be a breathable and healthy building envisioned as a town hall for the twenty-first century. Inspired by the model of a teaching hospital, the building will be a vibrant center for research, experiential pedagogy, and performance. We build community with our audiences, artists, students, staff, and neighbors across Greater Boston, embracing theater's power to cultivate the full breadth and beauty of our shared humanity. We affirm and celebrate a multitude of perspectives and experiences that reflect the diversity of our country and world. We are dedicated to making a welcoming and accessible space for people of any identity, background, or ability.

## VALUES

We hold the institution and each other responsible and accountable for living our shared values. There is no hierarchy to these values; they are all equally important and interrelated. We acknowledge that as an institution we must devote time to implementing and sustaining these values:

We center anti-racism

*Habituate anti-racist practices in our policies, structure and culture.*

We lead with inquiry

*Ask questions in a spirit of brave curiosity in our never-ending journey of learning and growth*

We believe in collaboration

*Work together with trust and respect to unlock collective creativity*

We practice adaptability

*Challenge assumptions and create capacity to support "next" practices*

We embrace regenerative practice

*Promote the health and vitality of our planet, our organization, and each other*

## HONORS & AWARDS

Throughout its history, A.R.T. has been honored with many distinguished awards including the Tony Award for Best New Play for ***All the Way*** (2014); consecutive Tony Awards for Best Revival of a Musical for ***Pippin*** (2013) and ***The Gershwins' Porgy and Bess*** (2012), both of which Paulus directed, and eighteen other Tony Awards since 2012; a Pulitzer Prize; a Jujamcyn Prize for outstanding contribution to the development of creative talent; the Regional Theater Tony Award; and more than 100 Elliot Norton and IRNE Awards. Additional Broadway productions include ***SIX; Jagged Little Pill; Waitress; Natasha, Pierre & The Great Comet of 1812; Finding Neverland; The Glass Menagerie;*** and ***Once***.

Since their premieres in Cambridge, A.R.T. productions have also [gone on](#) to reach audiences Off-Broadway, on US National Tour, and at partner theaters across the country, as well as in London's West End, Tokyo, and Sydney. Under Paulus's leadership, A.R.T.'s club theater, OBERON, was recognized annually as a top performance venue in the Boston area, and attracted national attention for its innovative programming and business models.

## **HARVARD UNIVERSITY**

As the professional theater on the campus of Harvard University, A.R.T. is committed to playing a central role in the cognitive life of the University, catalyzing discourse, interdisciplinary collaboration, and creative exchange among a wide range of academic departments, institutions, students, and faculty members.

A.R.T. plays a central role in Harvard's undergraduate Theater, Dance & Media concentration, teaching courses in directing, dramatic literature, acting, voice, design, and dramaturgy. A.R.T. staff also mentor students in the Harvard Radcliffe Dramatic Club working at the Loeb Drama Center.

A.R.T. is also engaged in a number of multi-year initiatives with partners at Harvard that explore some of the most pressing issues of our day. Recent collaborations include ones with the Harvard University Center for the Environment (to commission and develop a series of new works that address climate change and the environment) and the Initiative for Racial Equity at Harvard Business School (to pilot the Program in Arts and Culture Organization Management).

## **ENGAGEMENT**

Dedicated to making great theater accessible, A.R.T. actively engages community members and local students annually in project-based partnerships, workshops, conversations with artists, and other enrichment activities both at the theater and across the Greater Boston area.

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