

### American Repertory Theater

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americanrepertorytheater.org

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# American Repertory Theater's Live @ OBERON Series Continues with Debut of iTMRW by Arc Iris

Cambridge, MA—American Repertory Theater (A.R.T.) at Harvard University continues its curated live music series, Live @ OBERON, with Arc Iris on Saturday, January 25 at 8:30PM and Sunday, January 26 at 7:30PM. The Providence-based art pop trio will debut *iTMRW*, a theatrical performance of its new futuristic concept album featuring movement by HDC Dance Ensemble.

**iTMRW** combines live music and contemporary ballet to satirize a post-apocalyptic world where advertisements come in the form of "pop-up thoughts," entire cities float on islands of trash, female forms are purchased and discarded at will, and aristocrats live in a state of debauchery and despair. The piece reckons with the future of technology, misogyny, capitalism and climate change. **iTMRW**'s visual aesthetic lives within the cross-section of high art, popular culture, and futurism. See a preview at https://youtu.be/exgyJRCspBs.

Bringing together an eclectic array of musical artists, many with local roots, **Live @ OBERON** features exceptional original shows that utilize A.R.T.'s club space for cutting-edge performance.

## **TICKETING INFORMATION**

**Tickets start at \$20** and are currently available online at <a href="AmericanRepertoryTheater.org">AmericanRepertoryTheater.org</a>, by phone at 617.547.8300, in person at the Loeb Drama Center Ticket Services Offices (64 Brattle Street, Cambridge), and at OBERON starting at 7:30PM on January 25 and 8:30PM on January 26.

**OBERON** is located at 2 Arrow Street at the corner of Massachusetts Avenue in Harvard Square, Cambridge.

# **ABOUT THE ARTISTS**

Providence, RI, art pop trio <u>Arc Iris</u> fuses story-based songs with dense electronic and orchestral arrangements. The group, which began as the solo project of Jocie Adams, formerly of The Low Anthem, includes keyboardist and sample artist Zach Tenorio-Miller and drummer Ray Belli. Arc Iris released its acclaimed self-titled debut in 2014 on ANTI/Bella Union. Subsequently, the band toured with artists such as St. Vincent, Jeff Tweedy, and Clap Your Hands Say Yeah. In late 2017, Arc Iris

teamed up with Guster's lead singer, Ryan Miller to form the offshoot band Bwahaha. In early 2018, Arc Iris joined Kimbra on her North American tour. Later that year, the trio released back-to-back records, *Icon of Ego* on Brooklyn label Ba Da Bing Records, and *Foggy Lullaby*, a re-imagination of Joni Mitchell's *Blue*.

HDC Dance Ensemble is a Providence-based performing arts collective founded by Gisela Creus, Danielle Davidson, and Orlando Hernández. Its work incorporates elements of voice, percussion, improvisation, and storytelling through physical theater to create unique interdisciplinary dance experiences, primarily in a blend of tap and contemporary dance theater. In the fall of 2019, HDC was in residence as guest choreographers at The Providence College Dance Company, where they set three new works for the student company. To begin 2020, HDC will be in residence at AS220 and working on *iTMRW*, a commission from Arc Iris. HDC will design the movement and, along with four other local dancers, perform in the 75-minute futuristic sci-fi live music and dance-theater piece that will premiere at OBERON and subsequently tour New England throughout the spring.

# **ABOUT AMERICAN REPERTORY THEATER**

American Repertory Theater (A.R.T.) at Harvard University is a leading force in the American theater, producing groundbreaking work in Cambridge and beyond. 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. Under the leadership of Paulus and Executive Producer Diane Borger, A.R.T. seeks to expand the boundaries of theater by producing transformative theatrical experiences, always including the audience as a central partner.

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 sixteen 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.

A.R.T. collaborates with artists around the world to develop and create work in new ways. It is currently engaged in a number of multi-year projects, including a collaboration with Harvard University's Center for the Environment that will result in the development of new work over several years. Under Paulus' leadership, the A.R.T.'s club theater, OBERON, has been an incubator for local and emerging artists and has attracted national attention for its innovative programming and business models.

As the professional theater on the campus of Harvard University, the A.R.T. catalyzes discourse, interdisciplinary collaboration, and creative exchange among a wide range of academic departments, institutions, students, and faculty members, acting as a conduit between its community of artists and the university. The A.R.T. has trained generations of theater artists through its Institute for Advanced Theater Training, and also plays a central role in Harvard's undergraduate concentration in Theater, Dance & Media.

Dedicated to making great theater accessible, A.R.T. actively engages more than 5,000 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.

Through all of these initiatives, A.R.T. is dedicated to producing world-class performances in which the audience is central to the theatrical experience.

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