

SPOLETO FESTIVAL USA 2015 | OPEN STAGE DOOR OFFERINGS

THEATER

ROMEO AND JULIET

Shakespeare's Globe
Dock Street Theatre | 135 Church Street
Approximately 2 hours, 40 minutes
US premiere production

Monday, May 25 – 8:00 PM
Sunday, May 31 – 8:00 PM
Thursday, June 4 – 3:30 PM
Sunday, June 7 – 3:30 PM

Written by William Shakespeare
Directed by Dominic Dromgoole and Tim Hoare

Shakespeare's Globe makes its Spoleto Festival USA debut with a brand new production of *Romeo and Juliet*. Flames of youthful passion ignite amidst a maelstrom of warring families and violence, creating a whirlpool of secrets and misunderstandings that lead the star-cross'd lovers to their tragic fate. Featuring many of William Shakespeare's most beloved lines, *Romeo and Juliet* is as thrilling and heartbreaking for those discovering this classic play as it is for those who have experienced it many times. Renowned for its authentic yet bold productions, this esteemed company hails from London's rebuilt Globe Theatre—the venue Shakespeare called home. Spoleto Festival USA presents the first US performances of this new production.

SLEEPING BEAUTY

Carlo Colla and Sons Marionette Company
Emmett Robinson Theatre at College of Charleston | 54 St. Philip Street
Approximately 1 hour, 30 minutes

Monday, May 25 – 7:30 PM

Italy's Carlo Colla and Sons Marionette Company charmed Festival audiences with its production of *Cinderella* in 2010, and now returns to weave the enchanting tale of the cursed *Sleeping Beauty*. Princess Aurora's story is told in dazzling detail with 165 meticulously handcrafted marionettes in resplendent costumes and sumptuous hand-painted scenery. Performed in English and accompanied by excerpts of Tchaikovsky's lush ballet score, Eugenio Monti Colla's retelling is based on Charles Perrault's original 1697 fairy tale *The Sleeping Beauty in the Wood* and contains delights for audiences of all ages—including some cheeky cameo appearances by characters from other stories.

GOLDEN DRAGON WATER PUPPET THEATRE

College Of Charleston Stern Student Center Garden | 71 George Street

Approximately 1 hour

Thursday, June 4 – 1:00 PM

Friday, June 5 – 1:00 PM

Audiences who experience Vietnam's Golden Dragon Water Puppet Theatre are astonished and delighted at the fire-breathing dragons, fantastical fish, plumed peacocks, and more that dance, dive, and glide over the water's surface. Coming to Spoleto Festival USA for the first time in 2015, this thousand-year-old art form features colorful characters including crafty leopards, phoenixes, and lions in scenes that depict heroism, magic, and comical everyday life. Live traditional music on centuries-old Vietnamese instruments animates the fast-paced blend of action and song. Performing outdoors in a specially built pool in the College of Charleston Stern Student Center Garden, hidden puppeteers will enchant you with a vision of an ancient culture.

DANCE

SHEN WEI DANCE ARTS

College of Charleston Sottile Theatre | 44 George Street

Approximately 1 hour 30 minutes

Saturday, June 6 – 8:00 PM

Sunday, June 7 – 1:00 PM

Map

Untitled #12

Concept, choreography, and set design by Shen Wei

Hailed as “. . . a brilliant, mesmerizing flow of invention” by *The Boston Globe* and “. . . 40 minutes of sheer gorgeousness” by *The Washington Post*, *Map* is both vigorous and whimsical. Set to selections from Steve Reich's *The Desert Music*, dancers rotate, bounce, swivel, and swirl with a palpable kinetic joy. Alternating between metronomic precision and silky fluidity, the dance culminates with a kaleidoscopic human map that shifts and unfurls with the pulsing rhythms and fluctuating melodies of Reich's score. This program also includes the first theatrical performances of *Untitled #12*, a work Shen Wei premiered at Art Basel-Miami Beach (2014). Originally conceived to be performed in a museum, the Festival performances feature a dance created for the proscenium stage and include Shen Wei's recent series of large-scale abstract paintings. These imposing black, white, and gray compositions—suggestive of sublime landscapes—will be set in dialogue with the moving body.

MUSIC

BANK OF AMERICA CHAMBER MUSIC

Dock Street Theatre | 135 Church Street

Approximately 1 hour, 15 minutes

Series curated and directed by violinist Geoff Nuttall (of the St. Lawrence String Quartet)

Chamber Music VIII: Tuesday, June 2 – 1:00 PM
Wednesday, June 3 – 11:00 AM

Chamber Music IX: Thursday, June 4 – 11:00 AM

Chamber Music X: Friday, June 5 – 11:00 AM

With legendary wit and a remarkably broad repertoire, violinist Geoff Nuttall directs the Bank of America Chamber Music series featuring 11 revelatory programs, each performed three times by a line-up of exceptional musicians. Cellist Alisa Weilerstein and baritone Tyler Duncan return to the historic Dock Street Theatre, joined by Festival favorites including flutist Tara Helen O'Connor, pianists Pedja Muzijevic and Inon Barnatan, and the St. Lawrence String Quartet—which celebrates its 25th year as an ensemble, 20 in residency at Spoleto Festival USA. Nuttall also welcomes newcomers violinist Benjamin Beilman and composer-in-residence Mark Applebaum, who will compose a new work to premiere at the Festival. A brilliant combination of canonic jewels and obscure findings, Bank of America Chamber Music crafts an extraordinary experience that is equal parts learning, laughing, and musical nirvana.

CITY LIGHTS with SPOLETO FESTIVAL USA ORCHESTRA

College of Charleston Sottile Theatre | 44 George Street

Approximately 1 hour, 30 minutes

Monday, May 25 – 8:30 PM

Conducted by William Eddins

Charlie Chaplin's pinnacle film *City Lights*—a masterpiece from the end of the silent film era—comes alive in a screening accompanied by a live orchestra performing Chaplin's own score. This romantic comedy portrays "The Little Tramp" in his most beloved role, the final scene of which author James Agee described as the "greatest single piece of acting ever committed to celluloid." Performing in the College of Charleston Sottile Theatre, which opened as a movie house just a few years before *City Lights* came out in 1931, Conductor William Eddins leads the Spoleto Festival USA Orchestra in Chaplin's charming and heartfelt music.

DECASIA with SPOLETO FESTIVAL USA ORCHESTRA

College of Charleston Sottile Theatre | 44 George Street
Approximately 1 hour, 30 minutes

Monday, June 1 – 8:00 PM

Conducted by John Kennedy

Constructed of found footage, visionary filmmaker Bill Morrison's *Decasia* is a 2002 film that assembles and meditates on the age and decay of silent films. The only 21st century film to be declared part of the Library of Congress's National Film Registry, *Decasia* includes original footage largely obtained through the University of South Carolina's Moving Image Research Collection. The film features a soundtrack by composer Michael Gordon with a detuned orchestra playing out of phase with itself, performed live by the Spoleto Festival USA Orchestra under the direction of John Kennedy.

The program opens with the US premiere of Giacinto Scelsi's recently-discovered [*Kamakala*] (1956), a stunning work that stylistically anticipates the deconstructed sounds of the future.

THE LOST GARDEN (Music In Time)

Simons Center Recital Hall at College of Charleston | 54 St. Philip Street
Approximately 1 hour

Saturday, May 23 – 5:00 PM

The tactile, expressive, and dynamic music of Huang Ruo, the composer of Spoleto Festival USA's 2015 opera offering *Paradise Interrupted*, including his evocative *The Lost Garden*, forms the centerpiece of this program and showcases members of the Spoleto Festival USA Orchestra. Huang Ruo was recently named the composer-in-residence for the 2015-16 season at Amsterdam's Concertgebouw where he will compose a new work to be premiered in the renowned hall.

THE BOOK OF SOUNDS (Music In Time)

Simons Center Recital Hall at College of Charleston | 54 St. Philip Street
Approximately 1 hour

Sunday, May 31 – 5:00 PM

German sound artist and composer Hans Otte's concert-length piano suite *Das Buch der Klänge* (*The Book of Sounds*) is a revelation of beauty and meditation. A finely-crafted architecture with Asian influence and elements of minimalism, *The Book of Sounds* is a rhapsodic and exhilarating journey. Festival favorite Conor Hanick, described as "brilliant" by *The New York Times*, performs this monumental work.

WELLS FARGO JAZZ

CARLOS AGUIRRE

Simons Center Recital Hall at College of Charleston | 54 St. Philip Street
Approximately 1 hour

Tuesday, May 26 – 9:00 PM

Solo piano, guitar, and voice

One of the hidden gems of Argentine music makes his North American debut. Hailing from the province of Entre Rios—a place where, like Charleston, the culture is deeply connected to the water—Carlos Aguirre's compositions and arrangements draw upon the fluidity and drama of combined currents as he fuses South American folklore, jazz, and chamber music idioms. For his Spoleto Festival USA debut, he turns principally to the piano, but also to the guitar and his voice, to find lyricism and the beauty of melody. Appealing to audiences who admire innovation that honors tradition and authenticity, Aguirre is one of the most respected musicians in South America.

KATE DAVIS

College of Charleston Cistern Yard | 66 George Street
Approximately 1 hour, 15 minutes

Thursday, June 4 – 9:00 PM

Whether she's crooning rootsy ballads or plucking bright riffs from her bass, multi-instrumentalist and vocalist Kate Davis puts a fresh spin on the standards and brings a canonical sensibility to her own lush creations. This gutsy songstress from Portland, Oregon trained at the Manhattan School of Music, broadening her palette to include dazzling skill and impeccable taste. She alternates between aching soulful and flippantly funny, and her songwriting combines a wide range of sonic textures and inventive lyrics. If you put a mid-career Jenny Lewis album in a room with Regina Spektor's coloring, Joanna Newsom's lyric poetry, and a dose of Tina Fey's sharp wit—then add two decades of rigorous musical education—Kate Davis might come strolling out.

MÔNICA SALMASO

College of Charleston Cistern Yard | 66 George Street
Approximately 1 hour, 30 minutes

Saturday, May 23 – 9:00 PM
Sunday, May 24 – 9:00 PM

Mônica Salmaso, voice
Nelson Ayers, piano
Teco Cardoso, saxophone and flute

Since making her stunning Spoleto Festival USA debut in 2003, Mônica Salmaso has broadened her repertoire and solidified her standing at the pinnacle of modern Brazilian singing. Ranging in style from the chants of traditional Afro-Brazilian songs to the works of contemporary composers, her voice is crystal clear, whether delivering a playful lyric or a haunting ballad; and, like a great instrumentalist, her expression reaches into the emotional depths only music can find. Teamed with two of Brazil's most esteemed musicians—pianist Nelson Ayers and saxophonist and flutist Teco Cardoso—her performance will explore the Brazilian songbook of various eras and styles. Exuding the lyric soul of Brazil, Salmaso's music is a place where the rustic and urban worlds of the samba and the waltz meet.

MUSICA NUDA

College of Charleston Cistern Yard | 66 George Street
Approximately 1 hour, 15 minutes

Thursday, May 21 – 9:00 PM
Friday, May 22 – 9:00 PM

Petra Magoni, voice
Ferruccio Spinetti, double bass

This Italian duo's mission is as simple and as it is bold: to make music with the bare necessities—a stunning voice and a double bass—and be free to trace any music back to its core. Fusing bits of jazz, songwriting, rock, punk, and classical music, Musica Nuda has no boundaries. They use the art of silence as well as sound, underlining the value of a lyric, a story, and the meaning of every song, whether it's dramatic, funny, energetic, sarcastic, or romantic.

RITA MARCOTULLI AND LUCIANO BIONDINI

Simons Center Recital Hall at College of Charleston | 54 St. Philip Street
Approximately 1 hour, 30 minutes

Saturday, May 30 – 7:00 PM

In the hands of these two renowned Italian musicians, the rich sounds of the grand piano and accordion evoke their traditions while exploring vast possibilities. Rita Marcotulli, a native of Rome, and Luciano Biondini, a native of Spoleto, share musical intuition from their classical training, love of jazz, and the music of their home country, leading them to a bright, lyrical, and dynamic repertoire that ranges from fast dances to sublime ballads. Their collaboration has been described as “. . . one of the most inspired duos that the European jazz scene has to offer” (*London Jazz*).

ARTIST TALKS

CONVERSATIONS WITH

Charleston Library Society | 164 King Street

Held in the beautiful Main Reading Room of the Charleston Library Society, CBS correspondent Martha Teichner will lead intimate conversations with festival artists about the creative process and their experiences at Spoleto Festival USA.

Saturday, May 23 – 3:30 PM | artists from Shakespeare’s Globe

Sunday, May 24 – 3:30 PM | *Paradise Interrupted*--Jennifer Wen Ma and Huang Ruo

Saturday, May 30 – 3:30 PM | *Veremonda*--Stefano Vizioli and Aaron Carpene

Saturday, June 6 – 3:30 PM | Shen Wei
