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M E D I A R E L E A S E

On Stage and Off: March/April Events at Portland Center Stage

Merideth Kaye Clark performs Joni Mitchell's *Blue*; Portland poets compete in the Grand Slam; Theatre Diaspora presents a staged reading; an Open House for Design Week Portland; Community Labs on Chekhovian adaptations, bow tie making and auditioning; pop-up performances; special Deschutes, Donuts and Digital Detox nights for *Each and Every Thing*; an adults-only Easter Egg Hunt and more!



February 25, 2016 – PORTLAND, OR. In March and April the Gerding Theater at the Armory will be hopping with four Portland Center Stage productions – *Forever*, *Each and Every Thing*, *Stupid Fucking Bird* and *The Pianist of Willesden Lane* – as well as a host of events, from special performances to community labs and exhibits. Local actor Merideth Kaye Clark returns to perform the entirety of Joni Mitchell's album *Blue*; Portland Poetry Slam hosts its annual Grand Slam; Theatre Diaspora presents a reading of Julia Cho's *The Language Archive*, a retrospective of PCS theater posters will be on display for Design Week Portland; Community Labs led by PCS's Associate Artistic Director Rose Riordan,

Literary Manager Benjamin Fainstein and Costume Crafts Artisan Barbara Casement; pop-up performances from Shaking the Tree, Hand2Mouth, Portland Experimental Theatre Ensemble, Performance Works NW, Portland Piano International, Third Angle New Music, Portland Jazz Composers' Ensemble; and more!

Events are held in Portland Center Stage's historic and LEED Platinum home, the Gerding Theater at the Armory (128 NW Eleventh Ave., Portland, OR, 97209). Details at <http://www.pcs.org/community/>, 503.445.3700 or in person (the box office is open seven days a week from noon-6 p.m. or curtain up; the concierge desk is open seven days a week from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. or curtain down). PCS is committed to making performances, events and facilities accessible to all patrons (<http://www.pcs.org/access/>). *All events, dates and times are subject to change.*

PRODUCTIONS ON STAGE IN MARCH/APRIL

***Forever* | Through March 20, 2016**

Written and performed by Dael Orlandersmith; Directed by Neel Keller

In the Ellyn Bye Studio | Tickets start at \$25 | <http://www.pcs.org/forever/>

***Each and Every Thing* | Through March 27, 2016**

Written and performed by Dan Hoyle; Directed by Charlie Varon

In the Ellyn Bye Studio | Tickets start at \$25 | <http://www.pcs.org/eachandevery/>

- **Deschutes, Donuts and Digital Detox!** Enjoy complimentary beer, donuts and real-world interactions – plus see the show for only \$35 – on Friday nights, March 11, 18 and 25. Detox starts at 6:30 p.m. *Use promo code BEER when purchasing tickets.*
- **St. Paddy's Day Deal!** Green beer, cocktails and mini-cupcakes will be available for sale at the Armory Bar, with whiskey tastings from Eastside Distilling. *Use promo code GREEN to save \$10 on regular tickets for all performances on March 17.*

***Stupid Fucking Bird* | February 27 – March 27, 2016 | Opening Night/Press Night: March 4**

By Aaron Posner; Directed by Howard Shalwitz

On the U.S. Bank Main Stage | Tickets start at \$25 | <http://www.pcs.org/bird/>

***The Pianist of Willesden Lane* | April 2 – May 2, 2016 | Opening Night/Press Night: April 8**

Based on a book by Mona Golabek and Lee Cohen; Adapted and Directed by Hershey Felder

On the U.S. Bank Main Stage | Tickets start at \$25 | <https://www.pcs.org/pianist/>

CREATIVE CONVERSATIONS

Deepen your engagement with the work on stage at one of these in-depth discussions moderated by Portland Center Stage staff members.

Mar. 8, 8:50 p.m.* – “Perspectives” on *Each and Every Thing*

A discussion about technology’s influence on relationships.

Free and open to the public | Ellyn Bye Studio | *Following the 7:30 p.m. performances

April 17, 3:30 p.m.* – “Perspectives” on *The Pianist of Willesden Lane*

Guest speakers from the Oregon Jewish Museum discuss the impact of the Kindertransport.

Free and open to the public | Ellyn Bye Studio | *Following the 2:00 p.m. performance

COMMUNITY LABS

Community Labs offer hands on opportunities to get messy with local artisans. Flex your creative muscles, get a peek behind the scenes, and much more.

Advance registration is required: <http://www.pcs.org/community/#labs>.

March 9, 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. – “Guns, Gulls and Sight Gags: Adapting Chekhov for a New Century”

Explore Chekhovian themes and modern adaptations with PCS Literary Manager Benjamin Fainstein.

All levels welcome | \$15 registration fee | Vigeland Rehearsal Hall

March 19, 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. – “Make Your Own Bow Ties”

Learn how to make (and properly tie!) a bow tie with PCS Costume Crafts Artisan Barbara Casement.

All levels welcome | \$30 registration fee | PCS Costume Shop

April 2 or 3, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. – “Rose Will See You Now”

An in-depth audition workshop with PCS Associate Artistic Director Rose Riordan.

Adults, 18+ | \$50 registration fee | Vigeland Rehearsal Hall

SOCIAL HOURS | First drink is on the house!

Social Hours connect the community with Portland artists for casual happy hours. Members of Portland’s creative community will be on hand at each Social Hour to act as guest hosts, occasionally providing brief, custom-curated presentations to enhance the casual gatherings.

Light hors d’oeuvres and the first drink on the house!

Free and open to the public on the Mezzanine: <http://www.pcs.org/community/>

March Social Hours – Exploring New Forms of Theater

In conjunction with *Stupid Fucking Bird*, the Social Hours in March highlight local companies pushing the boundaries of theater. Enjoy pop-up performances and guest hosts from Shaking the Tree, Hand2Mouth, Portland Experimental Theatre Ensemble and Performance Works NW.

March 3, 10, 17 and 24 at 6:30 p.m.; March 6, 13, 20 and 27 at 1 p.m.

April Social Hours – Meet Local Musicians

During the run of *The Pianist of Willesden Lane*, musicians will host and perform selections

April 7 at 6:30 p.m. – Hosted by Portland Piano International – Arnaldo Cohen performs

April 10 at 1 p.m. – Hosted by Third Angle New Music – Evan Kuhlmann performs

April 24 at 1 p.m. – Hosted by Third Angle New Music – Sarah Tiedemann performs

April 28 at 6:30 p.m. and May 1 at 1 p.m. – Hosted by Portland Jazz Composers’ Ensemble

Special Social Hours Surrounding Design Week Portland

PCS graphic designer and illustrator Mikey Mann will be on hand to discuss the process of designing posters for theater productions.

April 14 and April 21 at 6:30 p.m. – Hosted by PCS Graphic Designer Mikey Mann

MORE SPECIAL EVENTS

We keep the building hopping at all times! Portland Center Stage shares its space and resources throughout the year with community partners to bring original content, emerging talent and sheer entertainment to the Gerding Theater at the Armory. Regular events include Portland Poetry Slams, comedy acts such as Improv All-Stars, and countless staged readings and custom performances.

SPECIAL EVENTS IN MARCH AND APRIL:

March 13 and 27; April 10 and 24 at 6:30 p.m. – Portland Poetry Slam

Poetry readings and slams held at PCS (usually every other Sunday).

To participate in the open mic or slam, sign up in the lobby between 6 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.

Writing workshop with Where Are You Press precedes each slam at 5 p.m.

Open to the public | \$5 suggested donation | Mezzanine | <http://www.pcs.org/community/>

- **Apr. 17 at 6:30 p.m. – Portland Poetry Slam's Grand Slam with Anis Mojgani**

Open to the public | \$10 | U.S. Bank Main Stage | <http://www.pcs.org/community/>

March 14 and 21 at 7:30 p.m. – Merideth Kaye Clark performs Joni Mitchell's iconic *Blue*

Back by popular demand! Since debuting this performance at PCS last spring, Clark has gone on to perform *Blue* in California, Washington and New York. Now she returns to PCS for two performances. \$20 through PCS Box Office | Ellyn Bye Studio

<http://www.pcs.org/blog/item/merideth-kaye-clark-performs-joni-mitchell-blue/>

March 14 and April 9 at 8 p.m. – *The New Shit Show*

Entertainment for People and XRAY.fm present a delightful variety of debut work.

\$10 through PCS Box Office | Location Varies | <http://newshitshow.com/>

March 26 at 2 p.m. – Theatre Diaspora presents a reading of Julia Cho’s *The Language Archive*

\$8 through PCS Box Office | Ellyn Bye Studio | <http://www.pcs.org/community/>

March 27 from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m. – Adult Easter Egg Hunt and Mimosa Bar

Easter Eggs will be filled with candy, ticket vouchers and other goodies. Multiple mimosa flavors!

Open to the public | Hunt is free, mimosas for purchase | <http://www.pcs.org/community/>

April 21 from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. – Open House for Design Week Portland

A retrospective exhibit of PCS poster art curated by PCS Graphic Designer Mikey Mann.

Free and open to the public | Mezzanine | <http://www.pcs.org/community/>

April 22 at 8 a.m. – CreativeMornings design talk featuring Kevin Cavanaugh

Monthly gatherings to celebrate the city’s creative talent.

Free (registration required) | Mezzanine | <https://creativemornings.com/cities/pdx>

[Portland Center Stage](#) inspires our community by bringing stories to life in unexpected ways. Founded in 1988, PCS is the city’s leading professional theater and one of the top 20 largest regional theater companies in the U.S. PCS attracts more than 150,000 theatergoers annually with its blend of classical, contemporary and premiere works, along with its summer playwrights festival, JAW. PCS also offers a variety of education and community programs tailored for patrons of all ages.

[The Gerding Theater at the Armory](#) houses the 590-seat U.S. Bank Main Stage and the 190-seat black box Ellyn Bye Studio. It was the first building on the National Register of Historic Places – and the first performing arts venue – to achieve a LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Platinum certification. The Gerding Theater at the Armory opened to the public on Oct. 1, 2006.

[Portland Center Stage's 2015-2016 season](#) is funded in part by Season Superstars Tim and Mary Boyle

and Lead Corporate Champion Umpqua Bank; Supporting Season Sponsors the Regional Arts and Culture Council, The Wallace Foundation, Work for Art and KINK FM. The official hotel partner for PCS is the Mark Spencer Hotel.

PCS is a participant in the Wallace Foundation's [Building Audiences for Sustainability Initiative](#), a four-year effort with a nationwide cohort of 26 performing arts organizations. PCS also receives support from the Oregon Arts Commission, a state agency funded by the State of Oregon and the National Endowment for the Arts.

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