



SANTA BARBARA MUSEUM OF ART

*Behind the Curtain:
The Oregon Shakespeare Festival*

October 13 to 17, 2022

"All the world's a stage!" – And nothing illustrates that better than the offerings at the Oregon Shakespeare Festival in picturesque Ashland, Oregon. Witness an unscrupulous king fight to stay in power at all costs, follow an enslaved woman as she spies for the Union army, and compare two stories of shipwreck survivors whose fates will be determined by the whim of four Gods and a little magic.

Set among the rolling hills of southern Oregon, the award-winning Oregon Shakespeare Festival (OSF) is celebrating its 87th year as the preeminent repertory theater company in the United States, while SBMA Travel is celebrating its 6th time offering this OSF program to our Members. The festival showcases both Shakespearian and contemporary plays, including world premiere productions.

The Ashland Springs Hotel was built in 1925, in the wake of Ashland's post-railroad development. Its century old design is reflected in its charmingly quirky rooms. Built in the Gothic and Beaux-Arts style, it became a central gathering point for people attending the popular Chautauqua lecture circuit, featuring speakers such as William Jennings Bryan and Franklin Roosevelt. Refurbished in 1997, the Ashland Springs Hotel has become a member of the Historic Hotels of America and was placed on the National Register of Historic Places.





Your Hosts:

Melissa and Devin Scott have led every SBMA Ashland tour since we first offered it in 2015. Devin, a former SBMA staff member, has been involved in theatre for over 30 years. He has worked as an actor, director and producer in both Santa Barbara and New York City. Melissa is a graduate of the Culinary Program at SBCC and is the pastry cook at Merci Montecito. Previously, she worked in the tasting room of Brander Winery in Santa Ynez. And, they met performing in a play! They are thrilled to see the returning travelers, and to get to know the new ones. They've missed you!

Thursday, October 13, 2022

Arrive in Ashland today via Medford Airport. A suggested flight schedule will be sent to the group once the minimum number of participants has been reached. A private group transfer to the hotel is included for those taking the suggested flights. Check into the Ashland Springs Hotel, in the heart of downtown Ashland.

The town of Ashland sprang up in 1851 after gold was discovered nearby. It continued to grow over the next few decades as businesses were established for those looking to strike it rich. In 1887 Portland and San Francisco were connected by railroad at Ashland, further infusing the town with visitors. John McLaren, landscape architect of San Francisco's Golden Gate Park, was hired to design Lithia Park in the town's center with plans to make it a mineral springs resort. The resort never materialized, but the park continues to be a central attraction for the town's residents and its guests. However, it was with the start of the Oregon Shakespeare Festival in 1935 by Angus L. Bowmer, and its subsequent growth over the next nine decades, that helped Ashland find its identity on a national level.

This evening, join Melissa, Devin, and your fellow travelers for a **Welcome Dinner** at a local restaurant. (D)

Friday, October 14, 2022

After an included breakfast at the hotel, take a **"Campus Tour" of the Oregon Shakespeare Festival**. Discover the magic behind the plays and learn about the

intricacies of operating a theatre in repertory. Alternatively, you may wish to spend the morning independently. Ashland is home to over 30 art galleries featuring dozens of artists, most within walking distance of the hotel. Nearby is Lithia Park, which was designated as one of the top ten Great American Spaces by the American Planning Association in 2014. The park follows Ashland Creek through undeveloped woodlands, and includes a Japanese garden, two duck ponds, a formal rose garden, groves of sycamore trees and several secluded spots. Various walking tours are available for booking through the concierge desk at the Ashland Springs Hotel.

After free time for an independent lunch, we see our first show, *King John*, at the **Angus Bowmer Theater**.

INCLUDED PLAY:

1:30 pm – *King John* by William Shakespeare (Angus Bowmer Theatre)

Directed by Rosa Joshi

“Mad world, mad kings, mad composition!”

A corrupt monarch faces an unruly court and fights to hold onto the crown at all costs through political intrigue and warmongering. Under Rosa Joshi’s muscular and visionary direction, *King John* features a cast of female and non-gender-binary performers—speaking directly to our current fractured political moment and bringing new meaning to Shakespeare’s powerful play about power itself.

At 5:30 pm, join a **talk on *Confederates***, which we will see tomorrow. These pre-show talks are open to the public but Melissa and Devin will gather our SBMA group to sit together.

After time for an independent dinner, see our second play, *Revenge Song* at the **beautiful outdoor Allen Elizabethan Theatre**. (B)

INCLUDED PLAY:

8:00 pm – *Revenge Song* (Allen Elizabethan Theatre) by Qui Nguyen

Directed by Robert Ross Parker

Buckle up for a musical story about Julie d’Aubigny—a queer 17th-century rule-breaking, sword fighting, opera-singing transgressor of boundaries. It’ll be loud, it’ll be rowdy, and it’ll be hilarious! Qui Nguyen (OSF’s *Vietgone* and Disney’s *Raya and the Last Dragon*) sets this irreverent take on French history somewhere between the realms of superheroes and comic books and asks what it means to bust through your prescribed roles into who you truly are.

Saturday, October 15, 2022

This morning, join a **post-show discussion** of one of the plays from the day before. The discussion will be led by someone who works on one of the plays or is in the production. The topic and the speaker are to be determined.

After the discussion, there will be free time until 1:30 to have lunch at your leisure before the matinee **production of *Confederates* at the Thomas Theatre.**

INCLUDED PLAY:

1:30 pm – *Confederates* by Dominique Morisseau (Thomas Theatre)

Directed by Nataki Garrett

An American Revolutions Commission - West Coast Premiere

An enslaved woman turned Union spy and a brilliant professor in a modern-day private university are facing similar struggles, though they live over a century apart. This play by MacArthur genius award-winner Dominique Morisseau leaps through time to trace the identities of two brilliant Black women and explores the reins that racial and gender bias still hold on American systems today.

This evening at 5:30 pm, our group has tickets to the public **pre-show talk about Shakespeare's *The Tempest***, followed by time for an independent dinner, then the performance of *The Tempest*. (B)

INCLUDED PLAY:

8:00 pm – *The Tempest*, by William Shakespeare (Allen Elizabethan Theatre)

Directed by Nicholas C. Avila

“A sea-change into something rich and strange”

Prospero, the exiled duke of Milan, has been raising his daughter on a mystical island and using magic to subjugate its natives. Twelve years after banishment, with vengeance weighing heavily on his mind, Prospero turns his powers toward a passing ship carrying his enemies and the king of Naples, causing it to wreck in a storm. As the castaways find themselves at the mercy of his supernatural machinations, Prospero comes face to face with the past, an opportunity to find long-lost justice, and the hope of returning to his rightful place in the world. With a cast of familiar OSF actors, Nicholas C. Avila directs an exploration of the good, the bad and the gray areas of human nature.

Sunday, October 16, 2022

After breakfast, board a private vehicle for the half-hour drive to the **nearby historic town of Jacksonville**; declared “One of America’s Top 10 Coolest Small Towns” by Frommers. Stroll its attractive streets and explore the many galleries and shops. Jacksonville Historic District is a designated National Historic Landmark and Jackson Creek flows through the community.

Return to Ashland with time for an independent lunch before seeing *Once On This Island*.

INCLUDED PLAY:

1:30 pm – *Once On This Island* (Angus Bowmer Theatre)

Book and lyrics by Lynn Ahrens

Music by Stephen Flaherty

Based Upon the Novel *My Love, My Love* by Rosa Guy

Directed by Lili-Anne Brown

Once on a golden and verdant Caribbean island, a little girl is rescued from a disastrous storm by four gods—Asaka, Mother of the Earth; Agwé, god of Water; Erzulie, goddess of Love; and Papa Ge, demon of Death. So starts the myth told in this breathtaking story of Black joy and sorrow, the aftermath of colonization and isolation, and the triumph of love against all forces. Told with Caribbean rhythms and instruments, this Tony Award-winning musical is a testament that a beautiful story simply told has the power to inspire and heal all.

On this final evening, special arrangements are being made for a **private discussion organized by Melissa and Devin at our hotel**. Actors will be invited and the discussion topics will be centered around who joins us. Toast the tour, OSF, and one another, before walking to our **Farewell Dinner** at a nearby restaurant. (B, D)

Monday, October 17, 2022

After breakfast, depart Ashland for Medford Airport. A private group transfer to the airport is included for those taking the suggested flights. (B)

For those wishing to come early or stay longer, SBMA can book extra nights at the Ashland Springs Hotel based on availability at the time of request.

PRE-TOUR GATHERING & DISCUSSION WITH LIBBY APPEL

Santa Barbara, CA

Date TBD

Travelers will have the unique opportunity to attend a discussion lead by **OSF Artistic Director Emerita, Libby Appel**. The discussion will occur prior to our departure in Santa Barbara. Libby will offer her insights into one of the Shakespeare shows we will be seeing.

Libby Appel

Artistic Director Emerita

Oregon Shakespeare Festival



Libby Appel was named the Artistic Director of the Oregon Shakespeare Festival in November, 1995, after serving as the Artistic Director of the Indiana Repertory Theatre for four years, and retired from that position with the title of Artistic Director Emerita in October, 2007. She was just the fourth Artistic Director in the Festival's 75-year history, and was the first woman to hold OSF's top artistic post.

Libby is also one of the nation's most sought-after freelance directors. She has served as Dean and Artistic Director at the School of Theatre at the California Institute of the Arts, and has also held teaching positions at California State University-Long Beach and at the Goodman Theatre. Libby received her B.A. from the University of Michigan, where she was Phi Beta Kappa, and her M.A. from Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois. She is the recipient of honorary Doctorates of Letters from Southern Oregon University, Willamette University, and the University of Portland, and received the Stephen and Christine Schwarzman Award for Excellence (lifetime achievement in theater) from the Kennedy Center in April, 2010.

Libby's published works include:

Book: *Mask Characterization - an acting technique*

2 play scripts: *Shakespeare's Lovers* and *Shakespeare's Women*

Translations: Five Chekhov Plays

Libby's translations of Chekhov's plays are being done in universities and professional theaters all over the country.

For more information, please visit Libby's websites:

www.chekhovplays.com www.theworkslibbyappel.com



Tour Details:

Land Cost: \$1,620 per person, double occupancy (one queen-sized bed)

Plus Museum Donation: \$250 per person

Single Room Supplement: \$460

Option to reserve a room with 1 king bed or 2 queen beds: \$300 per room for entire stay (availability limited)

Included:

- Accommodations for four nights at Ashland Springs Hotel
- Airport transfers in Ashland for those on the suggested flights
- Breakfast daily, two dinners
- Premium tickets to five plays
- Tickets to three OSF discussions
- Private panel discussion specially-arranged for our group
- Ticket for OSF “Campus Tour”
- Private transportation to Jacksonville for free time to stroll this historic nearby town
- *Illuminations* magazine—a guide to the 2022 plays
- The services of Tour Manager/Leader
- All gratuities for included activities
- Pre-tour gathering and discussion with Libby Appel in Santa Barbara

Not included: Flights to and from MFR; checked baggage fees and any other airline/travel fees; airport transfers in home city; airport transfers in Oregon and porter tips for those not on the suggested flights; optional travel insurance (highly recommended); housekeeping tips; expenses incurred as a result of delays or deviations; items of a personal nature such as room service, not-included meals and beverages, telephone or internet charges; medical tests (i.e. Covid-19 tests) if required; and items not specifically mentioned as included.

Air Arrangements: To allow maximum flexibility for travelers, flights to and from MFR are not included in the cost of the tour. A suggested flight schedule will be sent to confirmed passengers once the group has been formed. Please do not book your flights until the minimum group size has been reached. Airport transfers between Medford airport and the hotel in Ashland will be included for those on these suggested flights. Flights are subject to change. In the case of flight changes the participant is responsible for any costs for hotels, transfers and meals required as a result. Trip Cancellation/ Interruption Insurance is strongly encouraged.

Activity Level: This tour requires moderate levels of activity that will include walking, some stairs and sitting for long periods of time. All of the theaters are in close walking distance. However, Ashland is hilly and guests will be required to walk ½ block up/down a steep hill for some activities. The Campus Tour may include flights of stairs. We have reserved the best seats available and some of them are in the middle and require climbing stairs. Assistive listening devices are available for performances on a first-come, first-served basis. Weather in Ashland is unpredictable. If it rains during the first hour of a performance at the outdoor Allen Elizabethan Theatre, rain vouchers will be given to those who choose to leave and present their ticket stubs to the Box Office during that period. You must be present in the theatre at the beginning of the play to be eligible for a rain voucher. The play continues as long as it is safe for the actors to perform.

Museum Membership: Travel is a benefit of Museum Membership. Non-members will be required to join at the “Friend” level (\$80, or \$60 for seniors) or higher and will receive full membership benefits for a year. Members at the “Enthusiast” level (\$500) and above receive advance notice about SBMA-custom tours. Membership is separate from the \$250 donation, which is the portion of your tour cost that is tax deductible.

Covid-19 requirements: For the protection of SBMA travelers and to adhere to the requirements of tour operators, suppliers, and destinations, tour participants must be fully vaccinated for Covid-19, including booster if eligible, and provide SBMA with proof prior to departure. Other Covid-19 requirements may apply and further details will be sent

prior to departure.

Seeing the world while staying safe in the time of Covid-19: Travel has the potential to transform people and places, to have a positive impact on those lucky enough to experience it, and to make one's life richer forever. Our goal is to make those experiences a reality while implementing methods for staying healthy while traveling. At SBMA Travel we are committed to your comfort, health, and safety. Due to the ever-changing nature of the pandemic, protocols will be adjusted to fit the current health and safety guidelines at the time of travel. Information will be provided to participants before and during travel. SBMA and on-the-ground suppliers will take appropriate measures and reserve the right to make adjustments to respond to up-to-date regulations. Since guidelines change month-to-month, specific requirements for this tour will be shared closer to departure based on the requirements to operate a safe tour at that time. We ask that all travelers kindly comply with requests from tour staff in the interests of everyone's comfort and safety. Tour leaders reserve the right to enforce rules established for the tour and by any authority such as tour operator, SBMA, government, vendors, etc. Tour members who do not comply may be removed from the tour.

If the tour can be operated in compliance with safety guidelines and the destination's government policies, normal cancellation penalties apply if a tour participant chooses to cancel for any reason. We cannot be held responsible or liable if a tour participant is prevented from traveling due to a positive Covid-19 test, is denied exit from, or entry to, a country, contracts or is exposed to Covid-19 on the tour or has to isolate abroad or on their return. Personal travel insurance should be acquired to cover for such eventualities.

Travel Insurance: A confirmation letter and travel insurance information will be sent to you upon receipt of your tour deposit. While optional, due to the Covid-19 pandemic it is highly recommended to get travel insurance with the benefit to "Cancel for Any Reason" (CFAR). It is crucial to purchase travel insurance within 21 days of your deposit and that you understand all aspects of your policy. We recommend *insuring only the deposit* at first (please note, however, that it is your responsibility to insure the additional payments as soon as you make them; if you prefer not to have to think about this, please insure the total tour cost.) If you do not purchase insurance and have to cancel, there will be *no flexibility with the cancellation terms for any reason* including but not limited to fear of travel due to Covid-19, if you contract or show symptoms of Covid-19 two weeks prior to departure or during the tour, or you are exposed to someone with Covid-19 two weeks prior or during the tour, including from another tour participant. If the tour can be operated in compliance with U.S. safety guidelines and the destination's government policies, and one makes the personal choice to cancel, all cancellation penalties apply. Insurance with the CFAR may be your only source of (partial, usually 75%) reimbursement. However, SBMA has made efforts to loosen its cancellation terms for this tour in order to offer as much flexibility as possible. In addition, travel insurance policies usually include international health insurance that is crucial coverage if you get any illness, including Covid-19. As with any other sickness or injury, we and our suppliers cannot be held responsible or liable in the event that a participant contracts Covid-19, is prevented from traveling due to a positive Covid-19 test, is denied exit from, or entry to, a country or has to isolate abroad or on their return because of health issues, including Covid-19, or due to government/border regulations. Personal travel insurance with CFAR may be the only source of reimbursement.

Misc. notes: Arrangements, private visits, meetings with individuals, and tour cost are all subject to change. Due to the pandemic, there is a possibility that hotels and restaurants could change; in the off chance this happens, we would find comparable substitutions. Although SBMA and its suppliers will make every effort to adhere to the printed itinerary, on occasion it may be necessary to adjust arrangements because of circumstances beyond our control. Should an itinerary adjustment be necessary, substitution will be made to the best of our ability and additional costs necessitated by such changes may have to be covered by the tour member. If due to weather, flight schedules, or other uncontrollable factors, participants are required to spend any additional days or nights in the destination, they will be responsible for any additional expenses incurred, including hotel, transfers, and meal costs. Should participants decide not to participate in certain parts of the program, or are for any reason prevented from joining parts of the tour, no refunds will be made for those unused parts of the program. If a portion of the tour is missed due to flight delays or cancellations, no refunds will be made. Depending on the situation, trip insurance may reimburse for missed portions of the tour. If a staff member is unable to participate, SBMA will make every effort to find a replacement with similar qualifications and no refunds will be made.

Other notes: Please note that rooms are small with one queen-sized bed. There are very limited options to reserve a room with one king or two queen beds. All arrangements, visits, and tour cost are subject to change. There will be no refund for unused portions of the tour. We will do our best to replace any lost OSF event tickets, but cannot guarantee it once they have been distributed. The tour is based on a minimum of 15 and maximum of 25 participants. SBMA's California Seller of Travel License #: 209026

RESERVATION FORM - OREGON SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL

RESERVE BY PHONE: (805) 884-6435

or MAIL FORM TO: SBMA Travel, 1130 State Street, Santa Barbara, CA 93101

or FAX FORM TO: (805) 966-6840

or EMAIL FORM TO: travel@sbma.net

To hold your space on the tour, a **\$500 per person deposit** is required, refundable until June 13, 2022 less a \$300 per person cancellation penalty. Final payment is due July 13, 2022. Checks and credit cards are accepted for the deposit. Credit cards cannot be accepted for final payment.

A check made payable to SBMA is enclosed.

Please charge the deposit to my credit card: VISA MASTERCARD AMEX

Card number _____ Expires: ____

Name as on card _____ Security Code _____

I/we are not current members; please charge for SBMA membership at the "Friend" level:

\$80 **OR** \$60 (senior) **OR** \$500 "Enthusiast" level, which gives you advanced notice about SBMA's most special travel programs and many other benefits. Visit www.sbma.net/support/membership for full Membership details.

I will be sharing a room with _____ OR Single Supplement

Please reserve me/us a room with one king bed or two queen beds *at a supplemental cost of \$300 (total per room, for all four nights.) Availability is very limited. If you do not select either of these options, your room will have one Queen sized bed.*

Please book me/us extra nights at the hotel before or after the tour on these dates: _____

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Home phone _____ Cell _____ E-mail _____

IMPORTANT: By placing a deposit on the tour, you are acknowledging acceptance of terms and strict cancellation penalty, and that you have read the section above on Activity Level. A confirmation letter and travel insurance application will be mailed to you upon receipt of your reservation form and deposit. While optional, travel insurance is highly recommended and can be time-sensitive depending on the benefits desired.