

# **Hopkins Center for the Arts**

at Dartmouth

presents

## **Sandglass Theater**

### ***When I Put On Your Glove***

Performed and created by Shoshana Bass

Original *Autumn Portraits* created by Eric Bass

Directed by Gerard Stropnick

Choreographed by Alison Lara Mott

Sound design by Maria Pugnetti

Design and construction by Ines Zeller Bass

Music by GlassDuo

**Friday, March 29, 8 pm**

**Saturday, March 30, 2 & 8 pm**

Theater on Currier • 4 Currier Place • Dartmouth College • 2024

# Program

Approximate duration: 90 minutes

## About the Artists

**Sandglass Theater** is a renowned theater company specializing in combining puppets with music, actors, and visual imagery. Sandglass Theater produces works for both adult audiences and young audiences—two repertoires that tour separately and together. Sandglass also performs and teaches in its own 60-seat renovated barn theater in Putney, Vermont. Sandglass Theater is available for workshops and residencies and teaches a two-week intensive training program each summer.

Sandglass is dedicated to the arts of theater and puppetry as a means of exploring contemporary issues, inspiring dialogue and sparking wonder. We create original ensemble performances and collaborations, present diverse theater artists, produce events that serve our communities, and teach our art.

**Shoshana Bass** is Artistic Director and ensemble performer with Sandglass Theater in Putney, Vermont, in the United States. She grew up touring internationally with the theater founded by her parents and now performs their legacy work as well as her own devised work. Her training consists of a range of physical performance disciplines spanning across theater, dance, puppetry and circus. She works as a performer, teacher, director and choreographer around the world. She is the director of Sandglass's Puppets in the Green Mountains International Festival and produces programs and events in puppetry for all ages.

**Eric Bass** has worked for over 40 years as a director, playwright, performer, presenter, producer, and puppet maker. In 1982, Eric co-founded Sandglass Theater in Munich, Germany, with his wife, Ines, and they moved to Vermont in 1986. In 1991, Eric

was awarded the Figurentheater Prize of the City of Erlangen, Germany, for his contributions to the field of puppet theater. As a director, Eric has worked on four continents. His international collaborations include *The Story of the Dog* in Cambodia, *BlackBirds* in Poland, and *Nathan the Wise* in El Salvador. He was the Festival Artistic Director of Sandglass's first 10 rounds of the Puppets in the Green Mountains International Festival. In 2010, Eric and Ines received the Vermont Governor's Award for Excellence in the Arts. Eric directed Sandglass Theater's production of *Babylon: Journeys of Refugees*, which he turned into a film in 2021 with Haptic Pictures. He has now stepped down from leadership at Sandglass but continues to work on the puppet festival and the annual event, A Rafter of Crankies, as well as freelance directing projects. Eric served for five years on the first board of the Network of Ensemble Theaters. He is currently on the board of UNIMA USA, the American branch of the international union of puppeteers.

**Ines Zeller Bass**, Co-Founder of Sandglass, has been performing with puppets since 1968, when she became a member of the Munich marionette theater Kleines Spiel. In 1978, she created her children's hand puppet theater *Punschki*, which has toured Europe, Australia, and the U.S. In 1982, Ines co-founded Sandglass Theater with husband Eric in Germany and moved the theater to Vermont in the mid-1980s. Ines started Sandglass Theater's program for family audiences. Her work with Sandglass Theater has included full-stage productions for both children and adults. Ines' puppets and design for Sandglass Theater's *Babylon* include two of her many crankies. She is a UNIMA citation winner and in 2010 received the Vermont Governor's Award for Excellence in the Arts, along with Eric. Ines has retired from touring

but is still very connected to Sandglass through her designs and puppet building. Ines also built the Little Merrill puppet for Tune-Yards' new music video performed on the Jimmy Kimmel show.

**Gerard Stropnick** is in his 42nd year as a multi-faceted theatre professional. After Northwestern, he studied with Alvina Krause, and in 1978 co-founded Bloomsburg Theatre Ensemble (BTE), where he worked for the next 35 years, becoming Emeritus in 2012. He's acted in over 100 productions, and directed 70 to date, including classic, contemporary, new and original plays at BTE and elsewhere. He's written, co-written or devised a score more. In rural communities, mostly in Appalachia and the deep South, he writes and directs large-scale site-specific productions featuring diverse community casts employing local stories to celebrate, challenge, and address intractable issues. Several were co-written with poets and playwrights.

**Maria Pugnetti** is an interdisciplinary artist who has been working in the southern Vermont theater community as an intermedia designer and technician for over 10 years. Maria holds a Bachelor of Arts

from the University of California, Santa Cruz and has studied puppetry with Sandglass Theater and with Stephen Kaplin of Chinese Theatre Works. Her theater work includes scenic painting, projection design, and sound and lighting design. [www.woolyamar.com](http://www.woolyamar.com)

**Alison Lara Mott** has taught and choreographed around southern Vermont during the past 20+ years. She collaborated with Sandglass Theater, under the direction of Eric Bass, on a number of productions and is honored to continue that tradition with the next generation. Alison is the co-owner of Bone Deep Bodywork in Brattleboro, Vermont, where she offers Zero Balancing and body-centered wellness coaching for clients whose way home is through the body.

*This project is supported in part by an award from the Vermont Arts Council. Glove touring is made possible with support from the Jim Henson Foundation's Allelu Award. We are grateful for the passion and love Allelu brought to the field of puppetry and her legacy of supporting artists to connect with an international community.*

## Arts in the Community

During their Hop residency, Sandglass Theater will also present the puppetry show *OMA* and lead an exploratory, hands-on workshop entitled *Bringing Puppetry to Life: A Performance Class*.

# Spring at the Hop

3/16, 29 & 30

**Sandglass Theater**  
puppetry, dance and  
spokenword

3/25 & 26

**Monica Bill Barnes**  
*Many Happy Returns*  
a memory play

4/2 & 7/20

**Johnny Gandelsman:**  
*This Is America*  
resident artist &  
violinist

4/6

**The Tallis Scholars**  
Renaissance choral music

4/11

**Tomeka Reid**  
resident artist & cellist

4/14

**Ensemble Schumann**  
works by Beethoven,  
Bruch, Foote and White

4/17

**Coreyah**  
Korean folk and  
psychedelic rock

4/21

**23 Skidoo and the  
Secret Agency**  
hip hop for the  
whole family

5/1

**Isidore String  
Quartet**  
Works by Bach,  
Childs and  
Beethoven

Plus resident ensembles,  
family events, films & more!

## Explore



Tomeka Reid  
4/11



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