

The Ticket

OUR CRITICS' PICKS FOR THE UPCOMING WEEK

MUSIC

Pop & Rock

THE JOY FORMIDABLE This joyfully noisy Welsh trio is billing its tour as “semi-acoustic,” but last year’s EP “Sleep Is Day” indicates that unplugging will do little to tamp down the intensity; acoustic versions of songs from the group’s recent album, “Hitch,” bristle and vibrate, propelled by singer-guitarist Ritzzy Bryan’s ardent leadership. *March 2, 7 p.m. \$28, \$25 advance. ONCE Somerville. 617-285-0167, www.once-somerville.com*

ARIANA GRANDE She may possess one of pop’s most potent voices, but the Nickelodeon star turned next-generation top-40 diva is also stubborn about following her muse to far-flung places, as indicated by last year’s somewhat thrillingly uneven “Dangerous Woman” and her charmingly odd Jingle Ball set in December. *March 3, 7:30 p.m. \$29.95-\$199.95. TD Garden. 800-745-3000, www.ticketmaster.com*

NONAME The Chicagoan slam poet-turned-rapper’s 2016 mixtape “Telefone” became a hot download thanks to her sharply observed, intricately written rhymes that gently untangle her feelings about the world and her place in it. *March 3, 6:30 p.m. \$15. Middle East Downstairs. 617-864-3278, www.mideastoffers.com MAURA JOHNSTON*

Folk & World

JON LANGFORD The Welsh Chigoan wears a multitude of musical hats — the Mekons, the Waco Brothers, the Pine Valley Cosmonauts, and many more — and when he isn’t making music, he’s drawing his singular portraits of honky-tonk icons. This show combines both: a rare solo acoustic performance that will survey 40 years of musical endeavors, along with art on display and for sale. *Feb. 28, 9:30 p.m. \$15. Atwood’s Tavern, Cambridge. 800-838-3006, www.brownpapertickets.com*

NIKKI LANE One of the more buzzworthy artists on the left-of-mainstream country landscape has just released her third album, “Highway Queen,” which offers plenty of Lane’s recipe of highest and spittiest, but also the slow, sad beauty of “Forever Lasts Forever.” Brent Cobb and Lane’s record co-producer and beau Jonathan Tyler also perform. *March 3, 8:45 p.m. \$20. The Sinclair, Cambridge. 888-929-7849, www.aax.com*

BALLAKE SISSOKO AND VINCENT SEGAL A true melding of musical worlds, Ballake Sissoko and Vincent Segal bring together their respective backgrounds and talents — the former, a Malian master of the kora, the latter, a French cello virtuoso — to produce a nonpareil hybrid where West African meets Western baroque. *March 4, 8 p.m. \$28. Villa Victoria Center for the Arts. 617-876-4275, www.worldmusic.org*

Jazz & Blues

REVOLUTIONARY SNAKE ENSEMBLE MARDI GRAS PARTY Boston’s own New Orleans-inspired brass band, known for its electrifying improvisations and irresistibly funky beats, hosts its annual Fat Tuesday celebration, with guest saxophonist Charles Neville, of the legendary Crescent City brothers, and soulful New



CHARLES CLARY

Deep Cuts: Contemporary Paper Cutting

Ranging from small-scale to monumental, from flat to sculptural, works by more than 30 artists demonstrate how this traditional art is updated for the 21st century. Artists include Julian Opie and Sarah Sze. Pictured: detail of Charles Clary’s “Meticulous Excavations Movement #3.” *Through May 21. Currier Museum of Art, 150 Ash St., Manchester, N.H. 603-669-6144, www.currier.org* CATE McQUAID

Orleanian vocalist Henri Smith. *Feb. 28, 7:30 p.m. \$22. Regattabar. 617-395-7757, www.regattabarjazz.com*

IF YOU COULD SEE ME NOW: THE MUSIC OF TADD DAMERON The NEC Jazz Orchestra, directed by Ken Schaphorst, pays tribute to perhaps the most influential composer-arranger of the bebop era with a concert including such classics as “Good Bait,” “Hot House,” “Our Delight,” and more. *March 2, 7:30 p.m. Free. NEC’s Jordan Hall. 617-585-1260, www.necmusic.edu*

CHARLIE KOHLHASE QUINTET REUNION Composer, multi-saxophonist, broadcaster, and educator Kohlhase is a Boston jazz mainstay. In the 1990s, his quintet was among the Hub’s most exciting jazz bands, touring nationally and recording four acclaimed albums. The immensely accomplished players reuniting with Kohlhase include John Carlson (trumpet and flugelhorn), Matt Langley (tenor and soprano saxophones), John Turner (bass), and the marvelous Matt Wilson (drums). *March 3, 8 p.m. \$10-\$15. Third Life Studio, 33 Union Square, Somerville. www.thirdlifestudio.com*

KEVIN LOWENTHAL

Classical

TRIBUTE TO SOFIA GUBAIDULINA Fresh off the premiere of a new concerto by the Boston Symphony Orchestra, the eminent Russian composer will receive an honorary doctorate from New England Conservatory. The concert that will follow includes three of her works, as well as Webern’s Bagatelles for String Quartet and Schoenberg’s “Pierrot Lunaire.” *Feb. 27, 7:30 p.m., Jordan Hall. 617-585-1260, www.necmusic.edu*

MAYA BEISER The venturesome cellist, currently a visiting artist at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology’s Center for Art, Science & Technology, is the soloist in an arrangement of David Bowie’s final album, “Blackstar,” by MIT faculty member Evan Ziporyn, featuring his Ambient Orchestra. *March 3, 7:30 p.m., MIT Kresge Auditorium. arts.mit.edu*

TALEA ENSEMBLE The superb contemporary music ensemble comes to Harvard University for the annual Fromm Players concerts, offering two programs curated by composer Hans Tutschku. *March 3-4, 8 p.m., Paine Hall. 617-495-2791, www.music.fas.harvard.edu*

DAVID WEININGER

ARTS

Theater

REALLY In this regional premiere of a quietly piercing if overly enigmatic drama by the gifted Jackie Sibblies Drury (“We Are Proud to Present . . .”), a photographer has either died or disappeared, and now his mother and girlfriend are trying to get at the truth of who he was. Along the way, they start to figure out a few things about themselves. As the mother, Kippy Goldfarb delivers one of those indelible, can’t-take-your-eyes-off-her performances. Sensitive directed by Shawn LaCount. *Through March 4. Company One Theatre with Matter & Light Fine Art. At Matter & Light Fine Art gallery, Boston. 617-292-7110, www.companyone.org*

THE BEAUTY QUEEN OF LEENANE Director Garry Hynes demonstrates a knack for keeping the audience off balance and on edge in this first-rate production of Martin McDonagh’s breakthrough play about the toxic relationship between 70-year-old Mag and 40-year-old Maureen, the daughter Mag is grimly determined to keep under her thumb. *Through Feb. 26. Production by Druid Theatre Company, presented by ArtsEmerson at Robert J. Orchard Stage, Paramount Center, Boston. 617-824-8400, www.artsemerson.org*

BRECHT ON BRECHT A trenchant collage of excerpts from works by German playwright-poet Bertolt Brecht, tweaked by director Jim Petosa to give it an anti-Trump thrust. The versatile cast includes Christine Hamel, Carla Martinez, Jake Murphy, and Brad Daniel Peloquin, with piano accompaniment by musical director Matthew Stern. *Through March 5. Copresented by New*

Repertory Theatre and the Boston Center for American Performance. At Black Box Theater, Mosesian Center for the Arts, Watertown. 617-923-8487, www.newrep.org DON AUCCOIN

Dance

JOSÉ MATEO BALLET THEATRE The company’s latest program, “Love’s Pull,” features three of the composer’s works on the more romantic end of the spectrum, including “In Our Minds.” The ballet features music by contemporary Cuban composer Juan Piñera. Also on the program are “The Sirens” and “Vanished,” set to Bach’s Cello Suite in D Major. *Through March 5. \$42. Sanctuary Theatre, Cambridge. 617-354-7467, www.ballettheatre.org*

INVISIBLE: IMPRINTS OF RACISM This latest project by Anna Myer and Dancers and BeHeard.World examines racial and psychosocial issues of contemporary American life through movement and spoken word. In its Boston stage premiere, the hourlong work features three area poet-storytellers and nine dancers fusing a variety of urban movement styles. *March 3-11. \$20-\$35. Semel Theater at Emerson College’s Tufts Performance and Production Center. 617-824-8000, www.aestages.org*

SYDNEY DANCE COMPANY Founded in 1969, this troupe is considered one of Australia’s most influential contemporary dance companies. For its Boston debut, the company brings artistic director Rafael Bonachela’s “Frame of Mind,” as well as Jacopo Godani’s “Raw Models” and Gabrielle Nankivell’s riveting “Wildebeest.” *March 4-5. \$65-\$75. Shubert Theatre, Boch Center. 617-482-6661, www.celebrityseries.org* KAREN CAMPBELL

Galleries

SAGE SOHIER: WITNESS TO BEAUTY Over many years, the artist has photographed her mother, capturing the ways she embodies femininity, ritualizes beauty, and wrestles with aging. With her camera, Sohier also witnesses familial relationships evolve and tastes and values

change. *Through April 1. Carroll and Sons, 450 Harrison Ave. 617-482-2477, www.carrollandsons.net*

I.M.A.G.I.N.E. PEACE NOW “Can’t art defuse violence?” asks artist Boris Bally in a catalog essay. Bally orchestrated this juried exhibition of art fashioned from guns taken off the streets, made by artists from around the world. *Through June 10. Society of Arts + Crafts, 100 Pier Four Blvd., Suite 20. 617-266-1810, www.societyofcrafts.org*

DIAGO: THE PASTS OF THIS AFRO-CUBAN PRESENT In installations, mixed-media works, and photographs, Juan Roberto Diago, an Afro-Cuban artist, re-frames history by examining racism’s pervasive impact in Cuba. *Through May 5. Ethelbert Cooper Gallery of African & African American Art, Harvard University, 102 Mount Auburn St., Cambridge. 617-496-5777, www.coopergalleryhc.org* CATE McQUAID

Museums

LUMINOUS LACE: COSTUME AND TEXTILES Lacework is already labor-intensive and a symbol of luxury, but when it’s made from metals such as gold and silver the dazzle escalates. On view, metallic lace fashions from the 16th century to today. *Through July 30. RISD Museum, 20 North Main St., Providence. 401-454-6500, www.risdmuseum.org*

CHARLOTTE MOTH: SEEING WHILE MOVING Moth finds her way to the magical through the mundane, in particular domestic objects and details in architecture that usually go unnoticed. Her works — sculptures, photographs, a film — seek to examine and shift perception. *Through April 16. MIT List Visual Arts Center, 20 Ames St., Cambridge. 617-253-4680, listart.mit.edu* CATE McQUAID

EVENTS

Comedy

FRANNIE Improv Asylum kicks off a limited run of this impro-

vised musical aimed at kids, with a free Sunday afternoon show. After this show and until it’s scheduled end April 30, the ticket price is \$15. *Feb. 26, 3 p.m. Free. Improv Asylum, 216 Hanover St., Boston. 617-263-6887, www.improv asylum.com*

FREE COMEDY NIGHT AT ARTICLE 24 It’s a good deal when you can see Lamont Price headline a free show, even better when the lineup is rounded out by Emily Ruskowski and Jere Pilapil. Hosted by Deadair Dennis Maler. *Feb. 26, 8:30 p.m. Free. Article 24, 458 Western Ave., Brighton. 617-254-2424, www.article24boston.com*

BRYAN CALLEN The hyperactive former “MADtv” star and current co-host of the “Mixed Mental Arts” podcast comes to Boston on the heels of his second stand-up album, “Never Grow Up,” which he released in December. *March 2 at 8 p.m., March 3-4 at 8 p.m. and 10:15 p.m. \$25-\$39. Laugh Boston, 425 Summer St., Boston. 617-725-2844, www.laughboston.com*

NICK A. ZAINO III

Family

MAKE A MESS: KITCHEN CHEMISTRY You spend half your life cleaning up after your kids (or at least it feels like it). Why not let them make a mess in a productive way? They’ll get a chance to make kid-friendly solutions and see the bubbling, fizzing, appeal of science firsthand. *March 3, 2-4:30 p.m. \$12.50. Discovery Museums, 177 Main St., Acton. 978-264-4200. discovery museums.org/event/make-mess-kitchen-chemistry*

GIRLS DAY AT THE MIT MUSEUM Robots, soccer, and dancing. The common thread among them? Math. Come to one of the world’s premier centers of mathematical thinking and learn just how fun algorithms can be. It will be way better than math class, I promise. *March 4, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. \$5-\$10. MIT Museum, 265 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge. 617-253-5927. mitmuseum.mit.edu/calendar/girls-day*

MUSICAL ANIMALS Before Drake, Elvis, and even Beethoven came along, the animal kingdom was the hitmaker of the world. This concert will look at how nature mirrors, inspires, and even creates music. Renditions of Rimsky-Korsakov’s classic “Flight of the Bumblebee” and other songs will keep the parents pleased, too. *March 2, 10:30-11:30 a.m. Free. David French Music Company Recital Hall, 53 B Otis St., Westborough. www.chambermusicmetrowest.com/index* ALEX FRANDSEN

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

March 11 Los Campesinos! at Paradise Rock Club www.ticketmaster.com
March 18 The Expendables at Brighton Music Hall www.ticketmaster.com
March 19 Maluma at House of Blues concerts1.livenation.com
March 19 Kodo at Boston Symphony Hall celebrityseries.org
March 21 A Great Big World at Brighton Music Hall www.ticketmaster.com
March 24 Simple Plan at House of Blues concerts1.livenation.com
March 27 Bastille at Agganis Arena www.ticketmaster.com
March 31 Anjunabeats at House of Blues concerts1.livenation.com
 LEXI PEERY

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