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Two River Theater Will Feature Three World Premieres Plus *Camelot* and *The School for Wives* in 2014-15 Season

By Carey Purcell
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Tony Award winner **Ruben Santiago-Hudson's** new play *Your Blues Ain't Sweet Like Mine* and *Be More Chill*, a musical by Joe Iconis and Joe Tracz, will receive their world premieres in Two River Theater Company's 2014-15 season.

The New Jersey theatre will also present Molière's *The School for Wives*, the musical *Camelot*, *Absurd Person Singular* by **Alan Ayckbourn** and the world premiere of *Guadalupe In The Guest Room*. The season will also include an abridged adaptation of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

"This season, Two River will produce work by some of the world's greatest theater artists — including Molière, Ayckbourn, and the legendary musical theater team of Lerner and Loewe — as well as original plays and musicals by established artists like Ruben Santiago-Hudson and emerging writers, such as Tony Meneses and the musical theater team of Joe Iconis and Joe Tracz," artistic director **John Dias** said in a statement. "Michael Hurst and I are proud to offer our audiences this season's range of classics and new work, and to support the extraordinary artists who are at the center of it. One of my ambitions for Two River when I joined the company in 2010 was to create a pipeline for developing work that contributes to the vitality and future of the American theater. The work of these artists is both groundbreaking and entertaining, and we are grateful and honored to connect our adventurous Red Bank audience to the national theater community."

The season-at-a-glance follows.

The School for Wives

By Molière

Translated into English Verse by [Richard Wilbur](#)

Directed by [Mark Wing-Davey](#)

Rechnitz Theater

Sept. 13-Oct. 5

Press Opening: Sept. 19

"Two River Theater opens its season with Molière's classic comedy about a rich, middle-aged bachelor named Arnolphe, whose plan to groom his innocent young ward into the 'perfect' wife goes quickly awry. *The School for Wives* received its first production in 1662, with Molière himself as Arnolphe."

Camelot

Book and Lyrics by [Alan Jay Lerner](#)

Music by [Frederick Loewe](#)

Directed by David Lee

Rechnitz Theater

Nov. 15-Dec. 14

Press Opening: Nov. 21

"Director David Lee directs one of the great musicals in the American theater canon, showcasing the youth and vitality of King Arthur, Queen Guinevere, Sir Lancelot, and the Knights of the Round Table. Written by Alan Jay Lerner and Frederick Loewe in 1960, this timeless love story, based on 'The Once and Future King' by T. H. White, includes 'I Loved You Once in Silence' and 'If Ever I Would Leave You' and other favorites. *Camelot* will be performed by an eight-actor ensemble and eight-piece orchestra."

The Very Hungry Caterpillar and Other Eric Carle Favorites

Presented by the Mermaid Theatre of Nova Scotia

Rechnitz Theater

Dec. 19-22

"Three beloved stories by Eric Carle ('The Mixed-Up Chameleon,' 'Little Cloud,' and 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar') are retold on stage through the magic of evocative music, stunning visual effects, and innovative puppetry. On the road continuously since 1999, the Mermaid Theater of Nova Scotia's *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* (a component of assorted compilations with four other Eric Carle stories) is an imaginative and delightful hour-long production that has delighted audiences in 12 countries. This production is recommended for ages three and up."

Absurd Person Singular

By Alan Ayckbourn

Directed by Jessica Stone

Rechnitz Theater

Jan. 10-Feb. 1, 2015

Press Opening: Jan. 16

"A laugh-out-loud look at how three English couples deal with their relationships, social standings, and the pressures of three successive Christmas gatherings. Sir Alan Ayckbourn is an Olivier, Tony, and Molière Award-winning playwright who has written 78 full-length plays. *Absurd Person Singular* (number 12) had its world premiere in 1972 and is considered one of his greatest works; it holds the record for the single longest run of an Alan Ayckbourn play in both the West End and on Broadway."

World Premiere

Guadalupe In The Guest Room

By Tony Meneses

Directed by Daniella Topol

Marion Huber Theater

Feb. 14-March 15

Press Opening: Feb. 27

"This beautiful new play introduces audiences to Guadalupe Castillo, a Mexican woman whose daughter's untimely death leaves her struggling to connect with her American son-in-law, in a country whose language she barely speaks. Written by the rising young playwright Tony Meneses and directed by Daniella Topol, *Guadalupe in the Guest Room* is a moving and funny celebration of life, connection, and the unexpected healing power of telenovelas."

World Premiere

Your Blues Ain't Sweet Like Mine

Written and Directed by Ruben Santiago-Hudson

Rechnitz Theater

April 11-May 3

Press Opening: April 17

"When liberal, Upper West Side resident Judith befriends Zeke, a highly educated yet once-homeless man she meets at a soup kitchen, their fragile hold on history begins to slip. Tony Award-winner Ruben Santiago-Hudson crafts a provocative, daring, and immensely powerful world-premiere drama about race, sacrifice, and legacy."

A Little Shakespeare:

A Midsummer Night's Dream

Adapted and Directed by Jason McDowell-Green

Marion Huber Theater

April 23-May 1

"Two River's new 'A Little Shakespeare' series launched during the theater's 20th Anniversary Season with a production of *As You Like It*. This year, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, one of Shakespeare's most famous, magical, and romantic comedies, will be performed by a cast of local high-school students in a 90-minute version adapted and directed by Jason McDowell-Green. The schedule will include both public performances and six student matinees, and will launch on April 23, 2015—Shakespeare's birthday."

World Premiere

Be More Chill

Music and Lyrics by Joe Iconis

Book by Joe Tracz

Based on the novel by Ned Vizzini

Directed by [Scott Ellis](#)

Rechnitz Theater

May 30-June 21

"Two River Theater will conclude its season with a commissioned world-premiere musical by two of the most exciting young voices in the musical theater, Joe Iconis and Joe Tracz, based on the acclaimed 2004 novel by Ned Vizzini (*It's Kind of a Funny Story*). Jeremy Heere is just your average dork trying to survive life in his suburban New Jersey high school. When he swallows a pill-sized supercomputer that promises to bring him everything he desires most, he is transformed from complete geek to the coolest guy in class. But is being the most popular guy in school worth the risk?"

Two River Theater Company is located at 21 Bridge Ave., Red Bank, NJ. Tickets and more information are available by calling (732) 345-1400 or visiting tworivertheater.org.