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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**TWO RIVER THEATER ANNOUNCES A FREE PLAY-READING GROUP FOR SHAKESPEARE'S  
PERICLES, OPEN TO THE PUBLIC AS PART OF THE INSIDE TWO RIVER PROGRAM,  
BEGINNING MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22 AT 7PM**

**OTHER FREE EVENTS AROUND THE THEATER'S UPCOMING PRODUCTION OF THE PLAY  
INCLUDE AN OPEN REHEARSAL WITH DIRECTOR DAVID SCHWEIZER AND  
ACTOR/COMPOSER/LYRICIST RINDE ECKERT ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23 AT 7PM**

**Future events include a TEDxNavesink Conference talk by Rinde Eckert, "The Power of the  
Black Page," on Saturday, April 9 at Monmouth University; Two River's Book Club on  
Sunday, April 24; and the Conversation + Play salon series on Thursday, April 28**

RED BANK, NJ — Two River Theater, under the leadership of Artistic Director John Dias and Managing Director Michael Hurst, announces audience-engagement activities for its upcoming production of Shakespeare's *Pericles*, which will be performed in the Rechnitz Theater from April 16-May 8 under the direction of David Schweizer. Shakespeare's epic tale of adventure and romance will be set at a dive bar at the end of the world, and will feature a full score of original music and lyrics by acclaimed multidisciplinary artist Rinde Eckert, who will also perform as Gower/Old Pericles.

As part of its *Inside Two River* series of free arts and humanities programs, Two River will host its first **play-reading group** with *Pericles*. Led by Artistic Director John Dias, participants will read the full text of the play out loud, and discuss its language and meaning over the course of three successive Monday nights at 7pm: **February 22** (Acts 1 and 2); **February 29** (Acts 3 and 4); and **March 7** (Act 5). No experience is necessary and copies of the play will be provided at each reading. The play-reading group will meet in the Victoria J. Mastrobuono Library; coffee, tea, and light refreshments will be provided.

On **Thursday, March 23 at 7pm**, audiences will be invited to watch an **open rehearsal** in the Rechnitz Theater with Schweizer, Eckert, and other cast members as they work on scenes from the play. Additional details about the casting will be announced soon.

To reserve a spot for these free events, interested patrons should call 732.345.1400 or visit [www.tworivertheater.org](http://www.tworivertheater.org).

Additional events for *Pericles* include the following programs:

- “The Power of the Blank Page,” a talk by Rinde Eckert at the TEDxNavesink Conference at Monmouth University on Saturday, April 9. For information or to purchase tickets, patrons should visit <http://tedxnavesink.com/>.
- A discussion of Paolo Coelho’s *The Alchemist* as part of the *Inside Two River* Book Club on Sunday, April 24. The story of a young man who follows a prophecy around the world, *The Alchemist* is a rare mixture of a quest novel, philosophy text, and spiritual guide. In conjunction with *Pericles*, the Book Club will discuss literary journeys and how far you have to go to discover who you really are. This event is free and open to the public; patrons should visit [www.tworivertheater.org](http://www.tworivertheater.org) to RSVP.
- “Adventure and Growth in Shakespeare’s *Pericles*” with guest speaker Sue Starke, PhD, Associate Professor of English at Monmouth University, on Thursday, April 28 at 6:30pm as part of the Conversation + Play salon series curated by The Navesink (producers of the TEDxNavesink conference) and Two River Theater. Tickets for this event are \$50 and include the salon (exclusive pre-show event with talk, food, and drink) and the 8pm performance of *Pericles*; to purchase tickets, patrons should call 732.345.1400 or visit [www.tworivertheater.org](http://www.tworivertheater.org) and use the promo code NAVESINK50.

### Sponsorship

*Inside Two River* is supported by The William T. Morris Foundation. Two River Theater’s 2015/16 Season is supported in part by funds from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, a Partner Agency of the National Endowment for the Arts, the Greater Kansas City Community Foundation, Monmouth University, The Shubert Foundation, The Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation, Meridian Health/Riverview Medical Center, The Stone Foundation of New Jersey, Doris Duke Charitable Foundation, Saker ShopRites, Investors Foundation, The Horizon Foundation for New Jersey, Springpoint Senior Living Foundation at the Atrium at Navesink Harbor, Bank of America Charitable Foundation, Wells Fargo Foundation, William T. Morris Foundation, Brookdale Community College, Visiting Nurse Association of Central Jersey, and many other generous foundations, corporations and individuals.

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**Two River Theater**, under the leadership of Artistic Director John Dias and Managing Director Michael Hurst, creates great American theater performed by award-winning artists. We produce American and world masterpieces, and new plays and musicals. Two River Theater offers new-play commissions and artistic development activities that support the most adventurous artists in the American theater; invites its audience to be part of the creative process through readings and open rehearsals; and cultivates students and young people to participate in innovative arts-education programs and become a new generation of theatergoers. Founded in 1994 by Joan and Dr. Robert M. Rechnitz, Two River Theater is easily accessible by car, train, or bus, with great restaurants and shopping within walking distance of the theater. For more information, visit [tworivertheater.org](http://tworivertheater.org) or call 732.345.1400.