

Commonweal Theatre Company
20th Annual Ibsen Festival
April 21-23, 2017
www.ibsenfest.org



Schedule of Events (subject to change)

All Weekend/Ongoing

Food & Spirits (*Reservations recommended*)

Enjoy fine Scandinavian Specialty Menu Items at:

- Pedal Pushers Café (507) 467-1050
- Old Village Hall (507) 467-2962

Art

To Be a Poet Is to See

Commonweal Theatre

The Commonweal is proud to present this three-dimensional exhibit exploring the universal themes and continued relevance of Ibsen's works. Through the generosity of the Norwegian government, this exhibit has been permanently gifted to the Commonweal Theatre and will be on display throughout the run of *When We Dead Awaken*.

Film

When We Dead Awaken: Behind the Scenes

This short film produced by the Commonweal will run in the theatre lobby all festival weekend long. First produced in 2006 at the theatre, the film will highlight that past production of *When We Dead Awaken* as well as offer a behind the scenes glimpse into the 2017 version.

History & Culture

Sculpting a Life

The bronze artwork of Minnesota sculptor Nicholas Legeros will be displayed during the festival weekend and throughout the run of *When We Dead Awaken*. Mr. Legeros himself will provide an "artist chat" on festival Saturday night at 6pm in the Commonweal Events Hall.

Immigration Story

105 Parkway Ave. N Lanesboro

The Lanesboro Historical Society is itself a treasure in the community of Lanesboro. All festival weekend long, curator Sandy Webb will feature a display to broaden the community and national perception of immigrants. The highlight of the display is a binder of original immigrant papers for Norwegians coming through Ellis Island. We thank Sandy for helping us celebrate the peoples that the Ibsen Festival was created for and inspired by.

Friday, April 21

Culture

Aquavit in the New World

6:00 pm • Commonwealth Theatre Events Hall

Aquavit is an important part of Scandinavian drinking culture where it is often drunk during festive celebrations. Mike McCarron of **Gamle Ode Aquavit** will host a free tasting of his popular and distinctive aquavits. In addition to that service, Mike will talk about his own history with the liquor, its resurgence in America and his own path of starting a business inspired by aquavit. Light refreshments will be provided, and are recommended, to pair with the tasting.

Theatre

When We Dead Awaken (Final Preview)

7:30 pm • \$20 • Commonwealth Theatre

The Commonwealth is proud to present a preview of Jeffrey Hatcher's adaptation of Ibsen's final dramatic work of art. Join us for a post-performance discussion with both *When We Dead Awaken* director Craig Johnson and adapter Jeffrey Hatcher.

Saturday, April 22

Food

Kaffepause

11:00 am—4:00 pm • Suggested Donation • Commonwealth Theatre Events Hall

A social tradition in Norway, kaffepause means "coffee break." The Commonwealth Theatre Events Hall will be set up all day offering coffee and providing old-fashioned, hand-crafted Scandinavian treats from **Pedal Pushers**. Enjoy a coffee break while you view the display of bronze sculpture and other exhibits.

Panel Forum

Twenty Years of the Ibsen Festival

10:30 am • Commonwealth Theatre

With 2017 being the final installment of the festival, the approach is more retrospective in nature. The typical keynote lecture is being replaced with a panel discussion which will include Margaret "Peggy" Hanson, Liz Bucheit, Lynn Susag and Hal Cropp. Hanson was an early developer of the festival and will speak about **Norse Vinter Fest**, the precursor of the Ibsen Festival. Bucheit is owner of **Crown Trout Jewelers** in Lanesboro and was also in the early planning stages of the festival. For the 2014 festival, Bucheit received a grant to complete pieces of jewelry inspired by Ibsen's complex and vivid characters. Lynn Susag oversees operations of **The Cottage House Inn** in Lanesboro and is heavily involved with the **Sons of Norway Heimbygda Lodge**. Ms. Susag will provide a history of that organization and its partnership with the festival over the years. Hal Cropp, currently in his 25th Anniversary Season with the Commonwealth, has overseen all iterations of the festival as the company's Executive Director.

Theatre

The Last Two Minutes of the Complete Works of Henrik Ibsen

1:30 pm • \$10 suggested donation • Commonweal Theatre

The final moments of our favorite playwright's work come together in a wacky mashup of comedy, raucous spoofs and soul-searching drama. Five Commonweal ensemble members portray character after character as we bid farewell to the "Father of Modern Drama."

Art

Sculpting a Life

6:00 pm • Commonweal Theatre Events Hall

For the past 37 years, Nicholas Legeros has been creating sculpture on a commission basis. The work has formed him as a person as much as he formed the work. For this "artist chat" session, Mr. Legeros will speak about creativity and how it provides us with the divine experience of creating something out of nothing. Through his presentation, Mr. Legeros suggests that ultimately the greatest creation we make is that of our own lives. Fifteen years ago Mr. Legeros left teaching to pursue a full-time career as a sculptor. His recent large commissions include statues that honor Donald Nyrop and the women and men of Northwest Airline at Centennial Lakes Park in Edina, MN, of Goldy Gopher for Coffman Union, Sid Hartman for the Target Center and a 17' high statue of St. Joseph for St. Joseph's Hospital in St. Paul, MN

Theatre

When We Dead Awaken

7:30 pm • \$35 • Commonweal Theatre

Celebrate the world premiere adaptation of Henrik Ibsen's final play in a new adaptation by Jeffrey Hatcher. After the performance, join the cast and crew for a gala opening weekend celebration.

Sunday, April 23

Worship

Norwegian/English Worship Service

9:00 am • Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Lanesboro

Experience a special and rare treat for the soul—a worship service celebrated in both the Norwegian and English languages.

Culture

NORA—Wrap-up and Feedback Forum

11:00 am • Commonweal Theatre Events Hall

In collaboration with Lanesboro Arts, we are pleased to host artists-in-residence Tatiana Pandiani and Jacinta Clusellas. From April 10-24, the two artists will be in Lanesboro to create NORA, a new documentary musical theatre piece inspired by Ibsen's *A Doll's House* and the true stories of mothers and wives from across the country. This event will serve as a wrap-up of their time in Lanesboro and a feedback session for the NORA project.

Theatre

When We Dead Awaken

1:30 pm • \$35 • Commonweal Theatre

Celebrate the world premiere adaptation of Henrik Ibsen's final play in a new adaptation by Jeffrey Hatcher.

The Last Two Minutes of the Complete Works of Henrik Ibsen

5:00 pm • \$10 suggested donation • Commonweal Theatre

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