

# Arts & Entertainment

## American Shakespeare Center

Emma Gomes, Staff Writer



Photo Courtesy of American Shakespeare Center.

Twenty years since their first visit, the American Shakespeare Center (ASC) will be returning to Meredith College Oct. 17 and 18. Formerly known as

the Shenandoah Shakespeare Express, the company spent their first ten years touring the east coast, visiting Meredith for three consecutive years: 1993 to 1995, performing classics including "Antony and Cleopatra," "A Midsummer's Night Dream," "Othello," "Much Ado About Nothing," "Tempest," and "Hamlet."

Professor of English, Dr. Garry Walton, requested ASC return this year with two different productions: "The Taming of the Shrew" and "Sense and Sensibility." Dr. Walton states that "all English faculty are teaching one of these two works this semester, so we wanted as many students as possible to be interested in these performances".

He adds that ASC has "typically done comedies and tragedies but this year they've included a Jane Austen novel, "Sense and Sensibility," which will appeal to a different crowd than that of only Shakespeare." Luckily, the productions go hand-in-hand with the English curriculum this semester.

In 2001 The American Shakespeare Center moved into a permanent home called the Blackfriars Playhouse in Staunton, Virginia where two companies emerged: one solely on stage and one on tour. As stated on their website, the goal of the American Shakespeare Center is to "forge a sense of community between

performers and audience rarely found in theatre today". They will transform Jones Auditorium into a space that uses Shakespeare's original staging conditions. During their performance, the lights will be kept on so the cast can interact with the audience. Doubling, costuming, and music will be a vital part of the production as well.

"The Taming of the Shrew" will be performed Tuesday night, Oct. 17 and "Sense and Sensibility" on Wednesday night, Oct. 18, both at 7:30 p.m. in Jones Auditorium. Both nights will have a pre-show at 7p.m. and Tuesday's performance will include a talkback in which audience participation is encouraged.

## "What Do You Seek In These Shelves?": Book Review

Emily Chilton, Co-Editor-in-Chief

*Festina lente.* Gerritzoom and Gerritzoom Display. These are just a couple of the things that I Googled after reading *Mr. Penumbra's 24-Hour Bookstore* by Robin Sloan. If you're wondering, "festina lente" is Latin for "make haste slowly," and while the Gerritzoom typeface is made up, the wonder in this novel is real. Featuring an eccentric cast of characters, surprisingly lovely descriptions, and an adventure to boot, this book will draw readers just as its eponymous bookstore draws in weird customers.

*Mr. Penumbra's* focuses on Clay Jannon, a San Francisco graphic designer hit by the 2008 recession who takes the night shift at an odd and infrequently visited bookstore. Before long, he realizes that "strange things are underway at Mr. Penumbra's

24-Hour Bookstore," as he writes in the store's intricately detailed logbook of customers. Clay soon finds himself swept up in a quest involving, among other things, secret codes, a gaggle of Googlers, several books of life, and a missing set of five-hundred-year-old printing press punches. Clay's intensely realistic and often funny inner monologue keeps the plot rollicking along, supported by an ensemble worthy of a Broadway show. Childhood fans of Harry Potter or any book about secret worlds and adventures will be delighted with this more mature, but equally engaging story.

Available on Amazon, at Barnes & Noble, and at Quail Ridge. Audiobook version, narrated by Ari Fliakos, available from Audible.

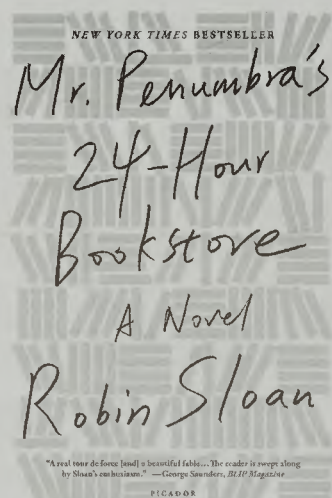


Photo Courtesy of Farrar, Straus and Giroux.

## NCMA ArtHouse

Emma Gomes, Staff Writer

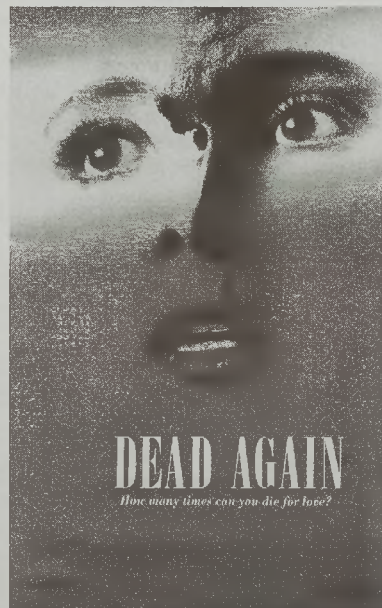


Photo Courtesy of North Carolina Museum of Art.

The North Carolina Museum of Art recently announced a new ongoing series titled NCMA ArtHouse. Laura Boyes, NCMA's film curator, joined forces with John Munson, previous program manager at the Rialto, to create a unique series of critically acclaimed films to be aired every Friday night until December 8th- a combination of independent, international, and documentary features- which will be screened at 8p.m. indoors in the SECU Auditorium.

October and November films are listed below, with December titles available at [http://ncartmuseum.org/calendar/series\\_parent/fall\\_films](http://ncartmuseum.org/calendar/series_parent/fall_films).

Tickets can be purchased online, over the phone at (919) 715-5923, or in person at NCMA's box office. Get your tickets, grab a friend, and bring

them along to NCMA ArtHouse!

### October ArtHouse Events

- Friday, Oct. 13  
"Sights and Sounds Chamber Concert Series: Mallarmé Chamber Players and The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari"
- Friday, Oct. 20  
"Dead Again"
- Friday, Oct. 27  
"The Lost City of Z"

### November ArtHouse Events

- Friday, Nov. 3  
"Lured"
- Friday, Nov. 10  
"Panique"

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