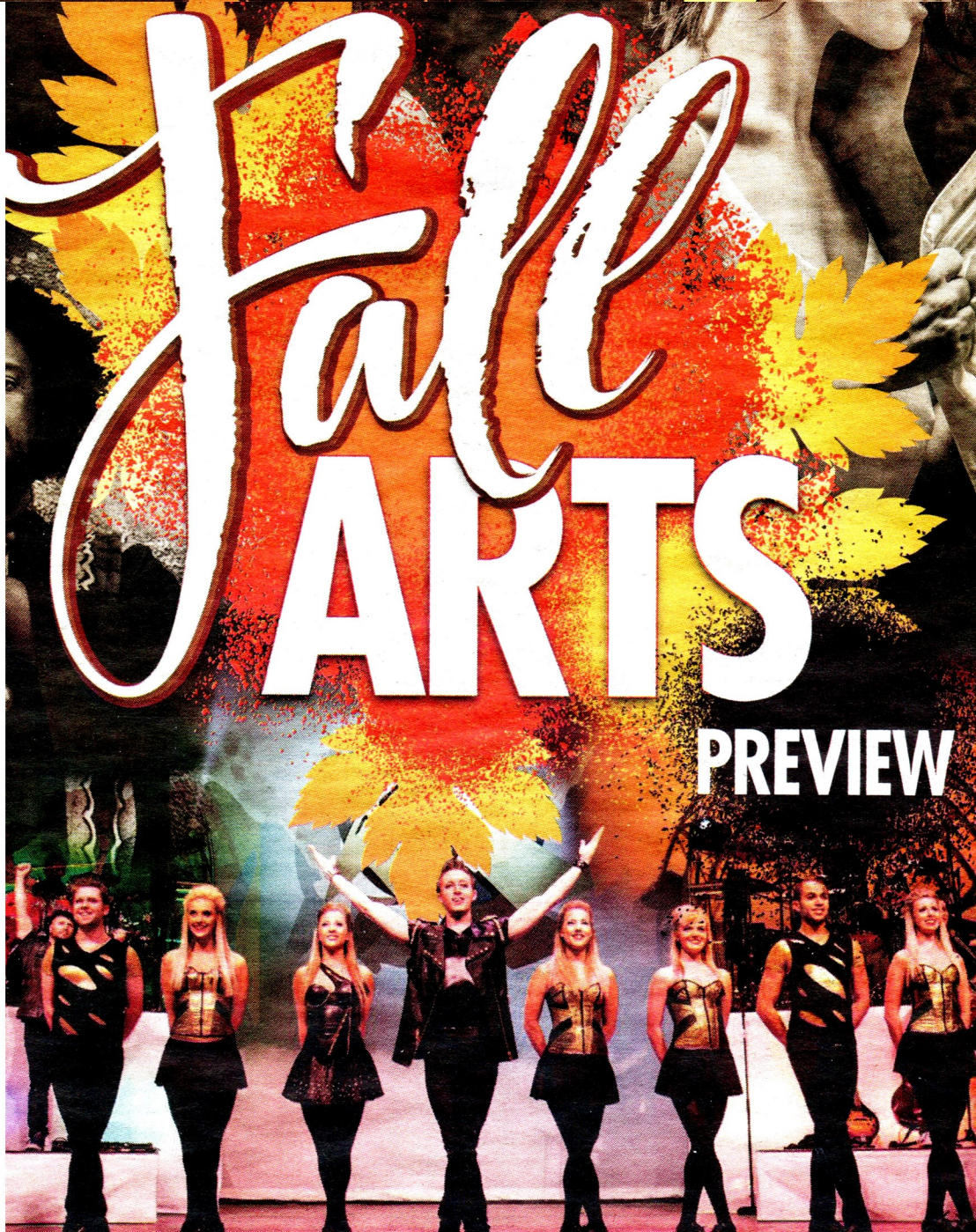


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•FALL ARTS•

Drama CENTRAL

LOCAL STAGES COME TO LIFE
WITH MUSIC, COMEDY, LOVE,
CONFLICT AND MYSTERY

BY JANA J. MONJI

Productions inspired by films, a movie made of a theatrical event, revivals of classics and world premieres promise an inspiring fall theater season.

On screen, as part of the Culture Vulture film series at Laemmle Playhouse 7, Kenneth Branagh directs a swoon-worthy “Romeo & Juliet” with the couple who played his fairytale lovers in 2015 film “Cinderella”: Richard Madden and Lily James. Set in the 1950s, this cinematic presentation of the British stage production, filmed in black and white, screens Sept. 19-20.

On stage, **A Noise Within** brings dysfunctional relationships to the forefront, its season beginning with Tom Stoppard’s science-related work, “Arcadia,” running from Sept. 4 to Nov. 20. Here, the action splits between two time periods as the mystery of a math-minded hermit is unraveled to reveal a romantic tragedy. ANW’s next playbill features Jean Genet’s “The Maids,” running Sept 18 to Nov. 12, in which two maids enact sadomasochistic rituals as they imagine murdering. Finally, Moliere’s “The Imaginary Invalid” (Oct. 9 to Nov. 19) lightens things up a bit with a hilarious romantic romp in which the titular hypochondriac hopes to economize by marrying his daughter to a physician.

Local Christmas offerings include A Noise Within’s adaptation of “A Christmas Carol” (Dec. 2-23) while the Pasadena Playhouse provides a fairytale for the family, “A Cinderella Christmas” (Dec. 8 to Jan. 8). Not to be outdone, the Sierra Madre Playhouse goes to a little house on the prairie from Nov. 18 to Dec. 23 with “A Little House Christmas,” adapted from stories by Laura Ingalls Wilder ■

A Noise Within

3352 E. Foothill Blvd., Pasadena
(626) 356-3100 | anoisewithin.org

The Alex Theatre

216 N. Brand Blvd., Glendale
(818) 243-ALEX (2539) | alextheatre.org

Boston Court

70 N. Mentor Ave., Pasadena
(626) 683-6883 | bostoncourt.com/theatre-at-boston-court

Caltech

1200 E. California Blvd., Pasadena
(626) 395-4652 | events@caltech.edu

Cirque du Soleil

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