

THE TROJAN WOMEN

BY EURIPIDES † TRANSLATION BY GWENDOLYN MACEWEN
DIRECTED BY ALEXANDRA SEAY

"The darkness is hungry; it eats the stones."

As part of its 'Countdown to 100 Years' Alumnae Theatre Company is proud to present celebrated Canadian poet **Gwendolyn MacEwen's** haunting translation of Euripides' classic tragedy *The Trojan Women*, last performed by the company in the 1992/3 season.

In the aftermath of the Trojan War, the women of Troy - abandoned by the gods - try to find meaning in the destruction surrounding them as they wait to be claimed by their Greek masters. In 1978, MacEwen breathed a contemporary spirit into Euripides' classic text with her bold exploration of feminist ideals. In 2012, director **Alexandra Seay** (Lincoln Center Theatre Directors Lab member) asks who the women are who live beneath the shadow of men today and strives to give them a voice.

Working closely with music director **Lily Ling** (Tout Comme Elle, Luminato), Alexandra Seay has created a choral landscape inspired by the sounds of the ancient Arab world that evokes the essence of Greek tragedy and highlights the poetry of MacEwen's text. In collaboration with the chorus, a movement score has also been created for the piece. The original costumes created by **Peter DeFreitas** (Alumnae Theatre; RedLetter Theatre; Opera Frankfurt), stark lighting composition by **Jennifer Fraser** and a bold set design by **Karen McMichael** all serve to locate the piece in a timeless desert of shifting sands.

After an almost 20 year absence from acting, long-time Alumnae member **Molly Thom**, who appeared in the chorus of the 1992/93 Alumnae production of *The Trojan Women*, graces the stage as Hecuba. She is joined by **Nicole St. Martin** (Andromache), **Tara Zacharias** (Helen), **Andrew P. MacMaster** (Poseidon and Talthybius), **Scott Moore** (Menelaus) and sharing the role of **Cassandra** (**Sochi Fried** – Jan 20 - 27 & **Suzette McCanny** – Jan 28 - Feb 4). But it is the intergenerational chorus, comprised of six women, who form the backbone of the piece: **Andrea Blakey**, **Stephanie Carpanini**, **Carys Lewis** (Jan 28 - Feb 4), **Suzette McCanny** (Jan 20 - 27), **Katie Ribout**, **Anne Shepherd** and **Susan Q Wilson**.

The Details THE TROJAN WOMEN

Running Time: Approximately 75 minutes with no intermission

Opening Night: Friday January 20, 2012

Performances: Friday January 20 to Saturday February 4, 2012

Schedule: Wednesday - Saturday 8:00pm; Sunday matinée at 2:00pm
There will be a **Talkback** with cast & director after the matinée on January 29

Ticket Prices: Wednesday 2-for-1; Thursday, Friday & Saturday \$20; Sunday PWYC

Location: Alumnae Theatre, 70 Berkeley Street, Toronto

Box Office: Cash-only Box Office opens one hour prior to each performance
Phone 416-364-4170 (box 1) or email reservations@alumnaetheatre.com
Tickets may be purchased online at www.totix.ca

*Please note: **Box Office does not accept credit or debit cards***

Production photos for *The Trojan Women* will be available for download on the **Media** page at www.alumnaetheatre.com by January 12.

For more information or to set up an interview please contact:
PJ Hammond at 416-832-0422 or goalumnae@gmail.com

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thought-provoking, challenging and rarely-performed plays since 1919.*

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