

BRAVE SPIRITS THEATRE ARCHIVE

PRESS RELEASE The War Rep: The Trojan Women Project & Coriolanus 2018

Directors: Rachel Hynes and Charlene V. Smith **Dramaturg**: Laura Esti Miller

Artistic Director: Charlene V. Smith **Resident Dramaturg:** Claire Kimball

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Scripts in Word document format and scene charts in Excel are available for open source use and adaptation. You are also welcome to consult BST's script edits and doubling tracks for research or production. This page and other identifying markers should not be removed from PDF files.

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Brave Spirits Theatre presents

The Trojan Women Project devised by Rachel Hynes and the ensemble in repertory with Coriolanus

by William Shakespeare

January 15, 2018: BST's 2018 repertory explores war and winning from opposite perspectives. As civil unrest threatens political upheaval, the war hero Coriolanus is driven to defend and then destroy his own country. Shakespeare's last tragedy takes a piercing look at men who cannot leave war behind. Performed as part of the Women's Voices Theater Festival, *The Trojan Women Project* explores the timeless story of *The Trojan Women* to illuminate modern women's relationships to sexuality, politics, and violence. This intersectional look at American women asks why our gender isn't enough to unite us and whether we are the losers in the American Dream.

The Trojan Women Project is directed by BST Artistic Associate Rachel Hynes. The cast includes Suzy Alden, Renea S. Brown, Francesca Marie Chilcote, Diana Gonzalez Ramirez, Lisa Hill-Corley, Karen Lange, Nancy Linden, Ruthie Rado, Nicole Ruthmarie, Claire Schoonover, Ezra Tozian, Allison Turkel, and Claudia Rosales Waters. Coriolanus is directed by BST Artistic Director Charlene V. Smith. The production stars John Stange as Coriolanus, BST Artistic Associate Jessica Lefkow as Volumnia, and BST Artistic Associate Ian Blackwell Rogers as Menenius. The cast also includes Tori Boutin, Renea S. Brown, Diane Curley, James Allen Kerr, Henry Kramer, Robert Pike, Thomas Shuman, and Anderson Wells.

Performances run from January 31st to February 25th, 2018, and take place at the Lab at Convergence at 1819 N. Quaker Lane, Alexandria, VA 22302. Tickets are \$20 for one play or \$30 for both and can be bought at the door or at www.bravespiritstheatre.com.

For BST, Charlene V. Smith has previously directed 'Tis Pity She's a Whore, Antony and Cleopatra, Richard III and The Two Noble Kinsmen, and co-directed The Two Gentlemen of Verona and The Bloody Banquet. Rachel Hynes has previously performed with BST in Richard III and Doctor Faustus. As an actor-devisor she has created and performed in Tale of a Tiger: a poetic fairytale, Half Life (a zombie love letter for no one), You Have Made a Story on My Skin, Call on Me, Burning Down the House, and Just Put It Behind You with the performance group Collective Eleven.

PRESS OPENINGS

The Trojan Women Project: Friday, February 2nd at 8pm Coriolanus: Friday, February 9th at 8pm

Contact Charlene V. Smith at bravespiritstheatre@gmail.com for press seats.



What: *The Trojan Women Project* devised by Rachel Hynes and the ensemble in repertory with *Coriolanus* by William Shakespeare.

Where: The Lab at Convergence. 1819 N. Quaker Lane, Alexandria, VA 22302

Accessible by Metrobus: Conveniently located just 15 minutes outside of Washington, DC, approximately 2.5 miles from both Braddock Road and King Street Metro Stations (both Yellow Line stops). From King St. you can take the AT 5 Westbound, toward Van Dorn, get off at N. Quaker Lane or Dearing St. From Braddock take the AT 3-4 northbound toward Park Fairfax, get off at Gunston Road. For local bus travel, the 25A, 25C, 25E, 22C lines all have stops that are easy walks to/from Convergence and the Lab.

When: January 31 - February 25, 2018

Performances on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday evenings are at 8 pm; Saturday matinees are at 3 pm; Sunday performances are at 2pm and 7pm.

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JANUARY 31 - FEBRUARY 25

*PWYC Previews:

The Trojan Women Project: Wednesday, January 31st at 8pm and Thursday, February 1st at 8pm Coriolanus: Wednesday, February 7th at 8pm and Thursday, February 8th at 8pm

'Industry Nights:

The Trojan Women Project: Monday, February 12th at 8pm and Monday, February 19th at 8pm

Tickets: Tickets are \$20 for each play, or \$30 to see both plays. Tickets can be purchased in advance by visiting www.bravespiritstheatre.com.

Contact: Charlene V. Smith at <u>bravespiritstheatre@gmail.com</u>.



About the Women's Voices Theater Festival:

The Women's Voices Theater Festival is dedicated to highlighting the scope of plays being written by women and the range of professional theater being produced in the nation's capital region. The Festival's debut in 2015 featured world premiere plays by female playwrights on stages across Washington, D.C. and was heralded as a landmark in striving for gender parity in American theater. Led by seven of Washington's largest theaters—Arena Stage, Ford's Theatre, Shakespeare Theatre Company, Studio Theatre, Signature Theatre, Round House Theatre, and Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company—the Festival leverages collaboration among regional theater producers to create a platform for the nation's most talented and innovative female and female-identifying playwrights and their newest plays.

Presenters in the 2018 Festival include 4615 Theatre Company, Alliance for New Music-Theatre, Ally Theatre Company, Arena Stage, Baltimore Center Stage, Brave Spirits Theatre, Convergence Theatre, dog & pony dc, Folger Theatre, Ford's Theatre, Mosaic Theater Company, Nu Sass Productions, Olney Theatre Center, Pointless Theatre Co., Rainbow Theatre Project, Rapid Lemon Productions, Rep Stage, Round House Theatre, Shakespeare Theatre Company, Signature Theatre, Spooky Action Theater, Strand Theatre, Studio Theatre, Taffety Punk Theatre Company, The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, and Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company.

Allison Janney is the Honorary Chair of the 2018 Women's Voices Theater Festival.

To learn more, visit WomensVoicesTheaterFestival.org.