

City Garage presents

The Trojan Women **A new text** **by Charles Duncombe**

Directed by Frédérique Michel
Production Design by Charles Duncombe



November 6 — February 21, 2010

The Trojan Women

A new text for City Garage by Charles Duncombe

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Production Design by Charles Duncombe

Cast

June Carryl..... *Hecuba, Queen of Troy*
Amelia Rose *Andromache, Wife of Hector*
Alisha Nichols *Helen of Troy*
Mariko Oka *Cassandra, daughter of Hecuba*
Crystal Serhsen..... *Hermione, Principal Woman to Hecuba*
Cynthia Mance *Chryseis, a Priestess of Apollo;*
Entertainment Reporter
Maria Christina Benthall *Maia, a Princess of Troy*
Reha Zamani *Zeha, a Princess of Troy*
Troy Dunn *Talthybius, an Achaean Diplomatic Envoy; Diplomat*
Dave Mack *Diplomatic Aide; Statue*
Michael Galvin..... *Menelaus, a Greek General; Ventriloquist;*
Journalist; Jasper, a Soldier
David E. Frank..... *Jojo, a Soldier; Dummy; Analyst; Court Official*
Garth Whitten *Jimmy, a Soldier; Statue; Advocate; Talking Head*
Kenneth Rudnicki *Jackie, a Soldier*
Jules Hartley *Andromoche (understudy)*

Production Staff

Set and Lighting Design Charles Duncombe
Assistant Director Brennan Crewe
Costume Design Josephine Poinot
Sound Design/Publicity Photography Paul Rubenstein
Master Carpenter Troy Dunn
Audio Engineering John Zuhlke
Light/Sound Operator Irene Casarez

Place & Time

Ancient Troy; Today

**The play runs approximately 110 minutes
without intermission.**

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Charles Duncombe is the author of the City Garage texts *Atrocities: Meetings With Monstrous Men* (2000), *Cinema Stories: Ceremonies of Unendurable Bondage* (2002), *OedipusText/LA* (2003) and *Patriot Act: A Reality Show* (2004). He also wrote the company's adaptations of Heiner Müller *Medeatext; Los Angeles/Despoiled Shore* (2000), *Frederick of Prussia/George W's Dream of Sleep* (2001), and *The Mission (Accomplished)* (2008). His English-language versions of Moliere *The Bourgeois Gentleman* and *The School For Wives* premiered this last year at City Garage. *Patriot Act* won the 2004 Fratti-Newman Award for Political Playwriting; each of his three of his Müller adaptations were nominated for the LA Weekly's "Best Adaptation" award.

CAST PROFILES



June Carryl

Hecuba, Queen of Troy

June Carryl has performed with Odyssey Theater; Mark Taper's Taper, Too; California Shakespeare Festival; San Francisco Shakespeare Festival; Shakespeare Santa Cruz; Berkeley Repertory; and American Conservatory Theaters. Film and television credits include *Criminal Minds*, *The Bold and the Beautiful*, *The Hired Gun*, *Sweet November* and *Haiku Tunnel*.



Amelia Rose

Andromache, Wife of Hector

Amelia Rose is the youngest-ever graduate of The Sanford Meisner Center's 2-year program in NoHo. She studies with Lindsay Crouse and is a graduate of The Atlantic Acting School's NYC 2-year conservatory and Atlantic's L.A. Program. Credits include *The Seagull*, *All Over*, *Holes*, and David Fincher's short *Stand Up To Cancer*.



Alisha Nichols

Helen of Troy

Alisha received her B.A. in theatre arts from California State University-Northridge. She also studied with the Steppenwolf Theatre Company at summer arts. She previously appeared at City Garage in *Iphigenia*, *Rhinoceros*, *365 Plays/365 (Week 45)*, the LA Weekly Theatre Award nominated *The Bald Soprano*, *Bad Penny*, and *The Bourgeois Gentleman*.



Mariko Oka

Cassandra, daughter of Hecuba

Born in Tokyo, Japan, Mariko Oka pursued her career in acting in the U.S. at the Lee Strasberg Theatre Institute in New York. She has been featured internationally in various commercials throughout the US and Asia. She has appeared at City Garage in, *The Bourgeois Gentlehomme*, *Rhinoceros*, *Bad Penny* and *Quartet*, which was nominated for Best One-Act Ensemble at the 2008 LA Weekly Theatre Awards.



Crystal Sershen

Hermione, Principal Woman to Hecuba

Crystal is delighted to make her debut with City Garage. Over the last several years, she has appeared in productions with The Will Geer Theatricum, North Coast Repertory, and Shakespeare by the Sea. She recently completed her MA in classical theatre at NYU, where she also received her BFA.



Cynthia Mance

Chryseis, a Priestess of Apollo; Entertainment Reporter

This marks Cynthia's 15th play over ten years at City Garage. She just finished playing the roles of The Wife in *The Chairs* and Georgette in *The School for Wives*. Other recent roles here include Nicole in *The Bourgeois Gentlehomme*, Woman One in *Bad Penny*, First Love in the *The Mission (Accomplished)* [nominated for a 2009 LA Weekly Theatre Award for Best Ensemble] and Mrs. Martin in the LA Weekly Theatre Award-nominated *The Bald Soprano*.



Maria Christina Benthall

Maia, a Princess of Troy

Maria Christina Benthall was born in London and spent her teenage years growing up in Dubai. She lead a life of dance and musical theatre, working both in Dubai and England, then spontaneously decided to move to Los Angeles. She studied at the American Academy of Dramatic Arts and recently graduated in March 2009. *The Trojan Women* is her City Garage debut.



Reha Zemani

Zeha, a Princess of Troy

After graduating from college in 2004, Reha toured with B Street Theatre in Sacramento and moved to Los Angeles three years ago. Since her arrival in Los Angeles, Reha has been involved in *The Best Christmas Peagant* at Shine Theatre and *The Girls of Saint Charles Academy* for Whitmore Lindley Theatre as well as independent short films such as *Long Way Home*, *Ferishtha*, and *Heal*.



Troy Dunn

Talithybius, an Achaean Diplomatic Envoy; Diplomat

Troy has appeared many times here since he first joined the ensemble as Agamemnon in *Agamemnon: Pentheus* in *The Baccae*, Agamemnon in *Iphiginia*, Berenger in *Rhinoceros*, Valmont in *Quartet* (winner, LA Weekly Theater Award for Best Performance: One Act), Mr. Martin in *The Bald Soprano* (extended), Baritone Sax in *365*, Debuissou in *The Mission [Accomplished]*, First Man in *Bad Penny*, and Dorante in *The Bourgeois Gentlehomme*.



Dave Mack

Diplomat; Aide; Statue

Dave Mack graduated from the California Institute of the Arts with an MFA in Acting and Cornell University with a BA in Theater. Credits at City Garage: *Horace*, *School for Wives*; *Cleonte*, *The Bourgeois Gentlehomme*; and *Sassportas*, *The Mission [Accomplished]*.



Michael Galvin

Menelaus, a Greek General; Ventriloquist; Journalist; Jasper, a Soldier

Michael has appeared here in *The Bourgeois Gentlehomme* and *The School for Wives*. He has trained with The Groundlings and Milton Katselas at the Beverly Hills Playhouse. His film work includes guest starring on *CSI Miami*, starring alongside Michael Madsen in *Strength and Honor*, and lending his voice talents to *Pirates of the Caribbean*. His theater credits include *Antigone*, *The Plough And The Stars*, and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.



David E. Frank

Jojo, a Soldier; Dummy; Analyst; Court Official

David is originally from Muncie, Indiana, where he received his degree in Theatre Performance from Ball State University.

His most memorable performances at City Garage include: *MedeaText: Los Angeles Despoiled Shore; Atrocities: Meetings With Monstrous Men; Frederick of Prussia/GeorgeW's Dream of Sleep; The Battle: ABC* [Best Ensemble: 2006 LA Weekly Theatre Awards]; *The Bald Soprano, The Mission (Accomplished)* [2009 LA Weekly Best Ensemble nominee]; and *The School for Wives*.



Garth Whitten

Jimmy, a Soldier; Advocate; Statue; Talking Head

Garth is appearing in his third production at City Garage, having been seen previously in *The Bourgeois Gentlehomme* and *The Chairs*. He received his theatre training from Boston University's College of Fine Arts, as well as recently training and developing performance pieces with members of ARTEL and Teatr-Piesn-Kozla. Select roles include Hamlet in *Hamlet*, Joe in *Angels in America* and Marty in *The House of Yes*.



Kenneth Rudnicki

Jackie, a Soldier

Mr. Rudnicki's City Garage credits include appearances in *Iphigenia, 365, Bad Penny, School for Wives* and *The Bourgeois Gentlehomme* as well as assistant directing the most recent Müller productions. Kenneth received his BA from UCSC and has also trained at Shakespeare Santa Cruz, ACT, and Improv Olympic. He currently teaches acting and play writing for various L.A.-based theatre companies and is involved with Los Angeles Guerrilla Gardening.



Jules Hartley

Andromoche (understudy)

Jules made the jump from NYC to LA last summer, and is thrilled to be making her debut with City Garage. Regional credits include ICT's (Long Beach) West Coast Premier of the Mark Twain comedy, *Is He Dead*. Off-Broadway: *Straight To Hell* at the Abingdon Theater. Television credits include: *Law & Order: SVU, One Life to Live*.

If you would like to contact any of these performers for professional purposes, please email us: citygarage@citygarage.org

STAFF PROFILES

Frederique Michel, Artistic Director

Director

Frederique was born in Paris and studied theatre at the Conservatoire. She has led the company as Artistic Director since its founding in 1987. She received a Dramalogue Award for her direction of *Dissident*. Her 1998 production of *George Sand: An Erotic Odyssey in Seven Tableaux* was nominated for four L.A. Weekly Theater Awards, including Best Director. She was nominated again for Best Director for *MedeaText: Los Angeles/Despoiled Shore* (2000). In 2005 she won the LA Weekly Award for Best Direction (one-act) for *La Leçon*. Her production of *The Battle: ABC* was nominated for Best Direction and received the 2006 LA Weekly Award for Best Ensemble. She once again won Best Direction (one-act) for *Quartet* at the 2008 LA Weekly Theater Awards and was also nominated for her direction of *The Bald Soprano*. At the 2009 LA Weekly Theater Awards, she received (along with Charles Duncombe) the "Queen of the Angels Award" for "decades of directing and producing scintillating, politically charged theater that challenges audiences to reconsider their assumptions about the nature of politics and the nature of theater itself."

Charles A. Duncombe, Managing Director

Production Designer

Charles is a writer, director and designer. He began his partnership with Frederique Michel in 1985, and he has designed all of her work since then. He has won two Dramalogue awards for production design and in 1999 won the L.A. Weekly Theater Award for Best Lighting Design for *George Sand: An Erotic Odyssey in Seven Tableaux* (1998). He was nominated for two L.A. Weekly awards for *MedeaText: Los Angeles/Despoiled Shore* (2000): Best Adaptation, and Best Set. He was nominated again for two L.A. Weekly awards for *Frederick of Prussia/GeorgeW's Dream of Sleep* (2001): Best Adaptation, and Production Design. His play *Patriot Act* won the Fratti/Newman Award for Political Playwriting in 2005 and opened in New York at the Castillo Theater as part of their 2008 season. He won the 2006 LA Weekly Theatre Award for Best Production Design for the entire *Three by Mee* season and was nominated again in 2007 for Production Design for *Quartet*. In 2009 he was nominated for Best Adaptation for *The Mission (Accomplished)*. At the 2009 LA Weekly Theater Awards, he received (along with Frederique Michel) the "Queen of the Angels Award" for their contributions to Los Angeles theater.

Josephine Poinso

Costume Design

Josephine was born in Paris. She has been working with City Garage since 1987 as a costumer designer and won the 2008 LA Weekly Theater Award for Costume Design for her work here on *The Bourgeois Gentleman* by Moliere.

Irene Casarez

Light/Sound Operator

Irene appeared here at City Garage as the Flutist in *The Gertrude Stein Project* and *The Bacchae*. She has worked in the booth for *Iphigenia*, *Rhinoceros*, *Quartet*, *The Bald Soprano*, *The Mission (Accomplished)*, *Bad Penny*, *The Bourgeois Gentleman*, *The School for Wives*, and *The Chairs*.

Paul Rubenstein, General Manager

Sound Design, Publicity Photography

Paul has performed in 10 productions at City Garage. His turn as Jean in Ionesco's haunting valedictory *Journeys Among the Dead* recived a Backstage Garlands Honorable Mention. He most recently appeared in *The Battle: ABC*, "Best Ensemble" winner at the 2006 LA Weekly Theater Awards. In 2009 he won the LA Weekly Theater Award for Sound Design for his work on *The Mission: Accomplished* here at City Garage.

Brennan Crewe

Assistant Director

Brennan is making his debut as an assistant director with City Garage. Previously, he has performed in several one-acts at Hunger Artist Theatre and has performed as Simon Stimson in Rude Guerrilla's production of *Our Town*. Brennan is a graduate of the Claire Trevor School of the Arts at UC Irvine.

Ensemble Staff:

Artistic Director

Frederique Michel

Managing Director

Charles Duncombe

General Manager

Paul Rubenstein

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David Tillman

ABOUT CITY GARAGE

The company at City Garage consists of about twenty actors, a director, a general manager, and a dramaturg/designer. All casting is done within the company. The idea is to do interesting theater that makes people think.

City Garage has had a couple dozen "Critic's Choice" or "Pick of the Week" productions. It received four L.A. Weekly Theatre Award nominations for its production *George Sand: An Erotic Odyssey in Seven Tableaux*, and four more for *MedeaText: Los Angeles/Despoiled Shore*, and another two for *Frederick of Prussia/George W's Dream of Sleep*. Its staging of *The Empire Builders* by Boris Vian was nominated for Production of the Year, while its revival of Ionesco's *The Lesson* received nominations in both direction and performance categories, winning the award for Best Direction. Heiner Müller's *The Battle: ABC* was nominated for Best Direction and Best Ensemble in 2006 and won the Ensemble award. In 2007, its *Three by Mee* season received four *LA Weekly* nominations, including Production of the Year for *Agamemnon*. The season as a whole won in the Production Design category. In 2008, the company received seven nominations in six categories, including Best Ensemble (one-act) and Best Comedy Ensemble, and took home awards for Best Direction (one-act) and Best Performance (one-act). In 2009, the company earned six nominations including one for Best Ensemble and Best Adaptation for *The Mission (Accomplished)*. In that same year, company founders Frédérique Michel and Charles Duncombe won the *LA Weekly's* "Queen of the Angles" award for decades of contributions to L.A. theater.

The company's work with Fassbinder texts has been featured in two German documentaries: *Fassbinder in Hollywood*, and *Fassbinder: Love, Life, and Celluloid*. Three of its Heiner Müller productions have been discussed in the book *Müller in America* published in New York in 2003. In the summer of 2004 in New York City, the company received an Otto, a national award for political theatre (past recipients include Laurie Anderson, Bread and Puppets Theater, Steppenwolf Theater, and Heiner Müller). It was honored that year alongside Robert Wilson, El Teatro Campesino, and Charles Mee.

COMING SUMMER 2010

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Tuition: \$400

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Instructor: Frédérique Michel; Ages: 8-12; Dates: June-July (5 weeks);
Tuition: \$400

Introduction to Playwriting:

Instructor: Kenneth Rudnicki; Ages: 11-14; Dates: June-July (5 weeks)
Tuition: \$450



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*Submit inquiry with resume to:
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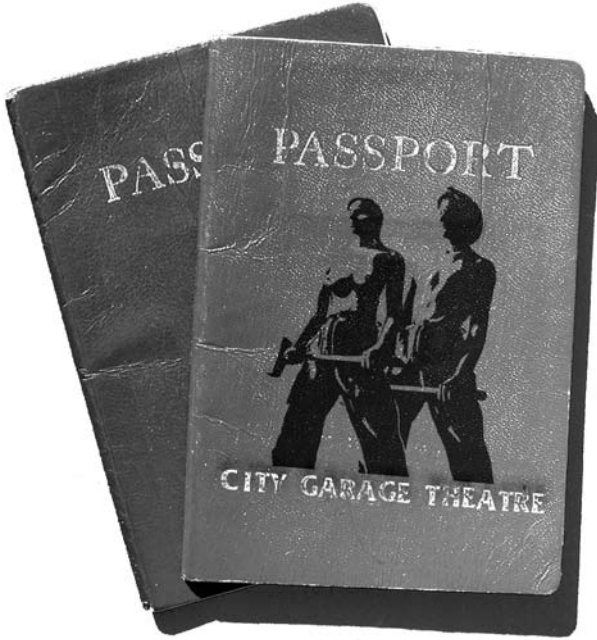
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