The Bacchae 2.1
Euripides, Adapted by Charles L. Mee, Director Dennis Gupa
January 22 - February 7, 2015 at 7:30pm | $7 Preview January 21, Talkback January 28

Expect the unexpected from Charles L. Mee’s subversive and richly poetic creation The Bacchae 2.1. In addition to Euripides’ classic Greek tragedy, the script draws from German literary theorist Klaus Theweleit’s “Male Fantasies”, Valerie Solanas’ “The S.C.U.M. Manifesto” and Joan Nestle’s “Lesbian Herstory Archives”. All of these explosive works find their place in Euripides’ theatrical celebration of the god Dionysus, set in a world both ancient and modern. American playwright Charles L. Mee often gets his mitts on the Greeks and shakes them around till their teeth rattle. The Bacchae 2.1 gives us Dionysus as a transvestite in thigh highs and combat boots. WARNING: Explicit content

"Striking juxtapositions create word images of remarkable beauty.” – Theatre Man

Playwright Charles L. Mee is an American playwright, historian and author known for his collage-like style of playwriting, which makes use of radical reconstructions of found texts. He is also a professor of theater at Columbia University. Among other awards, Mee is the recipient of a lifetime achievement award in drama from the American Academy of Arts & Letters and two OBIE Awards (Vienna: Lusthaus (1986) and Big Love (2002). His plays are available at www.charlesmee.org and as a free iPhone app.

MFA Directing Student Dennis Gupa’s past credits include Frank Wedekind’s Spring Awakening, John Millington Synge’s Riders to the Sea, August Strindberg’s A Dream Play, Brian Friel's Lovers (Winners) and a devised theatre piece based on Carlos Bulosan's life and works, I Am Not A Laughing Man. Dennis was a director-in-residence with Ma-Yi Theater Company and has worked with National Asian-American Theatre Company, both based in New York City. In 2011/12 through the Indonesian Ministry of Education he studied seni topeng (mask dance) in Sekolah Tinggi Seni Indonesia. He received his MA in Theatre from University of the Philippines where he is an Assistant Professor.

The Bacchae 2.1 features original music performed live and stars BFA acting ensemble students Ghazal Azarbad, Mariam Barry, Nathan Cottell, Francis Dowlatabadi, Thomas Elms, Helena Fisher-Welsh, Matt Kennedy, Allyce Kranabett, Jenna Mairs, Demi Pedersen, Meegin Pye, Kelsey Ranshaw, Selene Rose, Joylynn Secunda, Parmiss Sehat, Javier Sortes and Elizabeth Willoughby. The creative team includes BFA Design students Natalia Ruiz (Set), Eric Chad (Lighting & Media Composition), Kiara Lawson (Costumes) and Kate De Lorme (Sound) with Curtis Li (Stage Manager).

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