

Antipodes Theatre Company presents, as a part of the 2022 Midsumma Festival

And She Would Stand Like This

By Harrison David Rivers

Directed by Margot Tanjutco

Striding into the new year, February 2022 sees Melbourne's new kid on the block, **Antipodes Theatre Company**, burst onto the stage during **Midsumma** with the **Australian premiere** of **Harrison David Rivers' And She Would Stand Like This**. Greek tragedy meets Queer ball culture in this fierce and fabulous new play, adapted from **Euripides' The Trojan Women** and inspired by the seminal documentary *Paris is Burning*.



House mother, Hecuba, has dedicated her life to protecting her children and the chosen family that they all cling to for comfort and support. But when a mysterious plague begins to rip through their community they face their biggest challenge yet, as they are forced to engage with a society that doesn't understand or even value their existence...

A modern observation of HIV/AIDS that recontextualises Greek characters as Queer bodies of colour, **And She Would Stand Like This** is a powerful roar and fight for survival.

"This show is a celebration of the balls and culture that inspired Pose, Paris is Burning and RuPaul's Drag Race - featuring voguing sequences, larger-than-life characters, and heart-thumping musical interludes.", adds **ATC Artistic Director Brandon Pape**. *"And since it's based on The Trojan Women, we'll take audiences on an emotional roller coaster that explores themes of survival, betrayal, and finding your chosen family. The space will be configured like a fashion show, with a runway down the middle and audience on two sides facing each other - blurring the line between audience and stage. I have no doubt that this show is going to provide one of the most unique and eclectic experiences at the 2022 Midsumma."*

Launching in 2019, **Antipodes Theatre Company** is a prime example of the fortitude and creativity firmly planted in the Melbourne Independent Arts sector. Founded by a group of New York ex-pats, the company swiftly evolved with onset of the COVID-19 pandemic and over the past two years has created a dedicated community through their various online programs and shows, and sharp business acumen. They strive to maintain an inclusive and safe workspace, with productions that have a dedicated focus on working with women, ethnically diverse artists, people with disability, trans and non-binary people, seniors, and other members of historically or culturally marginalised communities who are not well represented on stage.

Starring Melbourne's own **Kikki Temple** and showcasing an incredible cast of local IBPOC artists, **And She Would Stand This Way** promises to be a definite highlight on the 2022 Victorian Arts Calendar, not to be missed.

Directed by Margot Tanjutco - Choreography by Jonathan Homsey - Scenic and Costume Design by Karine Larché - Hair and Makeup Design by Nisal Atapattu - Sound Design by Olivia McKenna - Dance Compositions by Stev Zar - Voguing Consultant: Kiki Devine (House of Devine) - Ball Consultant: Ella Ganza (House of Alexander)

3 - 12 February, 2022

Mon - Sat 7:30pm, Sat Matinee 3pm

Auslan Interpreted Performance - 11 Feb 7:30pm / Audio Described Performance and Tactile Tour - 12 Feb 3pm

Tickets: \$40 Full, \$30 Concession and Preview (15% Early Bird Discount until 12 Dec)

Bookings: online only via www.antipodestheatre.com

Enquiries (Midsumma): 03 9296 6600

Venue: Meat Market Stables - 2 Wreckyn St, North Melbourne

www.antipodestheatre.com