



Anne Bogart and SITI Company Announce their First Full-New York Season Featuring the Premiere of ANTIGONE 9/28 And More

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Veteran director Anne Bogart and her innovative SITI Company are pleased to announce their 2009-2010 first full-New York season. Considered by many to be one of America's national treasures, the ensemble theater company SITI has garnered praise for its thought-provoking and visually compelling work, emphasizing the cross-cultural exchange of dance, music and art, and international collaborations. The new season kicks off with the world premiere of Irish writer Jocelyn Clarke's starkly contemporary rewriting of Sophocles' masterpiece, *Antigone*, running October 28-November 1.

From April 27-May 16, the company will present the revival of Charles L. Mee's dazzling and prismatic journey inspired by the life and work of Robert Rauschenberg, *Robert Rauschenbergamerica*. In addition, starting in November, Anne Bogart and members of SITI will give five monthly public presentations, SITI Company Mondays @ DTW, focusing on the creative process, methods and repertoire of this groundbreaking ensemble, which, for the last 17 years, has been altering the DNA of the theatrical art form. All events will take place at Dance Theater Workshop.

The latest addition to SITI Company's repertoire, *Antigone* is a provoking tale of family and loyalty, patriotism and war, and the powers of the state. "This powerful theatrical and emotionally charged experience is shockingly relevant to our present cultural and historic moment," says Artistic Director Anne Bogart. Adapted by Dublin-based Jocelyn Clarke - SITI's long-time collaborator - the play tells the story of Antigone, the cursed daughter of Oedipus and Jocasta, who defies the King of Thebes for the right to bury her own brother. One of humankind's most enduring and influential stories, it explores conflicts between individual and state and the choices one has to make to either follow one's own beliefs or obey the law. *Antigone* was first presented as a work-in-progress at The J. Paul Getty Museum's Getty Villa (CA) in May 2009, as part of their Theater Lab series.

Starting in November, Anne Bogart and SITI Company will present five public presentations, SITI Company Mondays @ DTW, exploring different aspects of the creative process and methods that have informed the work of one of today's most acclaimed theater companies. An interactive journey through SITI's past, present and future, this series is scheduled on November 23, December 14, January 25, February 15, and March 8 at 7:30pm.

With *Robert Rauschenbergamerica*, writer Charles L. Mee and Anne Bogart take the viewer on a wild road trip through the American landscape, as Robert Rauschenberg might have conceived it had he been a playwright instead of a painter. More than an autobiographical portrait, this multi-disciplinary work is a rollicking collage-montage tribute -complete with square dancing, a roller girl and Martini nights - capturing the happy, improvisational quality of Rauschenberg's singular vision. Seamlessly moving

through time, *bobrauschenbergamerica* is also the history of a nation and culture, portraying America as a land of endless vistas, heartbreaking disappointments and unbridled optimism.

bobrauschenbergamerica, which premiered at The Actors Theatre of Louisville's Humana Festival of New American Plays in 2001 and was last seen in New York as part of the Brooklyn Academy Of Music's 2003 Next Wave Festival, has toured extensively nationally and internationally to critical acclaim. It was awarded the 2006 New England's IRNE Award Nomination for Best Choreography, the 2004 Henry Hewes Award for Design (American Theater Wing), and in 2003, Stamford Center for the Arts received the Connecticut Critics Circle "Outstanding Road Show" Award for presenting it.

For more information on SITI, visit: www.siti.org

SITI COMPANY 2009-2010 NEW YORK SEASON:

Antigone

Written by Jocelyn Clarke

Directed by Anne Bogart

Original Music by Christian Fredrickson

Light design by Brian H Scott

With Akiko Aizawa (Ismene), Will Bond (Chorus), Barney O'Hanlon (Guard), Leon Ingulsrud (Haemon), Tom Nelis (Tiresus), Makela Spielman (Antigone), Stephen Webber (Creon).

Oct 28 - Nov 1 at 7:30pm, Oct 31 & Nov 1 at 3pm
\$25/ \$20 students

SITI Company Mondays @ DTW

Nov 23, Dec 14, Jan 25, Feb 15, Mar 8 at 7:30pm

\$10 each evening/ \$40 for all 5

bobrauschenbergamerica

By Charles L. Mee

Directed by Anne Bogart

Set and costume design by James Schuette

Light design by Brian H Scott

Sound Design by Darron L West

With Akiko Aizawa (Phil's girl), J. Ed Araiza (Becker), Will Bond (Allen), Gian Murray Gianino (Pizza boy), Leon Ingulsrud (Phil), Ellen Lauren (Susan), Kelly Maurer (Bob's mom), Barney O'Hanlon (Carl) plus additional casting to be announced soon.

Apr 22-May 16. Tickets on sale March 1, 2010.

All performances and talks are taking place at Dance Theater Workshop

219 West 19th Street between 7th and 8th Avenues, New York

Box Office Phone: (212) 924-0077, or buy online at siti.org

ABOUT THE ARTISTS:

Anne Bogart is the Artistic Director of SITI Company, which she founded with Japanese director Tadashi Suzuki in 1992. She is a Professor at Columbia University where she runs the Graduate Directing Program. Works with SITI include *Antigone*; *Under Construction*; *Freshwater*; *Who Do You Think You Are*; *Radio Macbeth*; *Hotel Cassiopeia*; *Death and the Ploughman*; *La Dispute*; *Score*; *bobrauschenbergamerica*; *Room*; *War of the Worlds*; *Cabin Pressure*; *The Radio Play*; *Alice's Adventures*; *Culture of Desire*; *Bob*; *Going, Going, Gone*; *Small Lives/Big Dreams*; *The Medium*; *Noel Coward's Hay Fever* and *Private Lives*; August Strindberg's *Miss Julie*; and Charles Mee's *Orestes*. She is the author of three books: *A Director Prepares*, *The Viewpoints Book* and *And Then, You Act*.

Jocelyn Clarke (Playwright, *Antigone*) is a Dublin-based dramaturg and playwright, who served as the

lead theatre critic with The Sunday Tribune for nine years. He has written four adaptations for SITI Company-Bob, adapted from interviews with director [Robert Wilson](#); Alice's Adventures from [Lewis Carroll](#)'s classic; Room from the writings of Virginia Woolf; and Score, from the writings of [Leonard Bernstein](#). Other credits include adaptations of Neil Gaiman's The Day I Swapped My Dad For Two Goldfish (The Ark); [William Shakespeare](#)'s The Merchant Of Venice and The Tempest (Corcadorca Theater), The Little Deer The Crimson Fly, and The Swan Children (Abbey Theatre); as well as his docu-drama The Case Of The Rose Tattoo (2007 Dublin Theatre Festival). In New York City, his adaptation of Dr. C. (Or How I Learned To Act in Eight Steps) for the Theatre Mitu premiered in June 2009, and his adaptation of Finn for Mabou Mines will open at NYU's Skirball Center for the Performing Arts in March 2010.

Christian Frederickson (Composer, Antigone) is a violist, composer, and sound designer living in Brooklyn, NY. Recent credits include: 2009 National Playwrights Conference (The O'Neill Theater Center); Antigone with the SITI Company (The Getty Villa); An Oresteia, The Tempest, Romeo and Juliet (Classic Stage Co.); The Fever Chart (The Public Theater); Arkansas Shakespeare Theater '08, '09; The Tempest (Actors Theatre of Louisville). He is a founding member of Rachel's, an instrumental band with six albums released since 1995 on Chicago's Touch and Go Records. Rachel's toured extensively, playing clubs, churches, theaters and universities throughout North America, Europe, and South Korea. The band's performances have been featured on NPR's "Weekend Edition", the BBC, BET TV, WNYC, and the national radio networks in Italy, Belgium, and South Korea. Rachel's collaborated with the electronic duo Matmos (1999's Full on Night), and with the SITI Company (2004's systems/layers). Their music has been featured in the film soundtracks of Peter Berg's Hancock, [Oliver Stone](#)'s Any Given Sunday, [Miguel Arteta](#)'s Star Maps, and the Belgian production Une Liaison Por. From 2000 to 2004 he was the viola instructor at the University of Louisville, where he performed as a member of the Louisville String Quartet, and coached chamber music ensembles. He also taught viola at Indiana University.

Charles L. Mee (Playwright, [bobrauschenberamerica](#)) is the only playwright member of the SITI Company, for whom he has written Orestes 2.0, [bobrauschenbergamerica](#), Hotel Cassiopeia, soot and spit (the musical), and Under Construction. He has also written Vienna: Lusthaus, A Perfect Wedding, and a number of other plays in addition to his work inspired by Greek plays: Big Love, True Love, Trojan Women A Love Story and others. His plays have been performed at the [Brooklyn Academy Of Music](#), American Repertory Theatre, New York Theatre Workshop, [The Public Theatre](#), Lincoln Center, the Humana Festival, Steppenwolf, and other places in the United States as well as in Berlin, Paris, Amsterdam, Brussels, Vienna, Istanbul and elsewhere. Among other awards, he is the recipient of the lifetime achievement award from the American Academy of Arts and Letters. His complete works are available on the Internet at [www.charlesmee.org](#). His work is made possible by the support of [Jeanne Donovan Fisher](#) and Richard B. Fisher.

SITI Company was founded in 1992 by Anne Bogart and Tadashi Suzuki to redefine and revitalize contemporary theater in the United States through an emphasis on international cultural exchange and collaboration. Originally envisioned as a summer institute in Saratoga Springs, New York, SITI has expanded to encompass a year-round program based in New York City with a summer season in Saratoga. SITI Company's three ongoing components are the creation of new work, the training of young theater artists, and a commitment to international collaboration. A seven-time Obie winner, the company is known nationally and internationally as a top-level artistic collective that generates groundbreaking theater while training artists from around the world.