

A POTABLE JOYCE: A WATERED-DOWN VERSION OF ULYSSES... the story of James Joyce and his manuscript ...

“International response ...was overwhelmingly enthusiastic... I would recommend this show for any audience, adult or youth.”

- Laura Barnes Weldon, Natn'l Coordinator ReJoyce Dublin, Ministry of Arts and Culture, Ireland.

DESCRIPTION

This fast-paced, three-tiered hero-story weaves together the journeys of Odysseus, Leopold Bloom, and James Joyce – paralleling navigation of monsters and temptresses, pubs and tea shops, and the many obstacles and inspirations of authorship. Transforming sculpture, puppets, masks, dancers, live music, and a lyrical script work together to tell the story of James Joyce re-interpreting the Odyssey, to fit his own experience. Well-researched, full of artistic invention and literary insight, this internationally traveled performance has engaged and delighted audiences since 1998. This performance was originally created by Sebastienne Mundheim in response to a commission by the Rosenbach Museum and Library. **Running time 40 minutes.**

“... I was amazed by the richness and detail of visual sensibility and impressed by condensed layered networks of metaphor ... I felt a significant mind at work.”

Whit McLaughlin, Artistic Director, New Paradise Laboratories, upon seeing “A Potable Joyce.”

“...truly original, mysterious, beautiful, and engaging... rave reviews year after year, Joycean scholars have been consistently impressed with its clever, meaningful interpretation of the novel ...”

- Bill Adair, Rosenbach Museum and Library

VENUE REQUIREMENTS

- 20ft x 20ft floor space (no backstage or wings required)
- 10 ft ceiling minimum
- electricity
- seating 60-150
- approx. 6 hour load-in, 4 hour load-out.
- Lights travel with show
- Touring capacity: national & international
- \$1500-\$6000/day
- Up to 4 shows/day.

WORKSHOPS & RESIDENCIES

“A Potable Joyce” was originally conceived as part of a larger education program that included in-depth hands-on workshops in visual, literary, performing, and media arts. While the performance is a wonderful experience on its own, follow-up workshops allow viewers to explore the themes and concepts introduced in the performance in much greater depth. These workshops can range in length from one session to twenty sessions. They can be tailored for teachers, students, performing arts groups, and topic-specific groups. Through workshops in sculpture, puppetry, movement, and storytelling we can address many content areas. Connections with literature classes include: Introduction to James Joyce, close reading of text, re-interpretation of myth, how to build metaphors in sound, sculpture, words. Techniques include: object theatre, puppetry, and movement. All performers are experienced educators in elementary-graduate level teaching.

“Sebastienne has been a critical bridge between artists of different disciplines, and a connector among cultural and educational institutions. ... Sebastienne walks the edge of being a theatre artist and a teaching artist. Her gift of play among visual and verbal and movement based art forms, for puns and metaphors that are both rich and accessible, is exceptional....”

Thora Jacobson, Director, The Fleisher Art Memorial.

SEBASTIENNE MUNDHEIM/WHITE BOX THEATRE

Founder, Sebastienne Mundheim is a writer, director, designer, performer, educator, and filmmaker. She has created 18 original performances commissioned by institutions including the University of Pennsylvania, The Rosenbach Museum & Library, The Philadelphia Museum of Art, and Franklin & Marshall College. Known for synthesizing complex, sophisticated academic content into lyrical educational performances geared toward young audiences, appealing to all ages, she uses sculptural props, shadow puppets, dancers, actors, and music. Her performances teach lessons and ask questions. Her shows have been performed locally and internationally. Mundheim began her artistic career as a writer and painter, wanting to move outside of the traditional studio, Mundheim developed interdisciplinary theme-based community and school arts programs and installation in collaboration with cultural organizations. Mundheim's unique style of performance is an outgrowth of her teaching and art-making. Her work fuses concern for life lesson, pleasure of exploring materials, mandate to make the work clear and accessible, and skills and techniques in multiple art forms. She received her BA/BFA from the University of Pennsylvania in 1990, and her EdM from Harvard in 2000.

White Box Theatre embodies Mundheim's values and methodology. Process and product are concerned with making work that: asks questions, is accessible to diverse audiences, has a rigor and craft, and explores interdisciplinary relationships. Aesthetically, the work straddles visual, audio, analytical and narrative worlds, creating tensions, harmonies, delight, and surprise. Works thus far have been described as "three-dimensional storybooks" and "melodic paintings." White Box Theatre accepts commissions for new work, tours existing work, offers residencies, lectures, and workshops, and provides consulting in interdisciplinary program design.