

Portland Center Stage at

THE **ARMORY**

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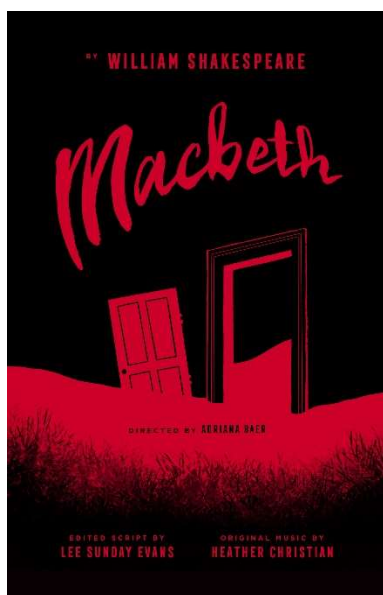
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## M E D I A R E L E A S E

### LOCAL FAVORITES CHANTAL DEGROAT, DANA GREEN, AND LAUREN BLOOM HANOVER STAR IN HAUNTING, STRIPPED-DOWN *MACBETH*

*“This irreducible, transcendent Macbeth commands engagement. Women get their due ... so does Shakespeare.” – The New York Times*

Previews Begin Sept. 28 | Opening Night is Oct. 4 | Closes Nov. 24



**August 22, 2019 — PORTLAND, OR.** This fall, local favorites Chantal DeGroat, Dana Green, and Lauren Bloom Hanover star in a piercing, stripped-down production of *Macbeth*, directed by Adriana Baer at Portland Center Stage at The Armory. With an edited script by Lee Sunday Evans and original music by Heather Christian, Shakespeare’s infamous tale of political gluttony and supernatural vengeance finds refreshing new life in a taught, thrilling adaptation *The New York Times* called, “transcendent.” DeGroat, Green, and Hanover tackle all the roles, with captivating shape-note singing lending a haunting soundtrack to the rise and fall of Scotland’s most notorious royal assassin.

Baer said her concept for this production was heavily influenced by Christian’s compositions. “The music grounded me immediately in the earth, and I felt like I was standing with my own bare feet in the dirt. I saw that the story I wanted to tell was much more ancient than so many contemporary adaptations. I knew immediately that these women are inextricably woven together and that they are sharing the wisdom of their ancestors. There is an oral history at play here. I want the audience to see that this story is about all of us.”

In keeping with that concept, Scenic Designer Stephen Dobay’s set will depict ancient ruins rising from Scottish sand dunes. “We wanted the earth to dominate the space,” Baer said, “and to show that there was a clash between the man-made and the environment.”

The three talented actors bringing Baer's vision to life are Portland favorites. Dana Green most recently appeared at The Armory as Sugar in *Tiny Beautiful Things*, the stage adaptation of Chery Strayed's bestselling book. Chantal DeGroat has appeared in five seasons of The Second City's *Twist Your Dickens*. Lauren Bloom Hanover, who has appeared at Profile Theatre, CoHo Productions, and in staged readings at Artists Repertory Theatre and Portland Shakespeare Project, will be making her debut at The Armory.

The Armory will host various free pre- and post-show community events, including discussions with cast, crew, and community guests. Details will be posted at [www.pcs.org/macbeth](http://www.pcs.org/macbeth) closer to the show.

### **EDITED SCRIPT**

Lee Sunday Evans is an OBIE Award-winning director and choreographer. Her work has been presented and developed at: Clubbed Thumb, Baryshnikov Arts Center, Sundance Theater Institute, CATCH, 59E59 Theaters, The New Ohio, Brooklyn Arts Exchange, Lower Manhattan Cultural Council, The Culture Project, Robert Wilson's Watermill Center, Guild Hall, Emerging America Festival/Huntington Theater, Williamstown Theater Festival, Dixon Place, and LaMama. As the Resident Director for CollaborationTown, she is currently developing *The Rise and Fall of the Trilobite Kingdom*, a new musical for young audiences commissioned by New Victory's LabWorks, with original music by Nicholas C. Williams and puppets by Amanda Villalobos. She has also taught devising theater workshops for the Waterwell Drama Program at PPAS, The Vineyard Theater, and The International Theater & Literacy Program in Tanzania and Rwanda.

### **ORIGINAL MUSIC**

Heather Christian is an Obie Award-winning composer and performer. She is a recent Sundance Fellow and Ars Nova Uncharted Member with the new musical *Annie Salem*, alongside Rachel Chavkin. Recent credits include her own multi-media concerts *Animal Wisdom* and *North* (La Mama), the TEAM's *Mission Drift*, (National Theater in London) Ripe Time's *The World is Round* (Brooklyn Academy of Music), *Of Mice and Men* (West Yorkshire Playhouse), the entire summer '16 season at Hudson Valley Shakespeare (*Macbeth*, *As you Like It*, *Measure for Measure*) as well as numerous compositions for plays with music and experimental soundscape operas for dance. Short film scores include *Man Rots from Head*, *Eat*, *Pauline Alone*, *Woman in Deep*, and *Gregory Go Boom* (2014 Sundance Grand Jury Prize). Her first score for a feature film, *Lemon*, premiered at Sundance Film Festival in 2017. She is a long-time musical and performative collaborator in devised theater with the TEAM, Jane Comfort Company, Mark Dendy, Mac Wellman, Big Dance Theater, Taylor Mac, and Witness Relocation. She has released eight records and can be seen all over the world as *Heather Christian & the Arbornauts* in concert halls and dive bars.

## THE CAST

**Chantal DeGroat** (*Well* at Seattle Repertory Theatre; *Richard III* at Seattle Shakespeare Company with upstart crow collective; *Julius Caesar* at Seattle Shakespeare Company), **Dana Green** (*A Life*, *Major Barbara*, *Constellations*), and **Lauren Bloom Hanover** (*The Taming* at CoHo Theatre; *The Lady Onstage* and *In the Next Room, or the vibrator play* at Profile Theatre) star. **Beth Thompson** (*Tender Napalm* with Dancing Brain Productions; *Orlando* at Profile Theatre) will understudy all roles.

## THE CREATIVE TEAM

**Adriana Baer** (*Between Riverside and Crazy*, *Major Prime*, and *The Price* at Artists Repertory Theatre) leads a creative team of Musical Director Amir Shirazi (*Twelfth Night* at Portland Actors Ensemble, *iO Romeo!* at Milagro Theatre), Scenic Designer Stephen Dobay (*In the Next Room* at Profile Theater Company, *Come Back Little Sheba* at The Huntington Theater Company), Costume Designer Sarah Marguier (*Dream/Logic*, *A Fond Farewell* at Hand2Mouth Theatre), Lighting Designer Carl Faber (*Magellanica*, *Between Riverside and Crazy* at Artists Repertory Theatre), Sound Designer Sharath Patel (*In the Heights*, *A Life*), Movement and Intimacy Director Amanda K. Cole (*Teenage Dick*, *Everybody* at Artists Repertory Theatre), Dramaturg Elizabeth E. Tavares (*Teenage Dick*, *Magellanica* at Artists Repertory Theatre), Stage Manager Janine Vanderhoff, and Production Assistant Sarah Stark.

## TICKET AND PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

**When: Sept. 28 – Nov. 24, 2019\***

\*Opening Night/Press Night: Friday, Oct. 4 at 7:30 p.m.

Preview Performances: Sept. 28, 29, Oct. 1, 2 and 3 at 7:30 p.m.

**Where: In the Ellyn Bye Studio at [The Armory](#)**

128 NW Eleventh Ave., Portland, Ore., 97209

**To Purchase: Regular tickets range from \$25 to \$62.** Tickets may be purchased at [www.pcs.org](http://www.pcs.org), 503.445.3700, or in-person from the box office (128 NW Eleventh Avenue, Portland, OR). Ticket specials are listed at [www.pcs.org/tickets/ticket-specials](http://www.pcs.org/tickets/ticket-specials), including the new Studio Supersaver, where all tickets to *Macbeth* are \$25 on select dates. Rush tickets are \$25. Students and patrons who are 30 or younger get 50% off tickets in seating areas 1-3. Active duty or veteran military personnel and their families get \$15 off

regular adult tickets. \$5 tickets are available for Oregon Trail Card holders through the Arts for All program.

*All prices vary by date and time, and are subject to change.*

- **Online:** [www.pcs.org/macbeth](http://www.pcs.org/macbeth)
- **By Phone:** 503.445.3700, 12–6 p.m.
- **In Person:** The box office is at 128 NW Eleventh Avenue  
12 p.m. to 8 p.m. on performance days  
12 p.m. to 6 p.m., Tuesday – Sunday, on non-performance days
- **Groups:** Discounts available for groups of 10+ by calling 503.445.3794.

**More Info:** [www.pcs.org/macbeth](http://www.pcs.org/macbeth)

**Showtimes:** Tuesday through Sunday evenings at 7:30 p.m. (excluding Oct. 27, 29, and Nov. 5, 10, 12, 19, and 24) Saturday and Sunday matinees at 2 p.m. (excluding Sept. 28, 29, and Oct. 5); and Thursday matinees at 11 a.m. (excluding Oct. 3).

**Please Note:** Recommended for ages 12 and up.

**Accessibility:** Learn about our accessibility options at [www.pcs.org/access](http://www.pcs.org/access).

## **PORTLAND CENTER STAGE AT THE ARMORY**

[Portland Center Stage at The Armory](#) is the largest theater company in Portland and among the top 20 regional theaters in the country. Established in 1988 as a branch of the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, the company became independent in 1994, and is under the leadership of Artistic Director Marissa Wolf and Managing Director Cynthia Fuhrman. Around 160,000 visitors attend The Armory annually to enjoy a mix of classic, contemporary, and world premiere productions, along with a variety of high quality education and community programs. Ten productions are offered this season, in addition to hundreds of community events created to serve the diverse populations in the city. As part of its dedication to new play development, the company has produced 27 world premieres and presents an annual new works festival, JAW: A Playwrights Festival. Home to two theaters, The Armory (originally built in 1891) opened its doors in 2006 as the first building on the National Register of Historic Places, and the first performing arts venue in the country, to achieve a LEED Platinum rating.

## **THE 2019-2020 SEASON**

The [2019-2020 season](#) is funded in part by Season Superstars Tim and Mary Boyle, Mary and Don Blair, and Lead Corporate Champion Umpqua Bank. Further support comes from Season Sponsors Advance Gender Equity in the Arts (AGE); the Regional Arts and Culture Council; and the Oregon Arts Commission, a state agency funded by the state of Oregon and the National Endowment for the Arts. Support for *Macbeth* comes from Jess Dishman, Harold Goldstein & Carol Streetcar, Teresa & Doug Smith, and NW Natural.

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