



**Rose Byrne and Bobby Cannavale to star in contemporary rewrite of *Medea* by director/writer Simon Stone (*Yerma*)—Jan 12 to Feb 23 at Harvey Theater**

**Presented by BAM and Internationaal Theater Amsterdam (ITA) as part of BAM 2020 Winter/Spring Season**

**July 25, 2019/Brooklyn, NY**—Simon Stone (*Yerma*) stages his contemporary rewrite of Euripides' tragedy, *Medea*, at the BAM Harvey Theater beginning on January 12, 2020. The production will star Emmy and Golden Globe nominee Rose Byrne (*Damages*, *Bridesmaids*, *Get Him to the Greek*); two-time Emmy winner and Tony nominee Bobby Cannavale (*Mauritius*, *The Motherfucker With the Hat*); and features Tony and Emmy Award nominee Dylan Baker (*The Good Wife*, *Happiness*, *The Americans*).

Originally staged by Internationaal Theater Amsterdam (formerly Toneelgroep Amsterdam) in 2014 in Amsterdam, *Medea* went on to earn critical raves internationally: the Dutch *De Volkskrant* called the production “a monumental, ruthless portrait” and according to *The Guardian* it was “funny, clever and harrowing in equal measure” (★★★★★). France's *Le Figaro* called it “heartbreakingly mythical.”

BAM Artistic Director David Binder said, “*Medea* is truly an international collaboration. We're thrilled to be working with producer David Lan (*The Jungle*, *The Inheritance*; former artistic director, Young Vic) and to continue BAM's longstanding relationship with Internationaal Theater Amsterdam. I'm excited to welcome writer/director Simon Stone following his enormous success with *Yerma*, and look forward to having the incredible actors Rose Byrne and Bobby Cannavale in lead roles on our stage.”

*Medea* will be produced by ITA, BAM, and David Lan, who will serve as BAM's Theater Associate.

**David Lan** was artistic director of London's Young Vic from 2000 to 2018. His productions seen in New York include *Woyzeck*, *A Doll's House* and *A Man of Good Hope* at BAM; *A View from the Bridge* on Broadway; *A Streetcar Named Desire* and *The Jungle* at St Ann's Warehouse; and *Yerma* at the Park Avenue Armory. Coming up, *The Inheritance* on Broadway. From 2014 to 2016 he was Consulting Artistic Director at the soon-to-open Perelman Performing Arts Center at the World Trade Center. In 2018 Lan received the Laurence Olivier Special Award and the London Critics' Circle Special Award.

Although only in his 30s, the Australian actor, director, and writer **Simon Stone** is one of the most acclaimed theater-makers on the international circuit. Born in Basel, Switzerland and educated at Cambridge, Stone returned to Australia in 2007 to found The Hayloft Project. The company's first production, Frank Wedekind's *Spring Awakening* (Frühlings Erwachen) established its reputation. Stone quickly became known as an inspiring director with a unique style. He likes to take pieces from the standard repertoire which, with the help of his cast, he reworks into intimate, almost cinematic performances. Stone has previously applied this approach to Chekhov's

*Platonov* and Seneca's *Thyestes*. In 2011 he was invited to become resident director of Sydney's Belvoir theater company.

Stone often works on the basis of improvisation and characterizations suggested by a play, creating an entirely new script through which the original nevertheless shines. His version of Ibsen's *The Wild Duck* was enthusiastically received during the 2013 Holland Festival. More recently, Stone reworked *The Oresteia* to become an emotional and thought-provoking contemporary family drama. Stone frequently returns to the classics and mythology because he believes that they raise all the essential questions about the human condition.

Stone has been an associate to the Internationaal Theater Amsterdam (formerly Toneelgroep Amsterdam) adapting Woody Allen's *Husbands and Wives* (2016); *Ibsen House*, a new play by Stone which threads together plots of several Ibsen plays in a modern scenario; and *Medea* (2014), which ran at the Barbican in 2019. He made his mainstage London debut with Lorca's *Yerma* at the Young Vic, which won a 2017 Olivier Award for Best Revival. The production went on to New York's Park Avenue Armory in 2018. At the upcoming 2019 Salzburg Festival, Stone will direct Cherubini's opera *Médée*.

**Rose Byrne** is best known for her role as Ellen Parsons in FX's *Damages* (opposite Glenn Close) for which she earned two Golden Globe nominations and one Emmy nomination. She is also known for her role in the Paul Feig-directed comedy, *Bridesmaids* alongside Kristen Wiig, Maya Rudolph, and Melissa McCarthy. The film was nominated for a Golden Globe Award for Best Motion Picture—Comedy and Musical—and a Screen Actors Guild Award for Outstanding Performance by a Cast in a Motion Picture. Byrne is currently in production for FX's limited series, *Mrs. America*, where she stars as Gloria Steinem. The nine-episode series will premiere in 2020. Byrne will next be seen starring in the comedy *Hostile Makeover* (formerly *Limited Partners*) opposite Tiffany Haddish and Salma Hayek. Paramount will release the film on January 10, 2020. Currently, Byrne voices the titular robot in the Netflix sci-fi thriller, *I Am Mother*, which premiered at the 2019 Sundance Film Festival. She was recently cast in Jon Stewart's upcoming campaign trail comedy titled, *Irresistible*, opposite Steve Carell, and in *Lexi*, a new comedy by Jon Lucas and Scott Moore.

Byrne's other film credits include: Paramount Pictures' *Instant Family* (2019), Roadside Attractions' *Juliet, Naked* (2018), Sony Pictures' *Peter Rabbit* (2018) and HBO's *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* (2017) (Emmy nomination for Outstanding Television Movie), 20<sup>th</sup> Century Fox's *X-Men: Apocalypse* (2016), *The Meddler* (2016), *Adult Beginners* (2015), the Paul Feig-directed *Spy* (2015), and *Neighbors* (2014).

In 2016, Byrne returned to the stage in the Sydney Theatre Company's production of David Mamet's *Speed-the-Plow*. The production ran from November 8, 2016—December 17, 2016 at the Roslyn Packer Theatre. She made her Broadway debut in 2015 in the limited engagement run of *You Can't Take it With You*, where she played the lead role of Alice Sycamore opposite James Earl Jones and Kristine Nielsen.

**Bobby Cannavale** was most recently seen on Broadway in *The Lifespan of a Fact*. Other theater includes *The Hairy Ape* (Drama Desk nomination), *The Big Knife*, *Glengarry Glen Ross*, *The Motherfucker With The Hat* (Tony nomination, Drama Desk Award), *Mauritius* (Tony nomination), *HurlyBurly*, *Fucking A*, and *The Gingerbread*

*House*. He is a member of the Labyrinth Theater Company. His upcoming films include *The Irishman*, *Superintelligence*, and *Motherless Brooklyn*. His film roles include *I, Tonya*, *Jumanji: Welcome to the Jungle*, *Ferdinand*, *Daddy's Home*, *Ant-Man*, *Spy*, *Danny Collins*, *Annie*, *Chef*, *Blue Jasmine*, *Win Win*, *The Station Agent*, *Fast Food Nation*, and *Romance and Cigarettes*. Cannavale's television appearances include *Homecoming*, *Angie Tribeca*, *Mr. Robot*, *Master of None*, *Vinyl*, *Boardwalk Empire* (Emmy Award, SAG Nomination), *Nurse Jackie* (two Emmy nominations, SAG nomination), and *Will and Grace* (Emmy Award).

**Dylan Baker** (Christopher): Broadway: *Bernhardt/Hamlet*, *The Front Page*, *The Audience*, *God of Carnage*, *November*, *Mauritius*, *La Bête* (Tony and Drama Desk nominations), *Eastern Standard* (Theatre World Award). Off-Broadway: *Peer Gynt*, *Sea of Tranquility*, *Homebody/Kabul*, *What the Butler Saw*, *That Championship Season*, *Pride's Crossing*, *Wolfman*, *The Common Pursuit*, *To Whom It May Concern*, *Not About Heroes* (Obie Award), *Tartuffe*, *Much Ado About Nothing* and *The Two Gentlemen of Verona* (NYSF). Film: *Extremely Wicked, Shockingly Vile and Evil*, *Misogynists*, *Miss Sloane*, *Anchorman 2*, *Selma*, *Franny*, *The Humbling*, *2 Days in New York*, *Secretariat*, *Revolutionary Road*, *Trick 'R Treat*, *Across the Universe*, *The Hunting Party*, *Fido*, *Spider-Man 2* and *Spider-Man 3*, *Hide & Seek*, *Head of State*, *Road to Perdition*, *Changing Lanes*, *Along Came a Spider*, *Thirteen Days*, *Happiness* (Indy Spirit Award nomination), *Disclosure*, *Delirious*, *Planes Trains & Automobiles*, *The Long Walk Home*, *The Cell*, and *Requiem for a Dream*. TV: *The Hunt*, *The Good Fight*, *Homeland*, *Little Women*, HBO's *Confirmation*, *Blindspot*, *Difficult People*, *The Americans*, *I'm Dying Up Here*, *The Mentalist*, *Chicago Fire*, *Chicago PD*, *Political Animals*, *Damages*, *The Good Wife* (three Emmy Award nominations), *Turks and Caicos*, *Kings*, *Drive*, *The Book of Daniel*, *The Pitts!*, *The Laramie Project*, *From Earth To The Moon*, *Feds*, *Murder One*. Feature Film Directorial Debut: *23 Blast*.

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