

## **Medea.Voices**

- \*Theatre project of the action theatre group PAN.OPTIKUM
- \*As a co-production with the Freiburg Theatre
- \*Based on the novel "Medea.Voices" by Christa Wolf
- \*Premiere: 14 September 2007 Freiburg Theatre, "Großer Saal" [large auditorium]
- \*Financed by the "Landesstiftung Baden-Württemberg"
- \*Parallel to this, the prize-winning interdisciplinary young people's theatre project BEING TWEEN

On the basis of sources from the time before Euripides, Christa Wolf delves into the mythification of the character of Medea in her novel. The events taken from the saga are presented in six monologues from the perspectives of the active protagonists. Medea evolves into a wilful and strong figure who sees herself as being subjected to fierce hostility in a foreign place, and yet must fail.

### **Performance:**

The production of the novel by Christa Wolf poses the question as to how a person isolated in a foreign place can be integrated when the person's own roots are severed or supplanted. Medea, who wants to be understood in terms of her thoughts and emotions and in her inner conflict, fails as a result. Incarcerated in her own traumatic experiences from the past, she can do nothing except reveal the atrocity upon which the city of Corinth is founded. But her own forgotten story hits her like a boomerang.

The PAN.OPTIKUM action theatre group removes the space which normally separates the audience from the stage. The audience is literally always on Medea's heels and experiences all of the actors with immediacy between video projections, music and moving stage elements (set: Matthias Bringmann).

The spectators are repeatedly confronted with different perspectives on Media's fate in extreme proximity to the figures; they are caught up in the story and go through her inner search for home together with her.

It is not until the very end that they are released into the auditorium and can take their seats, in the here and now, making it possible for them to perceive further perspectives from a distance in terms of time and space.

### **Useful instructions for organisers:**

The performance is designed for theatre auditoriums. The audience spends the first 2/3 of the performance right on stage among the actors, moving to the seats as part of the performance at the end of the evening .

A technical rider in PDF format can be sent upon request.