

Margaret Atwood

The Penelopiad

The Play



A CapU Theatre Department production
at The BlueShore at CapU, November 20-28



THE PENELOPIAD

BY MARGARET ATWOOD

Director: Bill Dow
Set and Costume Designer: Brian Ball
Lighting Designer: Gerald King
Sound Designer: Daniel Tessy
Original Music Written By: Rebecca Erin Curtis

THE CAST

Penelope 1 - Lauren Alberico
Helen/Antinous - Lauren Crick
Oracle/Melantho - Rebecca Erin Curtis
Odysseus - Zander Eke
Eurycleia - Luisa Handford
Penelope 2/ Naiad Mother - Angeles Paz Latapi
Icarius/Laertes/Telemachus - Nicholas Lloyd Séguin
Penelope 3/Anticlea - Mimi Toma

PRODUCTION TEAM

Production Manager	Mark "Sparky" Lawrence
Technical Practicum Supervisor	Mat Herrmann
Props and Paint Supervisor	Heidi Wilkinson
Technical Director	Liam White
Stage Manager	Emily Turner
Assistant Stage Managers	Claire Fabian Matthew Goncalves
Lighting Operator	Yebin Seo
Sound Operator	James Croken
Fly Operators Stage Hands	Kade Larson Sasya Dwiputri, Liam White
Carpenters, Props, Paint, Light Crew	Ian Both, Bettina Chan James Croken, Sasya Dwiputri Claire Fabian, Matthew Goncalves Owen Jones, Payton Komish, Kade Larson Paige Lindberg, Kirby Lowrie Nik Majorkiewicz, Lizzy Ponsford Sarah Rosner, Yebin Seo Nina Starszewski, Emily Turner Liam White, Jeremy Wright
Head of Costumes/Faculty Costuming for Stage and Screen	Denise Gingrich, Marija Djordjevic
Costume Lab Supervisor	Derek J. Baskerville
Head Dressers	Morgan Foster Lauren Popko
Dressers	Judy Cerny, Zoë Musselman Ava Loughheed, Pascale Holme Harvey Kevin Ayton

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

"Myths are universal and timeless stories that reflect and shape our lives - they mirror our desires, our fears, our longings, and provide narratives that help us make sense of the world."

This quote is from the general introduction to the Canongate Myth series (in Canada under the Vantage imprint) of which Margaret Atwood's novella, *The Penelopiad*, was one of the first three titles. It is an ambitious project soliciting contemporary authors to re-imagine myths from cultures around the world.

Atwood calls the play version "an echo of an echo of an echo of an echo of an echo of an echo" - the play derived from her novella, which in turn, uses as its source the Homeric epic, *The Odyssey*, and other myths related to it. These echoes, have until recently, been fairly faithful in maintaining the dominance of traditional gender and culture norms.

By centering Penelope and her maids, Atwood is part of the growing movement liberating voices that have traditionally been silenced and marginalized. This project of expanding and widening the lens through which we see the world is part of a general decolonization (which CapU is undertaking on a conscious, institution-wide, level) in many areas of culture and society.

Our production has been a great opportunity for me to learn from the extraordinary student actors and technicians who bring you this show. As we make our way through the latest wave of the pandemic, the resilience and courage, the humour and vitality, of these fine young people is a constant inspiration.

A quick note on the setting - a conversation I overheard on the seawall:

- What do you think hell is?
- Hell?
- Yeah, you know, hell... what is it?
- Hell is a high school gym class.

- *Bill Dow*

ARTISTIC TEAM BIOS



Bill Dow - Director

Bill Dow is an award-winning actor and director, and occasional professor and writer. Well known as Dr. Lee on the *Stargate* franchise and Mayor Russ Hathaway on *DaVinci's Inquest*, Dow has also performed recurring roles on television programs such as *The X-Files*, *Kyle XY*, *Nothin' Too Good for a Cowboy* among others. Film credits include directing the award winning short film, *The Alley*, and supporting roles in *Legends of the Fall*, *Mr. Magoo*, *This Boy's Life*, *The Big Year*, and many others.

In the theatre, Dow has directed several award winning productions for theatres across Canada including at the Vancouver Playhouse where he was Artistic Associate for many years. In addition, he has performed many lead roles on stage, and served as Associate Artistic Director at the Blyth Festival and the Belfry Theatre, and resident dramaturg at the Banff Playwrights Colony. He has written a number of

plays, including the acclaimed *Bachelor Brothers On Tour* with Martin Kinch, based on the characters of Bill Richardson.

Bill Dow earned his interdisciplinary PhD in classical mythology and theatre at Simon Fraser University, and currently teaches acting and directing at Capilano University in North Vancouver.



Brian Ball - Set and Costumes

Brian Ball is a BC based artist and designer. Born and raised in Newfoundland, he completed his BFA in Visual Arts from Memorial University where he also fell in love with the world of theatre. After completing his BFA he moved to Victoria BC to complete his MFA in Theatre set and Costume design at UVIC (Victoria). Ten years ago he has returned full time to his original love of theatre set and costume design. He has worked on many projects across B.C. and Canada.



Gerald King - Lighting Designer

Arts Club, Ballet BC, Bard on the Beach, Kokoro Dance, Theatre Calgary, The Citadel, Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre, National Arts Centre, Chicago Shakespeare Theatre, Dance Theatre of Harlem, Ballet BC, Douglas College. Selected recent credits include: Arts Club Theatre - *Matilda* and *Beauty and The Beast*; Bard on The Beach - *Shakespeare in Love*, *As You like It*; Vancouver Asian Canadian Theatre (VACT)- *Kuroko*. The Citadel Theatre - *As You Like It*, *Matilda*.



Daniel Tessa - Sound Designer

Daniel Tessa is a sound designer, composer, recording artist and teacher living and working on the traditional and unceded territories of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh First Nations. A settler of Iraqi, Jamaican and Dutch descent, he is the instructor of audio and resident sound designer of the Capilano University Theatre Department. He also moonlights as an electronic pop musician under the name Delicatessa.



STAGE MANAGEMENT TEAM

Emily Turner

This is Emily's final year in Technical Theatre at Capilano University. *Penelopiad* is the second Blueshore Production she has worked on in stage management. Her previous credits are Unity 1918 (CapU), *Ash Girl* and *She Kills Monsters* (Mount Boucherie Secondary). She is ecstatic for everyone to see the show!



Claire Fabian

Claire is in her second and final year here at Capilano University and she is thrilled to be an Assistant Stage Manager for *The Penelopiad*. She joined technical theatre in high school at the Massey Theatre, where she gained experience in stage management, lighting design, construction, rigging, and sound design.



Matthew Goncalves

Matthew is a first year student in the Technical Theatre program at Capilano University. He has been a technician for youth productions of *Beetlejuice* and *Mamma Mia*, where he worked with the youth on understanding aspects of technical theatre, and different lighting and sound techniques.

THE CAST



Lauren Alberico

Lauren Alberico is a 3rd year Acting for Stage and Screen Student here at Capilano. She is very grateful and excited to be a part of this beautiful play. Some previous credits include *The Collapse* (Arbutus Studio), *Concord Floral* (Theatre SKAM), and *A Christmas Carol* (The Belfry). Enjoy the show!



Lauren Crick

Lauren is in her third year of the Acting for Stage and Screen program. She started performing in dance recitals at four years old, and added the art of acting to her repertoire when she was 10. *The Penelopiad* is Lauren's first main stage production at Capilano.



Rebecca Erin Curtis

Rebecca is excited to bring to life one of her favorite author's shows. From portraying a maid to creating the music, she's loved stepping into Greek history. Graduating from MacEwan's Theatre Arts program in 2016, she came to Capilano for more training. This show has been challenging but rewarding. Enjoy!

Zander Eke

Zander Eke is a third year ASAS student who is happy to be back on stage. His previous credits include: Israel in *The Children's Republic* (The Belfry) and most recently, Francis Flute in a production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* on Galiano Island. Grab your peanuts and enjoy the show!!!



Luisa Handford

Luisa Handford is an actor based in Vancouver while she completes her final year at Capilano University. She has been acting on Gabriola Island for years, which is where her love for theatre began. Lu is excited to be part of the cast of *Penelopiad* and to bring *Eurycleia* to life.



Angeles Paz Latapi

Angeles Paz Latapi is a third-year acting student, delighted to be making her debut in her first show at CapU Theatre. Recent credits include playing *Ashgirl* in *The Ashgirl* (Langley Fine Arts School). Angeles will continue passionately pursuing her love for both theatre and film acting in Vancouver and beyond.



Nicholas Lloyd Séguin

Nicholas Lloyd Séguin is a third year Acting student. He is playing the Roles of *Telemachus*, *Laertes* and *Icarius*. He is excited to be playing such a diverse range of ages and personalities, and is thrilled to be able to bring his skills to the main stage.



Mimi Toma

Mimi is excited to be in the Penelopiad production at the Blue Shore theatre. She is currently training in the Acting for Stage and Screen program at CapU and is enjoying learning new techniques and every opportunity to explore them this year!

