

-FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE-

theatrevertigo presents

Big Love
by Charles Mee

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Melody Bridges- Press Contact: (503) 228-0605, melody@theatrevertigo.com

PLAY: *Big Love*

PLAYWRIGHT: Charles Mee

DIRECTED BY: Sarah Jane Hardy

PRODUCED BY: Theatre Vertigo

SHOW DATES: PREVIEW- Thursday, October 9 ("Pay What You Will")
OPENING NIGHT- Friday, October 10 (free reception to follow)
October 10- November 8, Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays

SHOW TIMES: Thursday, Friday, Saturdays at 8 pm; Sundays at 4 pm

TICKET INFORMATION: \$15, general admission (Thursdays are "Pay What You Will")
For reservations, call 503-306-0870, or buy tickets online at www.theatrevertigo.org.

LISTING TEXT

Theatre Vertigo presents *Big Love*, a thoroughly modern adaptation of a Greek classic, complete with escaped brides, angry grooms, a helicopter, sex, death, and, perhaps, a wedding. At The Electric Company, 2512 SE Gladstone; Thursdays through Saturdays at 8pm, Sundays at 4pm. Tickets are \$15; Thursdays are "Pay What You Will." For reservations, call 503-306-0870, or visit www.theatrevertigo.org.

THE CAST:

Lydia	Jennifer Healey
Olympia	Melody Bridges
Thyona	Julie Starbird
Bella/ Eleanor	April Magnusson
Piero/Leo	Darius Pierce
Giuliano	Tom Moorman
Constantine	Keith Cable
Oed	Ben Plont
Nikos	Paul Floding

- LOCATION:** The Electric Company
2512 SE Gladstone St., Suite 200
Portland, Oregon
- DIRECTIONS:** Located on the corner of SE Gladstone and SE 25th Avenue, two blocks south of Powell and two blocks north of Holgate Blvd.
- TRANSIT:** Tri-Met 9 (two blocks north), Tri-Met 10 (corner of SE Gladstone St. and SE 26th Ave.), Tri-Met 17 Holgate (two blocks South)
- PARKING:** Abundant street parking available - lot parking nearby
- MORE INFORMATION:** <http://www.theatrevertigo.org> or phone 503-306-0870

DESCRIPTION

Based on the play *The Suppliant Maidens*, written by Aeschylus around 490 BC, fifty daughters of Danaus have fled Egypt to avoid marrying their cousins, and broken the law in doing so.

Using Aeschylus' story line, Mee changes time, locale and plot points for his modern interpretation. The fifty women, represented by three contemporary sisters, flee Greece to Italy and seek refuge at the home of a gracious patron. The cousins, to whom the women have been pledged, are now three young brothers who arrive by helicopter to reclaim their brides. As the negotiations unfold, a big love creeps into the sisters' pact against marriage at all cost, resulting in a truly chaotic climax befitting a battle of the sexes.

Mee's work is not merely an adaptation of extant material; it is a vibrant contemporary play that uses dance, theatrical gesture, music, imaginative anachronisms and other stylistic expressions normally reserved for performance art.

ABOUT THEATRE VERTIGO

Established in 1997, Theatre Vertigo is a not-for-profit, non-equity, ensemble theatre company presenting an annual season at The Electric Company, Portland's very own theatrical design laboratory. Under the artistic direction of Nanette Pettit, Theatre Vertigo continues to develop a challenging and diverse repertoire with a distinctly Northwest style, performing contemporary and premiere works that illuminate the human experience. Dedicated to attracting a new generation of theatregoers by presenting plays that are both timely and affordable, the Theatre Vertigo has been touted as "Portland's premiere acting ensemble." For more information on Theatre Vertigo, please call 503-306-0870, or visit <http://www.theatrevertigo.org>.

Members of the media are encouraged to phone 503-228-0605 for additional information.

ABOUT CHARLES MEE

What I Like (from www.charlesmee.org)

"I like plays that are not too neat, too finished, too presentable. My plays are broken, jagged, filled with sharp edges, filled with things that take sudden turns, careen into each other, smash up, veer off in sickening turns. That feels good to me. It feels like my life. It feels like the world.

"And then I like to put this- with some sense of struggle remaining- into a classical form, a Greek form, or a beautiful dance theatre piece, or some other effort at civilization." -Charles Mee

PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

Thursday October 9	8pm	Preview- Pay What You Will
Friday October 10	8pm	Opening Night- Free reception following performance
Saturday October 11	8pm	
Sunday October 12	4pm	Talkback discussion following performance
Thursday October 16	8pm	Pay What You Will
Friday October 17	8pm	
Saturday October 18	8pm	
Sunday October 19	4pm	Talkback discussion following performance
Thursday October 23	8pm	Pay What You Will
Friday October 24	8pm	
Saturday October 25	8pm	
Sunday October 26	4pm	Talkback discussion following performance
Thursday October 30	8pm	Pay What You Will
Friday October 31	8pm	
Saturday November 1	8pm	
Sunday November 2	4pm	Talkback discussion following performance
Thursday November 6	8pm	Pay What You Will
Friday November 7	8pm	
Saturday November 8	8pm	Closing Night

TALKBACKS

All audience members attending Sunday performances are invited to stay after the show for a Talkback discussion with members of the cast and production team. Talkbacks will follow every Sunday performance. (*free*)

###