

**LA MAMA**  
EXPERIMENTAL THEATRE CLUB  
PRESENTS

# THE TROJAN WOMEN

**By The Great Jones Repertory Company**

**Directed by Andrei Serban**

**Composed by Elizabeth Swados**



**Ellen Stewart Theatre**  
**66 East 4th Street, NYC, 10003**  
**December 6 - 15, 2019**

# ***The Trojan Women***

**By The Great Jones Repertory Company**

**Directed by Andrei Serban**

**Composed by Elizabeth Swados**

**Original Set Design by Jun Maeda**

**Costume Design by Gabriel Berry**

**Lighting Design by Andrei Serban**

**and Juan Merchan**

**Wig Design by Cookie Jordan**

**The Trojan Women Project Team:**

**Project Director Onni Johnson**

**Festival Director Kim Ima**

**Music Director Bill Ruyle**

**Assistant Musical Director Sara Galassini**

**Director of Training George Drance**

**Director of Community Outreach Maud Dinand**

**Visa assistance and advocacy by Olivia Galvez**

**and David Amar at CoveyLaw/Tamizdat**

**Production:**

**Stage Manager: Raine Bode**

**Technical Director: Mark Tambella**

**Assistant to Andrei Serban: James Rutherford**

**Props: Nora Jacobs**

**Assistant Costume Design: Sydney Galas**

**Costume Assistant: Caity Mulkearns**

## **Production Crew:**

### **Carpentry Crew:**

**Teddy Allmendinger, Rocco Candela-Michelus,  
Ambrose Doster-Schellenbaum, Atticus Jones,  
Gian Marco Lo Forte, Jun Maeda,  
Giacomo Rocchini**

### **Light Crew:**

**David Bonilla, Jimmy Dewhurst,  
Sarah Murphy, Izzy Olgard,  
Jack Reynolds, Enrique Seba, Nathan Selinger**

**Sound Crew: Marielle Iliazoski**

**Light Board Operator: Jimmy Dewhurst**

**Follow Spot Operators: Izzy Olgard, Enrique Seba**

**Wardrobe: Jason Lewis, Dorothy Sherman**

### **Running Crew:**

**Minji Choi, Tess Elschot, Tae Woo Kim,  
Yeonguk Kim, Iris Luo**

**Live Feed by CultureHub**

## **MIXED MEDIA EXHIBIT**

December 6-15, 2019 before performances of Trojan Women

Oana Maria Cajal is an award winning playwright, screenwriter, poet and visual artist born in Bucharest, Romania. Oana has created the official Poster for The Trojan Women Project Festival.

[www.oanacajal.com](http://www.oanacajal.com)

## **The Company (in alphabetical order)**

Arthur Adair	Queens, NY, USA
Jamari Burrowes	New York, NY, USA
Sheree V Campbell	Long Island, NY (Valley Stream), USA
Chankethya Chey	Phnom Penh, Cambodia
Berta Lidia Chirix	Comalapa, Guatemala
Yuna Clark	New York, NY, USA
Richard Cohen	New York, NY, USA
Cerentha Cook	New York, NY, USA
Maura Donohue	New York, NY, USA
George Drance	Bronx, NY, USA
Javier Flores	Guatemala City, Guatemala
Sara Galassini	Siena, Italy
Michal Gamily	New York, NY, USA
Edis Galushi	Prizren, Kosovo
Edlir Gashi	Prishtina, Kosovo
John Gutierrez	New York, NY, USA
Paul Harris	Hastings-on-Hudson, NY, USA
Yael Haskal	New York, NY, USA
Kim Ima	New York, NY, USA
Onni Johnson	New York, NY, USA
Qendresa Kajtazi	Gjakova, Kosovo
Skender Kapllani	Prizren, Kosovo
Chansina Khon	Phnom Penh, Cambodia
Isabel Leight	New York NY, USA
Daniela Markaj	Mitrovica, Kosovo
Fiona Lui Martin	New York, NY, USA
Julia Martin	New York, NY, USA
Liam Lui Martin	New York, NY, USA
Victor Martnez	Guatemala City, Guatemala
Mattie McMaster	New York, NY, USA
Randi Meredith	New York, NY, USA
Amina Meredith	New York, NY, USA
Valois Mickens	Washington, D.C., USA
Adam Parker	San Diego, USA
Halleli Peleg	New York, NY, USA
Grace Phelan	Brooklyn/New York, NY, USA
Maya Rivas	New York, NY, USA
eugene the poogene	New York, NY, USA

Xoshil Rose	GuatemalaCity, Guatemala
Bill Ruyle	Nyack, NY, USA
Kim Savarino	Brooklyn/New York, NY, USA
Andrei Serban	New York, NY, USA
Lisbeth Jaquelin Sirin	Comalapa, Guatemala
Ros Sokunthea	Phnom Penh, Cambodia
Chanborey Soy	Phnom Penh, Cambodia
Branislav Stankovic	Mitrovica, Kosovo, Serbia
Stefan Stojanovic	Mitrovica, Kosovo
Shigeko Suga	New York, NY, USA/Japan
Yukio Tsuji	New York, NY, USA
Ixchel Tuyuc	Comalapa, Guatemala
Ilire Vinca	Prishtina, Kosovo
Mirian Chacach Xocop	Comalapa, Guatemala
Mia Yoo	New York NY/Seoul, USA/Korea
Perry Yung	New York, NY, USA

### **Original cast/advisors:**

Jon DeVries	Westport, CT, USA
Neal Harris	Piermont, NY, USA
Charley Hayward	New York, NY, USA
Priscilla Smith	New York, NY, USA

### **Production Team:**

Gabriel Berry	New York, NY, USA
Raine Bode	Baltimore, MD, USA
Filippo de Capitani	Perugia, Italy
Maud Dinand	New York, NY, USA/France
Tess Elschot	Utrecht, The Netherlands
Sydney Galas	New York, NY, USA
Nora Jacobs	Cancun, Mexico
Tae Woo Kim	New York, NY, USA
Aurane Loury	Clermont-Ferrand, France
Jason Lewis	New York, NY, USA
Iris Luo	Shanghai, China
Caity Mulkearns	New York, NY, USA
Andrei Serban	New York, NY/Bucharest, USA/Romania
Dorothy Sherman	New York, NY, USA

## **Festival Note:**

**The Trojan Women Project** began with an idea - what would happen if we shared the music, the words, the staging of our 1974 La MaMa's *The Trojan Women* with a new generation of artists in other countries where there is a history of conflict or ongoing conflict? Could we pass on the material in the same oral tradition as we had done within our own company, The Great Jones Rep, over the years and what would that look like? And someday, what if we could bring performers from each country together, these people who now share the same songs and story? It was our dream to bring them together in the same room. Now we celebrate six years of working in Guatemala, Cambodia and Kosovo with a company that includes nineteen artists from those countries, along with young artists from New York City who are learning the show for the first time, original members of the 1974 production, and second generation members from 1996-2004. We are honored and deeply touched by this intergenerational, international company who have come together for the **The Trojan Women Project Festival**. We are so happy you are also here to be a part of the celebration of this very special piece and this very special project.

- *Kim Ima and Onni Johnson*

## Mia's Note:

Theatre has the unique power to allow an audience to see through the eyes of others, to understand different perspectives and encounter otherness. In this way, we foster transformations of thought — by understanding “the other” we can better understand ourselves. At this time in our history, there is an urgent need for American audiences to understand diverse viewpoints, to embrace our culture built of multiplicities. This production has a proven unique quality to transcend boundaries of language, culture, and Identity. For that reason **The Trojan Women Project** speaks to the very core of La MaMa's mission.

When La MaMa's Founder Ellen Stewart, Andrei Serban, and Elizabeth Swados began La MaMa's resident company, Great Jones Repertory Company (GJRC) in 1972, they did so in part to create a production of *Medea* in which a black woman could be portrayed as a tragic hero. Since those revolutionary beginnings, GJRC continues to embody the DNA of contemporary America. This singular American company is noted for subverting the classics by performing them with actors of all races and cultures in performance spaces ranging from proscenium theatres and ancient amphitheatres to makeshift stages in post-conflict zones. The steadfast commitment of being a “theatre for the world” that puts current issues, quite literally, at center stage, reflects our goal of presenting art at La MaMa that resounds with the humanity of its times.

Theatre is an ephemeral art form. The question I have with many of the productions we create and present at La MaMa is: how can a show have a lasting impact on an audience, community, and our world? The answer, I believe, is in the conversations that it creates and the art and action it inspires. This project seeks to do that not only through art but also through community action, panel discussions, and workshops — **The Trojan Women Project** is not just a theatre production but the start of a conversation about our future, one that invites all to participate.

What better way to celebrate Ellen Stewart's Centennial year!

- Mia Yoo

## Director's Note:

More than two thousand years ago Euripides wrote a play about the catastrophic consequences of shrewd cheating in the shape of the Trojan horse, that brought to ashes a highly developed civilization.

Today the play is just as vibrant, due, unfortunately, to the modern trojan horses, the cheaters, (today's politicians included) who have tried to destroy old cultural traditions and provoke havoc and death to entire communities.

Forty-five years ago, when we started this work on Greek tragedy, we toured extensively internationally, in many places of conflict. Performing back then in the ruins of Baalbeck in Lebanon, the tension between different political camps was high before the show, but the power of the ancient sounds echoing in the old ruins and the immediate impact of the play resonated so movingly that at the end the entire audience joined the company to share a glass of champagne and, at least for half an hour, we all felt the power theatre has sometimes to reconcile and relax the spirits.

Conflicts are still so present today, even if somehow different, and a great universal play like this is open to finding new meanings in relation to what happens at this moment in time.

A civilization is destroyed. The women fight, lament, bury their dead, and at the end embark onto the Grecian ships, ready for exile and a new era. These women hold something (the spirit) that the primitive uneducated soldiers can't take away. These women will bear the children and will inspire the creation of a new civilization.

Transmission and sharing, two words that connect history and theatre.

As for spirits, let us hope that Ellen and Liz, from above, share with us the wish to pass the torch to the new generation.

- Andrei Serban

## Note from Helen Nicoll:

In 2018 I travelled to Kosovo for the opening night of **The Trojan Women Project**. The performance took place outside, on the steps, and around the massive and highly stylized National Library of Kosovo. The building itself bared the scars and history of the Yugoslav Wars. The company was composed of performers and musicians who spoke Albanian, Serbian, and Romani whose families and neighborhoods might have fought each other in "The War". To watch these actors working side by side, learning the libretto (which was a made up language), sharing the space and becoming the characters of *The Trojan Women* gave me hope that we can connect and share and rejoice in our common humanity and these walls and barriers and blind ignorance that colors so much of our geopolitical discourse can be fought and overcome. Six years in the making, **The Trojan Women Project and Festival** is the culmination of the perseverance of Onni and her extraordinary creative team...Kim Ima, Bill Ruyle, George Drance, Sara Galassini, and Maud Dinand. Artists from around the world have now gathered here at La MaMa to work with renowned director, Andrei Serbian to re-imagine this timeless *Trojan Women*.

Thank you to La MaMa's Artistic Director, Mia Yoo for her continued encouragement throughout the project's many stages.

- Helen Kent-Nicoll, *The Nicoll Family Fund*

**THANK YOU** to everyone who made **The Trojan Women Project Festival** possible. We are deeply grateful to every single artist, organizer and community member in Guatemala, Cambodia and Kosovo who has been a vital part of **The Trojan Women Project** over the past six years.

**SPECIAL THANKS** to Covey Law, David Amar and Olivia Galvez for helping secure visas for the international artists.

**AND** Paula Acevedo, Albita Begolli, Anne Bogart, Ou Buntheng, Oana Cajal, Sabrina Castillo, Ellen Dennis, Miljana Dundjerin, Epic Arts, Denise Greber, Rithsal Kang, Zana Hoxha Krasniq, Chanboramy Lim, Yolanda Markopoulou, Richard Mei, Ryo Onodera, Zoran Ristic, Onn Sokny, Bernie Toale, Joe Zina.

**SUPPORT** for **The Trojan Women Project Festival** was given in part by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts and a grant from the Trust for Mutual Understanding.



Major funding for **The Trojan Women Project** and **Festival** comes from Helen Kent-Nicoll and The Nicoll Family Fund.

**ADDITIONAL SUPPORT** provided by the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council, the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature, The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, Howard Gilman Foundation, Google Matching Gifts Fund, The Ima Miller Foundation, the van Itallie Foundation, The Sequoia Foundation and a generous circle of La MaMa family and friends around the world.

# THE TROJAN WOMEN PROJECT

## FESTIVAL

Celebrating  
5 years of The Trojan Women Project  
45 years of La MaMa's *The Trojan Women*  
100th birthday of La MaMa's Ellen Stewart

A festival of **performances, panels and workshops** with artists from **The Trojan Women Project** in Guatemala, Cambodia, Kosovo and **La MaMa's Great Jones Repertory Company**  
Featuring a newly reimagined production of **La MaMa's *The Trojan Women***  
Directed by **Andrei Serban**  
Composed by **Elizabeth Swados**  
Costume Design by **Gabriel Berry**  
Original Set Design by **Jun Maeda**

**The Trojan Women Project Festival**  
Over the course of five years, The Trojan Women Project has brought La MaMa's production of *The Trojan Women*, originally produced by La MaMa's Founder Ellen Stewart, to areas of recent or ongoing conflict as a tool for community-building and cultural exchange. Artists in Cambodia, Guatemala, and Kosovo learned the piece as it was historically taught – through oral tradition – and performed local productions in their own countries. The Trojan Women Project Festival unites Albanian, American, Cambodian, Guatemalan, Mayan, Roma, and Serbian artists to perform a new production of *The Trojan Women*.

## THE TROJAN WOMEN

\* December 6 - 15, 2019 \*  
**Ellen Stewart Theatre, 66 East 4th Street**  
Tickets: \$20 - \$35

As the centerpiece of The Trojan Women Project Festival, artists from three different countries will join the Great Jones Rep and director Andrei Serban to stage a bold new production of *The Trojan Women*, with themes of war, displacement, and violence against women and children that remain strikingly relevant today. Original music composed by Elizabeth Swados.

## THE FESTIVAL OPENING CEREMONY

\* December 5, 2019 - 4:00pm \*  
**La MaMa Archives, 66 East 4th Street**  
*Free Event - Reservation required*  
The festival begins with a ceremony, song, remarks, and a tour of the Archives.

## COFFEEHOUSE #156: THE WOMEN OF TROJAN WOMEN

\* December 7, 2019 - 3:00pm \*  
**Ellen Stewart Theatre, 66 East 4th Street**  
Tickets: \$5 - \$10  
Moderated by Anne Bogart, a panel featuring multiple generations of female artists who have performed in *The Trojan Women*.

## THE FESTIVAL MUSIC JAM

\* December 7, 2019 - 9:00pm \*  
**Ellen Stewart Theatre, 66 East 4th Street**  
Tickets: \$15  
Performed by Bill Ruyle and musicians from all over the world.

## KIDS WORKSHOP

\* December 8, 2019 - 12:00pm \*  
**Ellen Stewart Theatre, 66 East 4th Street**  
Tickets: \$10 - Ages: 6 to 11  
A workshop with festival artists.

## PANEL DISCUSSION AT CULTUREHUB

\* December 9, 2019 - 11:00am \*  
**CultureHub Studio, 47 Great Jones, 3rd floor**  
*Free Event - Reservation required*  
Artists in Conversation: Project collaborators from around the world interact through live-feed, share their process, tell stories, and discuss how they collaborate locally and globally.

## TROJAN WOMEN PROJECT WORKSHOPS

\* December 9, 2019 - 2:00pm & 3:30pm \*  
**47 Great Jones**  
\* December 14, 2019 - 3:00pm \*  
**Ellen Stewart Theatre, 66 East 4th Street**  
Tickets: \$10 - \$20  
Master classes led by The Trojan Women Project Festival company members - drawing on our traditions and exploring new forms.

## THE INTERNATIONAL COMPANY SHOW

\* December 10, 2019 - 7:00pm \*  
\* December 13, 2019 - 9:00pm \*  
**Ellen Stewart Theatre, 66 East 4th Street**  
Tickets: \$20  
A mix of pieces created by the festival company.

## PANEL DISCUSSION WITH ARTISTS FROM THE TROJAN WOMEN PROJECT

\* December 14, 2019 - 12:00pm \*  
**Ellen Stewart Theatre, 66 East 4th Street**  
Tickets: \$10  
Moderated by Charlotte Brathwaite. A conversation celebrating the work in Guatemala, Cambodia and Kosovo over the past five years. There will be video live feed technology at this panel.

**Mixed Media Exhibit** featuring Oana Maria Cajal, Charley Haywood, and selected photos from La MaMa's Archives

## The Trojan Women Project Team:

Festival Director - **Kim Ima**  
Project Director - **Onni Johnson**  
Musical Director - **Bill Ruyle**  
Assistant Musical Director - **Sara Galassini**  
Director of Training - **George Drance**  
Director of Community Outreach - **Maud Dinand**

**CultureHub** is a global art and technology community founded by La MaMa and the Seoul Institute of the Arts.

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*Major funding for the festival and the Trojan Women Project comes from Helen Kent-Nicoll and The Nicoll Family Fund.*

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# LA MAMA



## RESTORE A BUILDING REMAKE A WORLD



*Rendering: 74 East 4th St.*

La MaMa's historic, landmark building at 74 East 4th Street is undergoing an urgently needed complete renovation and restoration to preserve the historic façade, create building-wide ADA accessibility, and provide much needed performance, exhibition and community space for decades to come.

La MaMa, founded by Ellen Stewart in 1961, has been on east 4th Street since 1967. La MaMa embraces every person in its community and is legendary as the place where new artists of all nations, cultures, races, and identities are given opportunities. It is the place where art begins.

To learn more about the renovation, or to make a donation please visit [www.lamama.org/remakeaworld](http://www.lamama.org/remakeaworld)

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La MaMa is deeply grateful to all of our friends and supporters, whose generosity provides vital resources to our artists and diverse programming to our audiences. You can donate online at [lamama.org](http://lamama.org) or send a check to La MaMa at 66 East 4th Street, New York, NY 10003.

**July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019**

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VISIT [LAMAMA.ORG](http://LAMAMA.ORG) OR CALL 212-352-3101

## **NOW PLAYING**

### **The Trojan Women Project Festival**

December 5 - 15, 2019  
Ellen Stewart Theatre

### **Indian Market and Social**

December 6 - 8, 2019  
The Downstairs

### **Where Are We Now**

Dec 11 - 21, 2019  
The Downstairs

### **Play Reading**

### **Xandra Nur Clark: "Everything You're Told"**

December 12, 2019  
La Galleria  
47 Great Jones

### **GAZ**

December 19 - 22, 2019  
Ellen Stewart Theatre

## **COMING SOON**

### **Koliada Winter Songs**

December 21, 2019  
Ellen Stewart Theatre

### **La MaMa Kids Winter Wonderland**

December 22, 2019  
The Downstairs

### **Christmas in Nickyland**

Dec 22, 2019  
The Downstairs

### **Nick Payne's Constellations**

Jan 9 - 12, 2020  
Ellen Stewart Theatre

### **AMAL**

Jan 9 - 10, 2020  
The Downstairs

### **Cezary Goes to War**

Jan 16 - 19, 2020  
Ellen Stewart Theatre