

QPAC PRESENTS  
A MYTHS MADE HERE PRODUCTION

# MEDEA

BY KATE MULVANY & ANNE-LOUISE SARKS  
ORIGINAL CONCEPT BY ANNE-LOUISE SARKS AFTER EURIPIDES



Sometimes tragedy is child's play.



CREMORNE THEATRE, QPAC  
28 APR - 09 MAY 2020

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# CASTING BRIEF

WANT TO KNOW MORE? CONTACT US AT [HELLO@MYTHSMADHERE.COM](mailto:HELLO@MYTHSMADHERE.COM)

## ABOUT MEDEA

Locked in their bedroom, two brothers play games to pass the time. They fight, they laugh, they jump up and down, they play dead...all under the watchful gaze of goldfish Cornelius, Hercules the teddy bear and a ceiling covered in glow-in-the-dark stars.

Downstairs, their parents are embroiled in a bitter feud. As the shouting gets louder, the small confines of their bedroom will no longer be able to protect the boys from the violence of the outside world. At some point in the next hour, their iconic fate, at the hands of their mother, will ensure that they enter mythology as two of the most tragic siblings of all time.

Told entirely from the perspective of Medea's young sons, this internationally celebrated work by acclaimed Australian theatre-makers Anne-Louise Sarkis (*Enemy of the People, Blasted*) and Kate Mulvany (*Jasper Jones, The Harp In The South*), comes to Brisbane after sell-out seasons in Sydney, London and Europe in a production helmed by award-winning director Daniel Evans (*Cinderella, I've Been Meaning To Ask You*).

## SEEKING

**FOUR YOUNG MALE ACTORS\***. *MEDEA* will feature two casts comprised of two boys each who alternate each night of the performance season. Performers of cultural and diverse backgrounds are encouraged to apply.

**JASPER** | Younger brother | Playing Age: 8 -10 [Actor might be older but pass as 8 - 10]

**LEON** | Older brother | Playing Age: 10 -12 [Actor might be older but pass as 10 - 12]

Must have a strong and confident stage presence. The ability to play / make-believe is vital as the world is set in the young boys bedroom where they will engage each other in various games, stories and activities over the course of a single evening.

Actors will be onstage for approximately 70 minutes. Previous acting work a plus but not necessary.

## CASTING

Initial casting is via self-tape, followed by in-person callbacks. Audition pieces are attached below with a self-tape guide for **JASPER** and **LEON**.

### JASPER/ LEON

Send tape to [hello@mythsmadehere.com](mailto:hello@mythsmadehere.com) via [www.WeTransfer.com](http://www.WeTransfer.com) by COB February 7, 2020.

## PROJECT INFORMATION

**Rehearsals Start:** February 29 2020 and will be conducted part-time with a 2 week intensive beginning on April 6 2020. This schedule will be confirmed once all roles have been cast.

**Performance Dates:** April 28 – May 9 2020

**Fee:** Final Fee (the fee is in line with the Performers Collective Agreement or PCA) will be offered before the acceptance of any role.

## ABOUT MYTHS MADE HERE

We believe in a good story, well told.

We believe a good story has something to say about the world at large, something to declare - loudly or quietly - about what it's like to be right here, right now.

We might spin you something from the ancient archives, blow some dust off a classic or fire-up the canon to create something explosive.

From Greek to Grimm, Shakespeare to Sci-Fi - we (re)tell stories to create new mythologies to help us find a little gravity on increasingly shaky ground.

We're here to contest the past and fortify the future.

We are **MYTHS MADE HERE**.

**MYTHS MADE HERE** is a party of five Queensland-based collaborators whose collective experience spans from theatres to festivals, film to education. We pride ourselves on creating contemporary and robust text-based theatrical experiences. We are Annette Box, Daniel Evans, Tara Hobbs, Amy Ingram and Thomas Larkin.

# JASPER & LEON

# SELF-TAPE GUIDE

We are accepting self-tapes for all roles in MEDEA. Based off these videos we will conduct final callbacks in person. Please read through carefully before filming your audition. Please DO NOT post your audition on YouTube, social media or anywhere else!

Your application should include **three elements** and be sent to us as **three separate video files** to our email: [hello@mythsmadehere.com](mailto:hello@mythsmadehere.com) via [www.WeTransfer.com](http://www.WeTransfer.com)

## 1 | Audition Scene

Please feel free to choose either Jasper or Leon's audition scenes attached to record.

## 2 | Story

Tell us about something funny that's happened to you ... or your favourite joke! Max: 2 - 3 minutes.

## 3 | Identification Shot

Please film a full-body shot and provide your name, height, age, and agent (if you have one). Please also mention if you have any experience with musical instruments.

## TECHNICAL NOTES & TIPS

- ◆ **Shoot:** Keep it simple. Shoot with enough light so we can clearly see your face. Stationary is best, to focus on your face. A phone is fine to use. Ideally, the camera/phone should sit on a tripod to maintain a steady image. If not, try and put the camera/phone on a stable surface.
- ◆ **Framing:** A 'medium to wide' shot is best (top of your head to just below your waist with just a small amount of space above head). It should be shot in landscape.
- ◆ **Lighting and Sound:** Natural light is best. Make sure the main light sources come from BEHIND camera (to see your face most clearly).
- ◆ **Record** a test clip and see how it looks and sounds before taping the scene that you will send to us.
- ◆ **Reader:** Have someone read the lines of the other character off camera. They should stand next to the camera. Your reader should not appear with you on camera. Do not look at the camera! Your eye line should not be at the camera lens, but just slightly off (to the right or left of the lens i.e. looking at your reader). Please only read lines of the other character (no need to read stage directions).
- ◆ **Your delivery:** Learn the lines beforehand. Pretend the camera isn't there. The scene should be performed in your normal accent. It should feel effortless, like you're in a real conversation.
- ◆ **Active Listening:** A crucial part is how you "take in" what happens around you in the scene. Listen to whoever is reading the other lines. How does it make you feel? How does it affect you? Acting, like life, is a mutual connection. You don't need to talk to communicate. We also communicate when we listen.
- ◆ Most importantly – you should **have fun!**

# JASPER AUDITION PIECE

*JASPER goes to the fish bowl.*

*After a while, he speaks to Cornelius and Jay Jr.*

JASPER Would you two like to hear a story?

*He mimes the fish speaking.*

"Yes, please."

*He speaks to LEON.*

Tell the story, Leon!

*LEON ignores him.*

Leon! Your fish would like to hear the story.

*Nothing. LEON keeps listening to his music.*

*[To Cornelius]* Cornelius, I'm afraid you have a terrible parent. You can eavesdrop while I tell Jay Jr the story. I don't mind.

*He clears his throat.*

Once upon a time there was a brave and handsome man called . . . Dad.

Dad wanted this thing called the Golden Fleece . . .

*Beat.*

Leon! Why did Dad want a sheepskin?

LEON Cos it's golden. And if you have it, you live forever. Apparently.

JASPER Cool. And Dad had to go to a faraway island to get it. So he took some of his mates on a boat called . . .

Leon! What was the boat called again?

LEON The Argo.

JASPER The Argo. And from that time on, Dad and his merry men were known as . . .

Leon! What were they called again?

LEON The Argonauts.

JASPER The Argonauts. And one day they came to this deserted island where the Golden Fleece was protected by a huge army.

LEON This story is boring, Jasper.

JASPER No, it's not. It's our story!

LEON OK. So then the Argonauts were in deep shit.

JASPER Um-ah.

LEON I said SHIP! The Argonauts were in a deep SHIP. And Mum lived on the island too. And she said, "I will tell you how to conquer the army if you promise to take me away from this land and make me your wife." Cos she hated where she lived.

JASPER Why?

LEON She didn't get on with her Dad.

JASPER Why not?

LEON She was naughty.

JASPER What'd she do?

LEON She never says. But I reckon it was pretty bad.

JASPER Did she break something of Grandad's?

LEON Worse, I reckon.

JASPER Did she smoke a cigarette?

LEON I reckon it was even worse than smoking.

JASPER Wow. And she loved Dad. She wanted to be with him.

LEON She hated where she lived AND she loved Dad.

JASPER And he loved her. So it was a win-win.

LEON And Mum said, "I will tell you how to conquer the army if you promise to take me away from this land and make me your wife."

JASPER "Because I love you, darling."

LEON "Because I love you, darling."

JASPER And then Dad said, "I love you too and of course I'll take you back with me, sweetheart." And so Mum helped Dad and the Arthurnauts get the Golden Fleece and he took Mum back with him to his home because they loved each other and they became really famous and they had two kids - me and you.

**A beat.**

And where do our fish come into it?

# LEON

## AUDITION PIECE

LEON That's not true. Dad loves you. He loves both of us.

JASPER Then where is he?

LEON He's coming. Dad's friend will love the present and then he'll come and get us and we'll all move into the mansion and everything's going to be fine.

***Silence.***

And even if things aren't fine, you know what? The best thing about having a big brother is that big brothers have a responsibility to their little brothers to take care of them always. Forever. So even when we're really old - like, in our thirties - I'll still take care of you. Because I love you. And I love being your big brother.

***LEON gets a luminescent star out of his bedside drawer.***

Here. Have a star.

JASPER Really?

LEON Add it to the galaxy.

JASPER Awesome!

***LEON turns off the light.***

***The stage is lunged into blackness, but a huge galaxy of stars is revealed across the space.***

***Their voices float out from the dark.***

Leon, when you look up at the stars, do you think you're on earth or on another planet?

LEON Neither. I think I'm just floating. Just floating through space and time.

JASPER Like an astronaut?

LEON Kind of. But without the suit. Just me. Like this.

JASPER And what else?

LEON And it's quiet. And still. And peaceful. And I just . . . give in to it all. Because it's so much bigger than me.

You know that, Jasper? You may think you're really little, but really, we're all really, really little.

Even Dad.

We're just . . . specks. Specks of specks. And that may sound scary, but it's not, really.

It's kind of comforting.