



ADELAIDE FESTIVAL

28 FEB - 15 MAR 2020



THEATRE / AUSTRALIA

The Iliad Out Loud

Adapted by William Zappa after Homer

14-15 March 2020
SCOTT THEATRE

Duration In three parts, each of three hours duration including intervals.

Presenting Partner



#AdIFest
adelaidefestival.com.au

Adaption by William Zappa
Director William Zappa
Assistant Director Damien Ryan
Set and costume design Mel Liertz
Lighting design Matt Cox
Production and Stage Manager Farlie Goodwin
Adaption Mentor and Editor Emeritus Professor Elizabeth Minchin FAHA
Producer Leigh Small
Associate Producer Farlie Godwin
Costumes by Jac and Jack

Actors Heather Mitchell, Blazey Best, Socratis Otto and William Zappa
Percussion Michael Askill
Oud Hamed Sadeghi

Premiere Production for Sydney Festival and Co-Produced by Sport for Jove. The Iliad – Out Loud is supported by Creative Partnerships Australia through MATCH Lab.

ABOUT THE SHOW

The Iliad is the first great story of the Western tradition – a monument to the glory and futility of war. It tells the story of 40 days in the 10th and final year of the Trojan War. At its heart, it follows a single theme, the fury of Achilles, who is immobilised by pride and honour and never lifts a weapon for 20 of the 24 books. This adaptation brings the story back to its original oral tradition, when it was spoken (sung) over 15 hours.

This adaptation by William Zappa after Homer, has been 7 years in the making. Zappa has researched 17 translations, travelled far and wide, testing the work. Homer came from a tradition of professional guilds of storytelling, the words were meant to be heard. So now with the start originally a commissioned radio drama, the four actors devote themselves to the storytelling with their voice their primary instrument but delivered as if a staged reading with script in hand, moving in and out of the central sand circle.

Each book unfolds like a TV serial, with episodic recaps of the story so far: from Homer's filmic forensic view of the battlefield to the Gods' ultimate lack of care or control over fate. It's an epic tale told with unflinching tenderness and flashes of bleak humour from the Gods.

Part 1: The Quarrel. Arrogance and Pride. Meddling Gods. Two Mighty Forces. The Husband, The Wife, The Cause. What You Get Is War.

Part 2: A Hero Is Made. Tenderness and Love. Fighting and Truce. Heavenly Conflict. Plea and Rejection. Bitter Losses.

Part 3: Storming the Ships. Heavenly Tricks. Glory and Death. The Shield. Despair Brings Amends. Gods and Fate. A Father Begs.



**WILLIAM
ZAPPA**

Actor, director and playwright, William Zappa, ("Half Greek, half English, all Australian") has a career which has crossed continents and spanned five decades of elite performances in film, television, and theatre.



**HEATHER
MITCHELL**

One of Australia's most respected actresses across film, television and theatre. She is best known as the lead actress in the 1990s television show *Spellbinder*.



**BLAZEJ
BEST**

Actress and character voice talent with over ten years' experience in theatre, film, television and radio dramas. Her career in the recording studio began at age three.



**SOCRATIS
OTTO**

Perhaps best known to audiences as Maxine Conway in *Wentworth*, this versatile actor has appeared in a variety of roles across film, television and theatre.