

fringe

PRESS RELEASE

The Morton Players (Guildford High School) **Medea**

by Euripides, adapted by Ben Hales and Mal Smith for Splendid Productions



'What's the worst thing you've ever done?'

Medea has sacrificed everything for Jason: helping him to steal the Golden Fleece from her father, leaving her homeland and shunning her heritage, and bearing her lover two sons. So, when he reveals that he is to marry Glauke, a Colchean princess, Medea enacts revenge in the most brutal of manners...

In Splendid's highly Brechtian reworking of this infamous tale, a group of gregarious grans on a mini-break to Greece bring a modern twist to the Greek tragedy, **Medea**. This darkly comic interpretation intersperses the original narrative with songs, physical theatre and choral movement, placing the audience at the heart of the action, in which the chirpy chorus of grandmothers presents the tale of deep passion, heart-breaking portrayal, and bitter revenge. The episodic structure is brought to life through physical theatre, coupled with minimalistic but evocative props, and a contemporary and quirky soundtrack.

Performed by an ensemble cast of five talented sixth formers, this piece is a slick, energetic and highly physicalised adaptation of the Greek tragedy. Audiences will be taken on a journey back in time to ancient Greece, and confronted with the question: is **Medea** truly the vicious monster that she has been portrayed to be throughout history, or is she, too, a victim?

The Morton Players is a company formed of A-Level Drama and Theatre Studies students from Guildford High School. The school has facilitated the talent of some of the UK's leading young playwrights, including Ella Hickson and Lucy Prebble. Hickson's first play, *Eight*, won a **Fringe First** award, as well as the **Carol Tambor Best of Edinburgh** award. This gave way to many successful plays staged in London's top theatres, most recently *The Writer* at the Almeida Theatre, and *Anna* at the National Theatre. The Morton Players regularly performs at the Fringe, with their last appearance of *Girls Like That* in 2017.

'The Morton Players deliver a performance which is undoubtedly stylised and imaginative' ★★★★★ James Hanton, The Student Newspaper on Girls Like That

@mortonplayers

Note to editors

The Morton Players will also be performing *Antigone* at C cubed from 3-10 August at 15:45

Listings Information

Venue	C cubed, Brodie's Close, Lawnmarket, EH1 2PS, venue 50
Dates	3-10 Aug
Time	15:45 (1hr00)
Ticket prices	£7.50-£9.50 / concessions £5.50-£7.50 / under 18s £3.50-£5.50
C venues box office	0131 581 5555 / www.CtheFestival.com/2019/medea
Fringe box office	0131 226 0000 / www.edfringe.com

For further information, images and interview availability please contact Ashley Fenton at The Morton Players (Guildford High School) on 07801 063909 / ashley.fenton@guildfordhigh.co.uk

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