Director's Note

The Trojan Women by Euripides (415 BC) from which Women of Troy is adapted is the first anti-war play written. It presents a powerful portrayal of the enduring strength and resilience of survivors in the face of unimaginable tragedy. Their voices echo through the ages offering a poignant commentary on the human cost of war and the suffering, yet resilient spirit of those who endure its aftermath. Its message continues to resonate today as we witness the atrocities of war in the world around us.

We hope this performance brings empathy towards those experiencing the aftermath of war and helps to recognize the humanity of people who are no different than us wherever they are in the world. We all know the feelings of love, loss, grief, and resilience. "Only a person with no heart can watch and be unmoved." -Poseidon

Note about the Greek Chorus: In Women of Troy each woman represents a different stage of grief (shock, denial, fear, depression, anger, guilt, bargaining, acceptance) culminating at the end of the show where they are united in grief.

Note about the Costume Design: The Greek Chorus is designed to be like the caryatid statues on the Parthenon - they become one with the set throughout the show. The women represent Troy. The colors used for their costumes are intentional. Hecuba, the Queen of Troy, is in a slightly darker color than the women, but coordinates with them to differentiate her role as Queen though they are all Trojan. Hecuba's journey is realizing she is actually no different than the women who have lost their loved ones. Cassandra, Hecuba's daughter, is in bridal white to represent her purity and innocence, and her new future as a bride to Agamemnon. Andromache, Hecuba's daughter-in-law and a young mother, is in a soft, sympathetic blue as her story is one of the most tragic. Helen is in a deep red symbolizing power, bloodshed, seduction and manipulation.

Note about the Set Design: The set was built and designed in the typical style of Ancient Greece. The columns were individually carved by the cast and crew then stacked with a dowel through the center connecting and stabilizing the columns. The ramp represents a wedding aisle, a funeral procession, and a plank of a ship.

Note about the Music: Greek composer Eleni Karaindrou composed the music for a production of *The Trojan Women* in Greece in 2001.

Special Thanks

Roger Skophammer, Laura Schmit, Jenna Clements, Brian Ohnsorg, Theresa Bisek, Judy Plekkenpol, Jeffrey Wills, Jane Howard, Jana Miller, Children's Fantasy Theatre, the JTC custodial staff, and the many volunteers who support our program.

Cast

Poseidon Sam DeToffol Hazel Collins Hecuba **Talthybius** Hogan Vaupel Cassandra Amelia Busse Andromache Zoev Edeburn Sorin Czoschke Menelaus Helen Gahi Stockton Nick Padden Guard Guard Sam DeToffol

Creative Team

Director Gaby Schmit
Costume Designer Laurie Clements
Set Designer Joe Coldwell
Set Builder Mark Borchardt

The Women

Tina Bagheri, Holleigh Stockton, Morgan Ringer, Olivia Heisel, Kerris Vaupel, Ava Lawler, Greta Hogrefe, Emma Kashmark

Understudies

Poseidon Sorin Czoschke
Hecuba Ava Lawler
Talthybius Nick Padden
Cassandra Holleigh Stockton
Andromache Tina Bagheri
Menelaus Sam DeToffol

Helen

Women

Emma Kashmark Morgan Ringer, Olivia Heisel, Kerris Vaupel, Greta Hogrefe

Tech Crew

Stage Manager Abby Bowman, Dena Diggins **Lighting Tech** Leo Catalano, Dena Diggins

Music Tech Abby Bowman
Costume Tech Juliet Klapak

Music by Greek composer
Eleni Karaindrou

Synopsis of Scenes

The play focuses on the fates of the women who survived the Trojan War and are now captives of the Greeks. The story revolves around the suffering and grief of these women as they cope with the loss of their city, loved ones, and freedom.

Poseidon - The God of the Sea; he built the walls of Troy
Hecuba - The Queen of Troy; mother to Cassandra, mother- in -law to Andromache.
Husband, sons, daughters killed in the war.

Cassandra - Daughter of Hecuba. Cursed with the gift of prophecy & no one believes her.

Andromache - Wife of Trojan hero & Prince Hector (Hecuba's son). Mother to Astyanax.

Talthybius - A Greek soldier who serves as a messenger in the Trojan War.

Helen - The most beautiful woman in the world. Married to Menelaus, eloped/taken by Trojan Prince Paris (Hecuba's son). The cause of the Trojan War.

Menelaus - King of Sparta, Married to Helen. Served under his brother Agamemnon with the Greek army.

Greek Chorus - In ancient Greek drama they serve several purposes, including providing background information, offering commentary on the actions and events of the play, and representing the voice of the community or society. They also helped to set the overall mood and atmosphere of the performance.













