# 2017

### **Event**

### "Women and the Sea"

Saturday 12/08/17 @ 21:00 - The Open Air Theatre, Horto



#### Women and the Sea

An evening dedicated to the battle between women and sea, to the anticipation of their beloveds, to yearning and grief.



**Forever** – a short film by Nikos Mandarakas

Director: Nikos Mandarakas



**Riders to the Sea** – an opera by Ralph Vaughan Williams based on the homonymous play by John Millington Synge (in English with Greek subtitles)





Stage Director, Set Design, Costumes, Subtitles:

Antigoni Gaitana

Music Director, Piano: Christos Marinos

Chorus Director: Nikos Adraskelas

Set Creator: Yiannis Koniordos

Lights: Salahas SPL

Maurya: Marimel Ghrissi

Cathleen: Eleni Komni

Nora: Annie Fassea

Bartley: Marios Nizamis

Women's Chorus of Horto seminars



### FOREVER - a short film

by Nikos Mandarakas

(in Greek with English subtitles)

### Andros Island, 1970.

Eudokia is newlywed and dreaming of her new life by the side of her husband and the child she is bearing. Leonidas is a seaman who soon after their wedding embarks on a trip, working in a metallic vessel which keeps their love trapped. The promises and the dreams are becoming distant as the time is passing by and Eudokia has to face life all alone. She is now 68 years old. Forty years after her wedding she is revisiting and re-evaluating her past through letters and photographs. The conflict with her youth and the promises for eternal love bring her serenity.

http://giapantathefilm.tumblr.com/



## RIDERS TO THE SEA – an opera by Ralph Vaughan Williams based on the homonymous play by John Millington Synge

(in English with Greek subtitles)

### Aran Islands, Ireland 1900's.

Maurya has already lost four sons, her husband and father-in-law to the sea, while her fifth son has gone missing. She and her two daughters live in a poor village house, like all houses are at the Aran Islands. Her sixth son is leaving too in spite of his mother's plea. Traditional lamentation meets tragedy in this masterpiece by Vaughan Williams and Synge.



### **BIOS**

### **Nikos Mandarakas**

Nikos Mandarakas was born in 1976 in Athens. He was already an electric engineer when he decided to study Cinematography at New York College of Athens, where he graduated from the Film Studies department. Following that, he received a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Greenwich.

He has worked on numerous theatrical productions filming them and creating trailers for the TV and the internet. His collaborations include: Theatre of Neos Kosmos, Theatre PK, Theatre Vretania, Theatre Stathmos, Theatre of Kefallinia Street, and video-clips for LocoMondo, Michalis Hatzigiannis, and Natassa Bofiliou. His most recent creation is his first short film "Forever", which has participated in international festivals and has already received 9 Golden Awards.

### Antigoni Gaitana (www.antigonigaitana.com)

Antigoni Gaitana is an opera dramaturg, director and classical singer. She is especially fascinated by storytelling and interacting with the audience through writing, directing, and participating in recitals. As a dramaturg she has collaborated with important music institutions in New York (New York University, The Mannes Opera, Manhattan School of Music, National Sawdust), festivals (Opera Saratoga, Prototype, Time's Arrow) and opera companies (Cantanti Project, Dell'arte Opera, Regina Opera). Her debut as a director took place in 2016 in New York with Handel's Alcina. She also writes theatre and opera reviews for the online magazines NY Theatre Guide and The Theatre Times.

Antigoni graduated with a bachelor's degree in Theatre Studies from the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, and received her Diploma in Vocal Performance from the Athenaeum Conservatory (studio of Marina Krilovici). Later, she studied privately with soprano Irini Tsirakidis, and in 2012 she moved to New York where she continued her studies as a classical singer at Hunter College graduating with a master's degree. She has participated in the seminars "Essence and Origins of Musical Interpretation" with George Hadjinikos, in masterclasses with Roger Malouf, William Vendice, Jane Marsh and Spyros Sakkas, as well as in acting workshops with Kostas Philippoglou, Giorgos Symeonidis, and Eleni Georgopoulou.

### Christos Marinos (www.christosmarinos.com)

Greek pianist and vocal coach Christos Marinos has appeared in collaborative piano recitals and piano duo concerts in London, Vienna, Innsbruck, New York, Athens and other cities in The Netherlands, the U.K., Austria and Greece. He was member of the piano duo Duo Vivo for six years, and often gave European and world premieres of works written especially for them. Christos's passion for music is not limited to performing. He plays for the studios of Metropolitan Opera singers and has played for private coachings at the Lindemann Young Artist Development Program. He loves working with singers, writing articles, translating books on music, exploring and performing lesser-known art songs, collaborating with summer festivals, music directing, giving lecture-recitals, and working as a music researcher. He is passionate about Greek Art Music, and his goal and current research project is to present the vast and undiscovered world of Greek Art Song to singers and pianists, as well as to audiences, in the United States.

Christos holds diplomas in Piano Performance, Tonal Harmony, Baroque and Renaissance Counterpoint from Conservatories in Athens. He received the Recital Certificate in Piano Performance with honors from the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, and the Master of Music (M.Mus.) Degree in Collaborative Piano from New York University (studio of Grant Wenaus). In addition, he has taken cello, voice and conducting lessons in Greece. Very significant to his development was his association with pianist, conductor, pedagogue and author George Hadjinikos (1923-2015), with whom he studied privately for ten years. He was curator of the Jani Christou Archive for ten years, participates as a vocal coach, performer and curator at the Horto Summer Festival in Greece, and is a basic contributor at the Archive of Greek Classical Composers. He has worked as adjunct instructor in piano studies at New York University, and is currently staff accompanist at the same school.

