

Thursday, March 29, 2012

Galt MacDermot's GODDESS WHEEL to Premiere at Wagner College, 4/18-29

On April 18, the Wagner College Theatre will premiere "Goddess Wheel," a new musical by "Hair" composer Galt MacDermot, with book and lyrics by Matty Selman. The show, which runs through April 29, will be staged in the Music Hall at Staten Island's Snug Harbor Cultural Center.

"Goddess Wheel" is directed by Rusty Curcio, WCT's Head of Dance. James Higgins serves as music director. The pit band will be MacDermot's renowned New Pulse Jazz Band.

Inspired by "Lysistrata," Aristophanes' 5th century B.C. Greek comedy, "Goddess Wheel" tells the story of the Peloponnesian War between Sparta and Athens. The women, fed up with the war, decide to withhold sex until the men sign a peace treaty bringing the war to an end.

"This has been a glorious process with the two of them," Rusty Curcio said of working with MacDermot and Selman. "They are two of the most gracious creators I've ever worked with."

The large cast of 34 includes seniors Danielle Dallacco as Lysistrata; Leighann Colin as Penelope/Persephone; Ilana Bolotsky as Young Widow; Tara Kirk and Ashley Burger as Women of Sparta; Caroline LaTorre, Heather Kirschenbauer and Erica Weiderlight as Goddesses; Matt Sydney as the Chancellor; Ryan Cole as the Spartan Envoy/Soldier Ghost; and Andrew Khouri and Matt Favetta as Men of Athens. John Jamiel, Head of Acting at Wagner, plays Oracle/Hates. Many of Wagner College's athletes are also featured in the production as Spartans.

"Goddess Wheel" is being staged by the Wagner College Theatre at the Music Hall on the campus of the Snug Harbor Cultural Center, 1000 Richmond Terrace, Staten Island. The show runs Wednesday through Saturday at 8 p.m. from April 18 through April 28, with a 2 p.m. matinee on Saturdays, and a Sunday show at 2 p.m. on April 29.

For tickets, visit or call the Box Office at 718-390-3259.

Note that, for security purposes, Wagner College Theatre does not accept any payments or orders via email. Also note that, due to the ongoing restoration of Main Hall, the Box Office is temporarily located in Reynolds House.