

***Lysistrata* Marketing Pack**

Information about the play

Nationally acclaimed **aod** are back on the road this autumn with their unique take on Greek Drama and their first full length, no holds barred, comedy - *Lysistrata*. (*Let nothing stop you from seeing them*, The Times). Follow our heroine, Lysistrata and the women of Greece in their bawdy crusade to deny their men sex in order to stop a bloody war. As tensions mount - frustrations erupt.....and phalluses reach bursting point! See who wins and if peace is restored, in this thought provoking, riotous and irreverent re-telling of Aristophanes' masterpiece.

Directed by Mitch Mitchelson of Circus Space and performed using David Stuttard's hard hitting and muscular adaptation this promises to be an infectious evening of chaos, naughtiness and absurdity...and more than a little bit of razor sharp satire too! (126)

A festive fantasy that still speaks to us today, where a recent war and invasion has come under public scrutiny. (146)

Concise Synopsis

The play follows the heroine, Lysistrata, as she gathers females on a bawdy crusade to deny their men-folk sex in order to halt a Grecian Civil War. As the women flaunt their sexuality the men are driven to bursting point and a number of battles between the sexes ensue. But as all is fair in love and war, when the men finally declare peace the women join them in revelry.

Running Time – approx 80 mins

Age recommendation – 16+

Educational tie ins -The production ties in with the Edexcel GCE 'A' level Theatre syllabus and as such will offer a huge resource to schools and

college. **aod** will be running workshops in conjunction with the show that can be tailor made to suit students of both classics and drama.

DVD: **aod** plan to film and edit the production as an educational resource for schools during the tour.

Please access our website to find out more information about **aod** and Lysistrata. www.actorsofdionysus.com

Suggested Brochure Copy

120 words

Nationally acclaimed **aod** are back on the road this Autumn with their unique take on Greek drama and their first full length, no holds barred comedy, *Lysistrata*. Follow our heroine, Lysistrata, and the women of Greece in their (not always heartfelt!) battle to deny their men sex in order to stop a bloody war. As tensions mount, frustrations erupt, and phalluses reach bursting point see who wins and if peace is restored in this high octane, hugely enjoyable and absurdist version of Aristophanes' masterpiece.

Featuring a strong creative line up including Mitch Mitchelson, Director (Circus Space) and Lucy Bradridge, Designer (Spymonkey) the evening promises to be both hilarious & provocative.

Let nothing stop you from seeing them, The Times
www.actorsofdionysus.com

40 words

Riotous, irreverent and even a little naughty

A modern re-telling of Aristophanes' masterpiece, *Lysistrata*, promises to be an absurd laugh out loud romp as **aod** bring the battle of the sexes to a stunning climax.

www.actorsofdionysus.com

50 words

Riotous, irreverent and even a little naughty

A modern re-telling of Aristophanes' masterpiece, *Lysistrata* promises to be an absurd laugh out loud romp as **aod** bring the battle of the sexes to a stunning climax. Combining physical theatre, slapstick and circus, the show displays human nature in its entirety.

www.actorsofdionysus.com

60 words

Riotous, irreverent and even a little naughty

A modern re-telling of Aristophanes' masterpiece, *Lysistrata*, promises to be an absurd laugh out loud romp. In just under an hour and a half, **aod** manages to bring the battle of the sexes to a stunning climax. Combining

physical theatre, slapstick and circus elements, the show displays human nature in its entirety

www.actorsofdionysus.com

Past Reviews

A superb performance, bringing the text to vivid contemporary life. I urge you to see it'

(Edinburgh Guide, Bacchic)

'Outstanding, exquisite, inventive and seamless. Crisp, delicate and layered – this is a rare piece of theatre'

(The Stage : 'MUST SEE', Bacchic)

Gripping stuff, as sharp as steel and wholly accessible. Superb.

(The Stage, Oedipus)

Good performances all round, especially from Tamsin Shasha in the title role.

(Financial Times, Medea)

Tamsin Shasha gives an incredibly sexy performance.

(The Stage, Bacchae)

*A bold, visual, highly accessible, no-nonsense approach to the contemporary staging of classical texts has won [aod] an enviable reputation for making Greek tragedy seriously sexy. **(The Guardian)***

*"seriously special....spare, muscular....elegant pace and effective choreography" **(Chelmsford Weekly News)***

*They bring tears to the eyes and make the hair at the nape of the neck bristle... Let nothing stop you from seeing them. **(The Times)***

*Astonishingly tense and absorbing **(The Independent, Medea audio-book)***

*They make it very clear why the Greeks were so excited by these plays more than a millennium ago. **(Financial Times, Medea audio-book)***

This is an athletic, sensual, ritualistic staging. In language that is often highly poetic, the many layers of meaning in this ancient story are fully explored.

(Glasgow Herald)

*Stunning, absorbing, seductive magic. **(Aberdeen Press and Journal)***

*A strongly visual, almost cinematic experience, strong on sensuality and eroticism. **(Sheffield Telegraph)***

Actors of Dionysus company information

Making magic though myth.....creating work that resonates, inspires & provokes.

aod is unique in Britain as the only company to specialise in touring new adaptations of Ancient Greek Tragedy.

Through a fusion of poetry, dance, music and movement the company stages vivid, contemporary adaptations and modern versions of classical Greek plays - as fresh, vibrant and controversial as when they were first written.

aod has a commitment to producing high quality work that compels, inspires and provokes. Our aim is to push boundaries, challenge perceptions, foster collaborations and harness transformation with a mission to '*make magic from myth by creating beautiful work that transforms, resonates and inspires a wide range of audiences*'

Our new programme of work will reflect this by offering radical and exciting interpretations of ancient classics, new writing and adaptations. We will endeavour to encourage collaboration with emerging artists and experienced practitioners, and foster a creative exchange with culturally diverse artists and audiences.

aod was founded in 1993 since when it has toured 24 productions throughout the UK and Eire, broadcast recently on the Today programme on BBC Radio 4 (Economus Wrecked (18th May 2010) on BBC Radio 3, written and staged a new play with Channel 4 and the British Film Institute and released a recording of *Medea* worldwide with Penguin Audiobooks.

In addition to its stage work, **aod** has a strong educational outreach programme which includes publications, talks, workshops and summer schools. Books of essays on *Trojan Women*, *Agamemnon* and *Bacchae* are available from **aod** priced £8.99, as well as an new DVD of our *Oedipus production* (£22.50) and numerous essay booklets. Please see website for full list of educational publications and merchandise. Ours works and DVDs are sold worldwide.

Company Biographies

TAMSIN SHASHA - ARTISTIC DIRECTOR/PERFORMER/PRODUCER

Trained at Oxford School of Drama and L'Ecole Philippe Gaulier. **Artistic Director** and co-founder of **aod** (Actors of Dionysus) and has worked extensively for them as a performer, director, workshop teacher and movement coach. For **aod** she co-wrote, performed in and programmed the critically acclaimed solo show, *Bacchic*, which toured Nationally and Internationally. Also for **aod** she has collaborated with prominent practitioners such as Thea Barnes (former Artistic Director Phoenix Dance) on *Medea* 2002 and Marcello Magni on *Oedipus* 2003. For **aod** she directed *Oedipus* for a 9 week national tour) and *Trojan Women* in 2005. Other theatre credits include BandBazi's *Breakfast at Audrey's* and the Circus Project's *The Persian Cinderella* collaborating with John Binnie and Philippa Vafadari. She collaborated in 2008 with Theatralia, playing the part of Pannonica in *Misterioso* at Queen's Hall Assembly in Edinburgh and is currently appearing in *The Extraordinary Cabaret of Dorian Gray* at Leicester Square Theatre for Ruby in the Dust Theatre.

MITCH MITCHELSON – DIRECTOR

Mitch Mitchelson is a director, teacher actor, and circus practitioner. He has directed with companies as diverse as Graeae Theatre Company and Scarabeus, taught and directed at the leading Drama schools. He has developed workshops with the Royal Shakespeare Company and the National Theatre. He has run workshops in the U.S A, Hong Kong and extensively in Europe. He recently collaborated with the Turner Prize winner Jetemy Deller in the enactment of comedy routines on the beach of Folkestone for the Folkestone International Triennial Festival. He is currently Head of Performance for the Degree Programme at the Circus Space where he teaches, directs and develops independent projects that synthesise theatre and text, with circus.

MICK BARNFATHER – OUTSIDE EYE

Mick has been working in theatre as an actor, director and teacher for more than twenty years. He has been a member of **Theatre de Complicite** since 1986, appearing in six of their shows: *Food Stuff*, *Please Please Please*, *The Visit*, *The Three Lives Of Lucie Cabrol*, *The Chairs and Light*.

His other theatre includes *Mr. Puntilla And His Man Matti* with **The Right Size**, *The Dove* for the **Croydon Warehouse**, *Special Offer* at the Young Vic, *Trouble in Paradise* with the **Talking Pictures Theatre Co.** and *The End of the Tunnel* directed by **Philippe Gaulier**.

His Television credits include *Bramwell*, *Peak Practice*, *Between the Lines*, *Pie in the Sky*, *Peter and the Wolf*, *The Bill*, and *Burning Ambition* - a play written for the B.B.C. by Theatre de Complicite. I have also acted for radio and short films.

He has directed the first **Peepolykus** show *Let The Donkey Go* and before that he directed **David Sant** from this talented company in a one man show called *The Titanic, Mussolini and the Doctor*. His other directing credits include *Tin Moon* for **Hot House Theatre**, *Le Mort de Client* for **Told by an Idiot** and final direction on **Hoipolloi's Honest!**

During his career as an actor and director, he has always continued to teach theatre. He has worked at the **Commedia School** in Copenhagen where he taught Melodrama and Neutral Mask. He has taught Physicality in Performance at **RADA**, Clown at the **Central School of Speech and Drama** and Devising Theatre at both **Rose Bruford Drama School** and the **Manchester Metropolitan University**. He has also been a teacher at the **Philippe Gaulier School** where I taught Bouffon, Clown and Neutral Mask.

He is a regular teacher at the **Circus Space** in London, where he teaches Theatre Studies on the two-year circus course, and the **London School of Musical Theatre**, where he teaches Play, Improvisation and Mask Play. He has also taught Physical Theatre for some ten years for the **British American Drama Academy**. During this time he has also taught on the open Complicite workshop programs and given classes and courses in Hong Kong, Berlin, Hamburg, Finland, Sweden, Denmark, Switzerland and America. He also runs his own courses during August. For details of these please check the [workshops page](#).

LUCY BRADRIDGE – SET/COSTUME/PROPS DESIGNER AND MAKER

Lucy Bradridge studied English Literature at the University of Leeds and then Theatre Design at the Central School of Speech and Drama. Since 1998 her work as a Set, Props and Costume Designer has been mainly concerned with devised Comedy. She has worked extensively with the physical clown company Spymonkey designing set, props and costume for *Stiff*, *Cooped* and *Bless*, and did costume and props for their current show *Moby Dick*. Lucy has collaborated on numerous occasions with clown director Cal McCrystal. Design credits include *AutoBoosh* for the *Mighty Boosh*; clown costume design for *Cirque du Soleil's* *Vareki and Zumanity*; *Heroes* for *Company FZ*; *Moonjourney* by Alice Lowe and work with *Circus Space*. Television credits include *Orcadia*, a *Comedy Lab*, and *The Last Chancer's* a comedy series both for Channel 4. Film credits include *The Wild and Wycked World of Brian Jones*; *Out of Water* and *Queen Bee*. Lucy is currently designing set props and costume for *Rag Roof Theatre's* *Gloves* on an outdoor show about Amateur Boxing.

HENRY MAYNARD – PERFORMER/PUPPETEER/PHALLUS MAKER

Henry is an actor, physical performer and Puppeteer. He trained for three years in classical acting at the Mountview Academy of Theatre Arts, his recent theatre work includes: *Charrington '1984'* (Blind Summit) understudy Henry 'That Face' (Royal Court West End) 'Monologues' by Kenneth Emson (Latitude Festival) *MacDuff 'Macbeth'* (TheFaction)

Polixenies 'A Winter's Tale' & Mistress Quickly 'Elle and the Cavendish Cabaret' (Theatre Delicatessen) 'Whispering Happiness,' 'Word:Play 2' and 'A Hole in the Fence' (Box Of Tricks) Hippolytus in 'Phaedra' (Offstage) Tiresius in 'The Burial at Thebes,' The Abortionist 'Mikey The Pikey' (Pleasance Edinburgh,) and Abanaza 'Aladdin.'

He has experience in Stage Combat (BADC Advanced gold standard,) acrobatic tumbling, Capoeira, fire performance and Commedia Dell A'рте

His specific experience in puppetry comprises of a working relationship with Blind Summit Theatre predominantly working with the Buraku Style of puppetry.

Henry has assisted Blind Summit collaborations 'On Emotion' (Soho Theatre)'Shun Kin' (complicité) 'Angels' (Akram Khan) 'The other Selder' and he was the principal puppeteer in their production of '1984.'

He builds puppets both for his own productions and for Blind Summit.

Recently he realized the principal puppeteer role of Harold in 'Remembering Strawberries' (Nabakov) and is currently developing his own show heavily featuring puppetry and physical theatre.

HELEN BLESKY - DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

Helen achieved a 2:1 Honours in her undergraduate English degree at Goldsmiths College, University of London in 2006. She had recently completed a Creative Writing Course at CCE, Sussex University as well as achieving a distinction for BTEC Filmmaking at City College. Previously having trained at The Arts Educational School, Tring Park, Helen has an interest in many aspects of theatre, and has particular passion for creative writing and movement. She is involved in the development and actualisation of the *Lysistrata* production.

MARK KATZ - EDUCATION OFFICER

Mark trained at ALRA in London. Theatre experience includes Trojan Women (**aod**) Macbeth, Romeo and Juliet, Wind in The Willows, Antigone (**aod**), Jungle Book, Titus Andronicus, Great Expectations, *Hard Chair Stories* at the Brighton Festival, *Now is The Hour* at The Edinburgh Festival Pinter's *Ashes to Ashes* and many more, as well as presenting a pilot for a new TV game show *Handbags at Ten Paces*. He is a regular with the Brighton based satirical sketch show *The Treason Show*. He has worked for Actors of Dionysus (**aod**) both as an actor and workshop leader for more than ten years. Since Autumn 2009 he has been running workshops on *Lysistrata* in schools all around the country. These have been very well received.

"Well structured, engaging and well paced. Really pleased. Students totally enjoyed

the experience. 10/10" Holy Cross College, Bury.

"Thanks so much for all you did yesterday. Both the students and I got a great deal out of your session, and it was very reassuring to hear you

confirming and reinforcing the learning we had done and developing on the approaches I have mapped out." The Leys, Cambridge

"The workshop was fantastic and unlike many theatre companies, it was really tailored to the students needs. They really loved it and we will definitely invite you back again."

Copthall School, London

"Just another big thank you for all your work this morning; it was a terrific experience for the girls and they loved it (they want you to come back soon!)." St Swithun's, Winchester

"We thought your input and approach was excellent - are you prepared to come back every year at this time?!" Friesland School, Nottingham

"Thank you so much for today, it was excellent, my colleague and students were very impressed. We might have to make it a yearly event." Southgate School, London

JONATHAN YOUNG - SOUNDING BOARD

Jonathan has been making theatre professionally for over 10 years. A performer, director and playwright, he founded Shams theatre in 2001 and has been its artistic director since then. For Shams, he performed a solo clown-theatre show, *Sleeping Beauties* at the Edinburgh Fringe, also touring the Scottish Highlands and North American Fringes 2002. His second solo, the multimedia play *The Garden* toured extensively, and was short-listed for a **Total Theatre Award** at Edinburgh 2006. In 2008, he directed, co-created and performed in *Black Stuff*, touring the East of England and at the Pleasance in Edinburgh. As writer/performer he is currently touring an installation-performance, *Reykjavík*, that explores the architecture of memory that tour nationally in late Spring 2010.

He has also worked as a performer/devisor with other theatre companies, including **theatre O**, **Stamping Ground theatre's** *A Quiet Afternoon* and as dramaturg on the award-winning *Hysteria* with **Inspector Sands**; and in directing Tamsin Shasha of **Actors of Dionysus** in the solo aerial show, *Bacchic*, which he also co-wrote. He recently directed *This Child* by Joel Pommerat for Company of Angels and The Junction. He is a workshop facilitator and teacher of many years' experience with both adults and young people, including teaching performance at Northampton University, Birmingham School of Acting, LIMF and BAC. He trained in theatre and clowning with Jacques Lecoq, Sue Morrison and Philippe Gaulier.

Chris Umney - Lighting Design

Since studying theatre and visual art at Brighton University in the early nineties Chris has been working continually as a production manager, composer, sound designer and lighting designer for performance companies in the UK and throughout the world.

From 1993 to 1997 he toured throughout Europe with the Brighton based Divas Dance Theatre Company as both their lighting designer and technician. In 2002 he visited 24 theatres in The Netherlands as lighting designer for Swamp Circus Theatre's production of "Moto". In the Spring 2004 he worked as production manager on Sound & Fury's "The Watery Part Of The World" in Skopje, Macedonia. During the Summer of 2006 he production managed A & BC Theatre's "Henry VIII" as part of the RSC's complete works season, and in October of that year he lit Prodigal Theatre's "The Tragedian Trilogy" in Yerevan, Armenia.

In October 2007 he became the technical manager for Tim Crouch and News From Nowhere, touring 3 productions, "An Oak Tree"; "My Arm" and "England", both nationally and Internationally until the Summer of 2009.

In the last two or so years Chris has designed the lighting for Prodigal Theatre's outdoor show "Fusion", that premiered at the Volvo International Yacht Race in Alicante in October 2007; Periplum's "The Bell" that toured Mexico in November 2008; Liz Aggiss and VDT's "Double Vision" that toured nationally Spring 2009; and for Array's latest show "Ousia" that opened at the Edinburgh Festival 2009.

Chris is also a founder member of the electronic music collective Wevie Stonder who have released 4 albums on the Skam and Song labels since 2000. During this time they have toured their unique live act to 14 European countries playing over 75 concerts.

SIMON MCCORRY - SOUND DESIGN

Studied Philosophy at Durham University. Recent work for theatre includes *Why I don't Hate White People* at The Lyric and *Tightrope* for Cirque Bijou. Other sound design includes *Bacchic* (National & International tour); *Oedipus* (aod – 2006); *Masta Juba*; *All Falls Away* (Pursued by a Bear); *Ministry of Pleasure* (Shadow of an Eye); *The Bottle & the Hot Zone* (Conspirator's Kitchen); *Mortal Ladies Possessed* (Linda Marlowe); *Migrant Overtures* (Sleeping Dogs): and *Sprout* (Proteus).

KATHARINE WILLIAMS - LIGHTING DESIGNER (aod is in discussion with both Chris Umney and Katharine Williams about lighting *Lysistrata* and this is still open to tender)

Katharine Williams works primarily in the UK with some international projects. Her designs have been seen in Hong Kong, New Zealand, Canada, the USA, Mexico, Ireland, Holland, Spain, Germany, Armenia, Romania and the Czech Republic.

She has collaborated with artists and companies including Darren Johnston, Hush Productions, Hoipolloi, Chris Goode, Shams Theatre, Paul Burgess, Blue Hug, Stamping Ground Theatre, Inspector Sands Theatre, Theatre O, AOD, Array, Tobacco Factory Bristol, Northern Stage, London's Gate Theatre and the Stephen Joseph Theatre.

Recent designs include: *Hysteria* with Inspector Sands and Stamping Ground Theatre (South Bank Centre, London, and international tours); *The Sexual Neuroses of our Parents* for Gate Theatre, London; *Bacchic* for AOD; *Outré* for Array (The Haag, Holland and European tour).

ANNIE MORRISON – VOICE COACH

Annie has worked for over 20 years as a Voice Therapist. In 1990 she began teaching in London Drama Schools after completing postgraduate studies in voice at Central School of Speech & Drama, where she is now a visiting lecturer. She runs courses for voice teachers at the International Centre for Voice and is a Senior Tutor at GSA Conservatoire. This will be her 7th collaboration with **aod**.

AOD TRUSTEES:

KEN SMITH - CHAIR

Ken is a Non Executive Director of East Sussex Hospitals NHS Trust and Novas Scarman Trust. Within the Arts, he is a Board Bank Member with Arts&Business and is a trustee of LighthouseArts, the leading arts agency in the SE for new works by artists and filmmakers.

He mentors on the University of Brighton Beepurple Entrepreneurship Network and his current clients include the charities, ITSkills4RuralKenya and Use8, both established by former students.

Ken has 25 years experience of airline management, is a Fellow of the Royal Aeronautical Society and has an MBA (Finance) from Cass Business School, London.

ANNIE MORRISON – BOARD DIRECTOR

Annie has worked for over 20 years as a Voice Therapist. In 1990 she began teaching in London Drama Schools after completing postgraduate studies in voice at Central School of Speech & Drama, where she is now a visiting lecturer. She runs courses for voice teachers at the International Centre for Voice and is a Senior Tutor at GSA Conservatoire. This will be her 7th collaboration with **aod**.

KIT BIRD - DEPUTY CHAIR

Christopher (Kit) Bird spent the first 14 years of his career in the leather chemicals industry, working in a variety of roles. From 1999 to 2002 he worked in North Yorkshire for the Prince's Trust and during this period that he became interested in entrepreneurial activity. He has since become a "Business Angel", working with start-up businesses around the country, and is currently on the board of an Angel syndicate in Yorkshire.

Kit has served on the boards of a number of registered charities, including two arts charities, so brings to **aod** his knowledge of corporate and charity governance. He also has a strong interest in ancient Greek drama and is keen to help **aod** bring its 21st century perspective on these classic stories to audiences in the UK and beyond.

STEVE PAVEY - BOARD DIRECTOR

Steve is a Qualified Account. He was for 10 Years the Finance & Business Director at University of Sussex. He was on the Board of Gardner Arts Centre for 13 years and was Chair of its Finance Committee for 5 years. Has had a wide knowledge of the financial and operational side of venue management via his involvement at the Gardner Arts Centre.

ELENA MARKHAM - BOARD DIRECTOR

Elena is Head of Music and Performing Arts at Portslade Community College. She has been teaching Drama and Dance in mainstream education for over 20 years and has directed several plays and shows both in school and in the wider community. Elena has performed in various theatres in Brighton and has also performed on the West End Stage and in the Edinburgh Festival.

MICHAEL BLAKE - BOARD DIRECTOR (Recently appointed)

I've been at Arts & Business for just over 9 years. I originally joined as an administrator and have taken on various roles since then. I am currently a Regional Manager with main responsibility for the arts in the south east. My current role involves my providing training on sponsorship, individual giving and governance as well as one to one advice on those subjects. I also have an overview of financial issues for the Brighton office, database management and our local marketing. When we used to run funding programmes I was a project manager for successful applicants. I also help with organising our events and do a small amount of business account management.

Prior to A&B I spent 10 years in the business sector mainly in customer service roles and prior to that I was in the Royal Engineers for 13 years.

I have a BA (Hons) in Literature and a Post Graduate Diploma in Arts Management.

I have a broad interest in the arts, but particularly in literature and theatre.

GARY HILLS - CONSULTANT/CREATIVE COACH

Gary has worked extensively as a Trainer and Consultant for organisations such as the RSC, ITC, Farnham Maltings, Arts Council England. Resident in London and Brussels. Personal and Professional Coach for artists and arts managers, arts management consultant, trainer, facilitator, freelance writer, producer and promoter. For a full CV please go to <http://www.garyhills.com/cv.htm>

Technical Information

Running Time : approx 80 mins

Venue to provide:

Lighting

A lighting design will be provided in advance for pre-rigging the show

Sound

Operated by Qlab from laptop

Stage

8m x 8m (approx)

The Company

Founded 17 years ago, **aod** are the only company in Britain who specialise in modern, accessible adaptations of Greek Tragedies. Our past 10 week National tour of Sophocles' *Oedipus* was a sell out success, receiving public acclaim and excellent reviews:

"Gripping stuff, as sharp as steel and wholly accessible. Superb."
(The Stage on Oedipus)

"This was a fantastically enjoyable production... a mesmerising piece of drama that is definitely worth watching." **(Bath Chronicle on Oedipus)**

"Under Tamsin Shasha's crisp direction... Ben Ingles in the title role leads a quartet of high quality performers." **(Bristol Evening Post on Oedipus)**

On *Trojan Women*: *"direct and accessible"* **(Lyn Gardner, The Guardian)**

"This fine production gives voice to a cry so perfectly pitched that it sounds through the mayhem of the millennia, calling humanity back to its better instincts"
(Finton O' Toole, Irish Times)

Expanding **aod**'s existing repertoire, *Bacchic* incorporated an exciting mix of aerial performance and drama and combined

Artistic Director Tamsin Shasha's skill as both an actress and aerialist

On *The Bacchae*: "An incredibly sexy performance." (**The Stage**)

On *Medea*: "Good performances all round, and especially by Tamsin Shasha in the title role, make it clear why the Greeks were so excited by this play more than a millennium ago" (**The Financial Times**)

Lysistrata is **aod's** first full-length comedy and represents the continued development of the company as it creates new works and engages in new and exciting collaborations.

actors of dionysus (UK)

present

Lysistrata

at(Theatre)

on (Date)

Box office : (telephone number)

Tickets: (price)

(Running time : 80 mins approx)

Aristophanes' masterpiece brought stunningly up to date

Riotous, irreverent and even a little naughty

Lysistrata combines physical theatre, slapstick and circus to tell the ancient story of the bawdy battle between the sexes.

Clever, highly effective, an original, remarkable and mesmerising reworking **The Scotsman**
(Bacchic)

aod brings Aristophanes' comedy of abstinence and excess, *Lysistrata*, bang up to date. In a fast-paced romp the heroine, Lysistrata, and the women of Greece form a pact to bring an end to the Peloponnesian War. Their method is simple – they refuse to have sex with their husbands and lovers. Naturally, tensions mount, frustrations erupt - and phalluses reach bursting point!

'Thoughtful and intelligent....a most unusual and rewarding hour.' **The Times**
(Bacchic)

In a specially commissioned script by David Stuttard (AD 410 British Museum, *Economus Wrecked* for **aod** broadcast on BBC Radio 4), Aristophanes' original work has been adapted to incorporate the modern world alongside the salacious spirit of Ancient Greece. Director, Mitch Mitchelson, (Head of Performing Arts, Circus Space) compliments this style by combining his physical theatre background with circus performance. **aod's** Artistic Director, **Tamsin Shasha**, contributes her skills as a physical performer and Classical actress. With a specially commissioned score (Simon McCorry) and set and costume design by Lucy Bradridge (Costume designer, Cirque de Soleil) the show is a fantastic comedy which brings a frictional gender war to a stunning climax.

Internationally renowned **aod** have specialised in accessible and modern adaptations of Ancient Greek Tragedies for 17 years. Their newest play explores the richness of Ancient Greek comedy as *Lysistrata* has been re-invented as a full-length work of exciting and provocative theatre.

www.actorsofdionysus.com

FOR A FULL LIST OF TOUR DATES PLEASE VISIT THE **aod** WEBSITE

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