

PRESS RELEASE - ARTS & CALENDAR

For immediate Release: July 6, 2017

Contact: Heather Parish, director - heather.parish@yahoo.com - (559) 303-5070

WHO: The New Ensemble.

WHAT: "Hedda Gabler" by Henrik Ibsen, adapted by Jon Robin Baitz.

WHEN: August 11- 20, 2017.

WHERE: Strasbourg Theater at Fresno Pacific University. 1717 S Chestnut Ave, Fresno.

WEBSITE: www.heddafresno.com. BOX OFFICE & INFORMATION: 559-512-3604.

TICKETS: \$18 - \$20 (\$5 Saturday matinee).

THE NEW ENSEMBLE PRESENTS CLASSIC "HEDDA GABLER"

The New Ensemble's ambitious production of the classic by Henrik Ibsen opens August 11.

Fresno, Calif. – The New Ensemble (TNE) presents "Hedda Gabler" at the Strasbourg Theater at Fresno Pacific University from August 11 to August 20th, 2017. Written by Henrik Ibsen, "Hedda Gabler" is a classic of 19th century drama filled with passion and desperation, and features an unforgettably flawed, fiery central character. This unique version is adapted by acclaimed American playwright Jon Robin Baitz ("Other Desert Cities").

One of literature's most complex and compelling anti-heroines, the beautiful and intelligent Hedda (Brooke Aiello) yearns to escape her marriage to a man she finds numbingly dull. Suffocated by the expectations and limitations of the world around her, she tries to fulfill her aimless desires by manipulating the fates of those around her – no matter how dark the outcome. First produced in 1891, Ibsen's masterpiece shocked European society; now, 126 years later, it continues to challenge audiences.

"The problems people face in Hedda's world haven't been left behind in the Victorian era," says director Heather Parish. "It is a deep dive into issues of wealth, courage, weakness, reputation, rebellion, hopes and dreams, and the effect that all of these have on individuals. The consequences of capricious and thoughtless actions toward ourselves and each other is at the core of 'Hedda Gabler' We recognize these characters in our modern lives. No matter the time period, people are people."

The cast of this ambitious, independent production includes an impressive roster of talent including Chris Carsten as Hedda's husband, Tesman; Ted Nunes as Tesman's rival — and Hedda's former lover — Ejlert Lövborg; Casey Ballard as Hedda's former school friend, Thea; Brad Myers as Judge Brack; Elizabeth Fiester as Aunt Julie; and Kathie Mollica as Berte, the maid.

"Hedda Gabler" plays August 11, 12, 18, 19, 20 at 8 p.m. and August 13 and 19 at 2 p.m. at the Strasbourg Theater at Fresno Pacific University, 1717 S Chestnut Avenue, Fresno. Tickets are \$18 in advance or \$20 at the door. Advance tickets are available online at www.heddafresno.com. Will-call reservations can be made by calling or texting 559-512-3604. For more information about the production, click to www.heddafresno.com or e-mail info@newensemble.com. This is an independent production and in no way affiliated with Fresno Pacific University.

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Director Heather Parish and featured actress Brooke Aiello are available for interviews or news appearances by appointment. Please contact director Heather Parish at heather@newensemble.com or (559) 303-5070 for arrangements.

The New Ensemble presents

Hedda Gabler by Henrik Ibsen.

A new adaptation by Jon Robin Baitz.

Friday, August 11 at 8 p.m.

Saturday, August 12 at 8 p.m.

Sunday, August 13 at 2 p.m.

Friday, August 18 at 8 p.m.

Saturday, August 19 at 2 p.m.*

Saturday, August 19 at 8 p.m.

Sunday, August 20 at 2 p.m.

Strasbourg Theater Space at Fresno Pacific University.

Tickets: \$18 in advance/ \$20 at the door. (\$5 special on Aug 19 at 2 p.m.)

www.heddafresno.com