



scottish *youth* theatre
present
xsyt productions



the grave of every hope

by Lara Jane Bunting directed by Mary McCluskey



Scottish Youth Theatre presents XSYT Productions

The Grave Of Every Hope

By Lara Jane Bunting,

Directed by Mary McCluskey

Locar *Michael Reed*
Seonaich *Megan Fisher*
Imana *Fiona Morton*
Alban *Julie Austin*
Callor *Mike Reid*
Berac *Raymond Short*
Warriors *James Hebble Kay*
Tommy Sheddán
Darrah *Duncan Marwick*
Scatha *Shuna Sendall*
Gallanach *Jamie Lee*

Warriors *Lawrence Crawford*
Darren Emerson
Tallach *Cheryl Govan*
Druids *Kate Ballantine*
Jamie Burton
Anne Marie Madden
Julie Nimmo
Jack Tarlton
Amer *Chris McLaughlin*
Bards *Megan Fisher*
Tom Freeman
Fiona Morton
Michael Reed
Kate Tunstall

Dermach *Tony Strachan*
Diviners *Lawrence Crawford*
Darren Emerson
Geraldine McAleese
Kenneth McKie
Rory Weller
Tracey Wilson

Design & Stage
Management Team
David Carter
James Hebble Kay
Stuart Dunn
Michael Hume
Tommy Sheddán
Ushers *Paul Banks, Susan*
Booth, Neville Cameron,
Robin Cuthbertson
Laura Davidson, Mary
Ferry, Heather Greig,
Gary Lappin, Lyn
Mackay, Chris
McLaughlin, Joanne
Nimmo, Julie Nimmo
Alan Ramage, Raymond
Short, Vicky Ure

Production Team

Director *Mary McCluskey*
Musical Director *Ralph Haggerty*
Asst Director *Steve Small*
Design Consultant *Graham Hunter*
Wardrobe Supervisor *Maggie Miller*
Production Manager *Malcolm Rogan*
Lighting Design *Michael Hume & Malcolm Rogan*
Stage Fights created by *Michael Reed*
& Raymond Short

Thanks to: *Sean Curran*
& Bonni Chan
Artistic Director *Mary McCluskey*
General Manager *Carolyn Lappin*
Marketing Manager *John Harding*
Associate Director *Steve Small*
Admin. Officer *Nicola Falconer*
House Manager *Wendy Niblock*
Box Office Manager *Anne McCluskey*
Secretary *Margaret Sloan*
Box Office Asst *Mike Reid*
Cleaners *Mary Bell*
Wilma Gibson
Dorothy Ross

The Grave Of Every Hope is part of the Royal Shakespeare Company's **Antigones Project**. The Project has been made possible because the RSC's Education Department is the recipient of the major 1991 Sainsbury's Award for Arts Education of £100,000.

Using the story of **Antigone**, Sophocles' Greek tragedy, as a stimulus, groups of young people in six different regions of the country are working with professional writers and directors to create their own new plays. The project is taking place in a number of culturally and environmentally diverse areas of the UK: Cheshire, Cornwall, County Durham, London, Scotland and Solihull in the West Midlands.

On the 21st and 22nd November 1992, the **Antigones Project** will culminate in a weekend festival of young people's original creative work, when all six plays will be presented at The Other Place, the RSC's new studio theatre in Stratford-upon-Avon.

The Sainsbury Awards are designed to recognise and encourage new educational activities in the arts. The winners were chosen because they best succeeded in widening young people's experience, understanding and interest in the arts, either as participants or as members of an audience. The Sainsbury's arts sponsorship programme also includes the Sainsbury's Choir of the Year Competition, and support for the annual Contemporary Art Society's 'Art Market' at Smith's Galleries, Covent Garden.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE:

Scottish Youth Theatre's **XSYT Productions** Company is delighted to have been invited to participate in this prestigious project. Working alongside playwright Lara Jane Bunting, the group was asked to use Sophocles' **Antigone** as a stimulus to explore contemporary dramatic language. The group was then required to create their own new play based on these explorations.

In May '92 an XSYT Company of 30 young people, actors and stage managers, came together for a period of intense workshops. These sessions looked at Sophocles' play and at Timberlake Wertenbaker's new translation; explored the nature of Greek drama, especially the place of the chorus; noted the value masks, physical theatre and music might be to the piece. The workshops were led by the creative team: Mary McCluskey (Director), Ralph Haggerty (Musical Director), Steve Small (Asst Director), Graham Hunter (Design Consultant) and Lara Jane Bunting (Playwright).

A decision was made early on in the process to concentrate on drawing parallels between Greek mythology and our own, Celtic mythology. The group became excited by this and much research was carried out investigating the place of the gods, fate and destiny in pre-Christian Celtic society. These workshop sessions and recent rehearsals have produced many magical moments that we can't hope to re-create. However the shared experience inspired the company to develop the play you will see tonight.

Mary McCluskey
September 1992