



ORACLE LEAVES
Portraits of Daphne

COLETTE SADLER

ORACLE LEAVES — Portraits of Daphne

Inspired by balletic traditions of libretto and choreographic storytelling, ORACLE LEAVES sets out to radically expand the classical mythology of Daphne and Apollo through a series of portraits in motion that rewrite agency, multiplicity, and alternative continuations into this story of transformation.

As acts of escape or as punishment for the actions of men and gods, women in classical mythologies are routinely transformed into 'un-sensual' natural forms. In the case of Daphne fleeing from the ardent advance of Apollo, her relentlessly pursued body becomes suddenly rooted to the soil as she turns into a Laurel tree, stoic and silent.

In ORACLE LEAVES, Daphne's life and transformation to tree is re-envisioned as a rejection of ownership and an embrace of plurality. Embodied by different performers, these portraits coalesce in ways that attempt to blur boundaries and dislodge patterns of power through the strange intimacies and entanglements that appear between multiple ways of being.



Portrait of D...ne as
Hu...



PREMIERE

15th - 18th December 2022
Luxoom Lab/Ebensperger
www.ebensperger.net

PREMIERE UK

24th February 2023
Glasgow Tramway



ARTISTIC TEAM

Artistic Direction and Choreography: Colette Sadler

Performance: Leah Marojevic, Mickey Mahar, Jia-Yu Corti & Sophia Burandt

Dramaturgy: Maxwell McCarthy

Music: Cassandra Miller

Sound Design: Samir Kennedy

Light and Light Object: Veli-Velis Siven

Objects: Valentin Hertweck

Costume: Flint James McDonald

Production: Dag Lohde

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Special thanks to HAU.



MEDIA

Oracle Leaves (Full length) — vimeo.com/792539486 > PW: Daphne

Oracle Leaves Trailer (1 minute) — vimeo.com/789799639

PRESS & REVIEWS

*“Some choreographers integrate visuals, text and moods seemingly effortlessly. Colette Sadler is one such artist, as she has long created singular work which straddles performance art, visual art and dance. So it is with her gorgeous and meditative riposte to Daphne’s punishment from Apollo, “Oracle Leaves.” In the original myth, while attempting to escape Apollo’s brutal advances, Daphne is transformed into a tree. This piece pushes back, embracing an alternative vision, with a rebellious spirit at its core. It is a long, languorous stretch of limbs, a slow-burning beauty. Once you become attuned to its sparse setting, slow pace and short, angular bursts of movement, it is a performance of subtlety and invention, at once post-modern and traditional, using a unique methodology to steer the narrative into unknown places. There’s even a reference to Artificial Intelligence within the script.” — **Lorna Irvine, Fjord Review***

fjordreview.com/colette-sadler-oracle-leaves

*“As ever, with Sadler, there is a rich complexity of ideas that lace together questions about perception - initial assumptions may not be valid! - with issues of self-determination. And even though Oracle Leaves connects into Greek rituals, it is - in staging, music and costuming - a contemporary witness to the timeless aspects of the myth.” — **Mary Brennan, The Herald***

heraldscotland.com/news/23349853.oracle-leaves

*“Oracles Leaves is fleshy, pulsating and patient. It presents life through states of transformation and beyond the human body. Watching the piece in my own present context, grief and death surround me, and others around me, at this point in time, so I am comforted by seeing Daphne exist beyond her human death. Three nights after seeing the piece I dream about urgently searching for a bag of oracle leaves, which once found I hide protectively, close to my body.” — **Hannah Draper, Dance Art Journal***

danceartjournal.com/2023/03/06/oracle-leaves-by-colette-sadler-review

TECHNICAL RIDER

> drive.google.com/file/d/1bPwhnn9UWHNW9SoyD9EjeC2wzRyJ9Xz1

The company brings:

1 x Light Box 2x2m
1 x Power and Controller Box
2 x 10m Power Cables
20 Reishi mushroom plants

The venue provides:

SOUND: 4 x Speakers (for spatialisation of sound)
4 x XLR cables (either XLR male - 1/4" Jack male or normal cables with adapter)
2 x Radio microphones with headsets
4 x XLR male - 1/4" male Jack adapters (if cables are not available) VIDEvDre

VIDEO: 1 x video projector (more than 5000 lumen if possible)

SET: 1 x smoke machine
ORACLE LEAVES is performed on a white dance floor provided by the venue
Maximum dimensions 10 x 10m, minimum dimensions 8x 8 m.

BOOKING CONTACT

For fees and touring availability please contact

Colette Sadler
cs@colettesadler.com