

Leontyne Mbele-Mbong in Medea

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Rating: ★★★★★



Leontyne Mbele-Mbong, Danielle Doyle, Shani Harris-Bagwell *African-American Shakespeare*

Leontyne Mbele-Mbong's brilliant performance highlighted African-American Shakespeare Company's production of Euripides' *Medea*. In grief, rage, and vengeance, Leontyne Mbele-Mbong's dignity and poise form the necessary center of this tragedy of an abandoned wife who demands justice from the husband, the king and the state that betrayed her.

The long speeches characteristic of classical Greek challenge the production skills of any stage company. Under the strong direction of Dawn Monique Williams and the regal stage

presence of Leontyne Mbele-Mbong, the story is hammered into the unmistakable shape of a great tragedy, making a fine audience experience.

Khary Moyer plays Jason, husband of Medea, and Dwight Dean Mahabir plays King Kreon. Cathleen Riddley, Danielle Doyle and Shani Harris-Bagwell form the chorus, and Gabriel Reader and Caden Cotton-Blake play Medea's doomed children.

Don't miss your chance to see this excellent production of a classical Greek play.

Medea plays Saturdays and Sundays, March 8 through May 30 (press opening: May 8) at the Buriel Clay Theater at the African American Art and Culture Complex, 762 Fulton Street (at Webster) in San Francisco. www.African-AmericanShakes.org.

Support the African-American Shakespeare Company!