



The Rome Savoyards & Plays in Rome present

# *The Memory of Water*

by **Shelagh Stephenson**

Directed by **Sandra Provost**

*in English*

**A sardonic, clever comedy where three sisters and their partners gather at the home of their recently deceased mother and revisit the past in poignant and hilarious way.**

*“Both gloriously funny and deeply felt...” — The Globe*

*“The Memory of Water...has a raw spontaneity that captures perfectly the idea of what normal people do in abnormal times...” —NY Times*

**Join us for this witty and moving show and help support the continuity of artistic activities!**

## **ABOUT THE PLAY**

The Memory of Water is a dark comedy written by English playwright Shelagh Stephenson, first staged at Hampstead Theatre in 1996. **It won the 2000 Laurence Olivier Award for Best New Comedy.**

The play was adapted by Stephenson for the 2002 film, *Before You Go*, directed by Lewis Gilbert, starring Julie Walters, John Hannah, and Joanne Whalley.

*Set during the strange, out-of-time days between a death in the family and the funeral, Shelagh Stephenson’s 1996 play balances riotous humour and pathos — The Guardian*

*“The Memory of Water really lives up to the poetry reflected in its title. It also keeps us highly entertained and leaves us deeply touched in the end.” —NY Daily News*

*“Shelagh Stephenson [is] a dramatist with a sharp eye and a gift for quirky dialogue to match.” —London Times.*

## **About the author**

Playwright Shelagh Stephenson was born in Northumberland and read drama at Manchester University.

She is the author of several original radio plays written for BBC Radio, including *Darling Peidi*, *The Anatomical Venus* and *Five Kinds of Silence* (1997), which won the Writer's Guild Award (Best Original Radio Play). Recent plays include *Life is a Dream* and *Nemesis*, broadcasts in 2004 and 2005 respectively.

Her first stage play, *The Memory of Water* (1997), opened at the Hampstead Theatre, London in 1996, and won the Laurence Olivier Award for Best Comedy. Her second stage play, *An Experiment With An Air Pump* (1998), was joint winner of the 1997 Peggy Ramsay Award, and premiered at the Royal Exchange Theatre, Manchester, in 1998. *Ancient Lights* (2000) was produced at Hampstead Theatre in 2000, and in 2002, *Mappa Mundi* (2002) opened at the Royal National Theatre. Her play, *Enlightenment*, opened at Abbey Theatre, Dublin in 2005. Her latest published play is *The Long Road* (2008) which was written in collaboration with the UK-based charity, The Forgiveness Project, to critical acclaim.

## Teatro Le Salette

Vicolo del Campanile 14 (located between Borgo Pio and Via della Conciliazione)

Nearest Bus stops: 23, 34, 40, 982 - Nearest metro stop Ottaviano (10 minute walking distance)

Nearby pay parking on Via Del Falco 36 (except Sundays)

### PERFORMANCES

**Wednesday to Friday 9-11 February 2022 at 19.30**

**Saturday and Sunday 12-13 February 2022 at 17.30**

### CAST (in order of appearance)

Liz Craig, Anna Butterworth, Fabiana De Rose, Esmeralda Lundius, Cormac Mulcahy, Shane Harnett

**TICKETS:** 15€ full; reduced 12€ (students)

**KINDLY NOTE: The play is suitable for mature audiences**

**BOOKING & INFO:** playsinrome@yahoo.com or 347-8248661

### **PLEASE NOTE BOOKING IS REQUIRED**

In compliance with government provisions, FFP2 masks and the Super Green Pass certification (issued following vaccination or recovery from Covid-19) will be required for admission to the theatre or vaccination certificate issued by another country.

**The theatre is provided with a new, efficient air circulation system.**

This production of "The Memory of Water" is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals Ltd. on behalf of Samuel French Ltd.