

## Medea Mediated

### Audience Entrance

Empty Stage

Audience is asked to get their phones ready and then put on a blindfold.

### Preshow

VO:

All I know is that human life is nothing but a shadow. That those men we call most clever, crafters of words and shapers of theories, are the greatest fools. We are the creators of shadows, we mortal humans. Through our sight we mediate the world creating reason out of the chaos. We are not infallible in our sight. There exists the propensity for a lack of depth and contrived understanding about the human condition. In our desire to make sense, we form divisions and alterations mediating a world where equality is ultimately unattainable. Would we be better if we were blind? Is our most precious sense, sight, our downfall? I ask you to see with a new set of eyes, to throw away the preconceived notions that so deeply make up the core of the social experiment we call civilized modernity. Look with these new eyes to a future without the rules that confine and constrict the essence of what makes us all the same, our humanity. I ask for a new way of looking.

### Bathtub 1

Audience removes blindfolds. Bathtub is there. Enter the stage with a wheelbarrow of children's toys. Dump them on stage. Prepare the body for womanhood. **Film of Children and images of destruction and loss then Film of duplicated action in the tub.**

VO: Over Speakers  Their eyes So innocent So beautiful So full of spirit And joy And no fear No fear No fear	Projected Voice: Live Film Onscreen	3VO: Over Speakers	Songs:  Time after Time – Cyndi Lauper
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<p>This is the man This is him Don't listen to him He's a liar</p> <p>They seem to be afraid Afraid of me Why I don't know I am just a woman Maybe they think I am not But I am</p> <p>I am everywhere All the time I am a woman And a woman I am And again and again and again and again A woman a woman</p>	<p>What were you before me?</p> <p>I monster of a man I monster Of a woman</p>		<p>Love Fool - Cardigans</p>
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<p>With a voice without impact With a voice of no meaning</p> <p>A hot tempered woman, Or man, for that matter, is easier to stand against than a clever one that keeps her own council.</p> <p>You have got all that you need Except love And love is what you need What you really really need You know that Everybody knows that You have nothing If you don't have love</p>	<p>I am not like other woman. I am of some other kind.</p> <p>If we could produce children some other way, without the need of women, then believe me, all human misery would end.</p>	<p>Sex leads to death, inexorably, And grief is in the very seed of life.</p>	<p>Wishing Well – Terence Trent D'Arby</p> <p>Love is All You Need – The Beatles</p>
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**Critical Frame #1 : Filmed and Projected**

The story of Medea in scholarly and popular culture. Our fascination with her. Our insistence on categorizing her actions according to one specific identity trait. The Woman, The Other, The Mother.

**Backstory Movie : Collage of Romantic Comedies, Love Stories from Films. Edited and Delivered via smartphone/Ipads.**  
(no choreography)

Recorded/Read Text within the Movie:

**Voice One:**

Something is coming  
Something not so good  
Something  
About death  
About murder  
About her children  
Seems so long ago now  
So far away  
Until disaster came upon my life  
It was all very quiet  
All very nice in a way  
In a strange way very peaceful  
There was no reason  
Only passion  
No grief  
Only anger  
No anger  
Only love  
Where did things go wrong  
Why  
Why did things go wrong  
Why  
Where  
When  
What did I do wrong

**Voice two:**

And she holds his hand

And he holds hers  
And their eyes meet  
And there is a kiss  
Not so long  
But so intense  
And she knew she was doing the right thing  
And we walk on  
Onwards to the fields  
And in the fields there is silence  
There is only the voice of the sun  
And the voice of the earth  
The voice of the wind  
And far away the voice of the sea  
No  
Don't  
Don't do this  
Don't fall in love  
But I can't do anything I am no person  
It was love  
It really was  
Nothing else but love  
Yes  
When there is love  
Then there is blood  
Love like blood  
And when there is love  
Then there is flesh  
Flesh and blood

**Voice Three:**

He promised  
He won't betray me  
I gave him everything  
And I look at the world  
And there is nothing that I can do  
I can only look  
And think  
And hope

And cry  
 And that's what I do  
 I cry and cry  
 It's nothing  
 Let it all out  
 She screams and she cries and she shouts  
 And you can hear it all over town  
 You can hear it everywhere Even in the palace  
 In a manner of speaking I just want to say  
 I like you  
 I should find a way  
 To tell you everything  
 By saying nothing  
 What can one do in one day

**One – Voice One**

In one single day – **Voice Two**

This single day – **Voice Three**

Oh such a perfect day – **All Voices**

**Bathtub #2**

Stage Directions: Get out of the tub and put on the dress, the identity. Fight against the inability to have any agency or say in identity formation.  
 Confusion, Struggle, Conflicted dance movement. **Film of Medea in Tub overlayed on rough sea to look like she is in a boat. Filmed action duplicated on stage interspersed with commentary footage.**

<p>VO: Over Speakers</p> <p>And god has abandoned you, Medea, in an open boat on a sea that has no shore.</p>	<p>3VO: Over Speakers</p>	<p>Single Voice: Over Speakers</p> <p>I want to break humanity in two          And live in the empty middle no woman no man</p>	<p>Songs:</p> <p>Hold Me Now – Thompson Twins</p>
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<p>Love is nothing  Love is like a candle  It will end  It always will end</p> <p>The storm is upon us.</p>	<p>Some things are stronger  than me Stronger than  reason  Reason  I have to reason  Be reasonable  Think  Think</p> <p>She is dangerous  Don't come close to her  She is a stranger  She is a traitress  She is a witch</p>	<p>Don't  Don't fall in love  I'm a man  I'm a man  I'm a man?  I'm a man</p> <p>A man who is no man at all?</p> <p>So, I am a woman?</p>	<p>Candle in the Wind – Elton  John?</p> <p>Islands in the Stream –</p>
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<p>But justice What about justice</p>	<p>No mortal man is happy: Lucky, yes, prosperous perhaps, but happy, never.</p>	<p>I'll always be the woman?</p>	<p>Kenny Rogers and Dolly Parton</p>
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**Critical frame #2 Filmed and Projected**

Kick Medea out for not contributing to the dialogue about her identity. How identity has contributed to the progress or non-progress of political action in the United States. Is Medea right or wrong for not contributing to the debate.

**Bathtub #3**

Reenter stage with bloody hands. Clean up the toys and throw into the tub. Medea begins to fight against the labels she has been forced to submit too. Movement is erratic. **Sourced projected imagery representing the rising disgust, fear, sadness and anger at her situation.**

<p>VO: Over Speakers No one will ever take them from me.</p>	<p>3VO: Over Speakers</p> <p>If only I had stayed the animal I was Before a man made me his wife</p> <p>Betrayal which was your pleasure</p>	<p>VO: 2</p> <p>I will not be judged by anyone.</p>	<p>Song:  Smiling Faces – Undisputed Truth</p>
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<p>I am so sad  So many tears I wept today  And all the tears that I will weep today  I'll weep again tomorrow</p> <p>Her passion grows so strong the air around her  burns.</p> <p>No I can see that  You're smiling  Don't cry  Don't cry  Your children are no more.</p>	<p>And being woman, We have mastered the art  of manipulation...To become the most skillful  architects of harm.</p> <p>Are those tears of laughter or sorrow?</p>	<p>According to you I'll  always be the woman</p>	<p>It's My Party and I'll  Cry if I Want To –  Leslie Gore / Titanium  – David Guetta  featuring Sia</p>
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**Critical Frame #3 Filmed and Projected**

Something about giving up? The exhaustion of our time and reflection on post-identity.

**Final Bathtub**

Medea has her breaks down and then builds into revolt revolt. Tears off the dress. Rushes the audience? Destroys the frame? Ends with her catatonic submission bathing in blood in the tub. **Sourced projected imagery of abstracted images representing boiling anger and resistance.**

<p>3VO:</p> <p>We are sad Yes We are so sad</p> <p>Only the strong survive Survival of the fittest I will survive</p> <p>But whose world is this It is not yours Not only yours It's mine too</p> <p>We'll weep again tomorrow</p>	<p>VO:</p>	<p>VO 2:</p> <p>Because you hate me Yes I hate you You hate me Yes I hate you</p>	<p>Songs:</p> <p>I Will Survive – Gloria Gaynor</p>
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<p>And now there is grief Grief about the loss The loss of love Love is lost</p> <p>I was a woman</p> <p>I live and live and live Forever and ever And I will never die</p> <p>I'm always the woman</p> <p>I'll always be a woman</p>	<p>I'll always be there But never able to intervene To interfere</p>	<p>Am I supposed to talk about myself I who Of whom are we speaking if The talk is of me I Who is that</p>	<p>Fight the Power - Public Enemy</p> <p>Chandelier - Sia</p>
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	<p>To act Just talking And singing And weeping And crying And hoping</p>	<p>Go away You get nothing There is nothing here for you</p>	
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