

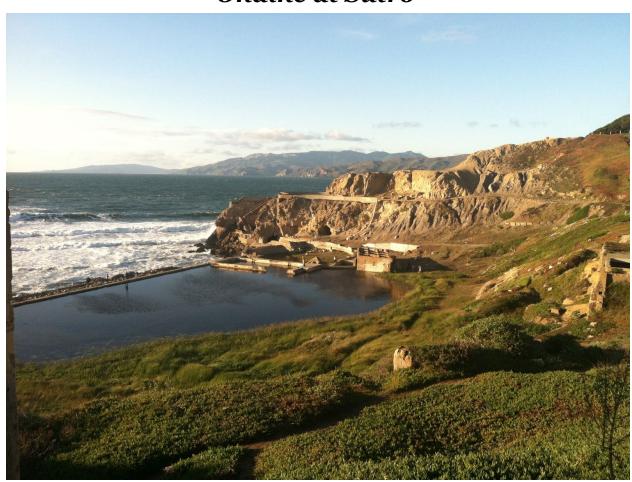
#### PRESS RELEASE

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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# We Players Brings Nature and Culture Together at Historic Site of Former San Francisco Landmark:

## **Ondine at Sutro**



In partnership with the NPS, Golden Gate National Recreational Area
Original Play by Jean Giraudoux
Adapted by Maurice Valency
Co-Directed by Carly Cioffi and Ava Roy



## **Ondine at Sutro**

May 1 – June 7th, 2015 Friday, Saturday and Sunday afternoons (exact time TBA) 680 Point Lobos Ave, San Francisco, CA 94121

**December 30, 2014 (San Francisco, CA):** We Players (Artistic Director, Ava Roy; Managing Director, Lauren D. Chavez), presents Jean Giraudoux's *Ondine* at Sutro Baths. This site-integrated production is produced in partnership with the Golden Gate National Recreational Area (with whom We Players has been innovating site-integrated theatre since 2008). We Players brings this enchanting love story between a sea spirit and a knight errant to life on the cliffs at Land's End, where the windswept Monterey Cypress trees tower above and the vast Pacific stretches sparkling to the horizon. Audiences should be prepared to walk; as with all We Players productions, this show is on the move! Action will occur in the ruins of the baths, on the Point Lobos cliffside, and process across the Great Highway into Sutro Heights Park and atop the foundation of Sutro's former observatory. *Ondine at Sutro* runs May 1 - June 7, 2015. Advance ticket sales open to our mailing list at February 2, 2015. For press reservations or more information call 415.547.0189 or email press@weplayers.org.

#### ABOUT ONDINE AT SUTRO

Ondine is a tragic love story between a mystical creature of the depths and a mortal man of hubris. A fable of the follies of love, Ondine is also an exploration of our human relationship with Nature. Worlds collide, the natural world flirts with the established social order and immortal powers plunge into the realm of mortals. Our story comes to life where the great western frontier at San Francisco's Land's End meets the ocean's horizon.

Staged at Sutro Baths and Sutro Heights Park, we experience the great power and sense the timeless depths of the ocean as we wander amidst the eroded foundations of majestic buildings and grand swimming pools. Audiences will move with the action of the play, exploring the park and taking in the expansive and breathtaking views of the great Pacific, while immersed in the enchanted realm of *Ondine*.



#### **ABOUT SUTRO BATHS**

On March 14, 1896, the Sutro Baths were opened to the public as the world's largest indoor swimming pool establishment. The baths were built on the sleepy western side of San Francisco by wealthy entrepreneur and former mayor of San Francisco (1894–1896), Adolph Sutro. Over the years following Sutro's death, the baths struggled financially and eventually closed shortly before they were destroyed by fire in 1966. In 1973 the site became part of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area.

A visitor to the baths not only had a choice of seven different swimming pools—one freshwater and six salt water baths ranging in temperatures—but could also visit a museum displaying Sutro's large and varied personal collection of artifacts from his travels, a concert hall, seating for 8,000, and, at one time, an ice skating rink. During high tides, water would flow directly into the pools from the adjacent pacific, recycling the two million US gallons (7,600 m³) of water in about an hour. During low tides, a powerful turbine water pump, built inside a cave at sea level, could be switched on from a control room and could fill the tanks at a rate of 6,000 US gallons a minute (380 L/s), recycling all the water in five hours.

Source: <a href="http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sutro">http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sutro</a> Baths

For more information about Sutro Baths, visit the park site at nps.gov/goga/planyourvisit/landsend.htm or at <u>facebook.com/GoldenGateNPS</u>.

#### **ABOUT WE PLAYERS**

We Players was recently recognized by Backstage.com as <u>one of seven companies</u> around the globe producing groundbreaking immersive theatre. We Players was also honored by San Francisco Magazine with the "Best of the Bay" pick for their unique site-specific performance work noting, "We Players didn't just break the fourth wall, it toppled the whole playhouse." Our mission is to create site-integrated performances that transform public spaces into realms of participatory theatre, in an effort to engage with history and the environment, build community, and activate personal relationships with place. **Our work inspires, awakens the senses, and connects people with each other and the environment.** We Players is a Bay Area arts non-profit founded in 2000 at Stanford University by Ava Roy, and managed by Ava Roy and Lauren Dietrich Chavez since 2009. For more information about We Players, please visit <a href="https://www.weplayers.org">www.weplayers.org</a>.



### **Calendar Listing Information**

In partnership with Golden Gate National Recreation Area **We Players presents** 

## **Ondine at Sutro**

Original Play by Jean Giraudoux Co-Directed by Carly Cioffi and Ava Roy

Performance Dates: Friday, Saturday and Sunday; May 1st – June 7th, 2015

**Performance Times:** Fridays, Saturdays & Sundays 4-7pm

Performance Locations: Sutro Baths and Sutro Heights Park, 680 Point Lobos Avenue,

San Francisco, CA 94121 **Ticket Prices:** \$35-80

For detailed information about performance dates, times, and locations, please visit our website at <u>www.WePlayers.org</u>.

Tickets on sale starting February 2, 2015 at www.WePlayers.org

Information, group sales and educational opportunities:

Phone: 415.547.0189

Email: reservations@weplayers.org

Website: www.WePlayers.org