



# MARCO MARTINELLI & ERMANNA MONTANARI

## TEATRO DELLE ALBE

***FEDELI D'AMORE (LOVE'S FAITHFUL)***

a polyptych in seven panels for Dante Alighieri

**U.S. PREMIERE | PHILADELPHIA DEBUT**

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FRIDAY, **JANUARY 20** @ 8 PM

SATURDAY, **JANUARY 21** @ 8 PM

Annenberg Center, Harold Prince Theatre

There will be no intermission.

PENN LIVE ARTS

22/23 SEASON

## PROGRAM NOTES

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**DEvised/DIRECTED BY** Marco Martinelli, Ermanna Montanari

**ON STAGE** Ermanna Montanari

**MUSIC** Luigi Ceccarelli

**TRUMPET** Simone Marzocchi

**SOUND DIRECTOR** Marco Olivieri

**SPACE/COSTUMES** Ermanna Montanari, Anusc Castiglioni

**SHADOWS** Anusc Castiglioni

**LIGHT DESIGN** Enrico Isola

**VIDEO TECHNICIAN** Luca Fagio

**SHADOWS TECHNICIAN** Alessandro Pippo Bonoli

**LIGHTING TECHNICIAN** Luca Pagliano

**RECORDED PERSIAN SETAR** Darioush Madani

**MUSICAL REALISATION** Edisonstudio Roma

**MUSICAL CONSULTANCY** Francesco Altilio, Giulio Cintoni, Cristian Maddalena, Mirjana Nardelli, Fabrizio Nastari, Giovanni Tancredi, Andrea Veneri

**ICONOGRAPHIC CONSULTANCY** Alessandro Volpe

**DRESSMAKING** Laura Graziani Alta Moda

**GRAPHICS/SILK-SCREEN PRINTING ON FABRIC** La Stamperia laboratorio artistico di A. Mosconi

**STAGE PROPS** Teatro delle Albe Technical Team (Alessandro Pippo Bonoli, Fabio Ceroni, Luca Fagioli, Enrico Isola, Dennis Masotti, Danilo Maniscalco, Luca Pagliano)

**ORGANIZATION/PROMOTION** Silvia Pagliano, Francesca Venturi

**PRESS** Rosalba Ruggeri

*fedeli d'Amore (Love's faithful)* is a "polyptych in seven panels" written by Marco Martinelli "about" Dante Alighieri and our present day. Different voices speak to us in the individual panels: the fog of a dawn in 1321, the demon of the pit where the merchants of death are punished, a donkey that carried the poet on his last journey, the "scolding" imp who incites brawls about money, Italy kicking herself, Alighieri's daughter Antonia, and "an end that is not an end."

These voices speak to us of the refugee, of the poet who fled from his own city, which has condemned him to burning at the stake, and now he is on his deathbed, exiled in Ravenna, sick with ague. First, the fog slips in through the window cracks and enters that little room, and it describes him on the threshold of the extreme transition. Those voices are suspended between the fourteenth century and our own day, and Martinelli's writing accepts, and not from today, the Dantesque challenge to hold together political and metaphysical "reality," chronicle and spirituality.

Love is evoked as the polestar of the *fedeli d'Amore*, a force that frees humanity from violence, that saves "the garden plot that renders us so fierce." The voices of this "polyptych" are one single voice that can contain numberless voices, that of Ermanna Montanari: air, fire, sound, matter. The dramaturgy carries the sign of Marco Martinelli's rhythmic, sonorous "corsair" writing.

This "polyptych" for the stage enriches the itinerary which, together with Ravenna Festival, Martinelli, Montanari and Teatro delle Albe began in 2017 with *Inferno* and which continued in 2019 and 2021 with the other two parts of *The Divine Comedy*.

*fedeli d'Amore* is one more tessera in their ceaseless dramaturgical, vocal, musical and visual research, alongside such wise folk as Luigi Ceccarelli and Marco Olivieri, Anusc Castiglioni and Simone Marzocchi, and it lies in that furrow where the vocal-sound alchemy of the figure is central.

Produced by Teatro delle Albe/Ravenna Teatro in collaboration with Fondazione Campania dei Festival - Napoli Teatro Festival Italia and Ravenna Festival.

## ABOUT THE ARTISTS

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Ermanna Montanari, actress, author and set designer, founded Teatro delle Albe in 1983 with Marco Martinelli, sharing its artistic direction.

For her original itinerary of vocal research, **Ermanna Montanari** has received acknowledgements such as seven Ubu Prize, Golden Laurel-Mess Festival, Lo straniero Prize “dedicated to the memory of Carmelo Bene,” and the Eleonora Duse Prize. Several books are dedicated to her including *Do, undo, do over. Ermanna Montanari in Teatro delle Albe* by Laura Mariani (Titivillus); *Akousma Figure and voice in the acoustic theatre of Ermanna Montanari* (Quodlibet) by Enrico Pitozzi; *Cellula. An anatomy of stage space* (Quodlibet) by E. Pitozzi and Montanari; and numerous essays. She's the founder and director of MALAGOLA, an international center for voice studies, with vice-direction by Pitozzi.

**Marco Martinelli** has been awarded with several prizes including seven Ubu Prizes, Golden Laurel-Mess Festival, the Prize for Career Achievement - Journées Théâtrales de Carthage and best theatre book in France in 2021 for his *Aristophane dans les banlieues* (Actes Sud). His texts have been published and staged in ten languages and selected by Fabulamundi and Italian and American Playwrights Project. Martinelli has written and directed several films with scripts co-signed with Montanari, including *Vita agli arresti di Aung San Suu Kyi* (2017), *The Sky over Kibera* (2019), *Er* (2020), *Ulisse XXVI* (2021) and he's working to a new film based on *fedeli d'Amore*, in collaboration with the Italian Cultural Institute in Abu Dhabi.