# The Other Mozart by Sylvia Milo



The forgotten story of Mozart's genius sister - virtuoso, composer and prodigy.

"Strikingly beautiful." - **The New York Times** "dazzling, original performance ... hauntingly beautiful" - <u>LA Times</u> "This is a gem of a show" - <u>The Stage</u> (London)

DRAMA DESK & Off-Broadway Alliance nominations Winner of New York Innovative Theater Awards for: Outstanding Solo Performance and Outstanding Original Music

#### About the production:

THE OTHER MOZART is an award-winning play telling the forgotten story of Nannerl Mozart, the genius sister of Amadeus - a prodigy, keyboard avirtuoso and composer, who performed throughout Europe with her brother to equal acclaim, but her work and her story faded away, lost to history.

Created by Sylvia Milo, the play is set in a stunning 18-foot dress (designed by Magdalena Dabrowska of the National Theater of Poland). Directed by Isaac Byrne, THE OTHER MOZART is based on facts, stories and lines pulled directly from the Mozart family's humorous and heartbreaking letters.

Along with music composed by Nannerl's famous brother and by Marianna Martines (a female composer who inspired Nannerl), original music was written for the play by Nathan Davis and Phyllis Chen – featured composers of Lincoln Center's Mostly Mozart Festival, BAM and the International Contemporary Ensemble – for the instruments Nannerl knew intimately, such as clavichords, music boxes, and bells, as well as teacups, fans, and other ordinary objects that might have captured her imagination.

Period style movement directed by Janice Orlandi creates a world of opulence and elegance through articulate delicacy of expressive balletic gestures, reverent court bows, and fan language. With the opulent beauty of the dress and hair design, the sweet smell of perfume, and the clouds of dusting powder rising from the stage, the performance creates a multi-sensual experience and transports the audience into a world of outsized beauty and delight — but also of overwhelming restrictions and prejudice. There, in communion with the audience, this other Mozart at last tells her story.

#### On Tour:

THE OTHER MOZART had a critically acclaimed Off-Broadway run in NYC at HERE Arts Center, earning Drama Desk and Off Broadway Alliance nominations, and 8 New York Innovative Theatre (NYIT) nominations including Outstanding Full Length Script, winning Outstanding Solo Performance and Original Music.

The play has had over 300 performances to date, including a run in London at St. James Theatre, a run in Munich at the Pasinger Fabrik, and in Hong Kong at the Hong Kong Cultural Center. It was presented in Vienna at the Mozarthaus Vienna (the "Figaro-



haus", Wolfgang's home on Domgasse) and in Salzburg at the invitation of the Mozarteum Foundation (inside the Mozarts' Wohnhaus apartment). The play inspired the creation of an annual symposium on Maria Anna Mozart at the Mozarteum University in Salzburg, and was performed as part of its first edition.

The monodrama continues being presented internationally, currently in four languages.

#### **Relevance:**

Our history is made up of the stories we choose to tell. In "A Room of One's Own", Virginia Woolf imagined if Shakespeare had an equally talented sister. But with Nannerl Mozart we can actually trace what happened. She was a brilliant musician whose story has been relegated for centuries as a footnote in her brother's story. It is important today because it is not a tale of a singular villain thwarting and oppressing a female genius: rather it is but one example of a systematic tragedy happening innumerable times throughout history, and it is symbolic of so many Other stories.

To bring this other Mozart to people's minds is to inspire them, bringing women into the history of the great. We will never know the great benefit her music and her example might have done for the world in her time, but it is evincing truth, strength, and beauty in ours.

#### Reviews

"Strikingly beautiful. ...excellent sound design." New York Times

"...dazzling, original performance... hauntingly beautiful compositions by Nathan Davis and Phyllis Chen.... the dress is worthy of a gallery installation all its own."

Los Angeles Times (Critic's Pick)

"This is a gem of a show." The Stace (London)

"..fascinating...dreamlike...an arresting depiction" LONDONIST

"The Other Mozart is the most dynamic, theatrical, and moving one woman show I have ever seen... This show is the height of theatrical achievement." THEATER IS EASY

"...fascinating and irresistibly intelligent... Frenetic tremolo of a harpsichord becomes the fluttering of a fan... It is beautiful."

"The big stars of experimental theater" WALL STREET JOURNAL

"Sylvia Milo's luscious depiction...eschews the dreaded bio-adaptation problem...with class and evocative energy...graceful sophistication...a surprisingly deep and penetrating analysis of the life of Wolfgang's older sister... She sometimes resembles the dancing girl in the center of a music box." STAGE AND CINEMA

"Beautifully written... immensely appealing... rich and evocative. Sounds create metallic abrasion, out of sync clockwork, an automaton, a music box." WOMAN AROUND TOWN

"Sylvia Milo has created a beautiful play... This is theater at its very best and not to be missed... utterly captivating from beginning to end... a brilliant, unified piece of theatrical art." ALBUQUERQUE JOURNAL "One of the most remarkable theatric presentations... a tour de force...most brilliant and absorbing." New York Arts

"Rather than subsume or subordinate her subject as a domestic relation of Amadeus Mozart, Milo's theatre piece emancipates Nannerl. She gives the subject of her play the autonomy she never had during her life, and allows her first and foremost to be a musician." HOWL ROUND

"The Other Mozart is a poignant reminder that, for many centuries, and even millennia, one precondition to the status of genius was being male—and we have lost uncounted works of genius by that arbitrary fact."

#### Woman's Philharmonic Advocacy (Boston)

"Through Milo's layered and beautiful performance, brilliant lighting and atmospheric sound design, Nannerl's tale is told with heartbreaking beauty." New ENGLAND DIGEST

"Beautiful? The word isn't adequate. Unique? A cliché. Powerful? Immensely. Emotional? Deeply. Funny and fun. Sad and desperate. . . . So much brilliance in one night. . . . only one thing left to say. BRAVO!"

**Opelika-Auburn News (AL)** 



#### **PRODUCTION HISTORY**

#### OVER 300 PERFORMANCES, IN 28 US STATES, 7 COUNTRIES, 4 LANGUAGES

#### UNITED STATES AND CANADA

HERE Arts Center, NYC (off-Broadway run) Cherry Lane Theatre, NYC Players Theater, NYC International House, NYC Lotos Club, NYC Shea's Performing Arts Center, Buffalo, NY University at Albany, NY Rubicon Theatre, Ventura, CA Balboa Theatre, San Diego, CA Festival Mozaic, San Luis Obispo, CA The Hammer Theatre, San Jose, CA NC State University, Raleigh, NC East Carolina University, Greenville, NC Diana Wortham Theater, Asheville, NC Kravis Center, Palm Beach, FL Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center, Miami, FL Broward College, Davie, FL University of Florida, Gainesville, FL Threshold Repertory Theatre, Charleston, SC The Strand Theatre, Shreveport, LA The Academy of Music, Northampton, MA Columbia Festival of the Arts, Columbia, MD Morris Museum, Morristown, NJ RVCC, Branchburg, NJ Centenary Stage Company, Hackettstown, NJ Fermilab, Batavia, IL

#### **EUROPE:**

St. James Theatre, London

Mozarthaus Vienna, Austria (the "Figarohaus") Mozart Wohnhaus, Salzburg, Austria - Presented by the Mozarteum, in the Mozarts' apartment Neue Residenz, Salzburg, Austria -

Presented by the Mozarteum University Mozarthaus St. Gilgen, Sankt Gilgen, Austria

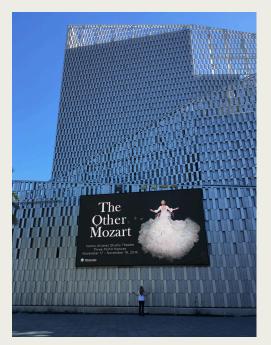
Pasinger Fabrik, Munich, Germany

Monomaffia International Theatre Festival, Parnu, Estonia

#### ASIA:

Hong Kong Cultural Center, Hong Kong

Norton Center For The Arts, Danville, KY University of CT, Storrs CT Chekhov International Theatre Festival, Ridgefield, CT Castleton University, Castleton VT Rhode Island College, Providence, RI University of Pittsburgh Bradford, Bradford, PA Millersville University, Millersville, PA The Wharton Center, Michigan St Univ., E. Lansing, MI Southern Illinois University, Edwardsville, IL Fermilab, Batavia, IL Oklahoma Contemporary, Oklahoma City, OK Chamber Music Northwest, Portland, OR Jule Collins Smith Museum of Fine Art, Auburn, AL Bluffton University, Bluffton, OH Churchill Arts Council, Fallon, NV The Alberta Bair Theater, Billings MT University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT Brigham Young University, Provo, UT Washington & Lee University, Lexington, VA University of the South, Sewanee, TN Eisemann Center, Richardson, TX Allen Theatre, TTU, Lubbock, TX MATCH, Houston, TX The Grand 1894 Opera House, Galveston, TX Tobin Center, San Antonio, TX University of Toronto, ON



#### **Artistic Company**

#### Sylvia Milo (Project's Creator, Playwright, Actress)

An award-winning actress and playwright. Her self-produced play, The Other Mozart, had a critically acclaimed Off-Broadway run at HERE (New York Innovative Theatre Award for Outstanding Solo Performance), in London at St. James Theatre, and in Hong Kong. It was presented in Vienna and Salzburg by the Mozarteum Foundation and continues touring in the US and in Europe with over 300 performances to date. She played Bob Dylan in the OBIE Award-winning The West Village Fragments by Peculiar Works; Ophelia in The Ophelia Landscape at the Mark Morris Center; Hamlet in Hamlet — an all-female version of the play, which she adapted and directed herself. As a member of the Bats at the Flea Theater she starred in Seating Arrangements — co-written by Sylvia, directed by Eric Pold of Gob Squad. Sylvia is also a violinist (Irving Plaza, The Knitting Factory, CBGB's, Joe's Pub) and has composed scores for dance and theater (Merce Cunningham Studio, La Mama). She is a graduate of New York University, with extensive training at the Lee Strasberg Institute, Michael Chekhov, Stella Adler and The Grotowski Institute in Poland. 2018 Baryshnikov Arts Center Fellow. She is currently developing a new play on Mary Magdalene, I am the utterance of my name.

#### Isaac Byrne (Director)

Originally from Texas, based in NYC, Isaac has been awarded the New York Innovative Theatre Award for Outstanding Direction twice and productions he has directed have been nominated for a Drama Desk Award, an Off Broadway Alliance award, 24 NYIT awards, and 6 Planet Connection Awards. Credits include: The Other Mozart (NYIT Outstanding Solo Performance, Nominated for Director), In Vestments (NYIT Outstanding Premier of a New Play), To Nineveh (NYIT Outstanding Production), Tar Baby (DR2, PS122), 52 Man Pick Up (Ars Nova, Edinburgh Fringe), The New Normal, I Used to Write on Walls, Grimm Reality (Co-Production with Bryant Park), and Hazard a Little Death (Planet Connection Best Original Script). He performs regularly with the Aztec Economy theatre company in the touring show, Butcher Holler Here We Come. He teaches acting at the University of the Arts, New York Film Academy, and the Matthew Corozine Studio.

#### Nathan Davis (Composer, Sound Designer)

Nathan Davis "writes music that deals deftly and poetically with timbre and sonority" (NY Times). His opera/ballet "Hagoromo" premiered at the BAM Next Wave Festival with Wendy Whelan, Jock Soto, and ICE, and Lincoln Center has presented multiple works in the Mostly Mozart Festival and Tully Scope Festival. He has received commissions from ICE, Donaueschinger Musiktage, Steven Schick, Miller Theatre, Ojai Music Festival, the Calder Quartet, Third Coast Percussion, and Yarn/Wire, with premieres at Tanglewood, Park Avenue Armory, and Carnegie Hall. The 2018 Aaron Copland Fellow at the Bogliasco Foundation, Davis has received awards/fellowships from the Camargo Foundation, Meet The Composer, Fromm Foundation, Jerome Foundation, American Music Center, MATA, and ASCAP. He and Phyllis Chen won an NY Innovative Theater Award for their score to The Other Mozart, for which Davis also received a Drama Desk nomination for Outstanding Sound Design. Davis and Chen also composed "In Plain Air" for organ and large ensemble, commissioned by the Pew Center and Fringe-Arts Philadelphia. He holds degrees from Yale and Rice.

#### Phyllis Chen (Composer)

Praised by the NYTimes for her "delightful quirkiness matched with interpretive sensitivity," Phyllis is a composer, pianist ad toy pianist. The featured solo musician in Stephin Merritt's Off-Broadway musical Coraline, Phyllis is one of the founding members of the International Contemporary Ensemble and the founder of theUnCaged Toy Piano, a composition competition to further expand the repertoire for toy piano. A strong interest in interdisciplinary work led her to collaborations with video artist and electronic musician Rob Dietz with whom she created multimedia works such as The Memoirist, Pearlessence, Chroma, and Carousel. Graduate of Oberlin Conservatory (BM), Northwestern University (MM) and Indiana University (DMA). Her piece Chimers, based on Papageno's magic bells from Mozart's Magic Flute, was premiered at the Lincoln Center's Mostly Mozart Festival in 2011, and a program of her music was featured at the festival in 2013. Her recent collaboration with fellow The Other Mozart composer, Nathan Davis, In Plain Air, performed by the International Contemporary Ensemble, featured an outdoor music box installation, including a 400-foot long music box strip.

#### www.nathandavis.com

www.isaacbyrne.com

#### www.sylviamilo.com

www.phyllischen.net

#### Janice Orlandi (Period Style Movement Director)

A movement specialist in period styles, historic dance, psychophysical techniques, character transformation and physical dramaturgy. Trained and co-taught with Loyd Williamson and Richard Schechner. Movement Director: The Contrast (Mirror Repertory Company St Clements), An Ideal Husband and Tartuffe (Sonnet Repertory NYC). A certified teacher of Michael Chekhov and Williamson Technique. Artistic director at Actors Movement Studio NYC, faculty at TISCH School of the Arts, Atlantic Theater Company, Rutgers University, New York Conservatory for Dramatic Arts. Her work as an educator, director, actress and movement coach has been seen at Williamstown Theater Festival, State Theater School Denmark, Lindenberg Center for Culture Netherlands, Princeton Repertory Shakespeare Festival, Classic Stage Company, Circle Rep Lab. Featured in BACKSTAGE and the AMERICAN THEATER MAGAZINE on current "Trends in Movement Training" in theater.

#### Magdalena Dąbrowska (Costume Designer - Dress)

A versatile Polish designer whose projects include fashion, theatrical costumes and set designs, Magdalena is a graduate of Łazarski University in Warsaw and of the Cracow School of Art and Fashion Design. Her designs have been finalists at such prestigious competitions as Oskary Mody, OFF Fashion, and Złota Nitka. She participated in joint shows organized during the International Millinery Competition in France. She designed costumes for the plays, Taksówka, Spacerowicz and Ukryj Mnie w Gałęziach Drzew directed by Igor Gorzkowski for Studio Teatralne KOŁO. She also designed sets and costumes for Obchód Teatru, Czyli Kim Jest Wojciech B at the National Theatre of Poland and for the opera, Hamlet, at the Teatr Wielki in Poznan, Poland. She also runs INNI - a fashion and costume design studio.

#### Miodrag Guberinic (Costume Designer - Pannier Sculpture)

A New York-based designer, the recipient of the 2019 Irene-Sharaff-Young-Master-award. He owns design company Mio-Design-NYC focusing on the innovative costume design artisan projects, using cutting-edge materials and technology on a wide range of projects. Miodrag graduated from Northwestern University in Chicago with an MFA in costume design. His costume artisan work has been featured on numerous Broadway productions: Moulin Rouge, Frozen, Head Over Heels, Carousel, Mean Girls, Pretty Woman. Most recently he designed his first show for Cirque Du Soleil and started sharing his experiences as a lecturer and guest designer with students of Carnegie Mellon University, Long Island University, Parsons School of Design, NYU, Princeton University, Rutgers and PACE University. Mio was also responsible for the creation of the iconic headpieces & armor for Madonna's World Rebel Heart Tour and pieces for Madam X tour.



#### www.innimoda.pl

#### miodragguberinic.com

#### www.actorsmovementstudio.com

# www.TheOtherMozart.com

## **BOOKING INQUIRIES**

Poetry In Motion - Ann Patrice Carrigan, Director annpatrice@poetinmo.com | 585-415-7098 | www.poetinmo.com

### QUESTIONS

Little Matchstick Factory - Sylvia Milo (Producer) theothermozart@gmail.com

Coming soon from the creators of The Other Mozart:

## I am the utterance of my name

a music-theater piece on the mythic and historic Mary Magdalene, written and performed by Sylvia Milo (actress) and Nathan Davis (live music)

Developed in residence at the Bogliasco Foundation (Italy), the Baryshnikov Arts Center, TheatreLab, and All For One (NYC)

## marymagdalenetheplay.com

