FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BERKELEY REP EXTENDS METAMORPHOSES FOR TWO WEEKS

By popular and critical demand, another 16 performances added –
now playing through Sunday, March 24

February 6, 2019 – Following an overwhelmingly positive response from audiences and critics alike, Berkeley Rep has announced that Metamorphoses, directed by Mary Zimmerman, will extend for an additional two weeks. The popular show will now run through Sunday, March 24.

Starting today, tickets for the added 16 performances can be purchased online at berkeleyrep.org and by phone at 510 647-2949.

Praise from critics:

“Even if you’ve heard the hype about Mary Zimmerman’s Tony-winning adaptation of Ovid’s myths, Berkeley Rep’s revival exceeds expectation. Zimmerman as director has such precise timing that it’s as if she lives inside your brain, knowing before you do when the next stimulus or reveal would most delight, how it might make you wade a step further into her pool of wonders. [Her] script is lovely… [and] her cast seems to have teleported in from a realm outside of time.” – San Francisco Chronicle

“Moving, dreamlike and thrillingly theatrical, Zimmerman’s deep dive into the myths of Ovid is as fluid as its setting: a pool of water that serves as the stage for this mesmerizing 100-minute retelling of some of humanity’s oldest and most familiar tales. With a vibrant, shape-shifting 10-member cast, all playing multiple roles, Thursday’s opening night performance in the Peet’s Theatre was an enchanting reminder of Zimmerman’s power as a theatrical storyteller.” – San Francisco Examiner

“You never know if going back to revisit a favorite is a good idea or a bad one. For Metamorphoses, happily, another dip in this gorgeous pool is the best possible idea. The show remains stunning – still gorgeous, still moving, still an example of theater at its sumptuous best.” – Theater Dogs

“Mary Zimmerman is a master at the art of mesmerism. Lit by astonishing feats of visual alchemy, her meditative body of work floats through the imagination like a soft reverie. Zimmerman dives into the myths of Ovid with her signature blend of the cerebral and the childlike, immersing us in crystalline tableaux and primal wonder. [A] gorgeous and graceful revival.” – San Jose Mercury News

Dreams and reality collide with gods and mortals in Mary Zimmerman’s ode to the power of love — and the shadows that lurk beneath it. From a wading pool in our intimate 400-seat theatre, she summons Ovid’s classical tales of passion, betrayal, hope, and transformation, inviting us into a realm of shared cultural myths and beautiful, unshakable visions.
Cast members include **Steven Epp** (Erysichthon and others), **Raymond Fox** (Midas and others), **Rodney Gardiner** (Phaeton and others), **Benjamin T. Ismail** (Hermes/Vertumnus and others), **Louise Lamson** (Alcyone and others), **Felicity Jones Latta** (Aphrodite and others), **Alex Moggridge** (Ceyx and others), **Sango Tajima** (Myrrha and others), **Lisa Tejero** (Therapist and others), and **Suzy Weller** (Eurydice and others).

The creative team includes **Daniel Ostling** (Scenic Designer), **Mara Blumenfeld** (Costume Designer), **T.J. Gerckens** (Lighting Designer), **Andre Pluess** (Sound Designer), and Willy Schwarz (Original Music).

**Metamorphoses** premiered in New York City at The Second Stage Theatre in September, 2001 (Artistic Director: Carole Rothman; Managing Director: Carol Fishman; Executive Director: Alexander Fraser) and was originally produced by Lookingglass Theatre Company, Chicago. It is based on Ovid’s *Metamorphoses* translated by David Slavitt and published by Johns Hopkins University Press, 1994. The section of Rainer Maria Rilke’s poem “Orpheus, Eurydice, Hermes” was translated by Stephen Mitchell (1995, Modern).

For the 2018-19 season, Berkeley Rep recognizes the continued commitment and support of season sponsors **BART**, **Peet’s Coffee**, and **Wells Fargo**. Berkeley Rep is also delighted to have **Jack and Betty Schafer**, **Michael and Sue Steinberg**, and **The Strauch Kulhanjian Family** on board as individual season sponsors. **Metamorphoses** is made possible by lead sponsors **Bruce Golden** and **Michelle Mercer** and executive sponsor **Susan Chamberlin**.

**ABOUT BERKELEY REP**

Berkeley Repertory Theatre has grown from a storefront stage to an international leader in innovative theatre. Known for its ambition, relevance, and excellence, as well as its adventurous audience, the nonprofit has provided a welcoming home for emerging and established artists since 1968. Over 5.5 million people have enjoyed nearly 500 shows at Berkeley Rep, which have gone on to win five Tony Awards, seven Obie Awards, nine Drama Desk Awards, one Grammy Award, and many other honors. Berkeley Rep received the Tony Award for Outstanding Regional Theatre in 1997. Its School of Theatre engages and educates some 20,000 people a year and helps build the audiences of tomorrow with its nationally recognized teen programs. Berkeley Rep’s bustling facilities – which also include the 400-seat Peet’s Theatre, the 600-seat Roda Theatre, and a spacious campus in West Berkeley – are helping revitalize a renowned city. Be a Rep. Learn more at [berkeleyrep.org](http://berkeleyrep.org).

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