queensland theatre company

Queensland Theatre Company and Queensland Government present

Oedipus Doesn't Live Here Anymore

*The world premiere season of Queensland Premier's Drama Award winner **Daniel Evans'** new work*

23 May to 13 June at the Bille Brown Studio, The GreenHouse

Director: Jason Klarwein
Designer: Jessica Ross
Lighting Designer: Daniel Anderson
Sound Designer: Justin Harrison
Dramaturg: Louise Gough
Cast includes: Emily Burton, Ellen Bailey, Joe Klocek and Toby Martin

What if Oedipus lived next door? What if the whole street knew what he'd been up to with his own mother? What if it all happened in today's world?

Oedipus Doesn't Live Here Anymore, directed by acclaimed Queensland actor and director **Jason Klarwein** and starring four outstanding young actors in **Ellen Bailey** (*Macbeth, 5 Lesbians Eating a Quiche*), **Emily Burton** (*A Tribute of Sorts*), **Joe Klocek** (*This Hollow Crown*, QTC Youth Ensemble 2012) and in his QTC debut, **Toby Martin.**

The play is a thrilling, hilarious and fast theatrical ride that takes one of the oldest family tragedies in the Western world and mashes it with social media, modern commentary and cutting edge language. Think *Kath & Kim* meets *Games of Thrones* where Australian suburbia crashes head-first into a world of violent mthology.

On May 29, the world premiere of ***Oedipus Doesn't Live Here Anymore*** at The Greenhouse will celebrate the end of a two-year journey for acclaimed local playwright, Queensland Premier's Drama Award winner **Daniel Evans** (*The China Incident, I Want to Know What Love Is, I Should Have Drunk More Champagne*)**.**

Evans' project was selected from 121 entries for the prestigious award by unanimous decision for its creativity, its muscular style of writing and its forward thinking.

"This is a work about how we respond to tragedy in 2015. How we swallow it, how we sell it, how we ignore it, how we inflict it (often on the ones we love most), how we celebrate it, and how we move on (... or, scroll on, perhaps to a cat meme)," Evans said.

"The tragedy of the House of Labdacus is transplanted to the outer suburbs; a space that has always felt mythic to me. The play poses the question, what *if* Oedipus lived next door? What if his wife Jocasta shopped at the same Coles that you did? And his sons, Polynices and Etocles, were in your biology class at school?

"It's a proposition that isn't so hard to imagine – especially given the spate of murders, bashings, disappearances and backyard horror stories that continue to grip and mortify us via the 24-hour news stream; unspeakable tragedies becoming disturbingly commonplace.

Evans said, however, that in this version of events, the myth is fractured and domesticised, the protagonist is long gone and the myth's major players are extras.

"Antigone is barely afforded a footnote. The heroes are the bystanders and their fragmented first-hand accounts of Oedipus' downfall are their own small odysseys in a way. Your guides through this story are a contemporary

chorus of young people. Children are often at the centre of Greek Tragedy (Electra, Medea's sons, Dadelus' Icarus) but are so rarely given a voice.

"Here, they're moved from the periphery to centre stage. And they are charged with the task of telling you the story that detonated their neighbourhood. What they give us is a new myth: our own."

QTC Artistic Director Wesley Enoch said the play "speaks to a new audience with a young and vital voice, and invites the next generation of makers and lovers of theatre into the building; it's exciting, heartbreaking, thrilling and uncomfortable – everything great theatre should be."

"When *Oedipus Doesn't Live Here Anymore* was first read in front of an audience it was like a gasp of excitement and shock. You found yourself revolted and excited, moved to tears and laughing so hard you got a stitch," Enoch said.

Oedipus Doesn't Live Here Anymore

23 May to 13 June at the Bille Brown Studio, The GreenHouse
Tickets are available at queenslandtheatre.com.au or by calling 1800 355 528
Warning: Very high coarse language, adult themes, high level of violence, stobe lighting, smoke and haze

QUEENSLAND THEATRE COMPANY SEASON 2015

Queensland Theatre Company presents a Dead Puppet Society production *Argus*
5 May to 17 May at the Bille Brown Studio, The GreenHouse

Queensland Theatre Company presents the little red company production
Rumour Has It
Created by Adam Brunes & Naomi Price
8 July to 11 July at the Bille Brown Studio, The GreenHouse

Queensland Theatre Company presents a Force of Circumstance production
Home
14 July to 25 July at Studio 2, The GreenHouse

Queensland Theatre Company and Queensland Performing Arts Centre present *Country Song*
By Reg Cribb / Original concept by Michael Tuahine
4 July to 8 August at the Cremorne Theatre, QPAC

Queensland Theatre Company presents *Happy Days*
By Samuel Beckett
18 July to 15 August at the Bille Brown Studio, The GreenHouse

Queensland Theatre Company presents *Grounded*
29 July to 15 August at Studio 2, The GreenHouse

Queensland Theatre Company presents *The Seagull*
By Anton Chekhov / Adapted by Daniel Evans
29 August to 26 September at the Bille Brown Studio, The GreenHouse

Queensland Theatre Company present *The Odd Couple*
By Neil Simon
17 October to 8 November at the Playhouse, QPAC

Queensland Theatre Company in association with Queensland Performing Arts Centre presents *Ladies in Black*

Book by Carolyn Burns / Music and lyrics by Tim Finn / Adapted from THE WOMEN IN BLACK by Madeleine St John
14 November to 6 December at the Playhouse, QPAC

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