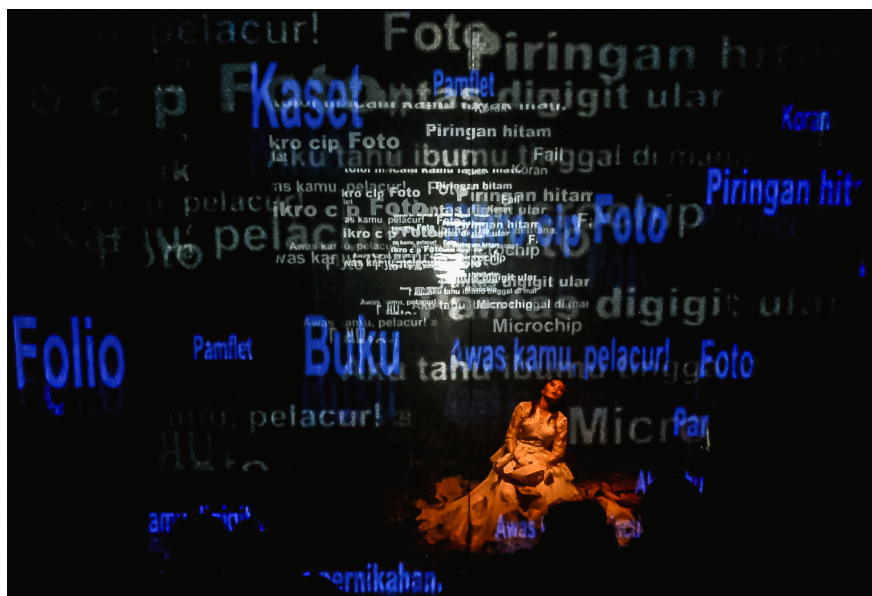


HADES FADING (HADES MEMUDAR)
Asia TOPA season 27 February – 1 March
Review Extracts



“Deeply rooted in Indonesian performance styles, this spirit world lives through an air of ritual and stylised movement, through choric whisperings and ululations, and an eerie mixture of drone and chime, percussion and song. ... Shadowplay has long featured in Indonesian theatre, and this 21st-century iteration – with lush projections from Deden Jalaludin Bulqini – is a triumph. **** 4 stars” Cameron Woodhead, The Age/SMH

Full review <https://www.smh.com.au/culture/theatre/cosmic-spectacle-and-apocalyptic-majesty-in-the-land-of-the-dead-20200228-p545bj.html>

“Presented at [Asia TOPA](#), this collaboration between Indonesian theatre company [Mainteater](#) and Australian collaborators including producer Kath Papas and multilingual consultant Jodee Mundy is a thinly veiled warning about man’s disconnect with the physical world. Perhaps to underscore this, set designers Emily Barrie and Deden Bulqini obscure our vision of the stage with literal layers of gossamer. In an early scene, a chorus of faceless voices appear to come from an army of people, but when Aji Sangiaji’s light filters through, we realise there are only six people onstage. From this small but mighty team, we also get a rich soundscape, supported by singing and the live playing of instruments such as the guzheng, berimbau and Chinese flute. ... the collaborators, some of whom have worked together for more than two decades, are well-matched, with an obvious sense of mutual respect permeating throughout the entire production. ... There is no sense of where one ends and one begins, bringing home the message that we live in the same world; so too should we care deeply for its continued survival.” Arts Equator (Singapore)

Full review <https://artsequator.com/hades-fading-asiatopa/>



"Hades Fading draws on Greek myth to examine an unfolding environmental crisis from an otherworldly perspective. In a stunning performance combining song, projection and a bilingual script, an extraordinary cast takes us on a return journey through Hades to our own world. This collaboration between Melbourne and Indonesian artists demonstrates art's capacity to reach across cultures, uninhibited by linguistic or physical borders. By blending traditional arts with modern technology, Mainteater and their collaborators have created something truly spellbinding." The Independent Arts Journal

Full review <http://popculture-y.com/2020/02/review-hades-fading-hades-memudar/>



“Godi Suwarna as Hades is positively frightening and commanding, capturing the sinister tones of his underworld realm. Rinrin Candraresmi as Persephone is beguiling while Heliana Sinaga as Eurydice provides an astonishing performance which demonstrates enormous stamina. Her character alternates between invoking trance-like states and making cynical gestures with a tone that captures a very contemporary belligerence. This gives her performance an amusing and surprising edge. Wawan Sofwan’s version of Orpheus carries all the regal presence of great music legends such as Elvis or Elton. This captures Orpheus’s selfish preoccupation with his musical talent with astonishing charm and the western cultural references blend well into the traditional elements of the performance. The effect is delightfully flamboyant. All of these characterisations are beautifully supported and rendered through the delicate and frequently eerie music performed by Ria Soemardjo and Sisca Guzhenng Harp.” Stage Whispers

Full review <http://www.stagewhispers.com.au/reviews/hades-fading-hades-memudar>

“*Hades Fading (Hades Memudar)* is breathtakingly beautiful and incredibly haunting as it speaks to forgetting the past and losing the lessons of old, inevitably heading to a future without human life. The cast constantly find themselves asking what language they are using, caught in a maelstrom of spoken word, music, and visual messaging. It makes me think of all the possibilities and information available in a globalised world which we are ignoring.” ***** 5 stars, What Did She Think?

Full review <http://www.whatdidshethink.com/2020/02/hades-fading-hades-memudar-theatre.html>

