Tiresias Presents New Weird Future: a Work in Process



SOCIAL NARRATIVE & SHOW GUIDE

TITLE: *New Weird Future*

RUN TIME: 70 minutes, no intermission

ART FORM: Puppet Opera

In *New Weird Future*, performers sing, dance, speak, and operate puppets.

ONE SENTENCE SUMMARY: Tiresias Presents New Weird Future: A Work In Process is a speculative eco-opera and puppet pageant-in-process that imagines futures of multispecies flourishing in the ruins of the Anthropocene.

ACCESS NOTE: New Weird Future contains periods of darkness, flashing lights, lights at eye level, and loud sounds.

NEW WEIRD FUTURE
WILL OFFER THE FOLLOWING:



- Sensory Tools like headphones, fidgets, and sunglasses
- A quiet lobby space during the show
- A welcoming environment. *All audience reactions are accepted.* We invite vocalizations, noises, and movements.



Image Description: the sidewalk view of La MaMa's entrance, a cream building with double doors flanked by pillars. The words "LA MAMA" are inscribed overhead.

THE VENUE

New Weird Future performances take place at The Club at La MaMa.

Address:

74A East 4th Street
2nd Floor
New York, NY 10003

ACCESS NOTE: The Club at La MaMa is accessible via elevator.

GETTING TO THE THEATER

By Subway:



- Broadway-Lafayette / Bleecker



- 2nd Ave.



- 8 St. - NYU

By Bus:

M103 - Bowery/E 4 St

M15 - 2 Avenue/East 6 Street

WHEN YOU ARRIVE

The lobby opens 30 minutes before the show.

First, check in at the ticket table.

In the lobby you can find: seating, restrooms, & sensory tools.

There is no late seating.



Image Description: The entrance to the lobby at 74A E 4th St. To the left, a ramp leads up to an open lobby area with benches. To the right, an elevator with closed doors, which leads to the second floor.

ENTERING THE THEATER

When the house opens,
you will head up to the second floor. You can take stairs or the elevator.

This show has general seating,
which means seats are not assigned. You may choose your own seats. Seating is on two sides of the stage, two rows against each long wall, facing each other.

DURING THE SHOW

If you need to take a break, you can leave the theater and return. If you need to move around during the show, you may use the downstairs lobby space.

We ask that you do not come onto the stage at any time during the show.

The show contains moment of optional audience participation - you are welcome, but not required, to participate.

AFTER THE SHOW

You will head back to the first floor lobby (be sure to take home your complimentary packet of seeds!)

In the lobby, you may say hello to the performers!

MEET THE PERFORMERS

Image Descriptions: Individual headshots of the cast and band, highlighting their unique senses of style and artistry.



Angélica



Ellen



Emily



Darian



Mizuho



Nicki



Synead



Tiresias



Tristan



Wes

SHOW SYNOPSIS

All production photos by Rachel Phillips/Eugene O'Neill Theater Center



Image Description:
Two puppeteers hold up the mammoth's head, with two large tusks and a flexible trunk. The mammoth puppet is made of burlap and reeds.

Scene One - The Last Mammoth

A puppet of the last living mammoth roams the playing space and grazes. A hunter appears from within the mammoth, and raises a spear in the mammoth's direction. The lights cut out, and we hear screaming.

Scene Two - Cosmogony

In the darkness, citizens of the New Weird Future gather in a ritual circle to sing a creation story.

SHOW SYNOPSIS



Image Description:
The cast of *New Weird Future* standing together in a group behind music stands, with their arms raised towards the sky.

Scene Three - New Weird Future

Upon receiving the bountiful harvest, the citizens praise fruits and vegetables, singing and dancing in celebration of the New Weird Future. The harvest is given to the band, where it becomes fuel that powers the lights and makes music. After the song, Tiresias speaks directly to the audience and describes the New Weird Future.

Scene Four - The Man in the Golden Grove

Tiresias warns us about “The Sixth Extinction” - an event that could have happened, had humanity not changed its course. With a storybook of shadow puppetry, the citizens sing a song about how this sixth extinction might have gone.

SHOW SYNOPSIS

Scene Five - Cockroach Ballet
At the end of the song, a human-sized cockroach dances for the audience.

Scene Six - Song of Thanks
Through a gestural dance language, the citizens of the New Weird Future bless the flora and fauna of their time, to express gratitude that the natural world was not lost to the past.



Image Description:
Four performers sit on the ground, with their eyes looking up towards the sky. They are raising a hand gesture that looks like peace signs above their heads. They wear green headpieces shaped to mimic plants and flowers.

SHOW SYNOPSIS



Image Description:
Tiresias holds the white lyrebird puppet on their head. The puppet is medium-sized, with a small head, wings, and long tail feathers. The lyrebird is lit in stark contrast to the darkness around it.

Scene Seven - Atonement Rite
The bountiful harvest of food is shared with the audience. The ghost of the mammoth interrupts the festivities. The citizens of the New Weird Future perform funeral rites for the mammoth.

Scene Eight - Lyrebird's Lament
The lyrebird, a bird that can mimic the calls of other birds, sings the songs of extinct birds. The citizens sing a song of grief to the lyrebird.

SHOW SYNOPSIS



Image Description:
Two humanoid puppets, operated by multiple puppeteers, sit atop the mammoth head, repurposed as a mountain. They are constructed of reeds and wood, with flowers and greenery growing inside them. One puppet looks at the other, who is staring out into the distance.

<u>Scene Nine - In the Future We Sunbathe</u>

In an even further future than the New Weird Future, humanity's descendants sunbathe and cloud gaze on a mountaintop. They share a meal of fungi and sunlight.

WE HOPE YOU ENJOY THE SHOW!



Social Media: @whoistiresias

lamama.org/tiresiaspresentsnewweirdfuture/