

For Immediate Release

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PHOTOS BY WONGE BERGMAN

## **JAN FABRE'S "PROMETHEUS - LANDSCAPE II" TO RECEIVE WORLD PREMIERE AT PEAK PERFORMANCES, JANUARY 20-30**

A sign outside the Alexander Kasser Theater at Montclair State University should warn: "Cowards stay home." Jan Fabre's productions are not for the weak-kneed.

Considered the enfant terrible of European theater, the Belgian theater director/writer/choreographer/visual artist tackles tough political, social, sexual and artistic issues with unflinching grit, wit and humanity. His "Prometheus - Landscape II," which has its world premiere at Peak Performances, January 20-30, exemplifies Fabre's fierce imagination and fearless aesthetic.

The central image of the show is of Prometheus, bound and suspended high above the stage throughout the full 90-minute production. Symbolizing the artist bound by society's contradictions: freedom of expression versus obedience to order, Prometheus, the bringer of fire to man, is also a symbol of creation and destruction.

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While "Prometheus" is based on the Aeschylus tragedy, the text, which echoes the thunderous drama of the original, is brand new; it is written by Jeroen Olyslaegers and Fabre who apply the moral themes and stern warnings of Aeschylus to contemporary society. The look is completely contemporary in its use of technological wizardry as a 21st century symbol of fire.

Fabre, who in addition to conceiving, co-writing and directing the show, created the visually compelling sets. The music is by Dag Taeldeman, the lighting by Jan Dekeyser, and the costumes by Andrea Kranzlin. The international cast of 10 dancers and actors includes the American choreographer, actor and dancer Lawrence Goldhuber.

The work, co-commissioned by Peak Performances (NJ, USA), Théâtre de la Ville (Paris, France), Malta Festival (Poznan, Poland), Tanzhaus NRW (Düsseldorf, Germany), Zagreb Youth Theatre (Zagreb, Croatia) and Exodos Ljubljana (Ljubljana, Slovenia), will be performed at each of the commissioners' venues.

Although a celebrated figure throughout Europe, Fabre is still relatively unknown in the United States. His only U.S. performances outside of The Kitchen in New York City have been at Peak Performances, where his company performed "Quando l'uomo principale e una donna" in 2006, "Je suis sang" in 2007 and "Orgy of Tolerance" in 2008.

In the late 1970's, the young Fabre created a scandal as a performance artist by setting fire to bundles of money from the audience and using the ashes to create drawings. Over the years he became well known and respected for the originality of his work as theater director, choreographer, opera director, and playwright. The Louvre recognized the power of Fabre as a visual artist in 2008 by juxtaposing his contemporary art with the work of the Flemish, Dutch and German masters. In all, his work commandeered 39 galleries. In 2004, he performed with Marina Abramovic at the Palais de Tokyo in Paris. France's internationally celebrated Avignon Festival invited him as a curator in 2005.

Fabre created his company, Troubleyn (which means remaining faithful), in Antwerp in 1986. Troubleyn's home, Troubleyn Laboratorium, functions as a workplace, rehearsal space and a laboratory for independent research and training, focusing on the body and language. Troubleyn has presented Fabre's productions at the Théâtre de la Ville, the Avignon Festival, Venice Biennale, Ruhr Triennale, the Vilnius Festival and in countless other venues and festivals throughout the world.

For complete information on Jan Fabre and Troubleyn, visit: [www.troubleyn.be/](http://www.troubleyn.be/)

## TICKET, TRANSPORTATION AND DINING INFORMATION

“Prometheus – Landscape II” Performance Times:

Jan. 20, 21, 27, at 7:30pm

Jan. 22, 29 at 8pm

Jan. 23, 30 at 3pm

All tickets are \$15 and are available at the Alexander Kasser Theater Box Office, by calling 973-655-5112 or online at [www.peakperfs.org/](http://www.peakperfs.org/)

Charter bus service is provided from New York City’s Port Authority Bus Terminal – arcade on 41st Street between 8th and 9th Avenues – to the Alexander Kasser Theater (\$10 per person, roundtrip) for all Saturday and Sunday performances. Bus reservations may be made by calling 973-655-5112 or by visiting [www.peakperfs.org](http://www.peakperfs.org). For train service, available only on weekdays, go online to [www.njtransit.com](http://www.njtransit.com) or call 1-973-275-5555.

For restaurants close to the Alexander Kasser Theater, visit [www.destinationmontclair.com/](http://www.destinationmontclair.com/)

**Montclair State University is located at 1 Normal Avenue, Montclair, New Jersey 07043**

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