## Tickets Available For Brooklyn Botanic Garden's The New York Premiere Of MOTHER LEAR, In Partnership With We Players

Grace Cutler

Brooklyn Botanic Garden (BBG), in partnership with We Players, will present a limited run of We Players' acclaimed Mother Lear from August 24th through August 28th at BBG (990 Washington Avenue, Brooklyn). The six performances in the Children's Garden Pavilion represent the show's New York premiere and a special opportunity for New Yorkers to experience an site integrated theater experience in one of the city's most beloved green spaces.

Written and performed by Ava Roy and <u>Courtney Walsh</u>, Mother Lear is a poignant production about an irascible middle-aged scholar with dementia who communicates with her caretaker daughter using only the text of Shakespeare's King Lear as the two struggle with aging, love and their own balance of power. The 50-minute performance serves as Act One; a facilitated discussion with the audience exploring themes of aging, dementia, caregiving, and end of life follows as our Act Two.

Mother Lear has been produced on the west coast in venues including traditional theaters, public parks, community centers and nursing homes. It aligns with BBG's focus in recent years to make the Garden even more accessible to individuals with dementia and their support network. Since 2016, BBG offers memory programs specifically designed for people with dementia and their caregivers such as the Seasonal Highlights Memory Tours. Led by staff trained in horticultural therapy, these tours are offered onsite at the Garden, virtually and presented to assisted living facilities. There have been over 1,000 participants in programs specifically designed for people suffering from dementia at the Garden, providing a therapeutic outlet for individuals and families to experience nature in an urban environment.

The performance, which will mark the east coast debut of Mother Lear, is part of Brooklyn Botanic Garden's Art in the Garden series featuring outdoor performances.

Tickets are \$40 or \$36 for Garden members.

Founded in 1910, Brooklyn Botanic Garden (BBG) is an urban botanic garden that connects people to the world of plants, fostering delight and curiosity while inspiring an appreciation and sense of stewardship of the environment. Situated on 52 acres in the heart of Brooklyn and open year-round, the Garden is home to over 12,000 kinds of plants and more than 30 specialty gardens.

Garden entrances are at 990 Washington Avenue, 150 Eastern Parkway, and 455 Flatbush Avenue. Follow @brooklynbotanic on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter, and join the conversation using #BrooklynBotanicGarden. Learn more about BBG at bbg.org.

We Players is the San Francisco Bay Area's premier site-specific theatre company. Founded in 2000, We Players creates stunning productions that are intimate and interactive stimulating all of the senses through dynamic in-situ staging. Projects takes place in national, state and municipal parks, drawing thousands of diverse young people and adults from all backgrounds to these beautiful sites each year - many for the very first time.