

TRENDING

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ENTERTAINMENT | PERFORMANCE

We Players adapts 'Beowulf' for the great outdoors

By **Lily Janiak**

Updated March 15, 2017 2:10 p.m.



We Players' "Beowulf" doesn't have a consistent start time; you're encouraged to arrive at 5:45 p.m. at the [San Francisco Maritime Museum](#) so that you can be ready whenever the show starts, which is at sunset on the dot.

In addition to its usual tips — the participatory, outdoor, site-specific theater company always advises its audience members to dress warmly, in layers and comfortable shoes — We Players has a further request of its "Beowulf" spectators: wear all black. "We are in mourning," its website explains.

Directors [Ava Roy](#) and Shinichi Iova-Koga adapted the show from the Old English epic poem in collaboration with Rova Saxophone Quartet and [inkBoat Physical Theatre and Dance](#), in addition to We Players. Expect warriors who battle to rescue Denmark from monsters, a snack break in a "mead hall" with performers, and the dramatic self-sacrifice of an aging king.

— *Lily Janiak*

"Beowulf": 5:45 p.m. See website for curtain times. Saturday–Sunday, March 18–19. Through April 16. \$30–\$80. Aquatic Park and Fort Mason Chapel, 1100 Bay St., S.F. www.weplayers.org

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By **Lily Janiak**



Lily Janiak joined the San Francisco Chronicle as theater critic in May 2016. Previously, her writing appeared in Theatre Bay Area, American Theatre, SF Weekly, the Village Voice and HowlRound. She holds a BA in theater studies from Yale and an MA in drama from San Francisco State.

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