



## INTERNATIONAL / WORLD THEATRE

*An evening with Italian playwright*

# DACIA MARAINI



DACIA MARAINI  
Photo © Giuseppe Moretti  
Courtesy of artist

*Including excerpts from the plays*

### ***Camille, Mary Stuart, and Notarbartolo: A Just Man***

*plus a short visual presentation and a panel discussion with experts on her work*

**NEW YORK CITY, WEDNESDAY, MAY 3, 2006, 6:30 P.M.**

**MARTIN E. SEGAL THEATRE CENTER, THE GRADUATE CENTER, CUNY**

*Cosponsored by Jane House Productions; Martin E. Segal Theatre Center;  
Italian Specialization, Ph.D. Program in Comparative Literature, The Graduate Center, CUNY;  
and Istituto Italiano di Cultura, New York.*

**Pre-Performance Music**

Matteo Salvatore, "Lamenti di Mendicanti" (Harmonia Mundi: Musique d'abord, 2005)  
"Grandi voci di Napoli" (Octavo, 1990)

**Pre-Performance Slide Projection**

Photographs of Productions of Plays by DACIA MARAINI

Welcome.....DANIEL GEROULD; FRANK HENTSCHKER (MESTC)

Introduction with film and video clips.....JANE HOUSE

## Readings

- Camille*, 1995, excerpts translated by Jane House  
Camille.....MONICA WEST\*  
Her Mother.....KATHY LEE HART\*  
Camille (Italian).....SILVIA GIAMPAOLA
- Mary Stuart*, 1980, translated by Christopher Percy with Nicolette Kay  
Elizabeth I.....JUDITH MALINA\*
- Notarbartolo: A Just Man*, 2006, five excerpts translated by Jane House  
Leopoldo Notarbartolo.....OLIVER HENZLER\*  
Emanuele Notarbartolo.....HANON REZNIKOV\*  
Nurse.....MONICA WEST\*  
Hospital Cafeteria Director .....RAYMOND MCANALLY\*  
Palizzolo.....SHAWN ELLIOTT\*  
Palizzolo's Mother .....KATHY LEE HART\*  
Prince, Judge.....SAM TSOUTSOUVAS\*

\*Members of Actors Equity Association

*Post-reading Discussion*.....DACIA MARAINI; JUDITH MALINA, The Living Theatre  
HANON REZNIKOV, The Living Theatre; JANE HOUSE

## Q & A with Audience

**Dacia Maraini**, a prolific writer and prominent feminist, has written novels, poetry, plays, investigative studies, essays, and screenplays. Her novels have been translated into many languages, and her plays produced throughout the world. As the daughter of well-known ethnologist Fosco Maraini and painter Topazia Alliata, she spent her early childhood in Japan. Because of her parents' anti-fascist views, the family was confined in a concentration camp from 1943 to 1945. After their return from Japan, she and her family lived in Sicily, and after studies in Palermo, Florence, and Rome, Dacia began writing articles in literary magazines. Her novels include *La vacanza* (1962, *The Vacation*); *L'età del malessere* (1963, *The Age of Discontent*, International Formentor Prize); *Memorie di una ladra* (1973, *Memoirs of a Female Thief*); *Donna in guerra* (1975, *Woman at War*); *Lettere a Marina* (1981, *Letters to Marina*); *Il treno per Helsinki* (1984, *The Train*); *La lunga vita di Marianna Ucria* (1990, *The Silent Duchess*); *Viaggiando con passo di volpe* (1983–91, *Traveling in the Gait of a Fox*); *Bagheria*, a narrative memoir of Sicily (1993); *Cercando Emma*, a study of Flaubert's creation of Emma Bovary (1994, *Searching for Emma*); *La lunga vita di Marianna Ucria* (1999, Premio Campiello and Premio Strega, *The Silent Duchess*); *Buio*, a collection of short stories (1999, Premio Strega); *La nave per Kobe* (2001, *The Ship for Kobe*); and *Colomba* (2004), which is currently being translated into French, German, and English.

While she was busy publishing novels and poetry, she also co-founded the Teatro del Porcospino in the 1960s and established the well-known feminist experimental theatre, La Maddalena, in Rome, in 1973. Between 1972 and 1973, her play *Manifesto* was published serially by *Aphra*, an American literary magazine, and a production was subsequently presented at the Provincetown Playhouse. *Maria Stuarda* (*Mary Stuart*) has been widely produced abroad at La MaMa E.T.C., NYC; California State University—Hayward; the Publieke Theatre, Holland; Teatro Español de Madrid, Spain; Teatro Candela, Montevideo, Uruguay; as well as in Australia, Belgium, Germany, and Austria. *I sogni di Clitennestra* (*The Dreams of Clytemnestra*) was performed in New York City in 1989. Other plays include *Dialogo di una prostituta con il suo cliente* (*Dialogue between a Prostitute and her Client*), performed by the Monstrous Regiment, East End Theatre, London (1980–81), and *Stravaganza*, performed at the Kunstlerhaus, Vienna (1987), then in Australia, Brazil, and Germany. Additional plays continue to be translated and performed, most recently a stage version of *Marianna Ucria*. Several films have been made based on her books, and she herself has written screenplays for such directors as Pier Paolo Pasolini, Marco Ferreri, Carlo Di Palma, and Margarethe Von Trotta.

She continues to be active in feminist causes and as a commentator on politics and society. Her articles have appeared regularly in such publications as *Corriere della Sera*, *La Stampa*, *L'Unità*, and *Paese Sera*.

**The Living Theatre**, a unique avant-garde enterprise deeply committed to theatre as a medium for social change, was founded in New York City in 1947 by Judith Malina and Julian Beck. The company has staged more than 80 productions in eight languages in 25 countries on four continents—in traditional as well as non-traditional venues such as prisons, steel mills, slums, schools, and the street. Since the death of Julian Beck in 1985, Judith Malina and company veteran Hanon Reznikov have been co-directors of the company.

**Jane House** (translator, director, producer) Ph.D. in Theatre, The Graduate Center, CUNY. Professional acting credits include theatre, film, and TV. Directing: Threshold Theatre Company, Love Creek Productions, and Lehman College. She has taught at Lehman College, Vassar, and NYU. Translations from Italian include Santanelli, Ginzburg, Pirandello, and Petrolini. She and Antonio Attisani co-edited *20th Century Italian Drama: The First 50 Years*, an anthology (Columbia University Press, 1995).

*Special thanks: Daniel Gerould, Silvia Giampaolo, Peter Harris, Frank Hentschker, Tom Rowan, Sam Shanks, Jan Stenzel, Liz Swain, Lauren Weintraub.*

**The Martin E. Segal Theatre Center (MESTC), The Graduate Center, CUNY**, is a non-profit center for theatre, dance, and film affiliated with CUNY's Ph.D. Program in Theatre. Originally founded in 1979 as the Center for Advanced Studies in Theatre Arts (CASTA), it was renamed in March of 1999 in recognition of one of New York City's outstanding leaders of the arts. The Center's primary focus is to bridge the gap between the academic and professional performing arts communities by providing an open environment for the development of educational, community-driven, and professional projects in the performing arts. As a result, MESTC is home to theatre scholars, students, playwrights, actors, dancers, directors, dramaturgs, and performing arts managers, as well as both the local and international theatre communities. The Center presents staged readings to further the development of new and classic plays, lecture series, televised seminars featuring professional and academic luminaries, and arts in education programs, and maintains its long-standing visiting-scholars-from-abroad program. In addition, the Center publishes a series of highly regarded academic journals, as well as books, including plays in translation, all written and edited by renowned scholars.  
<http://web.gc.cuny.edu/mestc>

*Executive Director, Daniel Gerould  
Director of Administration, Jan Stenzel*

*Director of Programs, Frank Hentschker  
Assistant to Director of Programs, Lauren Weintraub*

**Jane House Productions**, based in NY, specializes in presenting American premier stage readings of Italian drama in New York City. Past presentations include Manlio Santanelli's *Queen Mother* (1987); Raffaele Viviani's Neapolitan musical *Via Toledo by Night* (1918); Pirandello's *Tonight We Improvise* (1930) as well as his first published play, a one-act, *Why?* (1892); Eduardo De Filippo's one act *The Part of Hamlet* (1940); and Natalia Ginzburg's *I Married You for Fun* (1964). [www.janehouseprods.com](http://www.janehouseprods.com)

**Istituto Italiano di Cultura of New York** is administered by the Direzione Generale Promozione Culturale (DGPC) of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The purpose of the Istituto is to strengthen the cultural links between Italy and the USA by promoting academic exchanges, organizing visual arts exhibitions, sponsoring the translation of Italian books, promoting Italian studies, and supporting various events dealing with Italian music, dance, cinema, theatre, architecture, literature, and cuisine. The Istituto hosts on its premises events, lectures, and press conferences featuring Italian and American personalities. [www.italcultny.org](http://www.italcultny.org).

**The Graduate Center, CUNY**, of which MESTC is an integral part, was founded in 1961 as the doctorate-granting institution of The City University of New York, the nation's largest urban university system. Here 4000 students and over 1700 faculty scholars, drawn from throughout the CUNY system and New York City's leading cultural and scientific institutions, join in the shared enterprises of teaching, learning, researching, and expanding the boundaries of knowledge. In this environment of intellectual discovery and exchange, twenty-eight research centers and institutes augment over thirty doctoral programs in the humanities, social sciences, and sciences.

#### **Ph.D. Program in Theatre, The Graduate Center, CUNY**

MESTC is affiliated with the CUNY Graduate Center Ph.D. Program in Theatre, whose faculty includes distinguished professors, holders of endowed chairs, and internationally recognized scholars. Faculty members edit MESTC publications, working closely with the doctoral students in theatre who perform a variety of editorial functions and learn the skills involved in the creation of books and journals. One of the leading doctoral theatre programs in the United States, the Ph.D. program in Theatre at CUNY Graduate Center trains future scholars and teachers in all the disciplines of theatre research.