Medea in Aia
Part I of The Medead

by
Fiona Templeton
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The MEDEAD - Prologue

The staging of the Prologue and Act I, Part I take place with audience and performers sharing the flat performance area.

The play begins when the audience enter the performance space preferably from at least two different entrances. No instructions are given as to where they place themselves and the lighting is very low so that the boundaries of the space on all sides are dark.

The performers (entire cast) is placed around the space in such a way that when audience hear them make the sounds (breathing, birds) they are discouraged from finding a specific edge to settle at.

The few lines of the Prologue may be played by an additional very young performer.

A dim light follows the youngest Medea as she enters like a sleepwalker. She should cross the space more than once, groping, moving behind groups, etc., again to destabilize their understanding of a division of performance area and audience area.
sounds begin in
dark, just breathing
at first as in sleep,
then a bird or two

Gradually we see,
light brightening all
the way up to a
flash then slowly
back down. This
diastole and systole
of light happens a
few times, like
speeded up cycles
of day and night.,
slowing at almost
dark again. It will
eventually lighten
again in the course
of the scene, as of a
night

who who who
who sweet?

it’s you it’s you it’s
you

see

an empty stage

Chorus: Child Medea faces night to guard the
door of sunrise

Medea
(child):

the moon rounds
to meet herself
banding
the night together
licked bud of her
night-blood blue
touchable
in my doorway

let the dark
star awhile

Chorus: this is what she teaches him
more honest

M Chorus:
keep torment

Chorus:
say the blue jerseyed sailors

they know and piling
breathwishes eagerer


the sea surrounds and
disperses like the limbs
of her brother,
Apsyrtus, pursuing

Aeetes, Ideia,
Medea, far
apart, a line
each, softly:


burial
that’s deep
it matters

A, I, M
together:

can’t
bury

End of Act One Part One
Chorus:  
that's nice  
but who's for life

Medea:  
same child  
it's not feared  
it's breast  
it's tightening  
it's a furious grace  
it's limbs that hold  
and leap  
and play  
it's sisters brothers  
in silver  
and awed and varied friend  
and sings sinews

Orpheus:  
Medea:  
I'll take lessons  
a sky bodies  
below border  
and that's what fits  
it's much  
it's all curtailing  
who cuts off  
him or me

Orpheus (to J):  
Jason:  
if it wasn't for language we'd be saying  
nothing  
and death and his over and over  
that's my socks carnival  
roll along flash

Medea (to J):  
it's a doubt  
it's a birthright  
it's my body  
brain in my stocking

Medea sings a skin of language over  
the invisible

it's my song  
see where it charts now  
the waiting time  
of my body's letting  
into touch  
out of cool relations  
soon too soon  
day will lean on me  
I've seen its sheath  
I made it  
hot-drop forged  
and seamless  
my lips  
fib not  
my tongue  
is whet  

answer  
from the place  
tintinnabulous  
fabulous infinite  
billy bell billy-bell  
bulb of us  
playmate  
stalked in woods  
jeering years  
mind out of watch  
of nightingales blowing  
restored to pieces  
hung in trees  
a scape  
from land  
and cage

she listens  
swhet sweet sweat  
'swet s'wet swets  
wets whets
As she reaches the last image, the light opens out very slowly, then with a flash, dawnlike, behind.

Her father appears. (image of main-eagle from Assyria) (the bird-sounds flurry up from his line, different songs all at once)

She starts to fall

Falls

Dawn chorus

look at you look at you on your feet pick it up pick it up toy toy

As she reaches the last image, the light opens out very slowly, then with a flash, dawnlike, behind.

Her father appears. (image of main-eagle from Assyria) (the bird-sounds flurry up from his line, different songs all at once)

She starts to fall

Falls

Dawn chorus

look at you look at you on your feet pick it up pick it up toy toy
driving down
here come
all the fatherought
trundling terrible
who won
later
deep

to easy speak
in grounded air
he fell
that's me
an airman
in the estuary
would some wild thing
breath returns
from
a propulsion
a put out
a cardboard aerofoct
a propeller lied

cust to cust
hairs on him danced

Aeetes:

Medea:
a dingering undertaking

Medea:
what cannot do
is memorable
dear one fatherfish
furly
at the intersect

The MEDEAD – ACT I

Part 1 – Medea in Colchis

This part continues the use of space as in the Prologue, i.e. performers moving among and moving the audience, but lights, text, birds, and performer movements are used to continually change the configuration of the audience in the space: e.g. leaving a small or large performance area; later a division into Argonauts and Aiaks; members of the feast; and, in general, a sense of participating in the events of the narrative and/or the event of the performance.
The MEDEAD -ACT I
Part I - Medea in Colchis

Medea's father the eagle, son of the sun

Medea: do you know what this is it's shedding its bark
like a child
I've seen it dissolve in the green woods

Aeetes: no skill
Chorus: tearing apart
Aeetes: confusion
Aeetes: what's on it building up to it by ladder
and all too focused on this springing from
Chorus: he's coughing too much
Aeetes: take this aside away from Port Authority
Chorus: but she did not
Medea: what's on it building up to it by ladder
and all too focused on this springing from
Chorus: and in his house biding
Medea: father tease
Chorus: biding
sheep, ram
Chorus: armour
Chorus: perverse peace

Medea: light remains up

Aeetes: Medea's father the eagle, son of the sun

Chorus: an eagle goes out of the basket

Medea: Medea is referring to Idaia, the Chorus to Medea:
for years and years and years and years and years

Chorus: caught the wind
Chorus/M: where she is taken
Chorus: where she is
Chorus: or waiting
Chorus: being

Medea watches her coast recede, her father fly after

Medea: air air

Aeetes: oh there he is zooming up above
in the bright above the clouds
the last suspension

Medea: get things done

Aeetes: those edges spun top till
out of inexistence

Medea: whoformed
whenever
sophy get rid
from the shore

Medea:
from the shore

Chorus:
so leans into his neighbour's tomb

Aeetes:
tiger

I Chorus:
did you say?

Aeetes:
decide
whose is
nice neat
heap o bodies junk
eyelash wound
seize day heart
arm time

scatter homages
dottage
insor
alti
nice
necé
outside me
zone concocted

I know nesce
enough
but wars enough
is clean enough for you
clear is not the day
old man
I'm maaaing mine in time

for the force of daylife
there is too much of
who are so standing still
you
laugh
and hide on the other side
she's amused
before her flight
take honeyseeds

(from "look")
pistils stamen and look
from the beginnings us faster
in polyphoney

Medea:
a bark
signif
cleverance

Aeetes:
down I word fell
up to query
what's the use in trying knifelaughter
how could you miss me
and down akree
praying tell what's let daughter
how throws it bobbing
and old and grieving
how we lived what's said what's dying
and how the seeing god curses

Medea:
tinged with
beautydogs running down
new
meaning that it's
a prize present

as if love and hate were one

there's a choice

and gently kindly,
and boldly where it's polished,
struck away.

Chorus: so leans into his neighbour's tomb
brilliant brilliant brilliant

Aeetes: we seize flight
Medea: oh wings body
Aeetes: I'm seized hold
Medea: a lion oh ah
Aeetes: I'm lift
Medea: your feather else
Chorus: goodmess me, we're so, spinning
Aeetes: spines
did I have I asked you?
Aeetes: angle body to the dregs
Medea: fright dazzles away
Aeetes: stop crying
Medea: who is?
Aeetes: we
Medea: are
Aeetes: you're dried
Chorus: just as hard to be with me as any
Medea: fingers feathers away
cuts familiaritys
Medea: that stair wasn't there before
Aeetes: the bale has civilized
Medea: I'm dark
Chorus: it's the awful difference
seen at the same time

overlapping: is he too late concerned with his
all of a sudden
what papers
what cries
furry
angry
a wooden defence
but we're in a ring and I'm looking from
below
shut the first
we bet so much on that you liked him
lip-o
cries, utterances
messages from seagulls far away
birds, attacking

(to Medea.)

(like seahirds; gulls, long on up) utterances utterances
keep it up keep it up
keep it up

M Chorus: at last they flash
a line each: turning down instention

man, I mean
let's pray
with ears like
I hear goddess, I see horns
take this animal
take this uncouth madman's dresses
a fleet assembly say it shadow
her falling

Jason:

Medea:

It's right, out there there is nothing
grass slopes away

(Idée and Aëtes;)

Aëtes:

we wake cracked as a swerve
of innocence
and a hear fear pulling down
much older and colder
sadness who'll detail
like a few bars
a chain linked off
locks
dazzle
treasure
turned

Chorus / M:
up rearing
gives bud

Chorus:
but cast
in a hurry
at the turning point
against the trunk
lick/it
as he he ha ha
falls back

Medea:
which was
apart

Chorus:
bites
like a plow

Medea:
lapped
and crowded
I'm blanketet to noeyes
the sun bleeds beneath the lids

all the way bright

Chorus, a
line each,
snatches

plunder to the sea

_earnestness
it's how it works

Medea waits to be a woman

Medea:
shed
shed to be able to
say it too young to
dye to elaborate
blue sky

all M's:
swathes
is us
emption painless
whose ordinary lives
into lead leaning
save us
homes truth
ruth
arrangement
too light to cry

Medea (girl):

Orpheus appears
unseen, listening
here she is crowds
here she is into here
she is

settlement like a seizure
all fall down
locked off
what not done
forked songs
what late
o, breath, writing
warp speaking
whose saving
inconvenience
trying against hocus-pocus
effortless manchomale

Medea:
he runs his hand along the bars
and the fence turns into music
I made both of them
Jason is half-visible

do we? do we?

strangers in the house

Medea:
whispiccity
a coward
go, go in any room
what do you imagine
it's the harm off
it's me little beasts
I'm valentine I'm sitting there

the bell-gold reparator
and teasing light
not quite all is tame
not quite backwards
and up
as squarely in the face as a flower
looking down
tendrils growing
pistils stamen
a heavenly same heart
no blame
inclement
a parent copy
and callylaughing

Jason/M:
a fissure
I don't ask her
will you walk into my trous

Orpheus:

Jason:

Orpheus/M:
oh

Medea:
that's how I can turn into another
and all below my tree
in featuring furls
featherdown
deathertrump while he
away that avoidance blank
wings me
tangent
why should I care

sing
why should I measure
scale
with each limb
left
where I danced it

up
in my everarms branches
and my us time

ripples
gold
curls how an image holds
juices down the chin

Chorus:
down the chest

Medea:
I'm allturned
and taken

mixed
I grows dark

lights up in the

course of the scene

again

Orpheus and
Jason approach.

Orpheus:  

Aetes:  

Chorus:  

Medea lulls the fleece-

Chorus:  

and came to the forest

W chorus:  

where saws worm

Chorus:  

or call it sleep

a word each:  

drag on downkeeping

Chorus:  

and which genitive look idea

W chorus:  

drag on downkeeping

Chorus:  

there she dazed

Medea:  

sighing cloud

M chorus:  

grip up

Chorus:  

all he lost

withcharge

W chorus:  

oh shield blaze before it

Chorus:  

she'll draw

W chorus:  

and asks answers

M chorus:  

no one fortune

Chorus:  

drink

M chorus:  

it's not like in the future

Orpheus offers the
trousseau of knives in
exchange for Medea's
weapons

Orpheus:  

here let me have it

I can't see it for the trees
dear child

let me inch a breadth of it

let me see it in hell

take it away

knives are dark

song is old

song is new

that's the description

where I'm tied

like a blade

eat it

you would

Medea:  

I see I want I return

age not far enough

but make its request

lastly little things

don't be ingenuous

leaves are striking and stead

this one's first feather

ought to be new

more's said

not unlikely yellow feather

tricking blade

into his moustrous
Medea: I'm afraid I can't follow you sir size
re J: but there's a reather else
a new opeyes
and come to the gate the sweet lilacs hang
a nest gapes
put your hand in

Jason: no I'm such a blade believer it's a lap
I know what size I'm share
and seed century

Orpheus: now I'll tell this one it's looking backwards
and you can carry it sure-footed across
this one's used in hunting

Orpheus: ook phew what a fortune
cutbanded
cutheaded looped through carving
across heroes froth

Medea: I'm unpredicted
I'm attracted to the world
I'm a volute
I'll use voice

Aeetes: let the deathgusts in
Medea: I won't talk about the war or the murders
they're too trilingual

Chorus: announcements

Medea: in ill treat
o cruelrice
turnbullsyes

Chorus: rull over the trees

Medea: where's this coming
it's cried
derg edge
clop knife
I should be so borgeon

Medea: someone won
I'm slit chip prize away
I'll be
you'll he'll
cutoff point
there's none
it's all a path

Chorus: and blood beats hard
Medea: a dis coursed
and uncursed
fire breathing

Chorus: and air pours thin

Jason: let's go
no I'm gone no
a bremer
no I'll die
and sense deud

Medea: to me to me
medeo: to me to me

she won't look
it's a fear it's a fear
it's you it's you it's you
cheater cheater cheater
cheater cheater cheater

birds & chorus stop to me to me
Aeetes leads Jason to the circular grove of task

Mea: inch
bright armour

Jason: enough of the loud symblang
calling stears

Medea: sure once I
hulp you

who dash
bring all your own

pomegranate seeds like a mouthful of teeth

Chorus: she gave them out
and locked them in her recipe

Aeetes: send them to the fields

Chorus: like the hairs on his head
seething on a frightful hurry
shregation's the condition of it

the story she didn't know she knew

Birds: it's a late blade
Orpheus: it's porred with light

Medea: only the tail protrudes
only is infret

Jason: and gorgeous longing
in whose body was it workplace

crystal photograph

Medea: gorgeous disguise

Medea: upending our ownlessness

Jason: arms in hand

zero me in fill

terrafamilias

Medea: orgeous whose hiding?

M to her left hand:

Medea: you are

M to left:

I'm memusing

M to left:

I'm head heap hearing

Medea: met us me you

Medea: bend words

Medea: bind words

M to left:

Medea: beehives himself

Medea: if it didn't ear right the first time

Medea: havoc head

Medea: in mother

I'm head heap hearing

and she's

Jason: million
I

M is now playing between her two hands like two characters. Jason's actions mirror those of her hands.

Medea: M to left: M to right:

Mether starrer O & Chorus: starrer readful fingerlips

M to left: strange you find me tricky
stranger turning from me
I'm more here than you
your rearing fair gaze sizes me up

now you know
it strained love
it retted down
but too much

Medea digs up the herb of invincibility on the night hill for Jason

Medea: flowers empty their breasts at us
in the night
and the animal breathing heads
high chested
in the scented woods

pistils marigolding fingers

Chorus: She takes the thick root of meaning in her hands
leaves come fluttering
hair stood on end

Medea: right prove I'm a triangle
white headed

Chorus: what little need

Medea: press
tros
spark
ombr
real
frisson behind the wood
to promise
prometheus
Medea's sleepless night of choosing

Aeetes: after breakfast he not so killed
on shameful shutters
on her smell breath
lying

M Chorus: I'll let alone
all chorus: he lay while exploded
shells in the dark areas
shattered
W chorus: crying

Medea: stank

I'm confounded with what's
right ready
oh what's your secret mark
it
what's eaten down
literal whirl
hinge freedoms all suit
the most awkward thing in the world
love mother to have
and carrying a difficult vision renown
grown in the wavy mouth
it's as if I'm inside
it's all equating
a vast past cap carrying
it's all I'd right to be here
and dense was and belong and land
of difficult fervent
and barbar one day dying
licking it split open
a fine hearing various
flew out of hand
and ambulance chasing
see raving people hulled

M to right:
you're what sees
my side

I'm not your breather
I'm your discovered
hold me size
rather before it's too late
it's too late
I'm wreathing ersize

Orpheus: windswiped eyes
cutting in
like an intelligence
swept in the room

Chorus: the woman looks back at the
man
overcome by looking

M to right: o face
too hot
two handle
too cool
to king
with a blow
and more
unarming a head
in rescue
facing

M to left: drowned deaf, grown, death, affront
confront me.

Medea: earth breath
askance jewel
the boygirl
slipping