

# The Gifts of the Furies


by GLENDA CLOUGHLEY

A new epic story song about relations between people and Earth  
inspired by The Oresteia of Aeschylus and Tom Bass' sculpture Ethos, the Spirit of Canberra

PRESENTED BY A CHORUS OF WOMEN WITH WAYFARERS CANBERRA

Musical Direction Johanna McBride & Judith Clingan AM



6.30PM SUNDAY 29 MARCH & MONDAY 30 MARCH 2009 

THE GREAT HALL, UNIVERSITY HOUSE, AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY

Tickets & Info – [www.chorusofwomen.org](http://www.chorusofwomen.org) or phone 6251 4243 \$25/\$15

# The Gifts of the Furies

by GLENDA CLOUGHLEY

This Canberra-grown epic story-song is perhaps the first Australian artwork to recognise the mythic scale of the climate change crisis. Inspired by our own Ethos and poetic wisdom from the time when democracy was new, *The Gifts of the Furies* responds to citizens who ask:

*What can we do but wait in the dark  
and watch while the weather roars in?*

In beautiful new poetry and music, a Storyteller and Citizens' Chorus unfold an ancient law story that shows the possibility of moving from the dark core of our present situation towards the possibility of greater harmony between people and nature.

#### CREATIVE MIDWIFE

Johanna McBride

#### MUSICAL DIRECTION

Johanna McBride and Judith Clingan AM assisted by Meg Rigby

#### DRAMA CONSULTANTS

Madeleine Blackwell and Fiona Battersby

#### CHORUS OF CITIZENS

A Chorus of Women and Wayfarers Canberra with numerous individual choristers

#### STORYTELLER Glenda Cloughley

ETHOS Judith Clingan • THE FURIES OF EARTH Jenny Sawyer Margaret Sim Fay D'Elmaine  
LORD REASON Richard Anderson • CANTOR Michael Dale • NARRATOR Adrian Keenan

PIANO Johanna McBride • VIOLIN Rowan Harvey-Martin • CELLO Rita Woolhouse  
DULCIMER Catherine Ross • BASS DULCIMER Gillian Alcock

and with much creative encouragement from sculptor Tom Bass  
whose Ethos - the Spirit of Canberra - can be visited day or night in Civic Square

#### PREMIER PERFORMANCES

The Great Hall, University House, ANU

6.30pm Sunday and Monday 29 and 30 March 2009

Tickets at [www.chorusofwomen.org](http://www.chorusofwomen.org) or phone Gill Christie on 6251 4243

#### PREVIEW

Glenda Cloughley will speak about *The Gifts of the Furies* and present a preview with the Citizens' Chorus at the conclusion of the 2009 Two Fires Festival Forum on

'Judith Wright's Poetic Legacy and Climate Change'

10.30am Saturday 28 March National Theatre, Wallace Street, Braidwood