



## NEWS RELEASE

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CONTACT: Kathy Graves  
612-242-3184  
Kathy@parenteaugraves.com

[www.tenthousandthings.org](http://www.tenthousandthings.org)

### Ten Thousand Things Announces 2024–2025 Season

(Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN – April 22, 2024) – Ten Thousand Things (TTT) today announced a line-up of three diverse and imaginative shows for 2024-2025: **HELEN** by Euripides; **THIS GIRL LAUGHS, THIS GIRL CRIES, THIS GIRL DOES NOTHING** by Finegan Kruckemeyer; and the musical **VIOLET** by Jeanine Tesori and Brian Crawley.

“I am excited to name my last season at TTT,” said Artistic Director Marcela Lorca, who earlier in April announced plans to step down at the end of 2024. “These three plays celebrate women’s stories in complex and beautiful ways. It is a season that invites us to break through perceived narratives, to search for what is powerfully truthful and wonderfully human.”

The season opens in October with Euripides’ **HELEN**. Lorca will direct the show, with **JD Steele** providing music. Lorca and Steele previously worked together on TTT’s *Iphigenia at Aulis* in 2022. The virtuous Helen continues to wait in Egypt for her husband to return many years after the Trojan War has ended. Meanwhile, her phantom double has appeared in Troy, leading to unwarranted rumors that the real Helen has been unfaithful. As a perilous situation unfolds, the play asks audiences to consider what is illusion and what is reality — and are they as interchangeable as they seem in this 21st century moment? **HELEN** tours October 3–November 10, 2024.

“TTT’s diverse audiences will find resonance with the notion that one’s authentic truth can be overshadowed by persisting false narratives,” says Lorca. “We imagine that the pain of being mis-understood or mis-judged may be especially familiar to our audiences in correctional facilities, shelters, rehabilitation centers and youth centers.”

In February 2025, **THIS GIRL LAUGHS** goes on tour, directed by Markell Kiefer, who will make her TTT debut. In Finegan Kruckemeyer's moving, modern-day fairy tale, three young sisters are left in a forest by their woodcutter father and forced to find their way in the world. The sisters each make their own resolution: one walks away to find purpose, one sets off to find adventure, and one stays where she is to create a home. Years later—having circled the globe, crossed oceans, tamed wilds, and achieved greatness—the three sisters meet again, as women and equals. **THIS GIRL LAUGHS** tours February 4–March 16, 2025.

TTT concludes the season with **VIOLET**, with music by Jeanine Tesori and book and lyrics by Brian Crawley. Director Kelli Foster Warder makes her TTT debut, with Sanford Moore providing music direction. The show follows a young woman who embarks on a cross-country bus trip in search of a televangelist she believes can cure a scar on her face. Along the way, she meets two soldiers who are facing their own troubles with money and racism. The trio's journey becomes a rollicking ride through love, resilience, and questions about what beauty really is in this tale wonderfully full of country, gospel, blues, and honky-tonk rock music. **VIOLET** tours April 24-June 1, 2025.

Tickets for **HELEN** will go on sale in September. A limited number of Flex Passes (season tickets) will be available on a lottery basis this summer for TTT donors.

### **ABOUT TEN THOUSAND THINGS**

Ten Thousand Things awakens the creative spirit of audiences and artists by bringing essential and exceptional theater to people from all backgrounds and life experiences. Theater-goers experience the immediacy and vibrancy of theater through a performance in which there is no stage and actors perform in the middle of the audience. With minimal sets and costumes, talented actors fully engage the audience by distilling the story to its essence.

Approximately half of the company's award-winning shows are performed for paying public audiences and the other half are performed for free in locations where people may not have ample opportunities to see live, professional theater, including correctional facilities, shelters, English Language Learner centers, centers for individuals with disabilities, and low-income senior and youth centers.

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