UTICA UNIVERSITY THEATRE PRESENTS



Thurs. Oct. 23rd at 7:30 PM featuring a live performance by AFRICA IN MOTION!

Oct. 24 & 25 at 7:30 PM Oct. 26 at 2:00 PM

TICKETS \$4 - UU students \$6 - General Admission

STREBEL AUDITORIUM

VENUE IS WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE

Written by SOPHOCLES, c. 441 B.C.

Translated by FRANCIS STORR 1912 A.D.

Cuts, edits, and stage directions by RACHEL M. E WOLFE, 2025 A.D.

Director's Notes

Rachel M. E. Wolfe

Ancient plays are like Rorschach blots; they are so distanced in space, time, and culture from their original contexts that we look at their strange and unfamiliar forms and try to make sense of them from our own perspectives. Much of my research has been about this phenomenon, how we project the meanings of our own time and culture onto ancient plays, trying to resolve their unfamiliarity into the familiar. In this production of Sophocles' Antigone, a play written in the 5th century B.C., translated in the early 20th century A.D. into language that's trying to sound like the 16th century A.D., and subsequently staged in the 21st century A.D., you're going to see and hear a lot of strange things that have echoes of the familiar. Symbols and colors we associate with the United States twisted into unfamiliar flags and madeup state seals, language we associate with Shakespeare divorced from his plays and emanating



from the mouths of figures in contemporary dress—and most importantly, themes about the dilemma created when law contradicts morality dressed up in the unfamiliar trappings of ancient Greek religion. As you experience this amalgamation of theatre, dance, and film that blends time and space, look for the echoes of the familiar that make you think about your own culture in the present—for that is where you are liable to find the most meaning.

Cast:

Creon, king of Thebes —— Gabriella Hudziak
Eurydice, her wife —— Michelle Jackson
Haemon, their firstborn —— Dakoda House
Antigone, fiancée to Haemon —— Jasmine Wilson
Teiresias, a prophet —— Isabella Hudziak
First Guard —— Wyatt Callahan
Second Guard —— Jerrod Scroggs
Reporter —— Isabella Hudziak

Note: The music used in this show was designed using SUNO A.I. music generator as a tool, utilizing public domain translations of choral odes written by Sophocles and translated by Francis Storr.





98.3 FM 103.3FM 1420AM 1450AM

or scan the QR code below:



Africa in Motion Dancers:

De'janique Bell Wyatt Callahan

vvyatt Cattarian

Makhi Cleophat Tahjir Fernand

Zackaria Mchabcheb

Laveasia Morales

Jordan Pritchard

Pawlah Say

Jarrod Scroggs

Jasmine Wilson



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Production Team:

Director: Rachel M. E. Wolfe Film Director: Jonas America Choreography: Africa in Motion

Production Manager/Set Design: Laura Salvaggio

Costume Design: Kristin Palazzoli Lighting Design: Micheal Deidrich

Sound Design: Jeff Washburn

Props Design: Julia Tyrel

Stage Manager: Cassidy Forbes

Assistant Stage Managers: Jade Aucter and Anne

Nicole Martins

Scenic Artist: Rebecca Faye

Carpenters: Jerome Nembhard, Juan Alvarez Garcia,

Evan Grobsmith

Shop Crew: Ainsley Vyse, Kira Kuhn, Dakota House,

Jade Aucter

Special Thanks to our filming locations:





Thanks to those who offered special help:

Film Utica IITS

Paul Buckley Utica Tangerine

Laura Lewin Dr. Jason Denman

Paige Lenahan



Biographies

Isa Hudziak (Reporter/Teiresias) is a current 7th grade English teacher with a love of journalism who tries her hardest to promote reading between the lines of a written work. She is very grateful to work with Rachel again after having been in her productions of *War of the Worlds* (2020) and *Trifles* (2021). She wants to thank her lovely sister for agreeing to tryout (and

taking the badass villain role) and her boyfriend who helped her practice lines.

Gabriella Hudziak (Creon) is an aspiring librarian and hopes you enjoyed the show. She hopes you take some of the lessons of the show to heart and that you use your voice during today's political turmoil. You can use <u>5calls.org</u> or call (202) 224-3121 (the Capitol Switchboard). Don't forget to vote on November 4th. Most importantly, trans rights are human rights, abolish ICE, and stand up for injustices everywhere.



Jarrod Scroggs (Guard #2) is a sophomore at Utica and is a member of multiple clubs or programs. You'll either find him doing his homework, studying his lines, or practicing for mock trial. And don't worry, you won't miss him on stage. He's the biggest guy on the stage and is an honorary corpse carrier

Dr. Rachel M.E. Wolfe (Director) is an Associate Professor of Theatre here at Utica University, where she teaches acting, directing, dramaturgy, play analysis, and theatre history. Her professional work as a director and dramaturg has been seen on stages in New York, California, and Seattle, WA. At Utica, she has directed *Arcadia*, *Ghost Stories at Yotsuya*, *War of the Worlds*, *Trifles*, *Chicago*, *In the Blood*, *Alice in Wonderland*, and *Rhinoceros*. Although Greek tragedy is a research specialty of hers, *Antigone* has been her first opportunity to direct one for the stage, and she is happy to do so in a moment when it is so relevant.





Michelle Jackson (Eurydice) has always been drawn to the spotlight, even from her earliest school days. Her love for storytelling began in grade school, where she starred in and helped direct small plays that quickly became the highlight of every semester. Whether she was playing a leading role or helping with costumes and stage design, Michelle poured creativity and confidence into every performance. Those early experiences shaped her passion for expression and artistry, teaching her the power of imagination and teamwork. Today, she still carries that same spark that once lit up the stage in her old school plays.

Dakoda House (Haemon) is a seasoned veteran of the Utica University Theatre Program and has been in the following productions throughout their college theatre career; *Transitional Space, Alice in Wonderland*, and *Rhinoceros* (which they have won a Weiss Outstanding Award Scholarship for their lead performance.) In *Antigone* Dakoda plays Haemon as both a defiant teenager and a mangled corpse. Resist Fascism! *Vive la Résistance*!



Wyatt Callahan (Guard #1) is a non traditional 2nd year transfer and has not been in a school performance since 2009. While at Utica, they are a psychology major and convincing themself to get their PhD in gradschool. Wyatt is looking to become a researcher focusing on ASD, ADHD, and the effects

of COVID on the human population. As a student leader, Wyatt is starting a new group for students to discuss things that affect us as individuals in this world, country, and campus. It is a multi background, multi-faith group called, [HEARD].

Jasmine Wilson (Antigone) is a fourth year student at Utica University. She has been performing since her early years. This is her first non-musical performance here at Utica University. She has always enjoyed performing whether it was acting, singing, or dancing, or all three since she was able to speak. She is extremely blessed to work with such a talented cast and work alongside a talented and hardworking crew. Jasmine also has ties to Africa In Motion (AIM) that has joined the cast collaboratively with the dance portion of the Odes. She would like to give a special shoutout to her friends and family and to God all who have poured into her throughout the process of this performance. (Matthew:33)





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