

PSI CAST OF ALPHA PSI OMEGA

Presents

THE *ANTIGONE* OF SOPHOCLES

Directed by ROBERT DOUGLAS HUME

Exodus

*"Man's highest blessedness,
In wisdom chiefly stands;
And in the things that touch upon the Gods,
'Tis best in word or deed
To shun unholy pride;
Great words of boasting bring great punishments,
And so to gray-haired age
Teach wisdom at the last."*

From the E. H. Plumptre
translation of Sophocles' *ANTIGONE*

Roemer Auditorium
LINDENWOOD COLLEGE
St. Charles, Missouri

DRAMATIS PERSONAE

Antigone	{	. . . . .	{	*JOY HELLWIG HAUSMAN
		Sister-princesses of Thebes		
Ismene	}	. . . . .	{	†MARY KAY PINCKNEY
Leader of the Chorus of Theban Elders				GLORIA BURSEY
Chorus of Theban Elders		. . . . .	{	MARGARET CONRAD BONNIE HOLT PAT LEU WINNIE TAYLOR
Attendants at the Palace of Thebes		. . . . .	{	CONNIE GORDON CAROLINE SINGLETON
Creon, King of Thebes, maternal uncle to Antigone and Ismene		. . . . .		†PAULA MOORE
First Guard		. . . . .		†SARA JOY SAHLI
Haemon, Prince of Thebes, Creon's son, cousin and betrothed of Antigone				*ARLEEN BECKER
Second Guard		. . . . .		ESTELLE SWANSON
Teiresias, a blind prophet		. . . . .		†SUZANNE ELLIOTT
Boy-Guide to Teiresias		. . . . .		JULIE BAUER
First Messenger		. . . . .		†PAT PETERSON
Eurydice, Queen of Thebes, Creon's wife				PATT WILKERSON
Second Messenger		. . . . .		†CHARLEEN SMITH

Before the Royal Palace of Thebes

Costumes for Antigone, Ismene, Boy-guide and Eurydice from the college wardrobe, re-designed by Miss Hiller; others by Mickey O'Connor, St. Louis, Missouri.

*Members of Alpha Psi Omega, National Honorary Dramatic Art Fraternity

†Pledges to Alpha Psi Omega

*Acting version by Robert Douglas Hume
based on the R. C. Jebb and E. H. Plumptre translations.*

STAFF

Stage Manager	†EUNICE SHELEY
Assistant Stage Manager	†SHERON LEE BROWN
Chief Electrician	ANN FRAZIER
Assistant Electricians	{ JANE AMSDEN DEANE KEETON CAROLYN COLE
Sound Effects Manager	†NELL CULVER
Sound Effects Assistant	†DEANA IZENBERG
Shop Technician	†SARA JOY SAHLI
Make-up Manager	*CYNTHIA RICKLIN
Make-up Assistants	{ †MARY KAY PINCKNEY †DEANA IZENBERG
Wardrobe Manager	†SHERON LEE BROWN
House Manager	*SIEGMUND A. E. BETZ
Ushers	{ JUDITH ANDERSON BUNNY DECAMP ANNABELLE GWINN ALBERTA JOHNSON ANNE LANCASTER MARY NELL VANBIBBER

*Psi Cast of Alpha Psi Omega sincerely thanks
all who have given assistance in the staging of
Sophocles' ANTIGONE*

THE BACKGROUND

Antigone is the third play of the Oedipus trilogy, the other two being *Oedipus the King* and *Oedipus at Colonus*. The earlier part of the story, preceding the *Antigone* is as follows: Laius and Jocasta were king and queen of Thebes. An oracle predicted that if their new-born son Oedipus should be allowed to grow up, he would kill his father. The baby was ordered destroyed, but a pitying herdsman spared the infant's life. Unknowingly, the prophesy was fulfilled; and Oedipus killed his father Laius and also delivered the city from a monster known as the Sphinx. In gratitude for the latter act, and ignorant of the former, the Thebans made Oedipus their king. He married the widowed Jocasta, not realizing that she was his mother. Famine and pestilence fell upon Thebes, and the crimes of Oedipus came to light. Jocasta killed herself, and Oedipus tore out his eyes. Exiled from Thebes, he spent his last days at Colonus accompanied by his daughters Antigone and Ismene.

Events immediately preceding the opening of the *Antigone* are as follows: The two sons of Oedipus, Eteocles and Polyneices, both wanted the royal power. Eteocles became king, and Polyneices led a revolt against the city. In battle, the two brothers killed each other, fulfilling a curse pronounced by Oedipus. Creon, Jocasta's brother, ascended the Theban throne and declared that Eteocles should have the funeral honors of a hero, but that Polyneices should lie unburied. Burial rites were essential to the Greeks, as they believed them necessary for the repose of the soul of the deceased. Antigone is determined that her brother shall be buried, believing the spiritual law to be higher than the law of man. Creon represents the law of the state. In this, the conflict lies. At this point, the play opens, presumably on the day after the great battle.

THE ARGUMENT

The play is in one continuous action, comprising seven episodes divided by choral chants.

- Episode 1. Antigone declares to Ismene her intention to bury the body of their brother Polyneices.
- Episode 2. It is revealed to Creon that rites have been performed over the body of Polyneices.
- Episode 3. Antigone, having been caught in act of burying the body of Polyneices, is condemned to burial alive.
- Episode 4. Haemon begs Creon to spare Antigone.
- Episode 5. Antigone is led away to her death.
- Episode 6. Teiresias causes Creon to change his mind.
- Episode 7. It is too late. Antigone and Haemon are dead. Eurydice commits suicide; and Creon learns at last, that the moral law is higher than the law of the state.

THE AUTHOR

The Fifth Century B.C. was the "Golden Age of Greece" and one of the greatest peaks in dramatic literature and theatrical history. Sophocles was one of the period's greatest playwrights, and for fifty years he was a leading figure. He wrote more than one hundred plays, only seven of which have survived in entirety. In the dramatic contests, he received more prizes than anyone else; and he never rated lower than second place. The *ANTIGONE*, in point of time, follows the other two plays of the trilogy, although it was written earlier.

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