

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
FRIDAY EVENING, MAY 6, 1949, 8:30 P. M.

DRAMATIS PERSONAE

Antigone	}	. . . . .	*CAROL GREER
Ismene	}	Sister-princesses of Thebes	
		. . . . .	*JEANNE GROSS
Leader of the Chorus of Theban Elders		. . . . .	*DOUGLAS HUME
Chorus of Theban Elders		. . . . .	JACQUELINE BOOMIS
			SHIRLEY BOOTH
			JOY HELLWIG
			HELEN ISHMAEL
			MARCIA MORRIS
			SUE STREITHOF
Attendants at the Palace of Thebes		. . . . .	CAROL JOHNSON
			BEVERLY STEVENS
Creon, King of Thebes, maternal uncle to Antigone and Ismene			*FOLSTA BAILEY
First Guard		. . . . .	**SUZANNA BINGHAM
Haemon, Prince of Thebes, Creon's son, cousin and betrothed of Antigone			*MARIE KOCH
Second Guard		. . . . .	**JEWETT LANGDON
Teiresias, a blind prophet		. . . . .	MARTHAN DUSCH
Boy-guide to Teiresias		. . . . .	BILLIE WHITNELL
First Messenger		. . . . .	*SUZANNE CAMPBELL
Eurydice, Queen of Thebes, Creon's wife		. . . . .	JOAN REED
Second Messenger		. . . . .	SHARON SMITH

Before the Royal Palace of Thebes

Costumes By Robert Schmidt, St. Louis, Missouri

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

**Members of Delta Psi Omega, junior branch of Alpha Psi Omega

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

STAFF

Stage Manager	JEANNE GROSS
Master Electrician	ANN PARKER
Assistant Electricians	MOLLIE CARR NANCY ARMITAGE
Shop Technicians	FOLSTA BAILEY CAROL GREER JEANNE GROSS TOTSIE ADAMS MARTHAN DUSCH MARIE KOCH JEAN ROBB BARBARA WALTNER BILLIE WHITNELL MARY LOU McNAIL SUZI FINNEY ROSA TSATSAKOS SUZANNA BINGHAM PATRICIA STULL JOAN REED
Stage Crew	MARTHAN DUSCH JEWETT LANGDON JOAN REED BILLIE WHITNELL
Sound Effects	SHARLENE AGERTER
House Manager	*RUTH ANN BALL
Ushers	*AUDREY BALLARD SUZI FINNEY *MARY LOU McNAIL *PATRICIA STULL BARBARA WALTNER

*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.

OFFICERS OF PSI CAST OF ALPA PSI OMEGA

President	MARIE KOCH
Secretary-Treasurer	FOLSTA BAILEY
Historian	RUTH ANN BALL
Sponsors	JULIET KEY McCRORY
	ROBERT DOULGAS HUME