



Saturday, April 10, 2021, 6 p.m. Sunday, April 11, 2021, 2 p.m.

Performed at Wright State University Amphitheatre



presents



Playwright Sophocles

Adaptor/Translator Nicholas Rudall

Antigone (Rudall, trans.) is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc. www.concordtheatricals.com

> Director John Lavarnway

Stage Manager Murphy Vanbalen

Scene Design Antonia Hummel

Costume Design Alyssa Egbert

Sound Design Lara Saragraves

Dialects Coach Deborah Thomas

Chair and Artistic Director Joe Deer

### TIME AND PLACE

In front of palace gates at conclusion of Theban/Argive War

Please silence all cell phones, pagers, and any other electronic devices. Texting during productions will result in removal from the theatre.

The use of any recording device (photo, sound, or video) by audience members is not permitted.

### CAST

| Antigone  | Emily Eliason  |
|-----------|--|
| Ismene    | Margo Russ   |
| Creon     | Dean McKenzie  |
| Eurydice  | Brie Parsons   |
| Haemon    | Cole Frasher   |
| Messenger | Alexis Muhlenkamp  |
| Tiresias  | Ethan Evans  |
| Watchman  | Jake Jones   |
| Ensemble  | Arianna Schrage, Aliya Pimental,<br>Richard Yanotti, Ben Smallwood,<br>Casey Merren, John Cuozzo |

### Understudy

Brie Parsons is the understudy for the role of Antigone

# **PRODUCTION SPONSOR**

Nicholas Rudall, translator of this *Antigone*, was a renowned Welsh-born classics scholar, theater director, producer, and professor at the University of Chicago. Rudall was known for his adaptations and translations of 14 different classic works, mostly ancient Greek tragedies. He was also the founding director of the Court Theatre, a leading professional theatre in Chicago renowned for its staging of classic drama, where a number of Wright State theatre alumni have worked as actors, stage managers, and designers. Nicholas Rudall studied the classics at Cambridge, where his classmates and fellow actors included Trevor Nunn, Derek Jacobi, Ian McKellen, and the original members of Monty Python.

Gloria Skurski studied with Nicholas Rudall when he was teaching at the University of Chicago, and also worked with him at the Court Theatre. She remembers, "Nick was beloved by the many students and actors who worked with him at the Court Theatre. It was an honor and a joy to have worked with this exceptional scholar and stage director."

Sponsorship for this production is dedicated to the living memory of Nicholas Rudall (1940–2018) by Gloria Skurski and W. Stuart McDowell.

# **PRODUCTION STAFF**

| Production Manager  | David J. Castellano         |
|---|-----------------------------|
| Technical Director  | Andrew Moore                |
| Assistant Technical Director  | Matthew Ley                 |
| Carpenters  | Christine Orr, John Pfister |
| Charge Artist   | Pam Knauert Lavarnway       |
| Scenic Artists Antonia Hummel, Jera Lauderdale,<br>Carleigh Siebert, Jonathan Yokiel        |                             |
| Props Master  | John Lavarnway              |
| Props Artisans Julia Antoine, Greg Davis, Anna Hunter,<br>Mariana Gonzalez, Murphy Vanbalen |                             |
| Costume Shop Manager  | Carly Kimmins               |
| Costumer  | Tatyana Kowalski            |
| Chair and Artistic Director   | Joe Deer                    |

# **BIOGRAPHIES**

#### CAST

**John Cuozzo** *(Ensemble)* John is incredibly excited to be performing in his first show at Wright State. He is very grateful for the opportunity to perform for the first time in over a year. As a freshman, he is looking forward to three more years of amazing shows.

**Emily Eliasen** (Antigone) Emily is a junior acting major and is humbled to participate in the arts once again, portraying Antigone. In times where our craft has been hit so hard, it has been an honor for her to come back swinging with this role. She thanks her parents for their unbridled love and wonder.

**Ethan Evans** (*Tiresias*) Ethan is a senior acting major who is excited to be appearing onstage for the first time in over a year. Ethan would like to thank the cast and crew for their hard work and dedication during these trying times. He hopes you enjoy the show. Wear a mask!

**Cole Frasher** (*Haemon*) Cole is a junior acting major, comedian, and writer. He was recently in Wright State productions of *An Enemy of The People* (Aslaksen) and *Peter and the Starcatcher* (Captain Scott u/s). Thank you to the cast and the crew. Love you Mom and Dad!

Jake Jones (Watchman) Jake is a junior acting major who, quite frankly, is just happy to be performing again. You may have seen him as Smee in *Peter and the Starcatcher* and Cook in *Mother Courage and Her Children* at Wright State. He wants to thank his friends and family and hopes you enjoy the show!

**Dean McKenzie** *(Creon)* Dean is a senior acting major at Wright State. He was nine days from playing Sky in *Mamma Mia!* before the unpleasantness. He'd like to thank Dionysus for theatre and Persephone for pleasant spring weather. Enjoy the show!

**Casey Merren** (Ensemble) Casey is a freshman acting major and is so excited to be in her first production at Wright State University! She is so grateful for the opportunity to work with such a lovely cast and crew.

**Alexis Muhlenkamp** (*Messenger*) Alexis is a sophomore acting major at Wright State. She is excited to join the company of *Antigone* as her second production here at Wright State. She would like to thank her friends, peers, and professors for their ongoing support. She hopes you enjoy the show!

**Brie Parsons** (*Eurydice, u/s Antigone*) Brie is a junior acting major at Wright State. She was last seen in *An Enemy of the People* at Wright State last spring. She would like to thank her class for their uplifting spirits and her friends and family for their support. And, as always, RAIDER UP!

**Aliya Pimental** (*Ensemble*) Aliya is a freshman acting major from Pennsylvania and is ecstatic to be in her first production at Wright State. She has enjoyed the collaboration of being part of the chorus and working with the rest of the cast. She believes *Antigone* is a timeless story that we are lucky to share.

**Margo Russ** (*Ismene*) Margo is a senior acting major. She was last seen as #11 in *The Wolves* at Wright State, and is very excited to be returning to the stage. She wants to thank her mom and dad for all of their love and support. She hopes you enjoy the show!

**Arianna Schrage** (Ensemble) Arianna is a freshman acting major and is so thrilled to be making her debut at Wright State University. She is honored to be working on such a fantastic production, with the most talented and hard-working cast and crew, and she hopes you enjoy the show!

**Ben Smallwood** *(Ensemble)* Ben is a freshman acting major and he is thrilled to be a part of *Antigone*. Ben would like to thank his family and friends for their continued support in everything he does.

**Richard Yannotti** *(Ensemble)* Richard is a freshman acting major and is excited to perform as a chorus member in his first live production at Wright State. You might have heard his voice in Wright State's radio performance of *War of the Worlds* in the fall. Richard is thankful to his family for their support.

# **BIOGRAPHIES** (continued)

#### **CREATIVE TEAM**

**Alyssa Egbert** (*Costume Designer*) Alyssa is a junior costume designer major and is excited to be working as the costume designer on *Antigone*. She is eager to have more of her work on stage after being an assistant designer last year on *The Wolves*. In these uncertain times, she is very grateful for the support from everyone involved.

**Antonia Hummel** (Scenic Designer) Antonia is a senior design/technology major with an emphasis in scenic painting. Her previous works at Wright State include *Into the Woods* (scenic designer) and *The Addams Family* (scenic artist). She sends thanks to her friends and family for their support over these last four years at Wright State.

John Lavarnway (*Director*) John is just one year shy of three decades as Wright State Department of Theatre's property master, where he has had the great joy of working closely with his set-designer wife, Pam Knauert Lavarnway. John is grateful for the opportunity to direct. Most recently he directed the theatre studies production of *Woyzeck* and co-directed *Mother Courage and Her Children* at Wright State. At Town Hall Theater, he directed and designed an original play titled *A Dragon's Heart*. John would like to thank Joe Deer for his support for this production, and express his deep appreciation for his colleagues for their commitment to production excellence in these extraordinary times.

Lara Sagraves (Sound Designer) Lara is a senior sound design major. Her latest design was Peter and the Starcatcher at Wright State. She would like to thank her family and friends for all the support.

**Deborah Thomas** (*Dialects Coach*) Deborah is an associate professor of voice and speech; teaches vocal fundamentals, speech, dialects, Shakespeare, and voice-over technique; and has served as voice, speech, and dialect coach for all theatre department productions since fall of 2008. As production vocal coach for The Human Race Theatre Company, her most recent credits include *Around the World in 80 Days, Lizzy: The Musical, Banned from Baseball*, and *Brighton Beach Memoirs*. Deborah holds a B.F.A. *summa cum laude* in acting from Boston University and an M.F.A. in theatre pedagogy with an emphasis in voice and speech from Virginia Commonwealth University.

**Murphy Van Balen** (*Stage Manager*) Murphy is a freshman stage manager who is very excited to work on their first production here at Wright State University. They would like to thank their mom and dad for all the support getting to this point. Please enjoy the show!