

THE UNIVERSITY
OF
BRITISH COLUMBIA
THE DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE

PRESENTS
AS ITS ANNUAL
STUDENT PRODUCTION

ANTIGONE

BY SOPHOCLES

TRANSLATED BY
E.F. WATLING

NOVEMBER 5 - 11, 1963

IN THE
FREDERIC WOOD THEATRE

Programme Note

The ANTIGONE, probably written in 441 B.C., seems to have been as highly regarded by Sophocles' contemporaries as it is now, since the play was reputedly the cause of his appointment as one of the ten generals of Athens. In fifth-century Greece, to be a great artist was to be considered a great citizen.

The central conflict between Antigone and Creon is a clear but not a simple one. It involves not only divine vs. human law, but the individual vs. the state, moral imperative vs. political necessity, and even romantic vs. realist. Nor is Sophocles' resolution of that conflict a pat one. To consider Antigone "right" is not to judge Creon merely "wrong". His position, after all, is quite justifiable on numerous grounds. As so often in Greek tragedy, however, the special circumstances and the particular character of the man unite to destroy him. But because he can learn and suffer, he emerges from his trial truly a man.

Throughout the unfolding catastrophe the Chorus shows us how we should view what is happening before our eyes. At first wary of the concrete power of authority, they move finally to a statement of the bitter lesson Creon has so painfully learned:

Of happiness the crown
And chiefest part
Is wisdom, and to hold
The gods in awe.
This is the law
That, seeing the stricken heart
Of pride brought down,
We learn when we are old.

Acknowledgements

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THE VANCOUVER PROVINCE
VANCOUVER WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS
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THE UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENTS OF EXTENSION,
BUILDINGS & GROUNDS, PURCHASING, TRAFFIC,
AND THE DEPARTMENTS OF CLASSICS AND MUSIC

CAST

in order of appearance

ANTIGONE PATRICIA WILSON
ISMENE NORA PRUESSE
CHORUS OF THEBAN ELDERS . . . TIGER TIMMINS, ELIZABETH CARSON,
MICHAEL J. GUTTERIDGE, DOUGLAS HIGGINS,
PATRICIA LUDWICK, MICHAEL MATTHEWS,
JANET McDONOUGH, ANNA-MAY McKELLAR,
BILL PALMER, SANDI WALTON,
KERRY WHITE, PATRICK WRIGHT
CREON ALAN SCARFE
SENTRY SCOTT DOUGLAS
HAEMON RICHARD DONAT
TEIRESIAS DALLAS SELMAN
BOY WAYNE GREENBERG
MESSENGER KARL WYLIE
EURYDICE BARBARA GEDDES
ATTENDANT WOMEN JUDY LEWIS, PENNY MITCHELL,
SHEILA SMYTH, RANDIE WILLIAMS
SOLDIERS ROBERT ALLEN, SIMON HARGRAVE,
KEN GASS, RICH LANDON,
BRIAN BUECKERT, CHRISTOPHER LAITHWAITE

SCENE: BEFORE THE PALACE AT THEBES

THERE WILL BE ONE INTERMISSION OF FIFTEEN MINUTES

