GDHS Theater Presents

THE ODYSSEY

November 11th-19th, 2022

Tickets and Information:
gds.org/Odyssey
THE ODYSSEY

By Mary Zimmerman
Director: Laura Rosberg
Technical Director: Christal Boyd
Assistant to the Technical Director: Becca Balton '10
Technical Advisors: Becca Balton '10, Jacob Ali-Korde '22, Andrew Derbyshire
Stage Manager: Katie Young '23
Assistant Stage Manager: Paige Young '25
Producer: Jaia Wilensky '23
Assistant Producer: Leia Levine '25
Publisher: Nava Mach '23
House/Box Office Manager: Caleb Robinson '25
Dedicated to B.E.S.
Her Odyssey was filled with theater.
Cast

Avram Shapiro ’24-Odysseus
Morgana Brand ’24-Athena
Rachel Schneider ’24-Penelope, Siren, Sailor
Henry Cohen ’25-Telemachus
Janel Butler-Roberts ’23-Zeus, Eumaeus
Alessandro Alfandari ’25-Suitor, Poseidon, Hermes, Sailor
Jacqueline Metzger ’23-Circe, Suitor, Siren, Helen
Wesley Brubaker-Menelaus, Alcinous, Suitor, Laertes
Olivia Brown ’24-Muse, Calypso, Siren, Eurycleia
Posy Brown ’24-Nausicaa, Siren
Jacob Getlan ’23-Suitor, Neoman, Sailor
Joshua Reynolds ’24-Antinous, Cyclops
Charlotte Green ’25-Siren
Caleb Murphy ’25-Suitor, Young Menelaus, Elpenor, Sailor
EJ Mazo ’26-Proteus, Mentor, Sailor
Ethan Farber ’26-Blind Singer
Nura Idriss ’26-Sailor
Max Stumpf ’24-Sailor
Isa Martorana ’24, Alexander Grunwaldt ’24, Ava Lewis ’24,
CeCe Gann ‘25, Elly Robinson 23’, Mad Lee ‘26-Scylla
Crew

Props
Designers & Heads:
  Isa Martorana '24
  Alexander Grunwaldt '24
Crew:
  Ava Lewis '24
  CeCe Gann '25
  Elly Robinson '23
  Mad Lee '26

Costumes
Designers:
  Sophie Wohlstedt '23
  Posy Brown '24
Heads:
  Ellie Schaffer '25
  Ava Ginsberg '25
Crew:
  Elodie Florence '25
  Sarah Swamy '25
  Jack Hoang '25
  Sofia Moen '25
  Kate Toufanian '25
  Ava Blum '23
  Rose Atwood '25
  Shaila Joshi '25

Lights
Designer:
  Grey Papageorgiou '23
Head:
  Henry Mitchell '24
Crew:
  Maya Raza '25
  Noah Cheeks '25
  Khari Bell '25
  Caleb Robinson '25

Sound/ FX
Designer:
  Ian Rothfeld '23
Head:
  Nora Schrag '25
Crew:
  Ella Lay '25
  Sofia Moen '25
  Noah Spector '25
  Eleanor Schneider '26
Crew

Sets

Designers:
Tenaya Lin '23
Maya Raman '23

Heads:
Rasmus Byskov '24
Avery Ludlow '24
hannah kubler '25

Crew:
Margaret Blomstrom '24
Caitlyn Quint '26
Ella Schneider '26
Alex Wood '23
Aidan Jacobs '25
Sofia Moen '25
Zoya Mghenyi '26
Alex Rohrbaugh '26
Lina Colla '26
Sotiria Jackson '24
Quinn Shields '26

Orchestra

Topher Dunne
Jaia Wilensky '23

Makeup

Designers & Heads:
Kate Toufanian '25
Sophie Selfridge '25

Crew:
Leia Levine '25
Paige Young '25
Angelique Faselis '25
Tiya Robi '25
Tatum Mach '26
Aymaan Enayetullag '25
Finley Meyer '26
Tessa Fergusson '26
Arden Mason '25
Adele Ziemba '25
Wyatt Grace '25
Koen Yu '25
Special Thanks

The Cleaning Crew
Danny Stock
Elvina Tong
Jamie Brown
John Burghardt
Jonathan Young
Kaiden Yu '23
Kayla Dunne
Lauren Dickert
Laurie Kohn
Maddie Brown '20
Maresca Brand '14

The Maintenance Staff
Michael Desautels
Ravelle Brickman

The Security Team
Tim Lyons
Scott Brown
Director's Notes

The theater is full of ghosts, so we leave a ghost light on the stage all night. The ghosts come from many superstitions and from some real horrors! We call it The Scottish Play because a coven of witches put a curse on the play, angry that Shakespeare used a real spell in the text. The falling chandelier in Phantom is based on an 1896 incident at the Palais Garnier when a chandelier counterweight fell, killing a theater worker. And, well, you know what happened to Abe at Ford’s Theater who was quoting from The Scottish Play as the lights went down.

We hadn’t been leaving the ghost light on. Our ghost attacked our beloved Tech Director, Christal. It wasn’t in the Box, but it was across the street from the earlier GDHS on MacArthur, where 1000’s of theater alum dance all night. Our ghost went for her Achilles tendon, Homeric in every respect. Without Christal we limped along, employing some theater alum and a pro-rigger. The Maintenance Team helped too.

Mary Zimmerman has introduced the U.S. to a form of theater practiced in many other parts of the world, particularly Eastern Europe and Asia. This is ensemble work, many performers playing many roles. The work of the ensemble is physical---we’re a boat, now a sheep on a spit. We move like amoebas. Stories are deconstructed---fewer sets and props, for example, so the audience is called upon to participate, imagining the pictures. And we talk to the audience directly, inviting them to play along. Another exponent of this style is John Doyle, most recently Artistic Director of Classical Stage Company, New York. In his musicals, the actors play the instruments and the instruments become props. A tambourine is also a plate, for example. In his Broadway Sweeney Patti LuPone played the tuba! In The Odyssey, chairs are boulders, axe heads, and more.

We need to talk about the women in Homer’s story. This is an ancient story, yet the women are at the epicenter. Penelope foils the suitors for four years. Athena, the warrior, plots Odysseus’ home-coming and slaughter of the suitors. Circe and Calypso seduce and love Odysseus and also help him get home. The Siren “number” is a parody and must be understood as such. The Sirens make fun of men by seducing them and then using them; well, in this case, drowning them. This is the one scene in the play in which Zimmerman acknowledges that the Ancients’ understanding of the power of testosterone is timeless and universal, and that women since time immemorial have figured out how to deal with it.

Zimmerman brings classical stories to the stage. Metamorphoses and Arabian Nights were also performed at 4200. She re-imagines Leonardo da Vinci and forgotten operas. She often serves as writer, librettist director, performer, and producer all at once. She teaches in the Performance Studies Dept. at Northwestern and is the recipient of a boatload of awards and accolades.

I especially want to thank the student designers, crew heads and technicians who overnight switched their allegiances from Christal to me. They learned to trust my knowledge and experience and that of the others we brought in to help. They are extraordinary young people.
Patrons

Advertisements
CONGRATULATIONS
TO THE CAST AND CREW OF
THE ODYSSEY
WE LOVE YOU, MORGANA!
Special shout-out to Tech!!!
Lights! Sound! Costumes! Props! Makeup! and....

SCENIC!!!!!
(There are no scenes without Scenic!)

Avery, we are so proud of you!

Love,
Mom and Dad
Charlotte and Gigi
Lily, Sadie and Bastian

Congrats to makeup crew
on a job well done!
CONGRATULATIONS TO THE
CAST & CREW OF THE ODYSSEY

AND BREAK-A-LEG OLIVIA & POSY

XOXOX
THE BROWN FAMILY
TO OUR BELOVED TECH DIRECTOR,
CHRISTAL
from
THE ODYSSEY COMPANY
From one great sound crew to another,

Congratulations

CONGRATULATIONS
STUMEZ & POSY!!
The costumes are out of this world!!

XOXOXO
THE BROWN FAMILY
CONGRATULATIONS ON AN AMAZING OPENING WEEKEND!

No journey is too long for this cast and crew!

What would we do without the essential workers (like sailors, sheep, and such) – thank you!