

ANTIGONE



Antigone X by Paula Cizmar
McClintock Theatre | October 24–27, 2025

USC School of Dramatic Arts 25/26

USC School of Dramatic Arts presents

ANTIGONE X

By **Paula Cizmar**

Directed by **Susan Dalian**

With

**Alicia Atwell Matilda Awad Callie Bourne Lizzy Calvano
Dawson Dettman Jaiya Domenech Chetram Ellie Donahue
Brogan Hall Charlotte Hansen Theo Herrin Jovani Ibrahim
Vivienne Ishida Kaia Marin Alison Mitchell Josephine Mo
Riley Polaner Presley Ryan Ryan Stelling Liam Taffe Alisa Urgent**

Costume Design

Sofia Hussain

BFA Theatrical Design Sophomore

Production Stage Manager

Meztlí Montes *She/Her,*

BFA Stage Management Senior

McClintock Theatre **October 24–27, 2025**

Antigone X is produced by special arrangement with Paula Cizmar and Michael Moore Agency.

CAST (In alphabetical order)



Alicia Atwell *She/Her*
*Eurydice***, *Ensemble**
BA Theatre Senior



Matilda Awad *She/Her*
*Antigone***, *Ensemble**
Dramatic Arts Minor Sophomore



Callie Bourne *She/Her*
*Soldier***, *Ensemble+*
BA Theatre, Emphasis
in Acting Senior



Lizzy Calvano *She/Her*
*Soothsayer**, *Ensemble+*
BA Dramatic Arts, Emphasis in
Acting Junior



Dawson Dettman
He/Him | *Zeno***, *Ensemble**
BA Dramatic Arts, Emphasis in
Acting Sophomore



Jaia Domenech
Chetram *He/Him*
*Herm**, *Ensemble***
BA Dramatic Arts Junior



Ellie Donahue *She/Her*
*Eurydice**, *Ensemble***
BA Theatre, Emphasis in
Acting Junior



Brogan Hall *He/Him*
Creon+ | BA Theatre, Emphasis
in Acting Junior



Charlotte Hansen
She/Her | *Soldier**,
Ensemble+ | BA Theatre,
Emphasis in Acting Senior



Theo Herrin *He/Him*
*Herm***, *Ensemble**
BA Dramatic Arts, Emphasis in
Acting Sophomore



Jovani Ibrahim
Haemon+
BA Dramatic Arts Junior



Vivienne Ishida *She/Her*
*Antigone**, *Ensemble***
BA Dramatic Arts Sophomore



Kaia Marin *She/Her*
*Soothsayer***, *Ensemble+*
BA Theatre, Emphasis in
Acting Senior



Alison Mitchell *She/Her*
*Esme**, *Ensemble***
BA Theatre Junior



Josephine Mo *She/Her*
*Boy**, *Ensemble+*
BA Theatre, Emphasis in
Acting Senior



Riley Polaner *She/They*
*Tiresias***, *Ensemble**
BA Dramatic Arts Junior

* Indicates role that will be performed on 10/24 eve, 10/26 mat & eve

** Indicates role that will be performed on 10/25 mat & eve, 10/27 eve

+ Indicates role that will be performed on all performances

(continued on next page)

CAST (continued)



Presley Ryan *She/Her*
*Esme***, *Ensemble**
BA Theatre Senior



Ryan Stelling *They/Them*
*Tiresias**, *Ensemble***
BA Dramatic Arts, Emphasis in
Acting Sophomore



Liam Taffe *He/Him*
*Zeno**, *Ensemble***
BA Dramatic Arts, Emphasis in
Acting Sophomore



Alisa Urgent *They/Them*
*Boy***, *Ensemble+*
BA Theatre, Emphasis
in Acting Senior

* Indicates role that will be performed on 10/24 eve, 10/26 mat & eve
** Indicates role that will be performed on 10/25 mat & eve, 10/27 eve
+ Indicates role that will be performed on all performances

THIS PERFORMANCE CONTAINS A 15-MINUTE INTERMISSION.

CONTENT WARNING

Please be advised that this production includes depictions or discussions of suicide, death, self-harm, depression, the effects of war, and abuse of power.

Additional *Antigone X* Production Staff

Assistant Director **Daniel Stark** | *Intimacy Director* **Joy DeMichelle**
Production Deputies **Jaiya Domenech Chetram, Alisa Urgent, Daniel Stark**
Assistant Stage Managers **Serena Feng, Piper Huntley, Caitlyn Perkins**
Production Manager **Tony Shayne** | *Stage Management Mentor* **Megan Crockett**
Hair & Makeup Consultants **Ann Closs-Farley, Samantha Jones**
Wardrobe Supervisor **Allie Rones** | *Costume Mentor* **Samantha Jones**
Technical Crew **Kassidy Atherton, Allison Cunningham, Jack Glass, Sasha Hadjez**

LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

USC is built on the unceded land of the Tongva, Chumash and Kizh people. We at SDA acknowledge and honor the Tongva, Chumash and Kizh people/communities and wish to amplify that they are still here. We encourage everyone to find out whose ancestral land you live on and commit to our shared responsibility to be agents of change, and for each of us to consider our roles in reconciliation, decolonization and allyship.

NOTE FROM THE ARTISTIC TEAM:

IN AN INTERVIEW as part of the forward for playwright Paula Cizmer’s published script of *Antigone X*, director Jeff Janisheski’s first question to her is, “Why Antigone? Why now?” Paula replies, “It was a convergence of the times, minds and needs.” That same question and answer might apply even more now eight years since this play was first conceived and performed by actors in USC School of Dramatic Arts’ MFA in Acting program. With this 21st century retelling of Sophocles’ *Antigone*, we reexamine “Part Two” in the story of the “*House of Laius*” that follows sisters Antigone and Esme living with the curse of their ill-fated father, Oedipus. In the play’s post civil war setting, Antigone is faced with the decision to stand up to an unjust authoritarian regime lead by her uncle Creon and to be the voice of the people he has oppressed with his unpopular, unpredictable, and irrational demands. Sophocles’ original play is very much embedded in this adaptation and the fact that in the two and a half millennia since this play was first introduced we see society still facing the problems of unchecked power, fragile democracies, silenced voices, and the struggle between individual conscience and state control makes the play feel as urgent today as it was in ancient Athens. What the play makes clear is that the questions at the heart of this tragedy—who has the authority to define justice, what are the responsibilities that the individual owes to the state and how do societies reconcile law with conscience—are not relics of an ancient world that was flourishing under one of the first known organized democracies, but ongoing dilemmas that continue to shape political discourse and society still today. As you experience this play in the world of USC SDA 2025, consider that the “X” of the title represents all of us and is not claimed by any single group, idea, or identity. But that it stands as a symbol of collective struggle, resilience, and possibility. ■

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The USC School of Dramatic Arts fosters the talents of artist-scholars who are dramatically different — who are willing to imagine the future of the entertainment industry and bring it to life. Through an interdisciplinary, entrepreneurial education students develop the skills necessary to discover their unique voice and are exposed to diverse styles and multiple media. Students and recent alumni are supported by the School's unique Professional Development Center which offers career services and professionalization opportunities to help students establish and sustain successful careers as creators, performers and cultural innovators. *For more information, visit dramaticarts.usc.edu.*

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