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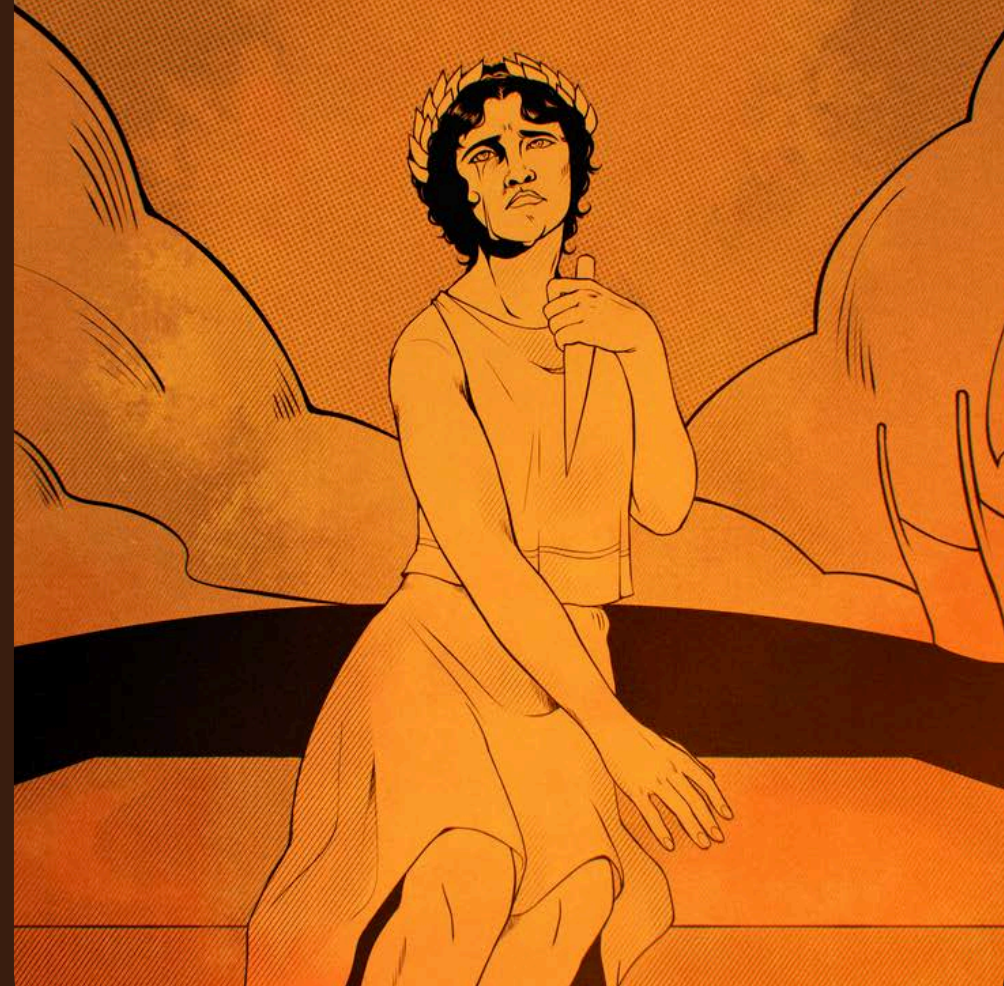
# A VERY SPECIAL THANKS TO

Desiree Sanchez of Aquila Theater  
and our evocative playwright P. Seth Bauer

and YOU, the audience!  
Enjoy the show!

# IPHIGENIA

BY P. SETH BAUER



**CU  
NY** THE GREATEST  
URBAN UNIVERSITY  
IN THE WORLD

**JOHN  
JAY** COLLEGE  
OF  
CRIMINAL  
JUSTICE

P. Seth Bauer's *IPHIGENIA*, a modern-day version of Euripides' Greek classic, (with puppets!), marks the -nostos--or the return--of the student mainstage production at John Jay College's Gerald Lynch Theatre. The English Department, John Jay's Theatre Arts Minor, and the Theatrical Players, the oldest student-run club at the college, are proud to sponsor this extraordinary and timely production about the hazards of cultism, the complexities of duty, loyalty, and obedience to the state, as well as the consequences and generational sacrifices of endless war.

With the guidance, expertise, and talent, of Director and Professor Vernice Miller, the students are back on stage acquiring the indispensable and interdisciplinary skills that our theatre curriculum provides—acting, set design, lighting design, theatre management and all aspects of stagecraft, but also the value of storytelling, historical context, politics and the politics of resistance, philosophy, law, and justice, among many others. Theatre allows our students to see all of their studies across disciplines come to life and is uniquely tied to the college's mission of educating for justice.

In addition to the student performers, director, production managers and crew, we'd like to thank the administration for their support, President Karol Mason, Provost Allison Pease, Dean Kim Chandler, the Office for the Advancement of Research, Rubina Shafi of the Gerald Lynch theatre and her team, Christine Baerga and her AVS staff, our incomparable Administrative Coordinator, Alicia Kelly and Office Assistant, Olga Kirsanova, and our Work Study intern Nathalie Rosa for their time, efforts, and expertise in bringing this production to fruition.

After the opening night show: Please join us for a reception and Talk-back with the playwright of *IPHIGENIA*, P. Seth Bauer, and Desiree Sanchez, Artistic Director of the Aquila Theatre, the leading producer of classical theatre in the United States. <https://www.aquilatheatre.com/about> We can't wait to host you! See you at the show!

--Jean Mills, Chair

The Department of English



Jean Mills is Chair of the English Department, Editor in Chief of Feminist Modernist Studies, and owner of Blue Heron Books: New, Used, Banned in High Falls, NY. She is thrilled to be a part of the nostos - the return of the main stage student production to the Gerald Lynch Theatre and grateful to all of you who helped to make this happen.



P. Seth Bauer is the author of *Early in the Mourning*, *The Lysistrata Project*, *The Karma Cookie*, *Over the Line*, *Dahlia*, *Iphigenia*, *The Umbrella Play*, *The Burglar of Suburbia*, *The Tip*, numerous one-acts and the book to the new musical *Leading Lady*. His children's plays include *Seek and Hide* and *The Sweet Revenge of Hansel and Gretel*. His plays are published by Dramatists Play Service, Samuel French, and Smith and Krause, and have been produced throughout

the U.S., Canada, Europe, Africa and the Middle East. His plays have won awards from Actors Theatre of Louisville, the New York Innovative Theatre Awards, the Samuel French Play Festival, ACTF, the Barrymore, Remi-Coeur Award and the NYC 15 Minute Play Festival. He was named one of the "People of the Year" by NYTheatre.com for making a significant impact on the theater in New York. He has a bachelor's degree in Theater from Oberlin College and a MFA in Playwriting from the University of Texas at Austin, where he was a James A. Michener fellow.



Desiree Sanchez has been Aquila's artistic director since 2012. Prior to this, she had a twenty-year career in classical and modern dance, which included working as a principal dancer for the Metropolitan Opera Ballet and contemporary work with choreographers such as Sean Curran, Donald Byrd, Bill T. Jones, and Doug Varone. She holds an MA from Royal Holloway, University of London. Theatre productions she has directed include *Pride & Prejudice* (2023); *Macbeth*

and *The Great Gatsby* (2022), *Nineteen Eighty-Four* and *The Odyssey* (2019); *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *Frankenstein* (2018); *Hamlet* and *Sense and Sensibility* (2017); *Much Ado About Nothing* and *Our Trojan War* (2016); *Romeo and Juliet*, *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes* and *Philoctetes* (2015); *The Tempest* and *Wuthering Heights* (2014); *A Female Philoctetes* at BAM Fisher's Hillman Studio (2014); *Twelfth Night* and *Fahrenheit 451* (2013); *The Taming of the Shrew* and *Cyrano de Bergerac* (2012); *Herakles* (2012) at the Festival of the Aegean in Syros, Greece and at the Michael Cacoyannis Foundation in Athens and at BAM in 2013; *Macbeth* and *The Importance of Being Earnest* (2011); and *Six Characters in Search of an Author* (2010). Desiree also wrote the stage adaptations for *Frankenstein*, *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*, and *Wuthering Heights* and choreographed for *A Very Naughty Greek Play*, based on Aristophanes' *Wasps* (2004); *Julius Caesar* (2006), *Catch-22* (2007); *The Iliad: Book One* and *The Comedy of Errors* (2008).



## DID YOU ENJOY THE PLAY? ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BEING ON STAGE OR WORKING BACK STAGE NEXT SEMESTER?

Then, sign up for DRA 185 (Drama in Production) or DRA 301 (Directing), because we'll be putting on a show, the Students' Directors Festival, in the Black Box Theatre.

Join us! Experience the thrill of live theatre and the learn the skill sets that theatre production provides and that all employers look for: teamwork, communication, and performance.

and follow the Theatrical Players club instagram!



## DIRECTING

### **Director**



Vernice, a Jamaican-born Afro-Caribbean theater artist, is deeply passionate about using the arts as a universally accessible tool for fostering positive social change. For nine years, she served as an adjunct lecturer and mainstage director here at John Jay College of Criminal Justice for the now defunct Department of Communication and Theatre Arts. Professional directorial highlights include long-term collaborations with: Pulitzer Prize-winning jazz musician Wynton Marsalis,

opera diva Jessye Norman, HBO comedienne Hazelle Goodman, and Hip-Hop legend Malik Work. International credits: Three Women (Break the Silence) by anthropologist Dr. Omotayo Jolaosho for South Africa's Market Theatre Lab (a performance about women finding their voices amidst gendered repression of their bodily and sexual autonomy); Nomansland (performed/co-directed) with Seth Baumrin's Subpoetics International in Slovenia, Ukraine and Poland. Television: Shadowed director Felix Alcala on the CBS series Madam Secretary throughout filming of season 6 episode 9 "Carpe Diem." Directed both the inaugural and revived productions of Bee Trapped Inside the Window by Saviana Stanescu for Heartbeat Ensemble, the Romanian Cultural Institute and Ithaca's Civic Ensemble. Commissioned by Godfrey L. Simmons, Jr., Bee is a work that explores the effect of modern-day slavery on the lives of three ethnically different American women living in CT. Co-founded A Laboratory for Actor Training Experimental Theatre Company with Joann Maria Yarrow, to evolve work they began with Roberta Carreri at Eugenio Barba's Odin Teatret in Denmark.

### **Assistant Director**



Skylar Aryn is a singer/songwriter who grew up in Nashville, TN. She has been performing since she can remember. Skylar trained in New York at The AMDA Conservatory where she received her certificate and went on to receive her BFA at the New School. She recently debuted her first solo Show at Green Room 42! Enjoy the show! National Tour: Pinkalicious: the Musical (Mrs. Pinkerton) Off-Off-Broadway: 4 Those Who Need It (Jules) Film and Television: Reflection (lead),

The Well (background), Alone Alone Alone on a Wide, Wide Sea (featured background)

## CAST



Cris An (Iphigenia) is excited to be part of their fifth production in John Jay. Cris is a long-time performer and theater lover and is thrilled to be on stage representing such a complex and interesting character. Iphigenia has been a refreshing and thought-provoking production to work on both off and on stage. They hope you enjoy the show!

Gabriel Cruz is a fire science major at John Jay. He is slowly getting into acting roles after taking a more background role previously working audio and tech in music and other productions. He can't wait to show you his take on the Greek hero Achilles and hopes everyone will enjoy his first theater performance.



Milton Jones (aka Mr. J) began acting while incarceration in Rehabilitation Through the Arts (RTA). He has acted in many plays since. From Shakespeare to August Wilson, and is a CUNY BA graduate since June, having taken classes at John Jay, City College, and Hunter as a theater major; John Jay being his home campus. Credits: Twelve Angry Men, Bull Pen, Fences Fade, Ms. Evers Boy's, Paul Lawrence Dunbar's We Wear The Mask,

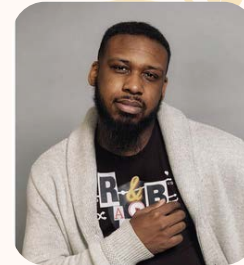
Outside/In The Communication Project at Stella Adler Acting Studio, John Jay College - The Show Down and Hunter College's The Showcase.

Kay Ortega is so thrilled to be a part of their first John Jay Production, Iphigenia, as they will be Iphigenia's mother Clytemnestra! The theater is Kay's favorite art form, and they can't wait to express their love to yall in this production. Kay is also a transfer student who has worked as a crew member on other productions like Legally Blonde at Studio Theatre at Penn State Behrend. If you love feminine rage and characters with interesting backgrounds, I think you would love to see Iphigenia!



## PRODUCTION TEAM

Alex Church-Gonzales is a director, designer, and stage manager, who gravitates towards the surreal, silly, and spectacular. She is a resident artist with Breaking & Entering Theatre Collective, supporting artist with CO/LAB Theater Group, and frequent director for Serials. Previous credits include Pass Over (14th Street Y), Fish Meat (SheNYC), Project Sankofa (Broadway Bound Festival), All At Once [40th Anniversary Remaster] (The Tank), the doctor will see you shortly (Keen Company), Artemisia's Intent (The Anthropologists), The Mannequin Play (The Tank), Everyone Hated Us (Dixon Place), small town icons (Breaking & Entering Theatre Collective). alexchurchgonzales.com @alexncg



Quincy Valentine is a musician, artist, and music producer from the Bronx, New York. From a young age he began singing, rapping, producing music. He's played keyboard for various local artists as well as more known artists such as Scarface and Day 26. His own music has led him to opportunities to do sound design for Reason Studio's music software. He has also been a music director and sound designer for both recording artists and theater productions that

have partnered with Carnegie Hall Presents, Theater for the New City, and Oberia D. Dempsey Theater.

IPHIGENIA

# PRODUCTION TEAM

Indigo Shea is a NJ based freelance lighting, scenic and projection designer as well as electrician and scenic artist. Indigo received a BFA in Theatre Production Arts from Ithaca College. Indigo has designed and worked on shows and events at a variety of venues such as the Whitney Museum of American Art in NYC, the Kitchen Theatre in Ithaca NY, New Jersey Performing Arts Center in Newark NJ, Carteret Performing Arts Center in Carteret NJ, Cocoa Village Playhouse in Cocoa, FL, Geva Theatre Center in Rochester, NY, St Jeans Theatre in NYC, WP Theater in NYC, Theatre Row in NYC and the Cell in NYC. She is a member of IATSE Local 21. In her spare time, Indigo has her own small business she established in 2020 creating jewelry and art pieces inspired by theatrical elements. [www.indigoshea.com](http://www.indigoshea.com) // @R59Creates



Being the son of a fashion model mother and a record producer father, Tyrone's artistic passion literally began at birth. It was during college theatre classes that he first fell in love with creating innovative makeup and hair styles. His work has been seen on runways in New York, Paris, Milan, and London. He has been seen and/or quoted in Vogue India, Vogue Netherlands, Allure, Glamour, People, Marie Claire, Style Monte Carlo,

Real Simple, Latina, Essence, [ivillage.com](http://ivillage.com), [MSN.COM](http://MSN.COM). His list of credits include on-air work for The Face (Netherlands), The View, Anderson Cooper 360, Paula Zahn Now, Makeover Mondays for the Rosie O'Donnell show, Livin' It Up With Ali and Jack, and the Queen Latifah Show, along with several music videos, feature films, and commercials. Mr. Traylor has also conducted seminars and performed platform demonstrations for Inika Organic, Clairol, Maybelline, Garnier, Shiseido, Estée Lauder, Lancome, Francois Nars, and Inika Organic. Mr. Traylor has also been a licensed instructor with The Makeup Designory and is currently a consultant for CUNY Theatre.

# CAST



Eliza Popa is a published film narrative writer and forensic psychology academic. Her work in both film and psychology analysis has centered on the theme of female demise. Eliza also has a background in playwriting and acting and is currently working on her first screenplay. She is honored to play the Young Woman, a character contrived by Bauer to draw attention to the tale's contemporary overtones. Eliza welcomes new and old theater lovers to this rendition of *Iphigenia* to serve as a testament to the timelessness of the story.

Marcellino Rau is a sophomore level student studying Cell and Molecular Biology at John Jay. He is excited to be playing Myrmidon 1 and Soldier 2 in his second production at John Jay. Previously, he performed in the spring 2024 cabaret at John Jay, and the fall 2023 improv showcase. Outside of John Jay, he performed in Dobbs Ferry high school's rendition of *Les Miserables* where he played the roles of Bamatabois and Brujon. He is passionate in screenwriting as well as acting, and hopes you all enjoy the show.



Vonnice Ricks is a Bachelor & Master graduate from John Jay and is a United States Marine Corps veteran. Vonnie started her acting career in 2023. Her first job was stage acting a zombie Bucher. She had a passion for acting every since she was a little girl and now she's finally living out her dream to share and express stories to touch people with hopes of making the world a better place. She is playing Agamemnon, a king that would do anything to prove his faith in God.

Destiny Rosales is very excited to make her return to the stage playing various supporting roles in *Iphigenia* after a 13 year hiatus (She was last seen playing the cowardly lion in her 5th grade play). Destiny is an English major and Interdisciplinary Studies minor who has always loved theater, as well as film and creative writing. She's hoping you'll all have as much fun watching *Iphigenia* as she had working on it!





## CAST



Dayana Sanchez is a Criminal Justice major. First John Jay production cast as Calchas and Soldier 5. Calchas is a dedicated priest and a great card player, while Soldier Five always tries to keep the peace when the other soldiers get riled up. She is used to working behind the scenes or singing on stage but she is looking forward to finding her place in Iphigenia.

Teryke J. Wheatley, John Jay College of Criminal Justice alumni, Class of 2022 with a Bachelors in Criminal Justice and with a minor in theater arts. He has been acting since he was 5 years old and excited about the opportunity to work in these projects as he worked in other theater productions in the past on campus. He is playing Menelaos, a man who is trying to get wife back and willing to go to war for it.

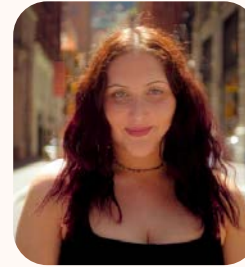


Nia Willis major In Forensic Psychology. This is her first production at John Jay, she will be playing a Myrmidon puppet 3 and Soldier 3.

Kostas Winchester, an alumni of John Jay College, graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in English with double minors in Theatre Arts and Film Studies. He worked in numerous productions while in John Jay, and he is grateful for all the memories from these productions, which he will cherish forever. He has the passion in hoping to work in the performing arts and education field, thus, he is planning on attending a graduate program in theater studies.



## PRODUCTION TEAM



Sloane Fischer (Stage Manager) is a NY based Stage Manager with a BA in Stage Management from PACE University. She has stage managed countless productions all over New York, and has traveled with productions to Los Angeles and Scotland! Some notable off Broadway credits include; The Keen Teens Festival 2022, 2023 & 2024, and The Year of Magical Thinking with Keen Company; War Dreamer with Loading Dock, Grief, A One-Man Shit-Show with Red Deer productions; How to Find a Husband in 37 Years or Longer at numerous theater venues including the Edinburgh fringe festival; (Un)Conditional at Soho Playhouse, and My first Nutcracker & Pinocchio with New York City Children's Theater. She thrives working on intimate plays and creating theater that connects with people. She is delighted for this opportunity to collaborate with all the lovely people involved in this production!

Kristen L. Kingsley (Assistant Stage Manager) is a CT based stage manager, select credits as PSM include: Jimmy & Lorraine: A Musing Hartbeat Ensemble, The Complete Works of William Shakespeare Abridged, A Staged reading of A Christmas Carol Valley Shakespeare Festival, Elf Jr. the Musical Newtown Stage Company, Possessing Harriet Hartbeat Ensemble, The Importance of Being Earnest, The Winter's Tale, The Adventures of Pericles, Henry VIII, The Merchant of Venice VSF, Bushwhacked! Greenwich Theatre Company, 2023 and 2024 seasons of Staged readings with Play with Your Food. Kristen is a member of Actor's Equity Association.



Dennis Ebert Jr (Assistant Stage Manager) is a NY based Stage/Production Manager with a BA in Stage Management from Pace University. Some notable NYC credits include; Scene Partners and Russian Troll Farm at the Vineyard Theatre, My First Nutcracker with NYCCT, Pre-Production Rehearsals for Love Life (2020) at NYCC. In the city, he also regularly stage manages at AMDA, A Class Act NY and PS87 Afterschool. He has also spent the last 5 summers working at Shakespeare and Company in Lenox, MA. Assisting on various projects such as The Comedy of Errors, A Midsummer Nights Dream, The Winter's Tale, hang, and many more. He is overjoyed to be reunited with Sloane on this project and collaborate with all these wonderful people.