



INTERLOCHEN ARTS ACADEMY PRESENTS

Electra

by Euripedes,
adapted by Emily Wilson

April 21 & 22 2023 • 7:30 p.m.
April 23, 2023 • 2 p.m.
Harvey Theatre



Interlochen
ARTS ACADEMY

WELCOME



Welcome to Interlochen Center for the Arts.

Our multidisciplinary campus serves as a global hub for creativity, where a multitude of artists and art forms converge. Opportunities abound at Interlochen for young artists to deepen their skills while collaborating with peers across artistic disciplines, sparking curiosity and propelling personal growth.

Beyond tonight's concert, I hope you'll explore the extraordinary year-round cultural and learning opportunities available at our one-of-a-kind institution. Annually, we present numerous student and faculty performances from Interlochen Arts Academy, our residential arts high school, and from our world-renowned Interlochen Arts Camp. We offer online programs in the arts for students in grades 2-12 through Interlochen Online, and host classes and workshops for adults to rediscover their artistic passions through our College of Creative Arts. You can also enjoy live broadcasts and recordings of past performances on Interlochen Public Radio. Visit our website at interlochen.org to learn more about all we offer to enhance a creative life.

Proceeds from this evening's concert support student scholarships, so thank you for your part in supporting the next generation of creativity. I hope to see you on campus again soon.

Trey Devey

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Trey Devey', enclosed within a simple, hand-drawn oval shape.

President, Interlochen Center for the Arts

The Interlochen Arts Festival is a component of the nonprofit Interlochen Center for the Arts, one of the world's most vibrant and inspiring cultural communities. An international destination for unparalleled education and creative opportunities, Interlochen Center for the Arts brings together:

INTERLOCHEN ARTS ACADEMY

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World-renowned summer arts program for grades 3-12

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Interlochen

ARTS ACADEMY

Interlochen, Michigan
203rd, 209th, 211th Program of the 61st Year

*

Electra

by Euripides

translated by Emily Wilson

Directed by Andrew McGinn

Assistant Director: Lilly Schmeda, Middletown, Del.

Set Design by Elinore Dake

Costume Design by Cory John

Lighting Design by Darian Hrdlicka

Sound Design by Jennifer Apple

Assistant Sound Design by Hal Sufrin, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Music Director: Carol Kepler, Rio De Janeiro, Brazil

Assistant Music Director: Addison Duncan, Reston, Va.

Music by Lance Horne (IAC 94-95, IAA 94-96),
Ben Lohrberg (IAC 09, IAA 10-14), and Carol Kepler

Friday, April 21, 2023
7:30pm, Harvey Theatre

Saturday, April 22, 2023
7:30pm, Harvey Theatre

Sunday, April 23, 2023
2:00pm, Harvey Theatre

CAST

Peasant	Alejandro Gutierrez Ballester, Barcelona, Spain
Electra	Ryelle Kaye, Phoenix, Ariz.
Orestes	Wayden Wagoner, Loogootee, Ind.
Pylades/Messenger	Yehuda Zilberstein, Brooklyn, N.Y.
Old Man/Chorus	Piper Lodato, Wenatchee, Wash.
Clytemnestra/Chorus.....	Avery Roschek, Naples, Fla.
Castor/Chorus	Christian Trimmingham, Richmond, Va.
Pollux/Chorus	Mariana Ravelo, Calgary, Alberta, Canada
Chorus – Young Women of Argos	Cates Asleson, Granger, Ind. Ella Coleman, Meridian, Miss. Jahlia Collins, Atlanta, Ga. Sara Davis, Traverse City, Mich. Eva Donahey, Pittsburgh, Pa. Addison Duncan, Reston, Va. Ren Flashner, Vail, Colo. Ella Ingold, Oro Valley, Ariz. Courtney Karp, Menlo Park, Calif. Carol Kepler, Rio De Janeiro, Brazil Hanna Maes, Panama City Beach, Fla. Brooke Phelan, Naples, Fla. Amal Ramadan, Dubai, United Arab Emirates Marcela Weltsek-Medina, Bloomington, Ind.

UNDERSTUDIES

Peasant	Ren Flashner
Electra	Marcela Weltsek-Medina
Orestes	Christian Trimmingham
Pylades/Messenger	Brooke Phelan
Old Man	Addison Duncan
Clytemnestra	Mariana Ravelo
Castor and Pollux	Jahlia Collins

SETTING:

Some distance from the Palace Kingdom of Argos,
in some kind of Ancient Greece

—The play will run approximately two hours
with one intermission—

**—NO VISITORS BACKSTAGE—
PLEASE GREET CAST MEMBERS IN THE LOBBY**

* * *

**A Timeline of Major Events Leading Up to Euripides’
*ELECTRA***

With Focus on The House of Atreus,
Which Ruled from the Palace of Argos in the Kingdom of Mycenae.
Compiled by Ryelie Kaye
All Dates are Guesstimates. It’s Mythology, After All.

YBP = Years Before Play

- 99 YBP** -Electra’s Grandfather Tantalus rules Mycenae. He tests the gods’ wisdom by feeding them his son Pelops baked into a pie.
- 99 YBP** -The gods punish Tantalus in Hades (origin of the word “tantalize”) and curse his House. Pelops is brought back to life, and rules Mycenae.
- 44 YBP** -Thyestes, Pelops’ son, sleeps with his twin brother Atreus’s wife and steals his golden fleece.
- 43 YBP** -Atreus feeds Thyestes’ own son to him in a pie as revenge.
- 34 YBP** -Atreus’ adoptive son Aegisthus (another son of Thyestes) murders him, while his other two sons Agamemnon and Menelaus escape to Sparta. Thyestes rules Mycenae.
- 28 YBP** -Agamemnon marries Clytemnestra and Menelaus marries Helen, daughters of Tyndareus the King of Sparta.
- 28 YBP** -Agamemnon and Menelaus swear an oath of support if their wives are unfaithful.

- 27 YBP** -Agamemnon seizes the throne of Argos killing Thyestes, but Aegisthus escapes. Menelaus also ascends to the throne of Sparta.
- 27 YBP** -Iphigenia is born to Agamemnon and Clytemnestra.
- 25 YBP** -Electra is born to Agamemnon and Clytemnestra.
- 23 YBP** -Orestes is born to Agamemnon and Clytemnestra.
- 23 YBP** -Helen leaves Menelaus for Paris of Troy, and The Trojan War begins.
- 22 YBP** -Iphigenia is sacrificed to the goddess Artemis by her father, Agamemnon.
- 22 YBP** -Agamemnon finally sets sail for Troy.
- 22 YBP** -Clytemnestra and Aegisthus begin an affair.
- 19 YBP** -Aegisthus receives a vision of his own murder by young Orestes in the future and plots to kill him, but The Old Man escapes with young Orestes to Phocis.
- 12 YBP** -The Trojan War Ends with the Greeks victorious.
- 12 YBP** -Agamemnon returns home and is murdered by Clytemnestra and Aegisthus, in revenge for the murder of Iphigenia and Aegisthus' claim to the throne.
- 10 YBP** -Electra is married off to the Peasant
- 0 YBP** -Our story begins...

* * *

Dramaturgy and creative research were done by the entire company.

Please enjoy their work at

<https://sites.google.com/interlochen.org/interlochenelectra/home>

or scan the QR code with your phone's camera.



DIRECTOR'S NOTES

Of all the surviving Greek Tragedies from 2,500+ years ago, the revenge-murder of Clytemnestra by her children has been told the most. All three of the Great Tragedians—Aeschylus, Sophocles, and Euripides—told the story in their own style. Our production is Dr. Emily Wilson's translation of Euripides' *Electra*, the youngest of the three versions. The first was Aeschylus' *The Libation Bearers*, and the second was Sophocles' *Electra*. In each version Electra's role became more significant and her character more complicated.

Euripides' *Electra* is a young woman tortured by her own rage, unable to get her father's murder by her mother out of her mind. Her father's murder was itself a revenge-murder committed by her mother Clytemnestra, for he sacrificed their youngest child Iphigenia to the God Artemis in order to set the Trojan War in motion.

I'm of the opinion that every Greek Tragedy is a warning about one aspect of human nature taking over the others. In some cases, it can be Love as in Euripides' *Medea*, or it can be Loyalty as in last years' production of *The Penelopiad*. In this case, Electra's Rage is one human aspect that Euripides and Dr. Wilson presents as justified, but it also tears Electra apart from the inside. It's a tough warning because rage is a certainly natural and perhaps necessary response to injustice.

The *Electra* company's contributions to this process cannot possibly be understated. A collaborative spirit has brought in two alumni to compose music: Ben Lohrberg and Lance Horne. Their permission to adjust the music according to rehearsal discoveries is beyond appreciated. Lilly Schmeda, Assistant Director, and Clay Pisto, Stage Manager, have directly contributed to much of the staging you will see tonight. Additionally, much of the staging you will see has been shaped out of improvisations by the company. Carol Kepler stepped up to lead hours of music rehearsals. We also built a research and creative response website chiefly curated by Ella Ingold and I really, really encourage you to check that out at <https://sites.google.com/interlochen.org/interlochenelectra/home>. Christian Trimmingham also spent many hours tweaking Lance's original composition at its digital source to serve our rehearsal discoveries. Students would often go off in small groups with specific challenges, and come back to let me sculpt their original staging ideas. The amount of input, enthusiasm, and concern for each other is truly outstanding.

At the beginning of this process, I thought that *Electra* was *merely* a warning against rage. This group has taught me that it's as much an example of community support for the traumatized as it is such a warning. The way this company cares for each other, and the degree of sympathy for *Electra* and

Orestes that all the other actors brought to the table opened up the kindness in this play, and kindness in the experience of building it. I'll forever be thankful.

* * *

PRODUCTION CREDITS

Stage Manager.....Clay Pisto, Md.
Assistant Stage Manager.....Zion Wallace, Md.
Music Instructor.....Melinda Rohn
Digital Music Editor Christian Trimmingham, Va.
Division Director, Theatre Arts William Church
Director of Theatre Design and Production..... Stephen John
Executive Director, Interlochen Presents Brent Wrobel
Assistant Director, Interlochen Presents–Production.....Jennifer Apple
Assistant Director, Interlochen Presents–Design and ProductionJeffery Block
Assistant Technical Director.....Sammy Kriesch
CarpenterChristian Ward
Scenic Artist.....Stephanie Baugher
Properties Master..... Joel Reedy
Light Board Operator..... Keller Gilliland, Colo.
Sound Board OperatorFinley Jacobs, Mich.
Costume Shop SupervisorAmanda Lifvendahl
Costume Technicians.....Eleanor Dobry, Caitlin Eldred, Cory John
Costume Technician in Residence Katie Glenn
StitcherSarah Koontz
Costume Shop Student Assistants Laila Adair, Ga.; Tatiana Arias, Ill.;
Aimee Craig, Canada; Kate Desel Dolan, D.C.;
Ava Giorgione, Pa.; Leah Hager, Wis.; Jake Jonesco, Ohio;
Anne Maust, Mich. Leah Nansubuga, La.;
Olivia Ray, Mich.; Nadine Waters, Mich.
Costume Shop Volunteers Carol Johnson, Christine Lewis,
Bradley Roswell, Anne Stull
Dressers.....Alijah Cambridge, Ill.; City Morrison, N.Y.
Makeup Technician..... Nadine Waters, Mich.

Special Thanks:

Very Special thanks to Leslie Williams who worked with us on contact improvisation and other choreographic feedback, to Mindy Rohn for her extra help with the music, to Jaie Berry for her help sourcing instruments, to Emily Modrall for consulting with us on Ancient Greek pronunciation and her presentation on Euripides, and to Leah Stewart for her consultation as we built our research website.

* * *

UPCOMING CONCERTS & EVENTS

Gershwin Gala

Saturday, April 22 | Corson Auditorium

Celebrate the remarkable musical legacy of composer George Gershwin and lyricist Ira Gershwin with a one-of-a-kind multidisciplinary event. Pianist and Interlochen alumnus Kevin Cole (IAC/NMC 72, IAA 76-77)—widely regarded as the foremost interpreter of George Gershwin’s music—joins Arts Academy students for a vibrant revue of the Gershwins’ greatest hits. The program will feature solo performances by Cole; selections by Academy students; and an exclusive sneak peek of the upcoming musical theatre production, *An American in Paris*.

Jazz Orchestra: Performs New Music

Friday, April 28 | Dendrinos Chapel and Recital Hall

Hear the jazz hits of tomorrow as Interlochen Arts Academy’s Jazz Orchestra performs an exciting program of new music under the leadership of acclaimed trumpeter Josh Lawrence.

The Women of Lockerbie

by Deborah Baley Brevoort

Friday, April 28 – Sunday, April 30 | Phoenix Theatre

Witness a touching tale of love’s triumph over hatred as the Interlochen Arts Academy Theatre Division stages Deborah Brevoort’s *The Women of Lockerbie*. In the aftermath of the attack on Pan Am flight 103, an American mother travels to Scotland to locate her son’s remains. Meanwhile, the women of the nearby town of Lockerbie, determined to return the victims’ clothes to their families, petition the U.S. government to release the personal items found in the wreckage. Don’t miss the award-winning play hailed by *The New Yorker* as “a moving, thoughtful exploration of how grief changes over time.”

Composers Forum

Saturday, April 29 | Dendrinos Chapel and Recital Hall

Get a sneak peek of tomorrow’s classical masterworks as the Interlochen Arts Academy composition studio hosts the Composers Forum. Enjoy original works in a variety of styles and instrumentations composed and performed by Interlochen Arts Academy’s music students.

An American in Paris

by George and Ira Gershwin

Friday, May 5 – Sunday, May 7 | Corson Auditorium

Experience a silver screen classic live as Interlochen Arts Academy theatre students perform the stage adaptation of the Academy Award-winning film *An American in Paris*. In post-World War II Paris, struggling American painter Jerry Mulligan unwittingly falls for his friend Henri’s beautiful fiancée, Lise. As Jerry and Lise’s courtship progresses, Lise must decide whether to honor her promise to Henri or follow her heart. With a charming plot, stunning dance sequences, and an iconic score by George and Ira Gershwin, *An American in Paris* is sure to delight audiences of all ages.

Opera Workshop

Friday, May 12 – Saturday, May 13 | Harvey Theatre

Enjoy selections from your favorite operas performed by Interlochen Arts Academy voice students. Presented in revue style, the program will feature excerpts from classical and contemporary operatic works.

Singer-Songwriters: Picture in a Frame - Music Inspired by Visual Art **Friday, May 12 | Dendrinos Chapel and Recital Hall**

Hear the hits of tomorrow as Interlochen Arts Academy's singer-songwriter students share original works inspired by visual art. Enjoy diverse selections in a wide variety of genres, styles, and instrumentations.

Filmmakers Thesis Premiere

Wednesday, May 17 | DeRoy Center for Film Studies

Enjoy a selection of original short films and documentaries written, directed, and edited by the Interlochen Arts Academy Film & New Media students. The event will feature films in a variety of genres—and plenty of popcorn.

Creative Writing Senior Recital Reading

Thursday, May 18 | Dendrinos Chapel and Recital Hall

Celebrate Interlochen Arts Academy's senior creative writing students in a special culminating reading. Enjoy works of poetry, prose, playwriting, and more in a variety of styles and genres.

For information and tickets, visit tickets.interlochen.org

* * *

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Many of our venues are equipped with induction loop systems for the hearing impaired. Please ask one of our ushers if you need assistance connecting to the system. Support for recent upgrades to these systems provided by Michigan Arts and Culture Council; the NEA; Rotary Charities of Traverse City; the Les and Anne Biederman Foundation, Inc.; the Oleson Foundation; and Robert W. Anderson.

In consideration of the performing artists and other patrons, the use of flash photography is not permitted. Federal copyright and licensing rules prohibit the use of video cameras and other recording equipment.

In order to provide a safe and healthy environment, Interlochen maintains a smoke-free and alcohol-free campus. Michigan law prohibits any weapons, including concealed weapons, on Interlochen property because we are an educational campus.

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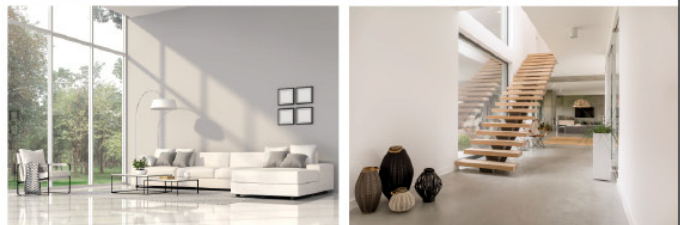
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INTERLOCHEN ARTS ACADEMY PRESENTS

May 5 & 6, 2023 • 7:30 p.m.
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Corson Auditorium



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An
American
in
Paris
A New Musical

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