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Morris's 2011-2012 Public Enemy #1 season closes with Euripides' Medea

University Relations
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Summary: Meiningens Student Theatre Group will present Euripides' <em>Medea</em> as the final production of the 2011-2012 season.

(April 26, 2012)-Meiningens Student Theatre Group, in association with the University of Minnesota, Morris Theatre Discipline, will present Euripides’ Medea as the final production of the 2011-2012 Public Enemy #1 season. This classical Greek piece, in a haunting translation by Frederic Raphael and Kenneth McLeish, explores the nuances of love and hatred in the search for justice. It blurs the lines between good and bad, right and wrong, and offers dark commentary on the underlying question, “Who is at fault?” Medea will perform April 26-28, 2012 in the Humanities Fine Arts Black Box Theatre.

The play opens after Medea, a young mother played by Jessie Sherman '12, Bozeman, MT, discovers her husband, Jason, played by Gardner Brenneisen ’15, Spearfish, SD, has left her to marry the princess of Corinth. Knowing Medea’s bloody reputation, Kreon, the king of Corinth, played by Collin Ireland ’13, Rockford, banishes Medea and her children in hopes of protecting his daughter, the new bride. In doing so, however, Kreon sets in motion a series of events with tragic consequences for all involved. Also in the cast are Kira Jorgensen-Duus ’15, Roseville, as Medea’s Nurse, Thomas McPhee, ’16, Morris, as the tutor of Medea’s children, and John Bliss ’13, Minneapolis, as the elderly king of Athens, Aigeus. Aside from Sherman, all of the actors also form the Chorus, a group of Corinthian women who comment upon and are witnesses to the events of the play. Throughout, this production seeks to reassess Medea’s emotional journey through word, song, and movement.

The production team is also comprised of talented Morris students. Senior theatre arts major, Lynn Bixler ’12, Brooklyn Park, is making her directing debut with Medea. Kari Stevermer ’12, Marshall, acts as costume and makeup designer with assistant Becky Hunkins ’15, Medina. Micayla Thebault-Spieker ’14, Bemidji, is the lighting designer and technical director with Sarah Hanson ’15, Avon, assisting. Making his debut in stage management at Morris is Andrew Turbiville ’12, Spearfish, SD with assistance from Aaron Booth ’12 Spring Lake Park.

Medea will be performed April 26-28, 2012 in the HFA Black Box Theatre, Thursday through Saturday at 7:30 p.m. Advance tickets are $4, or $5 at the door. Free, convenient parking is available evenings and weekends in all Morris lots. For additional information, including group rates or advance ticket sales please email Meiningens Student Theatre at meiningens@gmail.com.

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