

Department of Theatre & Dance and
College of Communication & Fine Arts Present

ROSENCRANTZ & GUILDENSTERN ARE DEAD

A Play by Tom Stoppard



April 24-27
Trojan Center Theatre

TROY
UNIVERSITY

Department of
Theatre & Dance



\$5 General Admission
Trojan Center Box Office
troy.edu/theatreanddance

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ROSENCRANTZ & GUILDENSTERN ARE DEAD

A Play by Tom Stoppard

Artistic Team

Director

Alex Piper

Assistant Director

Alexis McNeal

Lighting Designer

Katherine M. Bozeman

Costume Designer

Jenna Kelley

Sound Designer

John Ingram

Props Master

Kole Hovis

Stage Manager

Juanita Rojas Vaca

Assistant Stage Manager

Asher Ford

Light Board Operator

Azalea Accardo

Sound Board Operator

Alex Smith

**Any Photo, Video, and/or Audio recording of this production
is strictly prohibited**

Cast

Rosencrantz	Adie Carter
Guildenstern.....	Kole Hovis
The Player.....	John Ingram
Hamlet.....	John Alloway
Ophelia.....	Weezie Brand
Claudius.....	Caleb Quick
Gertrude.....	Emma Remaley
Polonius.....	Caden Blackwell
Tragedian/ Alfred.....	Walter Moore
Tragedian/ Ambassador/ English King.....	Grace Bennett
Tragedian/ Horatio.....	Colton Suttles
Tragedian/ Laertes.....	Bradyn Barrier
Tragedian/ Spy.....	Sadie Glawson
Tragedian/ Spy.....	Madison Alward
Tragedian/ Soldier.....	Ella Pratt
Tragedian/ Faithless Wife.....	Samantha Taylor



Director's Note

Welcome to our production of *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead*, a witty existential journey through Shakespeare's *Hamlet* like you have never experienced before. At the play's epicenter, it is an exploration of the absurd, the paradoxical nature of existence, and a meditation on the consequences of our actions over time.

The play follows traditional absurdist theatrical conventions, so don't expect a traditional linear story- Stoppard takes us on a sometimes cyclical, meandering trek through the consciousness of Rosencrantz and Guildenstern. Characters appearing in unexpected places, layered word play, and unconventional use of time and space are all standard protocol within the play Stoppard has crafted.

If you're a Shakespeare lover, you will have a chance to see some familiar characters such as Hamlet, Ophelia, Claudius, and Gertrude, but we will meet and experience them through the disjointed lens of Rosencrantz and Guildenstern's journey to the gallows.

The physical staging of this particular production takes great inspiration from the philosophical concept of Eternal Recurrence. This is Friedrich Nietzsche's idea that everything in our universe, including every event and experience, will repeat infinitely and identically, forever in an eternal loop. This thought experiment forces us to examine the choices we make in everyday life. If they were to be experienced in a repetitive cycle forever, would we still make those same decisions? Food for thought. This guides us toward the idea that it is our own decision-making and the consequences of those decisions that yield the true meaning and significance of our lives in an otherwise indifferent universe.

Director's Note Continued

This is what Stoppard's play challenges the audience to wrestle with, all while being incased within playful language, witty humor, and the occasional pirate. Yes,.. There will be pirates.

Finally, I want to thank the immensely talented team of young artists who worked on this production. Their dedication to this project has been unwavering. The energy, thought, care, and artistry has been a delight to work alongside. This company has continually approached this challenging work with an attitude of engagement, curiosity, and a willingness for playful exploration. We can't wait to share this work with you! Thank you for being here and supporting these amazing students.

Enjoy the show!

Alex Piper, Director of *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead*



Department of Theatre & Dance

Faculty and Staff

Jane Barwood.....	Departmental Administrative Assistant
Dominique Angel.....	Lecturer, Dance
Tori Lee Averett.....	Associate Professor, Department Chair
Joyce Bamman.....	Lecturer, Costume Shop
James Boyd.....	Lecturer, Dance
Quinton Cockrell.....	Professor, Theatre Performance
Jennifer Glass.....	Technical Director, Scene Shop Manager
Andrew Louis Haueter.....	Assistant Professor, Costume Design
Adrienne Hicks.....	Lecturer, Dance
Deborah Chappell Hicks.....	Coordinator of Dance
Tommy Newman.....	Lecturer, Musical Theatre, Playwriting
Alex Piper.....	Lecturer, Theatre Performance
Jerome Stigler.....	Assistant Professor, Dance



Special Thanks

Michael Orlofsky

Joseph Crawford

Will Corbitt

Jessica Fleischmann

Will Jacks and Photography Students

Department of Theatre and Dance Audience

Engagement Team



The Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival, part of the Rubenstein Arts Access Program, is generously funded by David M. Rubenstein. Special thanks to The Harold and Mimi Steinberg Charitable Trust for supporting the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts' Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival. Additional support is provided by The Honorable Stuart Bernstein and Wilma E. Bernstein; and the Dr. Gerald and Paula McNichols Foundation. Kennedy Center education and related artistic programming is made possible through the generosity of the National Committee for the Performing Arts. This production is entered in the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KCACTF). The aims of this national theater education program are to identify and promote quality in college-level theater production. To this end, each production entered is eligible for a response by a regional KCACTF representative, and selected students and faculty are invited to participate in KCACTF programs involving scholarships, internships, grants and awards for actors, directors, dramaturgs, playwrights, designers, stage managers and critics at both the regional and national levels. Productions entered on the Participating level are eligible for invitation to the KCACTF regional festival and may also be considered for national awards recognizing outstanding achievement in production, design, direction and performance. Last year more than 1,500 productions were entered in the KCACTF involving more than 200,000 students nationwide. By entering this production, our theater department is sharing in the KCACTF goals to recognize, reward, and celebrate the exemplary work produced in college and university theaters across the nation.