

The Department of Theatre presents

THE CORONA CAESAR

A Shakespeare podcast adaptation by Andrew Hartley

Produced and performed by the undergraduates of the Theatre Department at UNC Charlotte

DIRECTOR VOICE/ACTING COACH

Andrew Hartley Christopher Berry

MIX/MASTER ENGINEER SOUND DESIGN

Benjamin G. Stickels Gianna Agostino

DRAMATURG STAGE MANAGERS

Megan St. Amand Alexis Fein, Emmanuel Powell

PODCAST RECORDINGS
Joseph Ellsworth, Alexis Fein,
Emmanuel Powell

Music was composed and performed by Gianna Agostino (cello) and Andrew Hartley (guitars). Other production elements were managed by faculty members of the Department of Theatre and Performing Arts Services with special consultation from Hali Hutchison-Houk, Bruce Auerbach, and Gordon W. Olson, who also designed the production logo. The show was rehearsed, recorded, and released under Covid-19 social distancing protocols in the Fall of 2020. This production is copyrighted 2020 by UNC Charlotte. All rights reserved.

The Corona Caesar

An adaptation of Julius Caesar by William Shakespeare

Episode 1: Unrest

Episode 2: Conspiracy

Episode 3: Assassination

Episode 4: Aftermath

Episode 5: Consequences

Cast

BRUTUS Ren Bell CASSIUS Drew Coley MARK ANTONY **Anthony Neal** CAESAR AND CINNA THE POET Dylan Ireland CASKA Elijah Hensley PORTIA AND MARULLUS Amy Keca CALPURNIA Isabelle Grise OCTAVIUS, HIS SERVANT AND ARTEMIDORUS **Tanner Bowers** FLAVIUS, TREBONIUS, AND LUCIUS Alexander Gomes **DECIUS** Natalie Perkins Rayden Leeder THE SOOTHSAYER, METELLUS CIMBER, AND CREDIT READER THE NEWSREADER, CINNA AND POPILIUS LENA Zoe Leigh Turner CAIUS LIGARIUS, ANTONY'S SERVANT, AND Micah Contee TITLE READER

Citizen, Security Officer, and Servant roles were shared by members of the cast

Director's Note

I proposed this play knowing that its rehearsal and performance would come during a presidential election, a good time to explore one of Shakespeare's greatest studies in political power and the theatre surrounding it. Our mission was to find a way to make the play speak with the resonance and urgency it had when it was first performed in 1599. What we couldn't have anticipated in those early discussions was the way our political moment would be so profoundly inflected by an epidemic which would force us to reconceive the way this was show was prepared and disseminated. Covid-19 forced a radical rethinking of what this show was to be about and how it would be built, but sometimes necessity truly is the mother of invention. In moving to an exclusively audio production, the cast and design team rallied around a new concept, new technology, and new—often difficult—working conditions. Doing so required immense patience and inventiveness as we moved well outside our comfort zones in order to build something I hope you will find as exciting to listen to as it was to create. I am profoundly grateful to everyone involved and hope you find in it something of that contemporary urgency we set out to discover.

- Andrew Hartley

CoA+A Performing Arts Services

Dean Adams, Associate Dean for Performing Arts Services

Elizabeth A. Yoder, Production Manager

Beverly Lueke, Performing Arts Operations Manager

Liz Paradis, Audience Services Manager

Beth Rucker, Business Services Coordinator

Rachel Engstrom, Lecturer, Costume Lab Supervisor / Designer

Matthew B. Fraiser, Lecturer, Technical Director

Hali Hutchison-Houk, Costume Lab Manager

Rick Moll, Senior Lecturer, Master Electrician

Gordon W. Olson, Senior Lecturer, Lighting Designer

Benjamin G. Stickels, Senior Lecturer, Audio Engineer and Asst. Production Manager

Rachel Watkins, Senior Lecturer, Stage Management

Toby Shearer, Digital Arts Media Specialist

Production Team

PRODUCTION MANAGER Elizabeth A. Yoder
TECHNICAL DIRECTOR Matthew B. Fraiser

ASSISTANT TECHNICAL DIRECTOR Joshua Murray

MASTER ELECTRICIAN Rick Moll

COSTUME LAB MANAGER Hali Hutchison-Houk

COSTUME LAB SUPERVISOR Rachel Engstrom

SOUND MIX & MASTER ENGINEER Benjamin G. Stickels

SOUND DESIGNER Gianna Agostino
STAGE MANAGEMENT MENTOR Rachel Watkins

STAGE MANAGERS Alexis Fein, Emmanuel Powell

DRAMATURG Megan St. Amand
POSTER & COVER ART Gordon W. Olson

ROBINSON HALL TECHNICIANS Gianna Agostino, Michael Coston,

Michael Lee

COSTUME LAB TECHNICIANS Anh Nguyen, Sydney Spangrud,

Madi Strickland

LIGHTING LAB TECHNICIANS James Hornburg, M Lupino

LIGHTING LAB CREW Alyssa Faustin, Michaela Haney,

Conner Wilson

SCENIC CARPENTERS Joseph Ellsworth, Kyle Harris,

Tanner Wenning



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.

About the Department of Theatre

Practice. Innovation. Engagement.

Students in the Department of Theatre expand their vision of the world and themselves through the study and practice of theatre.

Our program creates intellectual and creative experiences for students through rigorous classroom instruction and innovative approaches to stage production. Our faculty of nationally recognized scholars and artists mentor students in hands-on individual projects and collaborative works that embrace a diversity of cultural and aesthetic perspectives.

Our students are creative, resourceful, and thoughtful. Understanding that theatre is fueled by a range of ideas and issues—political, social, and aesthetic—students use their knowledge of the theory, history and material conditions of performance to contextualize their work for their peers and audiences.

Our student-centered, community-engaged education in theatre creates "cross-trained artists" who are prepared for theatrical internships, graduate programs, as well as any profession that places value on innovative thinking, collaboration, and communication skills.

Faculty and Staff

Lynne Conner, Department Chair and Professor Raven Wei. Administrative Coordinator Aly Amidei, Assistant Professor of Costume Design Bruce Auerbach, Professor of Scenic and Lighting Design Chris Berry, Assistant Professor of Acting/Stage Voice Tom Burch, Assistant Professor of Scenic Design CarlosAlexis Cruz, Assistant Professor of Physical Theatre Kaja Dunn, Assistant Professor of Acting David Fillmore, Jr., Associate Professor of Lighting Design Andrew Hartley, Robinson Distinguished Professor of Shakespeare Jav Morong, Senior Lecturer in Theatre (LBST and Film Studies) Beth Murray. Associate Professor of Theatre Education Mark Pizzato. Professor of Theatre and Film Laura Waringer, Assistant Professor of Directing Robin Witt. Associate Professor of Directing Jill Bloede, Part-time Lecturer in Theatre (Acting, LBST Studies) Marilyn Carter, Part-time Lecturer in Theatre (Acting) Marla Brown, Part-time Lecturer in Theatre (Dramaturgy) Megan DeLaura, Part-time Lecturer in Musical Theatre