

OHIO WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT  
OF THEATRE & DANCE PRESENTS

M T  
← A  
▷ L  
U ←  
↳  
A  
↳

BY CAROL  
S. LASHOF



# Director's Note

**Medusa's Tale** is a beautiful and moving feminist interpretation of the Medusa myth. When we read it in our Playwriting class, the discussion around it and the excitement we had for the text could only be described as a "fervor." This play spoke to us greatly, and I know for my part that I flung myself in front of the lobby couches asking for the chance to direct it when I first heard from Joe that we would be performing it this year.

The most striking thing, looking back at this play, is how little of these characters' respective fates are known to each other. Never is Medusa's death necessarily called for. Her head could in theory come back attached to her. Her death isn't a necessity until they both decide she has been cast out too far to bring back anywhere but in the depths of Perseus's pouch. And yet there is still that nagging question of hope for Medusa that holds out until the end. This element is essential.

A truly interesting question we had to tackle was the role of Athena. Was she, as a goddess who had the power to do something, equally culpable? Did she have power at all in relation to her uncle? We decided, in the end, that she was not a harsh judge of Medusa but rather a person trapped between a rock and a hard place and tried and failed to protect someone she loved.

This play is at its core about seeking tenderness from others. It is also a play that demands we look at the things we would rather ignore. It's ironic that a play about Medusa would compel us to look, but it does. In an age in which women's stories of sexual assault and harassment and silencing seem to come out in outpourings, the resonance of *Medusa's Tale* is immediate and present. Many would rather turn away when it gets too hard to bear, but this play in particular asks us to face this issue head-on with sympathy and warmth as well as a clear eye.

I have no end to the thanks I have to give to my cast and crew. I have been impressed at every turn with their dedication, hard work, and willingness to bring their unique joy to rehearsals. I have such admiration for our company and how we have adapted under COVID guidelines, and I know their hard work will shine through tonight.

Thank you all for coming out. Stay safe and enjoy the show.

Sincerely,

Fiona Hansen

# *Cast of Characters*

**Medusa.....Margaret Welsh**

**Perseus.....Joe Antal**

**Athena.....Karina Primmer**

**Poseidon.....Joe Antal**

**Girl.....Addie Wills**

# *Management & Crew*

## **Director**

Fiona Hansen

## **Sound Head**

Karli Walsh

## **Stage Manager**

Isabelle Tinti-Kane

## **Publicity Head**

Carl DeScott

## **Lighting Designer/ Master Electrician**

Jerrod Ward

## **Videographers**

Dyna Bresson

Daniel Smith

# *CDC Staff*

**CDC Office Manager.....Lisa Hill**

**CDC House Manager.....Pascal Fraire**

## *Content Warning*

**This play contains depictions of sexual  
assault and mild flashing lights**



**An asterisk (\*) indicates a member of Theta Alpha Phi (TAP)**

# Cast & Crew Bios

**Joe Antal\*** (Perseus, Poseidon) is a senior Theatre Major from Akron, Ohio. He has previously appeared in *Hamlet* (Hamlet), *The Country House* (Walter), and "Brothers in the Dark" (Drake). You can catch him next in "Twelfth Night 2020" as Andrew Aguecheek. He would like to thank his collaborators, cast, and crew for making this happen, and his family and fiancée for their support throughout his theatre education.

**Dyna Bresson** (Videographer) is a freshman Theater Major at OWU. Some of her notable roles include: *Grease* (Rizzo), *A Chorus Line* (Val), *Hairspray* (Tracy) and a few world premiers! Dyna would like to thank everyone involved for putting together this amazing experience! Dyna would also like to thank her friends and family for continuing to support her. She cannot wait to continue to do more theatre with OWU and hopes you enjoy the show!

**Carl DeScott** (Publicity Head) is a senior hailing from South Euclid, Ohio majoring in Geography and double minoring in both Politics & Government and Theatre. He has previously been involved in OWU's productions of *Hamlet*, "A Mother's Love", *The Country House*, "One Acts 2019" (Rehearsal Photographer), *Eurydice* (Publicity Crew/Rehearsal Photographer), "Woyzeck, Inc." and "Time to Feast" (Publicity Head). With this being his third show as Publicity Czar, he is that much closer to achieving Super Czardom.

**Fiona Hansen\*** (Director) is a junior English and Theatre double major from Groveport, OH. Fiona has directed in "One Acts 2019: In Kahn-clusion" and has also directed and acted in independent theater over Zoom this past summer. She was also the stage manager of the never-put-on production of *The Secret Garden* in 2020 and is performing in "Twelfth Night 2020" as Toby Belch. She would like to thank her actors and crew for their amazing hard work and diligence through this crazy process and as always would love to thank her dad for his unending support. She hopes everyone remains safe and breaks a leg!

# Cast & Crew Bios

**Karina Primmer\*** (Athena) is a student of unknown origins... but probably lives in Lorain, OH when not on campus. As a Theatre major and Fine Art (Studio) minor, she has participated in and made posters for a variety of shows at OWU, including "Time to Feast" (poster design), "Woyzeck, Inc." (Marie, poster design), "One Acts 2019" (Adelaide, playwright for "Flinch"), Eurydice (Master Electrician, poster design), and whatever else. She'd like to thank Zeus for helping her out (even if it wasn't the best outcome), and everyone involved in the show for their hard work! Oh, also, thank you for coming to see *Medusa's Tale*!

**Daniel Smith** (Videographer) is a freshman at OWU, intending on majoring in Theatre Education. Some of the past productions that he has been in include *Grease* (Doody), *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (Chip Tolentino), *The Tempest* (Alonso), *Long Before Wendy* (Peter), *As It Always Was* (Noken), and *It Isn't Real* (Milo Lennox). Daniel would like to thank his friends and family for their endless support and love!

**Isabelle Tinti-Kane** (Stage Manager) is a freshman from Marblehead, MA who is studying Creative Writing, Film, and Theatre. This is the first show she has stage managed at Ohio Wesleyan University, and she is very excited! She was also on Lights Crew for "Inter/Sect" last fall. She has acted in previous shows, including *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow* (Geoffrey Crayon), *Chicago* (Reporter), "In His Ocean, Home Will Be" (Sailor), *Bye Bye Birdie* (Deborah Sue), and *The Tempest* (Juno). She would like to thank the cast and crew for all their hard work on this show!

**Karli Walsh** (Sound) is a freshman Politics and Government major from Massillon, Ohio. This is her first show she has been involved in at Ohio Wesleyan and is very excited to be a part of the production. She would like to thank everyone in the cast and crew for being so welcoming and willing to help her learn!

# Cast & Crew Bios

**Jerrod Ward\*** (Light Designer) is a senior Theatre Major from Loudonville, Ohio. He has worked as a Light Designer for *Eurydice* (Winter 2020), "Woyzeck Inc." He has written for One Acts 2018, and Instant Theatre 2019-2020 and wrote for his senior project "Time to Feast". He hopes you enjoy the show!

**Margaret R Welsh\*** (Medusa) is a senior Theatre and Dance double major and Fine Art minor from Ashville, OH. Select credits include *Eurydice* (Big Stone), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Helena), and *The Secret Garden* (ensemble/waltz coach), as well as four years of dancing and two years of choreographing for Orchesis. You can also see Margaret as Maria in the upcoming production of "Twelfth Night 2020." As always, they would like to thank their mother Jean Welsh for her continued love and support.

**Addie Wills** (Girl) is a junior Psychology major with Business and Theatre minors from Danville, Ohio. Her previous experience with OWU theatre includes being the light board operator for "Scenes! 2018" and on costume crew for "Orchesis 2019." She was an ASM for *Eurydice* and the Stage Manager for "Inter/Sect." She has also acted in "One Acts 2019" and in the Instant Theatre production by the Wesleyan Players in pre-pandemic 2020. She just completed her directing debut for "Scenes! 2021" and you'll see her directing again for this year's "One Acts." She's also the Stage Manager for the upcoming production "Astronomer Dreaming." She's really enjoyed working with this wonderful group of people and hopes you enjoy the show!!