



**COLLEGE OF
PERFORMING & VISUAL ARTS**

SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY

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A Modern Twist on a Greek Myth

Written by Ashley H Pollock

Southern Utah University, Cedar City, Utah: Southern Utah University's Department of Theatre Arts & Dance will present *Eurydice* on February 2, 3, 5, 9, 2018 at 7:30 p.m. with matinee performances on February 3 and 10, 2018 at 2:00 p.m. in the Eileen and Allen Anes Studio Theatre located in the Beverley Taylor Sorenson Center for the Arts. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$8 for alumni with card, and \$5 for youth. SUU faculty, staff, and students can get in free with a valid ID card.

This modern interpretation of the tragic Greek myth of Orpheus and Eurydice removes Orpheus from the center of the story and concentrates on the journey of his wife, Eurydice, through the underworld. The play, *Eurydice*, explores the emotional rollercoaster of losing those we love, the way that we process our grief, and how we fight to keep those memories alive.

Dr. Scott Knowles, Assistant Professor and Director of *Eurydice*, said, "Working on the production has been such an interesting experience to play with and remember feelings and thoughts about those I have personally lost. Ultimately, it offers a sort of twist on the ideas of impermanence and ephemerality built into the theatre and life."

The play has a small cast which includes Eurydice, Her Father, Orpheus, the Interesting Man, and the ensemble of three stones. When asked about her role as Loud Stone, Teeq Hill said, "I'm literally playing a rock, so it's been a journey of exploring different personalities. My favorite part of rehearsal has been exploring the physicality of the Stones. We've had so much fun exploring dozens of motifs, trying to find the perfect fit for our strange characters."

Phoebe Bock, Hair and Makeup Designer for the production and senior Theatrical Studies major, said, "The stories of the past are still relevant and teach us the way they did back then. This production specifically is interesting in that it is a sort of coming of age story where Eurydice becomes her own person and grows into herself as an individual. It's a thought provoking concept in an age where people are always trying to distinguish between defining themselves by someone else or defining themselves by their own."

The Department of Theatre Arts & Dance has arranged two pre-show talks to be held prior to the performances on February 2 and 9 at 6:30 p.m. in the Garth and Jerri Frehner Rehearsal/Education Hall, also located in the Beverley Taylor Sorenson Center for the Arts. These talks will feature Dr. Dave Lunt, Assistant Professor of History at SUU, presenting, *Life Isn't Fair, and Death isn't either: The myth of Eurydice and Orpheus*.

Henry Ballesteros, Senior Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) candidate emphasizing in Classical Acting, plays Eurydice's father. He said, "This production celebrates life and why our relationships with each other are important. Losing someone close to us is painful, but our memories of them are truly wonderful and everlasting. We, as storytellers, are striving to bring these themes to life, giving the audience a chance to rediscover why people in our lives are important and how we should cherish every moment that we have."

Join this epic journey of love, loss, and remembrances. Experience *Eurydice* February 2, 3, 5, 9, 2018 at 7:30 p.m. with matinee performances on February 3 and 10, 2018. For more information about the Department of Theatre Arts & Dance at SUU and to purchase tickets, please visit www.suu.edu/pva/ta.

About the College of Performing and Visual Arts

The Southern Utah University College of Performing and Visual Arts is comprised of nationally accredited programs in Art & Design, Music, and Dance. The College also offers programs in Theatre Arts, graduate programs in Arts Administration and Music, as well as a Center for Shakespeare Studies. The College offers 26 academic programs, including liberal arts Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science degrees; professional Bachelor of Music and Bachelor of Fine Arts in art and theatre degrees; and Master of Fine Arts in Arts Administration, Master of Arts in Arts Administration, Master of Music Education and Master of Music in Music Technology graduate degrees. More than 60 full- and part-time faculty and staff are engaged in teaching and mentoring over 600 majors in the College. The College presents over 100 performances, lectures, presentations, and exhibitions each year. The College's affiliate organizations include the Southern Utah Museum of Art (SUMA), Utah Shakespeare Festival and SUU's Ballroom Dance Company. For more information about the College of Performing and Visual Arts, visit www.suu.edu/pva.

For Calendar Editors: A Modern Twist on a Greek Myth

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- Who:** Department of Theatre Arts & Dance, College of Performing and Visual Arts, Southern Utah University
- When:** February 2, 3, 5, 9, 2018 at 7:30 p.m. with matinee performances on February 3 and 10, 2018 at 2:00 p.m.
- Where:** Eileen and Allen Anes Studio Theatre
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- Info:** For more information, please visit www.suu.edu/pva.

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