

THE BIRDS

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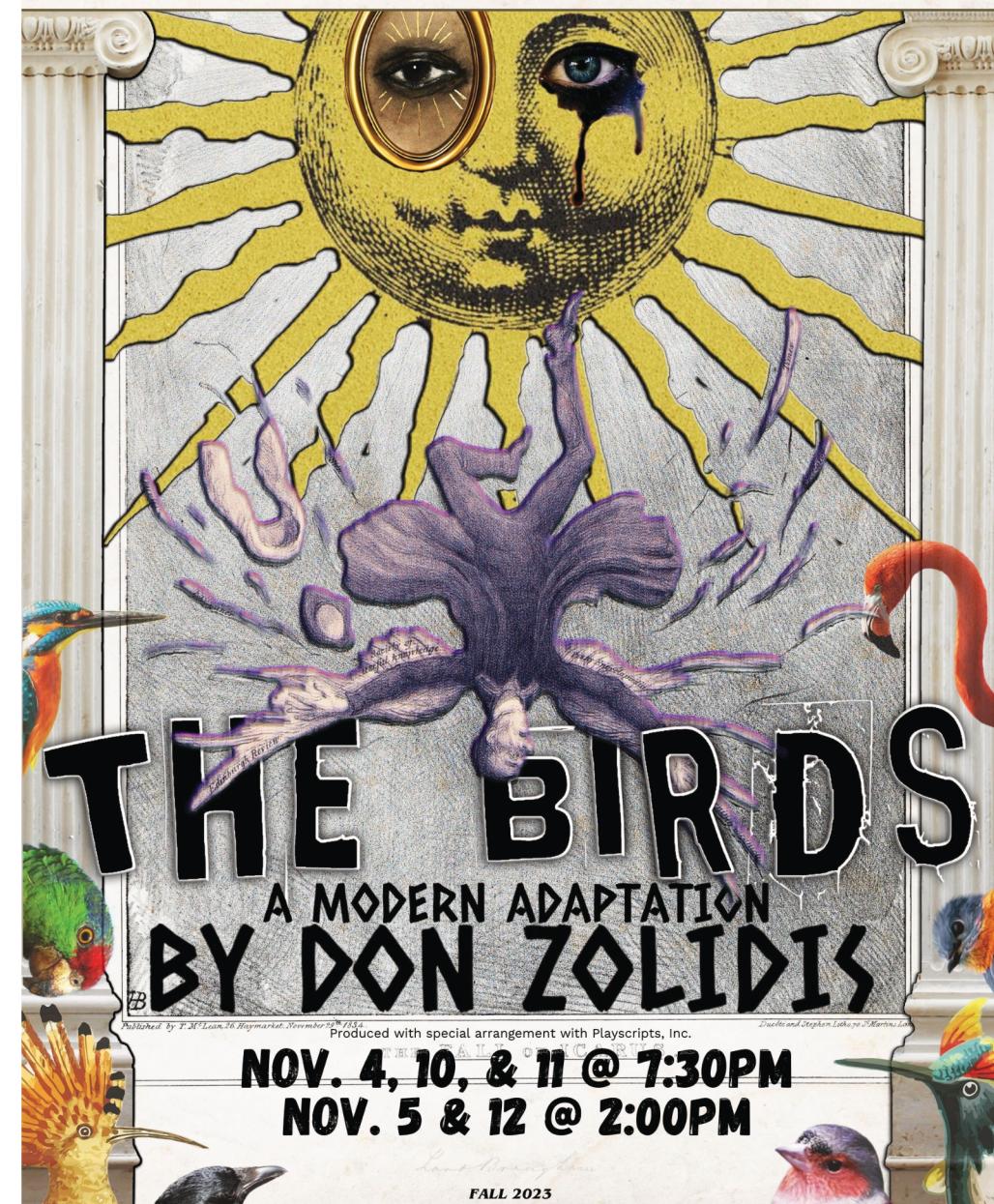
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Upcoming Events

Hamlet Auditions.....	November 28-December 1
Play-in-a-Day!	December 23
Hamlet	April 13,14,19,20,21

PALY BILL

PALO ALTO HIGH SCHOOL THEATRE PRESENTS



THE BIRDS

A MODERN ADAPTATION BY
DON ZOLIDIS

Directed by
SARAH THERMOND

THE BIRDS

Thank you to all parent volunteers. We appreciate your time, talent, and energy.

Set Build

Abe Farag, Orit Mazor, David Saxon, Nerija Titus, Vi Zehr, Matthew Zehr

Box Office

Anna Blasi Ribera, Eynat Rafalin, Susan Choquette, Janine Hayward, Jeremy Rock, Virginia Rock

Concessions

Anna Blasi Ribera, Susan Choquette, Jennifer DiBrenza, Kerrie Edmonds, Sharmila Lodhia, Catherine Matterson, Nicole Pitman, Kristina Vetter

Costume Assistance

Firoozeh Dumas

Posters

Sally Espinoza, Janine Hayward, Sharmila Lodhia, Catherine Matterson, Nicole Pitman, Christine Klenow, Yulia Shore

Strike

Mike Pitman, Jesse Dorogusker, Nerija Titus, Ace Yamaguchi

Meals & Snacks

Cecilia Arradaza, Sharmila Lodhia, Eynat Rafalin, Virginia Rock, Kristina Vetter, Nicole Pitman, Sushmita Vij, Vi Zehr

Join us at the next Theatre Boosters meeting on Friday, November 17, at noon in the PAC. Attend in person or remotely to help us plan for Hamlet and much more!



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The Birds: A Modern Adaptation is produced by special arrangement with Playscripts, Inc. (www.playscripts.com)

THE BIRDS

Director's Notes

Greek plays are studied at every level of theatre, and are largely credited as the origin of theatre in Europe. I have read and performed many ancient Greek texts, but earliest memory of a Greek play was actually a modernized production of *The Birds* that I saw in middle school, in which a character pointed at a map and said, “And there’ll be a Starbucks here, here, here, and here...” This Aristophanes classic has been adapted to many locations and time periods, and the reason is clear: Aristophanes’s satirical perspective and willingness to mock every aspect of human society translates well to our modern sensibilities, where we frequently parody celebrities, politicians, and stereotypes. This story of two humans who give up on the rest of humanity and join the birds explicitly calls out the most ridiculous aspects of our society, while also bringing in larger than life characters in the form of famous Greek mythological figures and...well, a lot of birds.

In his modern adaptation, Don Zolidis not only updates this humor, but he also develops individualized takes on these iconic characters. He crafts each bird to represent their own character type in order to make them a part of the social critique. He gives the Greek gods the chance to buck against their own stereotypical portrayals. All while following some of the most mundane “heroes” in literature.

Frequently in rehearsals, I described this show as a cartoon: every character is big, vivid, and a ton of fun. It’s been a blast working with the cast, designers, crew, and staff to bring this vibrant and ridiculous world to life, and to work together to answer questions like: should there be a limit to human ambition? Is it possible to overthrow systems of power? And perhaps most importantly: can birds clap?

And even if we don’t thoroughly answer all of those questions, we hope you have a fantastic time as we try!

Sarah Thermond

THE BIRDS

The Cast

Pithetaerus.....Jack Champlin**
Eulpides.....Athya Lodhia Paramesh**

The Bird Kingdom
Epopos, *King of the Birds*.....Kyle Vetter***
Procne, *Queen of the Birds*.....Eloise Dumas***
Hawk.....Briar Dorogusker*
Bat.....Cameron Richards
HummingbirdMiya Joshi*
FlamingoNika Petryaevskaya*
CrowRei Prior
ParrotMisha Beggs*
TitmouseYara Sulimova
Blue-Footed Boobie.....Noah Espinoza
Passenger Pigeon.....Ayelet Rafalin
DodoVakaris Titus
Kiwi.....Anna van Valkenburg*
OstrichClaire Shi*
ChickenSummer Mehta
TurkeyThais Gonzalez
Duck.....Selena Luo
GooseKay Kuykendall
PuffinSohan Sengupta
SeagullClaire Wu*
Eagle.....Raeya Wohlmorantz*
Owl.....Neva Bapna
DoveAmi Yamaguchi
CardinalAkiva Forrester
Black Swan.....Maeve Williams*
White Swan.....Eliza Stokski
Peacock.....Thomas Pitman
CraneJade Zhang
MagpieEthan Zehr

The Humans
The Investment Banker.....Neri Guzman
The Lawyer.....Joe Choquette*
The Insurance AgentKyndall Abraham
The Activist.....Zara Harwell
The Internet SpammerVasim Jamil Fee*

THE BIRDS

The Gods

Prometheus, a Titan	Jack Foster*
Iris	Aether Yun*
Poseidon	Abigail Friedland**
Hercules	Trevor Axelrod*
Mgrachuchuk.....	Oliver Levine

Understudies

Pithetaerus.....	Joe Choquette*
Eulpides.....	Rei Prior
Epopos	Oliver Levine
Procne	Zara Harwell
Hawk.....	Kyndall Abraham
Iris	Maeve Williams*
Prometheus	Thomas Pitman
Poseidon	Misha Beggs*
Hercules	Jack Foster*
Mgrauchuchuk.....	Neva Bapna

Setting

Act 1 – The Top of a Mountain, Present Day...ish
Act 2 – The Same Mountain, 8 days later

Designers & Crew

Stage Manager & Production Manager	Verrine Farag**
Assistant Director	Ellie Edmonds*
Dramaturg.....	Athyia Lodhia Paramesh**
Master Carpenters	Tate Foster & Mireia Sainz Blasi*
Paint Leads.....	Misha Beggs* & Amy Luo
Lighting Designers	Ellie Edmonds* & Rue Zadik*
Light Board Operator.....	Tate Foster
Lighting Team.....	Clara Fesslmeir, Aether Yun
Sound Designer.....	Mireia Sainz Blasi*
Sound Board Operators.....	Ben Kim & Sapphire Loomis*
A2s	Jayden Agbulos, Jacob Moore, Wyatt Saxon, Rohit Sengupta
Props Designer	Raz Mazor-Hoofien*
Assistant Props Designers.....	Thais Gonzalez & Maeve Williams*
Backstage Crew.....	Jayden Agbulos, Jacob Moore, Wyatt Saxon, Kirill Shore
Costume Designers	Vasim Jamil Fee* & An Tran
Costume Crew	Kyndall Abraham, Amy Luo, Thomas Pitman, Aether Yun*

THE BIRDS

Hair & Make-Up Designers.....	Eloise Dumas*** & Kyle Vetter***
Assistant HMU Designer	Tatum Pelczarski*
HMU Crew... Neva Bapna, Manuela Cardoso de Pereira, Abigail Friedland**, Rei Prior, Emerson Stephens, Maeve Williams*, Ami Yamaguchi	
Publicity Poster Graphic Design	Kyle Vetter***

Build & Paint Team

Aashi Agarwal*, Jayden Agbulos, Misha Beggs*, Kaavya Dhand-Kalluri, Ellie Donahue, Eloise Dumas**, Ellie Edmonds*, Verrine Farag**, Clara Fesslmeir, Tate Foster, Thais Gonzalez, Vasim Jamil Fee*, Ben Kim, Sapphire Loomis*, Amy Luo, Raz Mazor-Hoofien*, Jacob Moore, Omkar Perinkulam*, Thomas Pitman, Mireia Sainz Blasi*, Wyatt Saxon, Diana Senderzon, Rohit Sengupta, Mara Siegal, Kirill Shore, An Tran, Kyle Vetter***, Aether Yun*, Rue Zadik*, Ethan Zehr	
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Fight Captains.....	Trevor Axelrod*, Aether Yun*
Dance Captains.....	Briar Dorogusker*, Miya Joshi*

House Manager	Omkar Perinkulam*
Ushers	Aashi Agarwal*, Marcello Attardi, Tristan Battumur, David Cruz, Saumya Kundu, Nicolas Pequegnat, Sierra Rock*, Dante Velasquez

Adult Staff

Director	Sarah Thermond
Choreographer.....	Alyssa Bond
Scenic Design & Paint Instructor	Teresa Dewees
Scenic Construction Instructor	Bob Wedemeyer
Lighting Instructor	Ed Hunter
Technical Advisers	Drew Carpenter & Kyle Langdon

*Indicates members of International Thespian Society Troupe 909

**Honor Thespian members of International Thespian Society Troupe 909

*** National Honor members of ITS Troupe 909

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