

THE KING WILLIAM PLAYERS

present

Euripides'

A L C E S T I S

in the translation of  
Dudley Fitts and Robert Fitzgerald

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December 14 and 15

Iglehart Hall

St. John's College

Curtain 8:15

The Cast  
(in order of appearance)

Apollo.....Ted Otteson

Death.....Boyd Kyle

Choragus.....Michel Mok

Chorus.....Adam Pinsker  
Michael Rourke  
Richard Congdon  
Fred Davis  
Philip Heilig

Maidservant.....Ann Cupp

Alcestis.....Ilse Moeller

Admetos.....Henry Arrighi

Their children.....David Moon  
Carolyn Anne Williams

Heracles.....Joseph Cooper

Manservant.....Irwin Hunt

Pheres.....Stewart Linton

Slaves.....John Traband  
Joshua Davies  
Teddy Betts  
Emory Stafford

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Director.....Ernst Abrahamson

Management.....George Udel

Stage Design and Scenery.....Robinson Garland  
**Patrick Davis**

Properties.....Richard Batt  
Charles O'Donnell

Lighting.....Ernest Tibbetts  
Robert Berry  
Ian Lea

Costumes.....Jack Carr  
Edith Abrahamson  
Ruth Bisberg  
Mary Black  
Charlotte Fletcher  
Daisy Goldwin  
Dorothy Hammerschmidt  
Patricia Hetland  
Anna Mary Horne  
Jean Lobell  
Guinevere Logan  
Velma White

Make-up.....Sybil Moon  
Richard Edelman

Posters.....Patricia Parslow  
Townsend Morgan

The King William Players gratefully acknowledge  
the assistance and cooperation of

Rogers Albritton, Alvin Aronson, Philip Campo-  
neschi, Harris Collingwood, Andrew Dwing, Stewart  
Greenfield, Theodore Hopkins, Richard Hutchings,  
Claude Leffel, Archibald McCourt, Leonard Slafkosky,  
and Myron Wolbarsht



From: St. John's College  
Annapolis, Maryland

12-10-48  
KING WILLIAM PLAYERS TO PRESENT "ALCESTIS"  
December 14 and 15

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The first dramatic offering this year of the King William Players of St. John's College is "Alcestis", to be presented in Iglehart Hall on December 14 and 15. Curtain time for the drama will be at 8:15 p.m.

"Alcestis", penned in 438 B.C. by the Greek dramatist, Euripides, is a tragi-comedy. Its director is Ernst Abrahamson, tutor and faculty advisor of the Players. He is filling this role for the second time at the College, having directed the presentation of G. B. Shaw's "Androcles and the Lion" last spring.

"Alcestis", like the Shaw vehicle, smacks more than a little of tongue-in-cheek tragedy. Built about what is thought to be an old legend, "Alcestis" really tells the story of Admetus, king of Thessaly, and husband of Alcestis. The Greek god, Apollo, so the folk tale runs, was forced by the irate Zeus to serve for some time under a mortal master to atone for a misdeed. Apollo went to Thessaly and lived with the good king Admetus. Upon finding at the close of his service that Admetus was destined to die young, Apollo prevailed upon the Fates to spare him. The Fates agreed, provided someone could be found to die in Admetus' place. Admetus then approaches his parents, friends and kin, but all refuse to sacrifice their lives for his. Finally Alcestis, his devoted queen, undertakes the service. The play opens as she is about to die.

With the real action of the play taking place before the curtain rises, the interest of "Alcestis" is the affect of the queen's sacrifice on her husband's character. A sharper and sharper light is thrown on Admetus' egotism and sentimentality, which lets his wife die in his stead yet causes him ironic grief over it all.

If this seems rather grim, Euripides never meant it so. Just when the situation is most tragic, he has seen fit to bring on Heracles, stomping very heavily where angels fear to tread. This same brawling character eventually becomes the play's real hero.

Two women, one to play the title role and the other her maid servant, will aid the St. Johnnies in bringing "Alcestis" to life. Miss Ilse Moeller is the Greek queen, and Mrs. Anne Tardy Cupp will be seen as the faithful servant. The other members of the cast are Henry Arrighi as Admetus; Stewart Linton as his father, Pheres; Ted Otteson as Apollo; A. Boyd Kyle as Death; Joe Cooper as Heracles; and Irving Hunt as the male servant. The chorus, essential to all Greek drama, is led by Michel Mok, and consists of Richard Congdon, Fred Davis, Philip Heilig, Adam Pinsker, and Michael Rourke. Joe Cooper is also the President of the King William Players.

True to the Greek tradition of simplicity, the stage design of "Alcestis" depends chiefly on the effects of dramatic lighting. The backdrop of the

specially-constructed stage consists of draperies of a neutral shade, and the sparse properties will include traditional columns, steps and platforms. Past these, there are only the lights to create the proper tragic or comic mood for the actors. The stage designer is J. Robinson Garland and Ernest Tibbetts has charge of the lighting.

Costumes for "Alcestis" have been designed by Jack Carr, and wives of the college community have contributed their sewing skills to create them. The newly formed Students' Art Co-Operative turned out the colorful posters advertising the play from the windows of local stores.

Tickets may be purchased at the Business Office of the College or at the door of Iglehart Hall on the nights of the play.



King William Players

(12-10-48)

All the requisites of a 20th century popular soap opera, saturated with the kind of logic-teasing paradox that earmarks all Greek plays, are to be found in "Alcestis", the first dramatic offering this year of the King William Players of St. John's college.

In "Alcestis", penned in 438 B.C. by the Greek dramatist, Euripides, there is the mistaken husband, the sacrificing wife, the carping in-law, the drunk, Death and withal a happy ending.

This tragi-comedy (so-called for want of a better description), will be staged at Iglehart Hall at the college on Tuesday and Wednesday nights, Dec. 14 and 15. Its director is Ernst Abrahamson, tutor and faculty advisor of the Players. He ~~will~~ is filling this role for the second time at the college, having directed the presentation of G.B. Shaw's "Androcles and the Lion" last spring.

"Alcestis", like the Shaw vehicle, smacks more than a little of tongue-in-cheek tragedy. Built about what is thought to be an old legend, "Alcestis" ~~xxxxxxx~~ really tells the story of Admetus, king of Thessaly, and husband of Alcestis.

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Harry Arrighi as Admetus; Stewart Linton as his father, Pheres; Ted O'Hara as Apollo; A. Boyd Kyle as Death; Joe Cooper as Heracles, and Irving Hunt as the male servant have the only other solo roles. The chorus, essential to all Greek drama, is led by ~~Richard Congdon~~ Michel Mok, and consists of Richard Congdon, Fred Davis, Philip Heilig, Adam Pinsker, and Michel Rowke.

~~Student director of "Alcestis" is Joe Cooper,~~  
is also president of the Players.

Curtain time for the drama will be at 8:15 P.M. both Tuesday and Wednesday. Tickets may be purchased at the door.



True to the Greek tradition of simplicity, the stage design of "Alcestis", tragi-comedy to be presented in Iglehart Hall by the King William Players of St. John's college Tuesday and Wednesday nights, depends chiefly on the effects of dramatic lighting.

The backdrop of the specially-constructed stage consists of draperies of a neutral shade, and the sparse properties will include traditional columns, steps and platforms. Past these, there are only the lights to create the proper tragic or comic mood for the actors.

Many new spots and floods were necessary for "Alcestis" which will be the first of what faculty director Ernst Abrahamson ~~hopes~~

to be the first of three plays staged by the Players this year. Working with Ernst Abrahamson, faculty director, and stage designer J. Robinson Garland, Ernest Tibbetts has designed and built an elaborate switchboard to control the lighting.

~~Y. J. Carr, and wives of the college community have contributed their sewing skills to create them. Nor are they the only outside group which has assisted in the production: the newly formed Students' Art/ Co-Operative turned out the colorful posters advertising the play from the windows of local stores.~~

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Dramatic offerings of the King William Players are never money-making ventures, <sup>according to president,</sup> The high cost of building the stage, necessary because the college boasts no structure worthy of the name, ~~precludes~~ precludes any chances for profit. The plays are produced solely for the experience and enjoyment of the participating ~~members~~ students, and are recognized by the college administration as such.



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will be 8:15 P.M., and tickets may be purchased at the door.