



Polarity Ensemble Theatre

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***OTHELLO in mask* Offers Student Group Discounts & Extras**

Shakespeare's *OTHELLO in mask* runs November 10th through December 10th at the Side Project Theatre, 1439 West Jarvis, Chicago. This is a great opportunity for students to see an innovative staging of *Othello* in one of the most intimate theatres in Chicago. *Othello* is a great tragedy for our times, exploring race, jealousy, marriage and religious differences against a backdrop of war and politics. Groups of 8 or more students may purchase tickets at \$12 each on Fridays and Saturdays and \$10 each on Sundays. (Individual students tickets are \$15 on Fridays and Saturdays and \$10 on Sundays). One free instructor ticket will be provided per group.

After certain performances, student groups will have the option of a "talk back" with members of the production team and cast. Among other topics, they can discuss the extended preparations for this production. This summer, *Othello*'s director and producer traveled to Japan to research theatrical forms including Japanese musicals and ballet, Kabuki, Noh, Kyogen, and Bunraku.

"In many ways, *OTHELLO* is about a clash of foreign identities," Producer Abigail Trabue said. "Othello the Moor marries a European. He is surrounded by a culture, by a wife and by a trusted counselor who is bent on destroying him. His inability to understand defeats him."

"Our production puts the conflict in Othello's mind in a physical form," Director Zack Brenner said. "Our actors use masks. We match the style of mask and acting technique to the individual character, incorporating elements of Commedia Dell' arte, Classic Greek, and European Masquerade. Adding Japanese stoicism and focus creates a poignant contrast to the European side of the production. This show is like nothing anyone has seen before."

Performances are Fridays and Saturdays at 8 pm and Sundays at 3 pm. For group tickets call 847-293-7705. Visit www.PETheatre.com for *Othello* study guides and other information.

We also invite you to download a copy of Richard Engling's acclaimed adaptation of Sophocles' *Antigone* from our online bookstore. PET's *Antigone* premiered in February 2006 and has already been produced by schools in Indiana, Michigan and Mississippi. The *Chicago Reader* called the script "...a nice balance between accessibility and heightened poetic language."