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Ethan Dubin



Celia Keenan-Bolger



Katie Kreisler



Susannah Perkins



Dave Quay



Tony Shalhoub



Calvin Leon Smith



Haley Wong

CAST & CREATIVE HEADSHOTS

THE PUBLIC THEATER ANNOUNCES ADDITIONAL CASTING FOR WORLD PREMIERE OF *ANTIGONE (THIS PLAY I READ IN HIGH SCHOOL)*

By Anna Ziegler

Directed by Tyne Rafaeli

Previously Announced Celia Keenan-Bolger and Tony Shalhoub
to Be Joined by
Ethan Dubin, Katie Kreisler, Susannah Perkins, Dave Quay,
Calvin Leon Smith, and Haley Wong

December 11, 2025 – The Public Theater (Artistic Director, Oskar Eustis; Executive Director, Patrick Willingham) has announced additional casting for the world premiere of **ANTIGONE (THIS PLAY I READ IN HIGH SCHOOL)**, a new play by 2025 Susan Smith Blackburn Prize finalist **Anna Ziegler** and directed by Drama Desk, Drama League, and Lucille Lortel nominee **Tyne Rafaeli**. The bold new adaptation of Sophocles' classic begins performances in The Public's Anspacher Theater on Thursday, February 26 with a Joseph Papp Free Performance. The production runs through Sunday, March 22, with an official opening on Wednesday, March 11.

A riveting take on Sophocles' classic, **ANTIGONE (THIS PLAY I READ IN HIGH SCHOOL)** reimagines the story of Oedipus' daughter Antigone through a bold new lens. Written by award-winning playwright **Anna Ziegler**, this lyrical epic follows a fiercely independent young woman determined to control her own body in a kingdom ruled by archaic laws that regulate women's autonomy. Incisively witty and breathtakingly intelligent, **ANTIGONE (THIS PLAY I READ IN HIGH SCHOOL)** paints a world that is both modern and ancient; a world of lost leaders, hapless cops, and one very righteous daughter on an all-night bender. Drama Desk Award nominee **Tyne Rafaeli** directs this daring new work about the timeless quest to find your voice.

"I wrote this *Antigone* adaptation hoping to capture how absurd, painful, and deeply human it feels to navigate the moral minefields of our moment," shares playwright **Anna Ziegler**. "I'm so excited to bring it to The Public, a theater that has shaped my imagination for decades and welcomes nuance and conversation. My hope is that audiences leave with a renewed appreciation for Antigone's bravery—and also a sense, however begrudging, of how hard it is to lead other human beings, even as so many of our own leaders fall short."

The cast of **ANTIGONE (THIS PLAY I READ IN HIGH SCHOOL)** includes **Ethan Dubin** (*Cop 3/Achilles*), **Celia Keenan-Bolger** (*Chorus*), **Katie Kreisler** (*Cop 1/Proprietor*), **Susannah Perkins** (*Antigone*), **Dave Quay** (*Cop 2/Palace Guard*), **Tony Shalhoub** (*Creon*), **Calvin Leon Smith** (*Haemon*), and **Haley Wong** (*Ismene*). Understudies for the production will be announced at a later date.

"Anna's adaptation of *Antigone* pulls this ancient text into our modern moment without gimmick or reduction," shares director **Tyne Rafaeli**. "By channeling what made the original so radical, she has created a singular theatrical world that straddles ancient Thebes and modern America and asks the most important question of our time: what is a citizen to do in the face of an unjust law? She does so with wild imagination, humor, sophistication, and visceral force. For the Greeks, theater was a democratic imperative, a space for the public to collectively process their world. Today, there is no better home for this play than The Public—one of the last true civic gathering places we have. I am thrilled to be working with The Public on this astonishing play that has survived millennia for a reason."

ANTIGONE (THIS PLAY I READ IN HIGH SCHOOL) features scenic design by **David Zinn**, costume design by **Enver Chakartash**, lighting design by **Jen Schriever**, sound design and composition by **Daniel Kluger**, and prop management by **Claire M. Kavanah**. Additional members of the creative team will be announced in 2026.

The Public Theater will kick off 2026 with a production of **Elevator Repair Service**'s take on James Joyce's **ULYSSES**, directed by **John Collins**, with co-direction and dramaturgy by **Scott Shepherd**. After **ANTIGONE (THIS PLAY I READ IN HIGH SCHOOL)**, Ma-Yi Theater Company's season-long residency continues with the world premiere of **JESA** by **Jeena Yi** and directed by **Mei Ann Teo**. Simultaneously, **PUBLIC CHARGE** will run in the Newman, a world premiere play based on true events by former United States Ambassador **Julissa Reynoso** and award-winning playwright **Michael J. Chepiga**. Later in the spring, The Public will present **SEAGULL: TRUE STORY**, produced by **MART Foundation**, written by **Eli Rarey**, and created and directed by **Alexander Molochnikov** after a successful run at La MaMa last spring. Finally, the 25-26 Astor Place season will conclude with the much-anticipated world premiere of **GIRL, INTERRUPTED** based on the groundbreaking memoir by **Susanna Kaysen**, with a book by **Martyna Majok**, original music by **Aimee Mann**, choreography by **Sonya Tayeh**, and direction by **Jo Bonney**.

SHAKESPEARE FOR THE CITY, presented by Citizens, returns this summer with programming all across New York City. First up will be Mobile Unit's **AS YOU LIKE IT**, directed by **Emma Rosa Went**. The first production at The Delacorte this summer will be Free Shakespeare in the Park's **ROMEO AND JULIET**, directed by Public Theater Associate Artistic Director Saheem Ali. **SHAKESPEARE FOR THE CITY** will

conclude with Free Shakespeare in the Park's **THE WINTER'S TALE** directed by Delacorte veteran **Daniel Sullivan**.

The Library serves food and drink beginning at 5:00 p.m. and closing at midnight. The Library is closed on Mondays. For more information, visit publictheater.org.

BIOS:

ANNA ZIEGLER (*Playwright*)'s plays have been produced at major theaters including London's West End, Roundabout Theatre Company, Manhattan Theatre Club, and Williamstown Theatre Festival. *The Janeiad*, produced at The Old Globe and The Alley Theatre, was a finalist for the 2025 Susan Smith Blackburn Prize and received a Steinberg/ATCA New Play Award Citation. Her acclaimed *PHOTOGRAPH 51* (starring Nicole Kidman) won London's WhatsOnStage Award for Best New Play, and her film adaptation will be directed by Tom Hooper. She is writing *Go, Team* for Paramount (Claire Danes starring; Marielle Heller directing). *Evening All Afternoon* premieres this winter at London's Donmar Warehouse.

TYNE RAFAELI (*Director*) directs for stage, screen and audio. Recent stage productions include Brian Watkins' *Weather Girl* (St Ann's Warehouse, Soho Theatre London & The Edinburgh Festival); Em Weinstein's *Becoming Eve* (New York Theatre Workshop); Brian Watkins' *Epiphany* (Lincoln Center Theater); Jen Silverman's *Spain* (Second Stage); Keith Bunin's *The Coast Starlight* (Lincoln Center Theater); Sylvia Khoury's *Selling Kabul* (Playwright's Horizons); and Ming Peiffer's *Usual Girls* (Roundabout). Recent TV directing includes "The Beast in Me" starring Claire Danes and Matthew Rhys for Netflix and "Tell Me Lies" for Hulu, on which she is also an EP. Recent audio directing includes *Madam Ram* starring Toni Collette. Multiple Drama Desk, Drama League, and Lucille Lortel nominations.

ETHAN DUBIN (*Cop 3/Achilles*). Broadway credits include *The Ferryman* (Tony Award Best Play, 2019). Off-Broadway credits include *Bobbie Clearly* (Roundabout); *Rancho Viejo* (Playwrights Horizons); and with Clubbed Thumb, *California, My Six Therapists*, and *The World My Mama Raised*. Film credits include the Coen Brothers' *The Ballad of Buster Scruggs*; *The Kitchen*. TV credits include "Elsbeth," "Poker Face," "Fallout," "Iron Mike," "Inventing Anna," "The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel," and "Orange is the New Black." He is an affiliate artist of Clubbed Thumb.

CELIA KEENAN-BOLGER she/her (*Chorus*). Broadway credits include *Mother Play*, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *The Glass Menagerie*, *The Cherry Orchard*, *Peter and the Starcatcher*, *Les Misérables*, and *The 25th Annual Putnam Counting Spelling Bee*. Keenan-Bolger has performed Off-Broadway at Playwrights Horizons, Lincoln Center, Second Stage, New York Theater Workshop, and City Center Encores. TV: "The Gilded Age," "Devil In Silver" (upcoming), "Bull," "Louie," "The Good Wife," "Nurse Jackie," "Good Behavior," "Law & Order SVU." Film credits include *Diane*, *The Visit*, *Breakable You*. For her work onstage, she has received Tony, Drama Desk, Outer Critics Circle, and Theater World Awards. For her work in social justice and community care, she received the Isabelle Stevenson Tony award and NYCLU Michael Friedman Freedom award. She is a member of The Actors Center, a University of Michigan graduate, and has trained to become an end-of-life doula.

KATIE KREISLER (*Cop 1/Proprietor*). Broadway credits include *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child*, *The House of Blue Leaves*, *Noises Off*. Off-Broadway credits include Lincoln Center Theater, Primary Stages, and Playwrights Horizons. Kreisler has appeared in over 20 television shows and films, most recently HBO Max's "The Penguin" and Amazon Prime's "The Better Sister" with Jessica Biel and Elizabeth Banks. Kreisler trained at The Juilliard School. Bea, Millie, Bryan are everything.

SUSANNAH PERKINS they/them (*Antigone*). Broadway credits include *Romeo + Juliet*, *Network*. Off-Broadway credits include *Practice* (Playwrights Horizons), *The Welkin* (Atlantic), *Grief Hotel* (Clubbed Thumb/The Public), *Mary Gets Hers* (The Playwrights Realm), *The Good John Proctor* (The Connelly), *Judgment Day* (Park Avenue Armory), *The Low Road* (The Public), *The Wolves* (Lincoln Center/The Playwrights Realm), *The Rape of the Sabine Women* (The Playwrights Realm). TV credits

include "The Politician," "The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel." Perkins has their BFA from NYU Tisch. They have received several Obie/Drama Desk awards and are an affiliated artist of Clubbed Thumb.

DAVE QUAY he/him (*Cop 2/Palace Guard*) is an NYC-based actor and filmmaker. Public Theater credits include *The Low Road* (NY Premiere), *Socrates* (World Premiere). Other Theater includes *Heir Apparent* (CSC); *Timon of Athens* (TFANA/STC/RSC); *Donogoo* (Mint); *The Tempest, Much Ado About Nothing* (STC); *The Merchant of Venice* (TFANA/Royal Lyceum); *Baskerville, Pride and Prejudice* (Dorset); *Big Apple Circus*. Film/TV: credits include "Your Friends & Neighbors" (AppleTV+), "House of Cards," "Gotham," "L&O:SVU," "Blue Bloods," "Bull," "Looming Tower," "Royal Pains," Ken Burns' Hemingway, American Revolution. Quay has his MFA from NYU.

TONY SHALHOUB (*Creon*) is perhaps best known for his work as Adrian Monk on "Monk" (Golden Globe, three Primetime Emmys, two Screen Actors Guild Awards). Shalhoub is often known for his work as Abe Weissman in "The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel" (Primetime Emmy, two Screen Actors Guild Awards). Other TV credits include "Wings," "Stark Raving Mad," and "Nurse Jackie." In 2018, he won a Tony Award for Best Actor in a Musical for *The Band's Visit*, having been nominated on five other occasions.

CALVIN LEON SMITH he/him (*Haemon*). The Public credits include *Sweat* (Mobile National), *Fat Ham* (Obie Award). Broadway credits include *Cabaret at the Kit Kat Club*, *Fat Ham*. Other NY theater credits include *The Miser* (Molière in the Park), *The Animal Kingdom* (The Connelly). Regional Theatre credits from Actors Theater of Louisville, Clarence Brown Theater, The Long Wharf Theatre and others. TV credits include "The Underground Railroad" (Amazon), "The Deuce" (HBO), "High Maintenance" (HBO). Selected Film credits include *Benny & James* (Best Cast – Diversity in Cannes). Training: The Juilliard School.

HALEY WONG (*Ismene*). Off-Broadway credits include *The Welkin* (Atlantic Theater Company); *Mary Gets Hers* (The Playwrights Realm); *Events* (The Hearth). Regional credits include *Indian Princesses* (La Jolla Playhouse); *John Proctor is the Villain* (The Huntington). Wong received her B.A. from Brown University.

THE PUBLIC continues the work of its visionary founder Joe Papp as a civic institution engaging, both on-stage and off, with some of the most important ideas and social issues of today. Conceived over 60 years ago as one of the nation's first nonprofit theaters, The Public has long operated on the principles that theater is an essential cultural force and that art and culture belong to everyone. Under the leadership of Artistic Director Oskar Eustis and Executive Director Patrick Willingham, The Public's wide breadth of programming includes an annual season of new work at its landmark home at Astor Place, Free Shakespeare in the Park at The Delacorte Theater in Central Park, the Mobile Unit touring throughout New York City's five boroughs, Public Lab, Public Works, Public Shakespeare Initiative, and Joe's Pub. Since premiering *HAIR* in 1967, The Public continues to create the canon of American Theater and is currently represented on Broadway by the Tony Award-winning musicals *Hamilton* by Lin-Manuel Miranda and *Hell's Kitchen* by Alicia Keys and Kristoffer Diaz. Their programs and productions can also be seen regionally across the country and around the world. The Public has received 64 Tony Awards, 195 Obie Awards, 62 Drama Desk Awards, 64 Lortel Awards, 36 Outer Critic Circle Awards, 13 New York Drama Critics' Circle Awards, 72 AUDELCO Awards, 6 Antonyo Awards, and 6 Pulitzer Prizes. publictheater.org

The Public Theater stands in honor of the first inhabitants and our ancestors. We acknowledge the land on which The Public and its theaters stand—the original homeland of the Lenape people. We acknowledge the painful history of genocide and forced removal from this territory. We honor the generations of stewards and we pay our respects to the many diverse indigenous peoples still connected to this land.

ANTIGONES was developed during a residency at the **Eugene O'Neill Theater Center's National Playwrights Conference** in 2019. Preston Whiteway, Executive Director. Wendy C. Goldberg, Artistic Director.

ANTIGONE was Originally Commissioned and Produced by **Geffen Playhouse**, Matt Shakman, Artistic Director; Gil Cates, Jr. Executive Director

Produced with the generous support of **Mandy Hackett** and **Jenny Steingart**.

TICKET INFORMATION

ANTIGONE (THIS PLAY I READ IN HIGH SCHOOL) begins performances in The Public's Anspacher Theater on Thursday, February 26 with a Joseph Papp Free Performance. The production officially opens on Wednesday, March 11 and runs through Sunday, March 22.

Tickets are available now and can be accessed by visiting publictheater.org, calling **212.967.7555**, or in person at the Taub Box Office at The Public Theater at 425 Lafayette Street.

The Public's Joseph Papp Free Performance initiative will offer free tickets to the performance on Thursday, February 26 through TodayTix. The Lottery will open for entries on Thursday, February 19 and will close at 12:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 25. Winners will be notified by email and push notification anytime from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., and if selected, winners will have one hour to claim their tickets.

The performance schedule is Tuesday through Sunday at 7:30 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday at 1:30 p.m. (*There will be no 1:30 p.m. performance on Saturday, February 28 or Sunday, March 1.*)

The **Audio Described and Open Captioned** performance will be on Saturday, March 14 at 1:30 p.m. The **American Sign Language Interpreted** performance will be on Sunday, March 22 at 1:30 p.m.

The full performance calendar can be found at publictheater.org.

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