

The National Postal Museum takes visitors 'Behind the Badge'

The Curse of Oedipus opens at Antaeus



Ramón de Ocampo and Joanna Strapp

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Ron Irwin

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Long before gyros and ouzo there were Greek citizens and they were heavily influenced by their Gods. Two of their Gods, Apollo and Dionysus struggled for control over the people of ancient Greece and they had a particular interest in the long suffering people of Thebes. A curse had been cast upon them, the curse of Oedipus and least you think only of the legendary transgressions of Oedipus and his mother the story goes deeper, far deeper. It is this curse and the struggle and eventual triumph of the people of Thebes that is the core of “The Curse of Oedipus” currently on stage at the Antaeus Theatre in North Hollywood, California.

I will admit that the first fifteen minutes or

so of the production were a bit scattered and confusing to me. I saw lots of movement and energy but I was it seemed missing the point. But that confusion grew into clarity as the performance moved on, revealing the entire story of the classic legend one riveting layer at a time.

“The Curse of Oedipus” does of course flow from ancient Greek legend but its tales of intrigue and human foible remain vital even today. The story is told by two relatively large and yet very talented group of actors brilliantly directed by Casey Stangl and produced by the multi award winning Antaeus Company. There is a steady flood of drama including incest, murder and betrayal. It is a long and often brutal path but there is a happy resolution. It is a trip well worth taking.

This is a show that deals squarely with many of the darkest human issues as well as the unique qualities of the ancient Greek Gods. It is absolutely not a musical nor a comedy, it is a rich and deep dramatic presentation bolstered by a superb cast; well actually two casts but I only had the privilege of seeing one of them.

It is a show best suited to adults not because of any overt sex or nudity or offensive language because that does not exist in this show. However, it does require a level of mental maturity absent by definition in children. The venue is small but used with genius right down to a very realistic earth quake in Act II.

Looking for real entertainment that is also concurrently truly mentally stimulating? Then get yourself over to the Antaeus Theatre and enjoy “The Curse of Oedipus.” The show runs now through August 10th. Show times are Thursdays and Fridays at 8:00 PM, Saturdays at 2 PM and 8 PM and Sundays at 2:00 PM. Ticket prices start at \$30.00. The Antaeus Theatre is located at 5112 Lankershim Boulevard, North Hollywood, California 91601. Reservations and information are available at www.Antaeus.org and by calling 818-506-1983.

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