

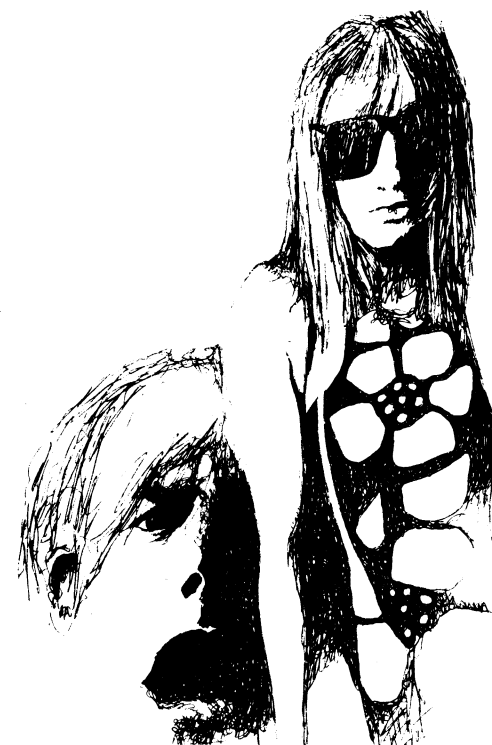
immortalized in Homer's ILIAD. The aftermath of the war -- Agamemnon's return, discovery of the faithlessness of his life during his absence, his murder at her and her mother's hands, his revenge by his son Orestes with the connivance of his daughter Electra -- has been the subject of plays by all three extant tragic playwrights of the Fifth Century B.C. Certainly the most famous of these dramas is the trilogy of plays by Aeschylus known as THE ORESTEIA. But, Sophocles and Euripides also wrote plays which are variations on the theme.

The Orestes of Euripides has long been a neglected play, almost an unproduced one. Undeservedly so; but like so many Euripidean plays, ORESTES has had to pay the price for affronting the pat handbook theories of the well-constructed Greek play, and its very "strageness" and bravura of bitterness have seemed to violate both the idea of tragedy and tragic dignity itself.

The Orestes can be accurately dated to the year 408 B.C., that is, just a year or so before Euripides, old, embittered, and disillusioned with Athens, withdrew in voluntary exile to Macedon. Here, in 1968 A.D., Orestes is staged amid the modish trappings of our own age. Perhaps a desperate portrait but Euripides reminds us that the Deus ex Machinas of this epoch provide an inadequate resolution to the conflicts of our modern stage.

J.C.

OXFORD



ORESTES by
EURIPIDES

COMPANY '68

presents

ORESTES

by

Euripides

Translated by William Arrowsmith

Staged by Joe Conaway

Original music by John Metcalf &
Rob Rourke

CAST

Electra.....	Donna Emanuel
Helen.....	Lynn Morton
Hermoine.....	Jane Firebaugh
Orestes.....	Steve Allen
Menelaus.....	Jeff Hendricks
Tyndareus.....	Ed "Duke" Bagger
Pylades.....	Jim Rinnert
Messenger.....	Ira Yarbrough
Phrygian Slave.....	Bill Prescott
Apollo.....	George Spelvin
Chorus.....	Rich DeWitt
	Mary Giese
	Mitchi Grose
	Carol Timblin
	Van Watkins
	Phil Lonergan
C.J. Koehler	Diana Roper
Jud Clouser	Karen Chaney
Max Berry	John Smith
	Ira Yarbrough

Guitarists.....Rob Rourke
John Metcalf

SUPERVISING STAFF

Director.....Joe Conaway
Scene Designer &
Technical Director..Edward Pisoni
Costume Designer.....Douglas Koertge
Graduate Assistant....Daniel Bruneau

PRODUCTION STAFF

Stage Manager.....Mimi McCarter
Sound.....Gary Annis & Mimi McCarter
Lighting Crew.....Max Adkins, Ed "Duke" Bagger,
Bea Montgomery, John Smith &
Ira Yarbrough.
Prop Crew.....Mary Giese, Rich DeWitt &
Glynn Lowry.
Scenery Crew.....Jeff Hendricks, Max Adkins,
Dan File, Joe Spoon,
Loran Easter, Leah Milburn.
Cynthia Burgin & Company '68.
Costume Crew.....Mitchi Grose, Van Watkins &
C.J. Koehler.
Hair Styles.....Lynn Morton

There will be one ten-minute intermission.

"Like a Rolling Stone" is by Bob Dylan,
arranged by the Rotary Connection.

Note on ORESTES

The House of Atreus is one of the most famous families in mythology. Atreus was the Greek king whose two sons were Menelaus and Agamemnon; the adventures of these two and their fellow Greeks in the Trojan War were