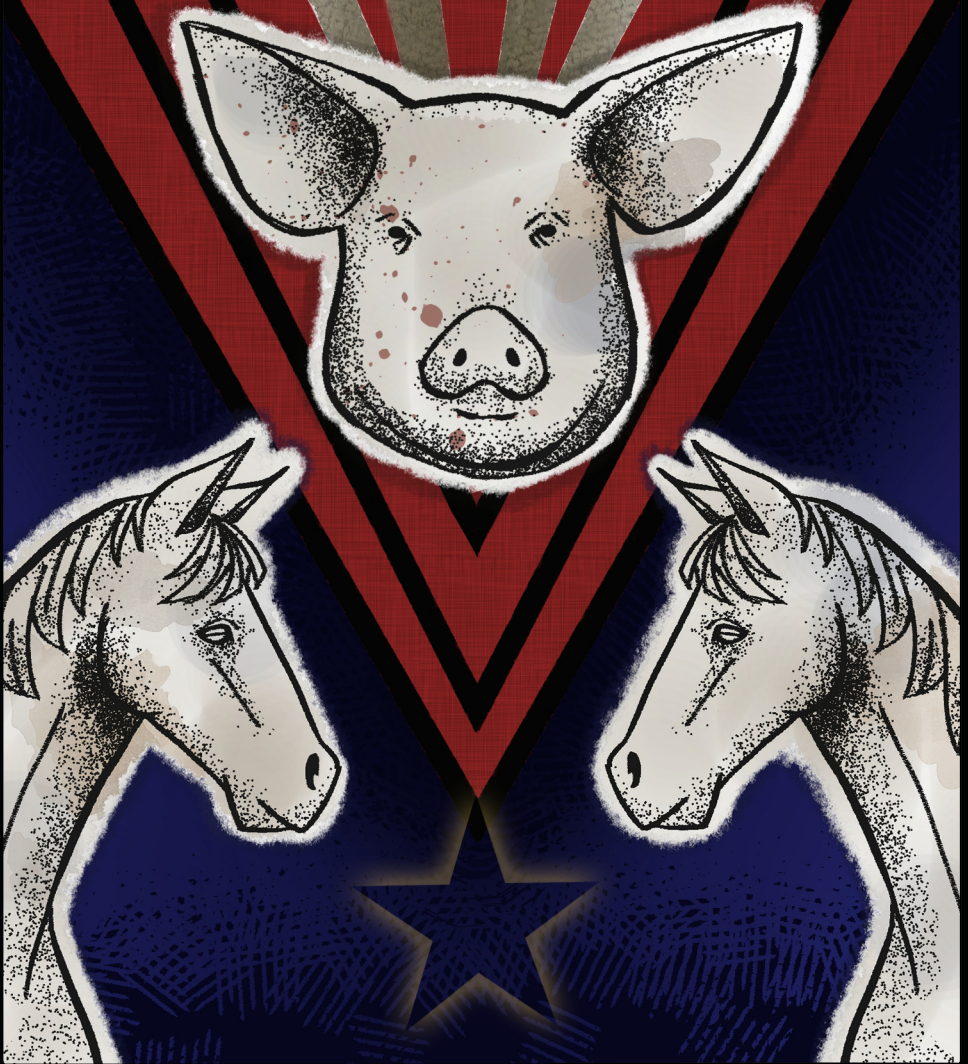


George Orwell's

Animal Farm

Adapted by Ian Wooldridge



Department of Communication

Interim Chair Note

Dr. Troy Comeau



Welcome to the 2022-2023 season of Pitt State Theatre. On behalf of the PSU Department of Communication, we hope you enjoy the productions our students, faculty, and staff have worked hard preparing for you. Relax, laugh and also ponder the world we live in as our productions come alive in the Dotty and Bill Miller Theater and in the PSU Studio Theatre.

Dr. Megan Westhoff is in her third year leading our program and will direct our season opening production. We are also pleased to have Mr. Gil Cooper and Mr. Linden Little return to direct mainstage productions. Ms. Lisa Quinteros lends her expertise as our Costume Designer/Wardrobe Supervisor and Mr. Linden Little continues as Technical Director and Designer.

This year's season opens on October 27-30 with the musical *Once Upon a Mattress*, directed by Dr. Megan Westhoff. In this musical version of the fairytale *The Princess and the Pea*, Winnifred the Woebegone is a shy and awkward girl looking to win the heart of Prince Dauntless. But there's one problem. Queen Aggravain has sabotaged the efforts of every young princess who has hoped to marry her son. Find out if Winnifred will be the one to pass the Queen's impossible test, marry her true love, and allow the rest of the kingdom to live happily-ever-after.

For our second production on December 2-3, we invite you to come enjoy our student directors' "public final exam" as they direct their one-act plays. Always fascinating, always popular and always free of charge, join us for *Theatre Unplugged*.

Mr. Gil Cooper and Ms. Jenna Russell direct our third production on February 23-26, *Emilia*. 400 years ago, Emilia Bassano was a trailblazer, but her story is almost completely lost to history. Considered to have published one of the first collections of poetry written by a woman, yet most remember her for potentially being the "Dark Lady" in Shakespeare's sonnets. In this contemporary play about a historical period, Emilia struggles with getting her work seen and her voice heard. See why her story continues to be important then and now.

Finally, Mr. Linden Little directs an adaptation from George Orwell's book *Animal Farm*. The animals on Mr. Jones' farm have been overworked and mistreated, so Major the pig inspires the tired animals to rise up and overthrow Jones. For a time, the animals live in a paradise of idealism, but then the corrupt leadership of Napoleon the pig threatens the very livelihood the animals worked to achieve. The enduring tale serves as a cautionary parable against totalitarianism and asks us to consider if this could happen in our own backyard.

We appreciate your support of Pitt State Theatre and hope you enjoy this season's productions.



Michaela Henningsen, Natalie Rigdon, and Ryan Bennett rehearse a scene together.



502 N. Broadway Pittsburg, KS
620-231-2081

Prom | Formal Dress | Mother of the Bride | Bridal | Tuxedos



Actors preparing their character's animal noises.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Linden Little

Animal Farm is a Political Allegory, but I do not wish to impose my politics on the company or you the audience. Instead, I want to live my values in the rehearsal room. I value democracy and consensus building. So rather than dictate commands from the authoritarian voice of the director, I opened up the production process. Some of the songs used in this production were selected by cast members. Whole movement sequences were built from improvised exercises. There will be changes to the performance between the time I have drafted this message and the opening of the production.

Some may claim I have shirked my responsibility as a leader. I do not believe this is true. I believe in the messy and sometimes confusing process of arriving at a conclusion as a group. I do not hesitate to say "That moment is not working" but I add the "What do you think?" Our ideas may clash from time to time, but more often than not a stronger middle ground is found.

This clash is also evident in the design style. We went with a folk-punk aesthetic. A blending of hardcore DIY punk with country softness. Industrial Scaffolding sits in relationship with old red barn wood. The fusion of the two values an idealistic rebellious spirit of change, and an understanding of the importance of tradition or ritual. The soundscape matches this principle with the blending of banjoes and synthesizer beats. With all this clashing, directors should act as a bridge between the production and the audience. Unifying the cacophony into one messy and authentic experience and within every performance is an opportunity to reach a more perfect union.



Tony Sanchez rehearsing
his monologue as Major.

To the cast and crew,

Break A Leg!

Alpha Psi Omega - Theatre Honor Society
Alpha Epsilon Theta Chapter

President, Michaela Henningsen

Vice President, Jenna Russell

Secretary, Madi Correll

Business Manager, Ryan Bennett



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Tuesday-Friday 10-5:30 | Saturday 10-4 | Closed Sunday and Monday



Libby Vogel uses the scene to enhance her performance.



Animal Farm

Adapted by Ian Wooldridge

Book by George Orwell

Directed by.....Linden Little

Scenic and Lighting Design by.....Linden Little

Costume Design by.....Lisa Quinteros

CAST

Napoleon..... Michaela Henningsen*

Snowball/Benjamin.....Natalie Rigdon

Moses/Mollie/Minimus/Pilkington.....Libby Vogel

Boxer/Young Animal.....Rashid M. Bey

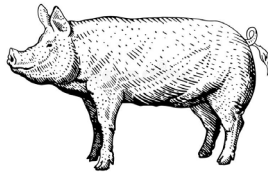
Squealer.....Ryan Bennett*

Major..... Tony Sanchez

Clover.....Sarah Hall

SETTING

Mr. Jones' Manor Farm



There will be no intermission during this performance.

Produced by special arrangement with THE DRAMATIC
PUBLISHING COMPANY of Woodstock, Illinois

PRODUCTION CREW

Stage Manager.....Korah Calvin
Properties Manager.....Milo Black
Light Board Technician.....Ned Curfman
Sound Board Technician.....Chantel Shaw*
Costume.....Barbara Davis



PITT STATE THEATRE STAFF

Production Assistant.....Milo Black
Production Photographer.....Marissa Dick
Advertising Manager.....Emilie Crowley
Artwork Designer.....Brianna Carranza

*denotes membership in Alpha Psi Omega, theatre honor society

No photography or video recording is permitted during the performance.
Please make sure cell phones are silenced.



Sarah Hall rehearsing
her role as Clover.

COSTUME NOTE

Lisa Quinteros

The Call to Action to Revolt has always started with Words. The Animals on the Farm, both Miserable and Fed-up, listen to Major the Pig's Vision, and the Wheel of Revolution is started. In any type of Revolution, the Outcome of that Direction is often Unclear...but what IS known is that Change will be in Effect. For the Costumes of Animal Farm, we have chosen to embrace the Look and Spirit of the Folkpunk Music Scene. It also uses Words to push for Change, via Lyrics and Music, to Expose and Inform their Ideas and Responses.

Folkpunk embraces Revolt, Revolution, and Change. Our Animals are built from a variety of different methods, including 3D-Printing, Latex, Sculpted Clay, Paper Mache, and PaperCrafting. The Clothing reflects Country Farmlife, Punk Aesthetics, Folk Symbolism, and Iconic Symbols, Quotes and Messages that represent Viewpoints for Changes in Thought or Self-Education. Our Storytellers take on their Individual Characters literally by the Hats they wear. They are Humans becoming Animals... who don't want to be Humans, but ultimately become MORE Human in the End, to the Glee of some....and the Horror of Others. Equality is a Delicate Thing... We should treat it with Care and Attention. Thanks to my Costume Crew and all the help of the 3D Masters who have helped guide me through all of this information I'm still slicing and processing. You've been truly helpful and introduced us to a valuable route of new education, discoveries and ideas!





THE OGRE'S LAIR

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Michaela Henningsen
prepares for her role as
Napoleon.



PUEBLO MIO



SPECIAL THANKS

Michael Fienen
Emilie Crowley
Natalie Rigdon
Steve Billingsly
Kyle Newby
Pittsburg Community Theatre
Memorial Auditorium & Convention Center
Mimi Little
Alan Ross

We thank everyone who provided invaluable services, materials, and support to this production. Our apologies if anyone is inadvertently omitted.



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