

THE AU RUDE MECHANICALS PRESENT

# CORIOLANUS

DIRECTED BY ANDREW WATRING



Katzen Studio Theatre

March 2, 3, & 4 | 8:00PM

March 4 | 2:30PM

AU Community \$8 | General \$12

# CORIOLANUS

## Content Warning:

Racism and racial violence, homophobia, blood and gore, domestic abuse, sex and partial nudity, misogyny

## CAST

Coriolanus.....	Ben Feder
Aufidius.....	William Thai
Brutus.....	Catherine Dionne Ashley
Sicinius.....	Sofia Sandoval
Menenius.....	Daniel Patton
Cominius.....	Josh Player
Volumnia.....	Lindsey Smith
Virgilia.....	Kira Pyne
Valeria.....	Michaela Desimone
Titus Lartius.....	Jubilee Witte
Guard.....	Ethan Ragins
Guard.....	Dimitri Nilov

## Volscian Revolutionary Leaders

Hayden.....	Fabiola Lizardi Clemente
Dionysa.....	Courtney Parish

## Citizens

Cora.....	Kabira Barlow
Mary.....	Lexie Tyson
Joan.....	Katey Clausen
Elijah.....	Abhay Dewan
Anne.....	Maddie Rae Fram
Jules.....	Matt Miyagi

# TEAM

Director.....	Andrew Watring
Assistant Director.....	John Griffin
Creative Adviser.....	Mercedes Blankenship
Stage Manager.....	Rebecca Lamis
Assistant Stage Manager.....	Meghan Howie
Assistant Stage Manager.....	JJ Blake
Scenic Designer.....	Olivia Blomstrom
Master Carpenter.....	Peter Mikhail
Fight Choreographer.....	Tristan Salvon-Harman
Fight Captain.....	Thomas Burke
Lighting Design.....	Jamie Gottlieb
Master Electrician.....	Harriet Sinclair
Light Board.....	Jonathan Santoro
Makeup Designer.....	Jess McGowan
Hair Designer.....	Marisa McPherson
Props Master.....	Nicole Vaughan
Blood Master.....	Cal Doughan
Costume Designer.....	Maggie Parfitt
Costume Assistant.....	Hannah Wilson-James
Dramaturg.....	Danielle Gallo
Assistant Dramaturg.....	Emily Malik
Producer.....	Kali Jennings
Executive Producer.....	Elizabeth Morton

## Spring 2017 Executive Board

**Executive Director** - Elizabeth Morton

**Artistic Director** - Andrew Watring

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# A NOTE FROM OUR DRAMATURG

The beauty of performing Shakespeare is that we, as creators of artistic, political revolutions, get to use Shakespeare's brilliant prose as clay in our hands. We can shape it, mold it, illuminate it, and color it however we please.

But this is not your typical Shakespearean story. Coriolanus is a story of power. It is a story of an excruciating revolt. It is a story of the oppressed rising like phoenixes from the ashes of injustice. And yet, this rise to power— this anarchic overthrowing of deeply entrenched racism and classism— is never as easy as phoenixes make it seem. Coriolanus tells the calamitous tale of blood-soaked, grueling fights for equality in a land rampant with fear, where white hoods lurk on every dusty corner. Here, an impoverished society infused with deep rooted racism meets a movement of desperation. This uprising is their last hope.

Coriolanus is not only a story of dominance, privilege and insurgence, but it is also the story of identity and the struggle of how to define oneself. Coriolanus' own struggle as a confused leader saturates itself into the very fibers of this story: from the lynching at its opening to its bloody demise.

Coriolanus should have audiences choking. It should make people wriggle in their seats with discomfort. It should make them cringe; it should make them weep; it should stun them and leave them out of air. 1933 Alabama is the scalding hot water that the characters of Coriolanus boil in. And they are choking on the heat.

Danielle Gallo, Dramaturg

## DEDICATIONS

Andrew dedicates this show to Z'ane Davis-Smith and Perry Scalfano.

## SPECIAL THANKS

Lianna McFarlane-Connelly, Quinn Anderson, Darren Morton, Jacob Gallo, Tom Rafaraci, Caleen Jennings, Kylen Page, Chelsey Anderson, The Greenberg Team, and AU Players

# COMPANY BIOS

**CATHERINE DIONNE ASHLEY (Brutus)** Catherine Dionne Ashley is a freshman film major from Boston, MA. Catherine's previous performances at AU include Overture and The Tempest. Aside from acting, she enjoys jazz, ducks, coaching tennis and photography.

**KABIRA BARLOW (Cora)** Kabira is a Junior PR major and this is her 3rd show with the Rude Mechanicals. She would like to thank her cast members who she could not have survived without and the amazing production team. She's dedicating the show to her Great Aunt Cora and her mother who gave her her love for the Theatre.

**JJ BLAKE (Assistant Stage Manager)** JJ Blake is a senior studying Film & Media Arts and Creative Writing, and last semester she was a multimedia intern at the John F. Kennedy Center. She has been a member of the Rude Mechanicals since freshman year, previously stage managing King Lear and The Master and Margarita at AU.

**MERCEDES BLANKENSHIP (Creative Adviser)** Mercedes is a freshman Musical Theatre major and Graphic Design minor from Germantown, MD. She's pumped to be part of her first Rudes production. Past shows include "Overture" (Ensemble), "Nine" (Stephanie Necrophorus), and "King Lear" (director). She also loves "Bye Bye Birdie" and doesn't care what anyone else thinks.

**OLIVIA BLOMSTROM (Set Designer)** Olivia is making her tech debut in Coriolanus. She wants to thank Andrew and Rebecca for giving this newbie and chance and for working their asses off, and to give a shout out to the super cool cast and crew.

**THOMAS BURKE (Assistant Fight Choreographer)** I'm a second semester freshman in SIS, on any given night you can catch me hanging out with my friends talking about politics (of course, I go to AU) and playing videogames or going to get lost( by choice or not) in various parts of DC.

**FABIOLA LIZARDI CLEMENTE (Hayden)** My nickname is Fab, and, ask anyone, it's not just because those are the first three letters of my name.

**KATEY CLAUSEN (Joan)** Katey is a freshman history major from North Carolina who enjoys hot, fresh, steamy memes, shrimp pasta, and creepy 60s bops. This is her first Shakespeare show. Thank you to my friends, family, cast, and crew who have been so patient with me through the rehearsal process.

**MICHAELA DESIMONE (Valeria)** Michaela Desimone is a freshman at American University, with the intended major of History. This is her first play with AU's Rude Mechanicals, and is looking forward to becoming part of more productions. Her previous theatre experience includes Shakespeare's: Julius Caesar, Hamlet, Macbeth, and King Henry IV Part 1.

**CAL DOUGHAN (Blood Master)** Cal "Bloodmaster Cal" Doughan is a freshman in SIS. This is his 4th Rudes production he has been involved in, and his 3rd as Bloodmaster.

**BEN FEDER (Coriolanus)** is a freshman Justice and Law major and is very excited to be part of another Rude Mechanicals production. His previous roles with the Rudes are an evil brute and a pompous jerk. He is very excited to be breaking this pattern by playing a bigoted creep.



**MADDIE RAE FRAM (Anne)** is a Freshman Musical Theatre major from Columbia, South Carolina, and is so excited to be in her first Rude Mechanicals show! At AU, she was previously in Overture last semester. Aside from doing theatre, she really likes looking at pictures of puppies and eating frosting.

**DANIELLE GALLO (Dramaturg)** is a sophomore double major in Theatre and SIS. She is thrilled to be dramaturg for this fantastic production and is so proud of everyone involved. In her spare time, catch her hoping people audition for her show, Circle Mirror Transformation, on March 6th. Shameless advertising.

**JOHN GRIFFIN (Assistant Director)** wot n tarnation.

**MEGHAN HOWIE (Assistant Stage Manager)** This is her first production team role with the Rudes, and she loves everyone who has been working on the show!!

**REBECCA LAMIS (Stage Manager)** is so grateful to be working on this production. As stage manager and technical director Rebecca has had a ton of fun helping create the vision and watching it all come together. She has been doing tech since she was a sophomore in high school but one of her favorite experiences was stage managing A Midsummer Nights Dream.

**GUILHERME MAGRIN (Sound Designer)** is an Audio Technology Master's international student. This is his debut with both the Rudes and as lead Sound Designer at a play.

**EMILY MALIK (Assistant Dramaturg)** Freshman. SIS. Really good at president trivia.

**JESS McGOWAN (Makeup Designer)** is a sophomore Musical Theatre and Film Production double-major from sweet home Chicago. She is thrilled to be involved in this incredible production of Coriolanus. Rude Mechanicals: Dystopia (Abhorson); AU Players: Hair (Dramaturg); DPA: JQA (George), No, No Nanette (Ensemble), 2015 Overture (Ensemble). Lots of love to the cast and crew! Enjoy the show!

**MARISA McPHERSON (Hair Designer)** While this is Marisa's first time officially teching for a show, it definitely won't be her last! Shout out to everyone in the cast for having INCREDIBLE hair and making her job so much fun even if she still doesn't get the inside jokes.

**PETER MIKHAIL (Master Carpenter)** was given some wood. Now there is a set. Peter is happy with this turn of events.

**MATT MIYAGI (Jules)** Is super excited to be a part of his 3rd Rudes production! He would like to thank Andrew, Rebecca, John, Mercedes, and the rest of the production team for giving him the opportunity to be in such a powerful show. He would also like to thank his cast for pushing him to be better and work harder every night!

**ELIZABETH MORTON (Executive Producer)** is a chihuahua in a baseball cap.

**DIMITRI NILOV (Guard)** is an exchange student from Russia who majors in Theatre Arts and Political Science. Coriolanus is his debut show in America. Past productions in Russia: The Poets of The Silver Age (Nikolai Gumilev), The Picture of Dorian Grey (Dorian Grey), The Godfather (Vito Corleone).

**MAGGIE PARFITT (Costume Designer)** is a freshman double majoring in SIS and Political Science and minoring in French (yes she's dying, it's fine.) When she's not theatre-ing or Model UN-ing she spends her time saying stupid things and generally making a fool of herself. Oh and also having existential crises, those are fun too.

**DANIEL PATTON (Menenius)** Daniel Patton is an undeclared Freshman from Charlotte, North Carolina. He has been happy to participate in three Rude's shows so far, and is very excited to be in his fourth show at AU already! Also, his dad is going to be here at one of the performances. Love you dad!

**COURTNEY PARISH (Dionysa)** is a Sophomore Psychology Major on a Pre-med track. She's apart of AUWRFC and she also has a penchant for theatre. She plays Dionysa, a Volscian soldier fighting for change during her time period.

**JOSH PLAYER (Cominius)** is pretty cool and acts from time to time.

**KIRA PYNE (Virgilia)** is a freshman CLEG major from Middleboro, MA. She appeared in DPA's 2016 Overture as an ensemble member and was the stage manager of AU Player's MT Cabaret: Rollercoaster 2016. She would like to thank the entire cast for all their love and support.

**TRISTAN SALVON-HARMAN (Fight Choreographer)** is a Junior Theatre Performance Major and an avid study of Stage Combat. Previous Rudes credits include Brnvolio (Romeo & Juliet), Bassanius (Titus Andronicus), and Edmund (King Lear). Previous DPA credits include Sullivan (Dracula), Nikos (Big Love), and Kostilyov (The Lower Depths).

**SOFIA SANDOVAL (Sicinius)** Happy to be smashing the white patriarchy again, but this time, with this wonderful cast and production team!

**SARAH SCHWARTZ (Assistant Sound Designer)** is a Freshman Audio Production major at AU and her past credits include Sweet Charity (Head of Mic Crew), 55 Days (Sound Assistant), 9 to 5 (Sound Assistant), Sweeney Todd (Prop Crew), Shrek the Musical (Set Master), and The Man Who Came to Dinner (Prop Crew).

**HARRIET SINCLAIR (Board/Technician for Lighting)** is a freshman SIS major from Redmond, Washington. This is Harriet's 2nd show with the Rude Mechanicals and she is so excited to have this opportunity to work with these amazing people again.

**LINDSEY SMITH (Volumnia)** is ~pumped~ beyond words to be in this amazing production. Thank you to my friends and loved ones for putting up with the dumpster fire that is my life, I truly love you all. Past credits in the Rude Mechanicals include Dionysus (The Frogs) and Demetrius (Titus Andronicus).

**WILLIAM THAI (Aufidius)** is excited to be in his first Rude Mechanicals production. Previous shows includes The Wizard Of Oz, Footloose, Beauty and the Beast, Mulan, Grease, and Hamlet performed in Hawaii Theatre. He would like to thank his parents, director, and fellow actors for always supporting him. "We did it!"

**LEXIE TYSON (Mary)** is an alpha woman unable to love, but somehow fell in love with this show.

**ETHAN RAGINS (Guard)** Oh ladies and gentlemen, the moment you've all been waiting for. In this corner, weighing in at 175 pounds, with a record of three comedies, one tragedy, and one musical, the most undisputed, diabolical, IR/Econ double-major in the world, Ethan Lindstrom Ragins. Hailing from San Diego, although born an Angeleno, Ethan can be found on the volleyball court or pretending to study law stuff when he is not on stage.

**NICOLE VAUGHAN (Props Master)** Time for another Rude bio! Nicole is a freshman Theatre performance major. She is very proud of everyone in this production and hopes you enjoy it too! Previous Rude credits include: Dystopia (Director)

**ANDREW WATRING (Director)** Seth Andrew Watring is the director of Coriolanus, having previously served as the Assistant Director of As You Like It, Director of The Frogs, and Assistant Director for Tempest.

**JUBILEE WITTE (Titus Lartius)** is a freshman in the College of Arts and Sciences, majoring in Math and Economics. This is his first role in a collegiate production. He feels incredibly lucky to work with the Rudes, and hopes you all enjoy the show.

# WANT MORE RUDES?



ANNUAL FESTIVAL OF DIONYSUS

Producer Andrew Watring

April 2017

Kreeger Auditorium



2017-2018 DIRECTING PROPOSALS

Applications for directing a  
show for the next academic year  
will open in May 2017!

For more information about upcoming productions, or if  
you're interested in getting involved with the AU Rude  
Mechanicals, please email us at  
[AURudeMechanicals@gmail.com](mailto:AURudeMechanicals@gmail.com)

Facebook: /AURudeMechanicals

Instagram: @aurudemechanicals

Twitter: @RudeMechanicals

Website: [AURudeMechanicals.wix.com/home](http://AURudeMechanicals.wix.com/home)

