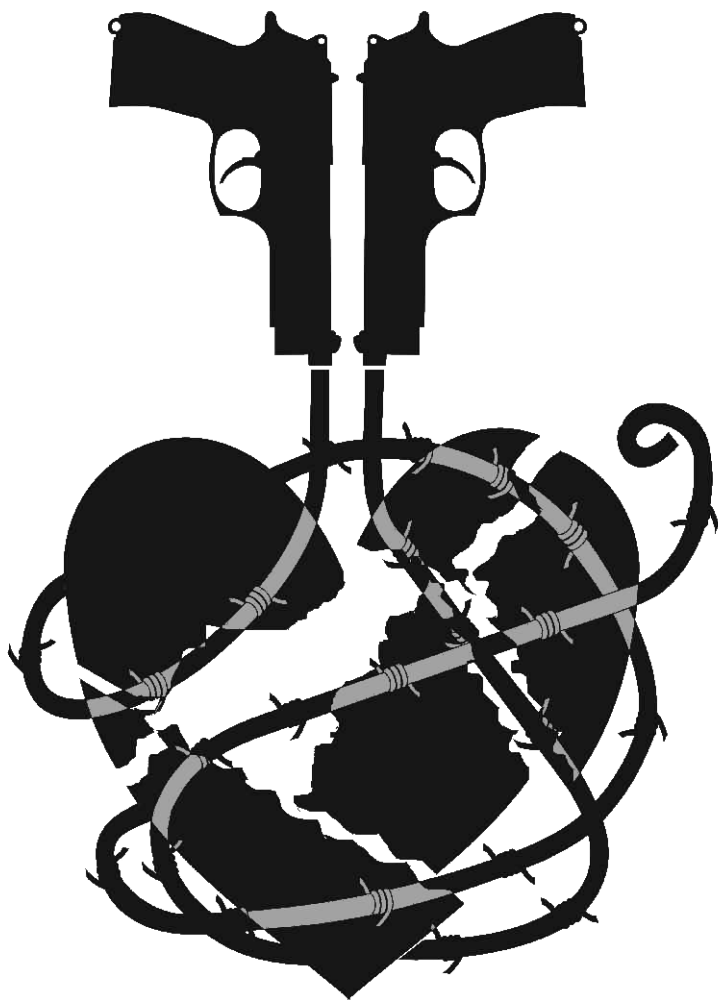


DIE BANDELINGE



WRITTEN BY: BAUKE SNYMAN

DIRECTED BY HEIKE GEHRING

Background

Die Bannelinge is based on three theatrical pieces which form part of the Theban Plays: *Antigone*, *Oedipus Rex* and *Oedipus at Colonus*.

Each one of these pieces tell the tale of the mythological figure Oedipus, who murdered his father and married his mother without knowing that they were his parents. His family is cursed for three generations.

In *Antigone*, Oedipus' daughter is confronted with a choice. She must either leave the body of her brother, Polyneices, unburied, or she must bury him and face her own death. The King of the land, Creon, has forbidden the burial because Polyneices committed treason against the city. Antigone decides to bury him and face the consequences. Creon condemns her to death, but then later revokes the sentence. By this time it is too late because Antigone commits suicide. This suicide causes two more deaths, that of Creon's son Haemon who was engaged to Antigone, and the King's wife who kills herself when she finds that her son is dead.

At the end of *Oedipus Rex*, Creon is the ruler of Thebes and, in cooperation with Apollo, he decides to exile Oedipus from Thebes. Creon promises to be the guardian of Oedipus' daughters, Antigone and Ismene.

In *Oedipus at Colonus*, Eteocles and Polyneices, Oedipus's sons, both decide to take over the throne of Thebes and there ensues a power play between them, ending in bloodshed.



About the director | Heike Gehring

Heike Gehring is a lecturer in “Speech Communication” and “Contemporary Performance” at the Rhodes University Drama Department. As a theatre maker and director, and also as a lecturer and actor, she is mainly concerned with theatrical pieces which breakdown the perceptions of gender and cultural identity in a South African context.

Previous productions which she has taken to KKNK are *Hex*, *Vrypas* (in conjunction with First Physical Theatre Company and choreographer Gary Gordon), *Lady Anne* and *Ekspediesies*.

In November 2004 she was assistant- director for the production *African Star*, which was presented as part of the 10 Years of Freedom Celebrations in Copenhagen, Denmark.

In 2001 she produced *The Suit* in collaboration with Chris Weare at the Setkane Theatre Festival in Brno, Czech Republic. This was awarded with the Marta – the award for the most popular piece.

In 2006 Gehring received the Rhodes Woman of the Year award for her excellence in Dramatic Arts.



Note from the director

To produce an Afrikaans piece at an English University was a challenge. In a multi-cultural community, the ideal of an integrated and harmonious company is often publicly asserted, but what happens behind the scenes? How many of these ideals are really lived out, believed in, by South Africans? How many ghosts of the past still live amongst us? When is it time for forgiveness? Who will do it first?

About the writer | **Bauke Snyman**

Bauke Snyman did his Drama Honours, PGCE and his Post-Graduate Diploma in Business Communication at Potchefstroom University.

After his studies, he did freelance writing, designing and directing for Industrial theatre, advertising, and corporate companies in Johannesburg.

Bauke started teaching full-time in high schools in 2000 and in the afternoons he worked with young offenders as a drama therapist for the NGO, Restorative Justice Centre (RJC) in Pretoria.

In 2004 he was appointed the National Drama Examiner for IEB schools in South Africa. He is currently the Head of Dramatic Arts at the Diocesan School for Girls (DSG) in Grahamstown.

Note from the writer

Greek tragedies are based on Greek mythology. In our country many people are the living characters of a South African tragedy (crime and poverty), but what is the myth we base our tragedy on?

Amongst the ideas I drew on while writing *Die Bannelinge* is the question 'who owns the land?' I was also inspired by the intense love South Africa inspires through her soil, dust and ground.



Artistic Credits

Written by **Bauke Snyman**
Directed by **Heike Gehring**
Design **Roux Engelbrecht**
Lighting Design **Bauke Snyman**
Music **Ignus Vermaak**
Shaun Acker

Cast

ANI (AN_I__T__{GONE}) **Madelé Vermaak**
REON (C_{REON}) **Tristan Jacobs**
JO (JO_{CASTA}) **Zanne Solomon**
NIC (POLY_N__E__{IC}__{ES}) **Tristan Jacobs**
MNR "O" (O_{EDIPUS}) **Shaun Acker**
TEO (E_{TEO}__{CLES}) **Ignus Vermaak**
LENA **Zanne Solomon**
BENJAMIN **Rowan Roux**
NIC's corpse **Richard Antrobus**
Voice 1 **Tshego Kutsuane**
Voice 2 **Jaques Da Silva**
Voice 3 **Juanita Finestone-Praeg**
Voice 4 **Sisonke Yafele**
Voice 5 **Bauke Snyman**
Voice 6 **Ntomboxolo Donyeli**



Production Team

Finance and Marketing	Kate Bold
Set Builder	Willie Coombs
Stage Managers	Nicolene Badenhorst
	Rowan Roux
	Martina Gilli
Assistant Designer	Gavin Krastin
Sound Operator	Nicolene Badenhorst
Lighting Operator	Bauke Snyman
Poster Design	Bauke Snyman
Photographer	Sophie Marcus
Special Thanks	Erwin Gehring
	Martina Gehring
	Imke Gehring
	PJ Waugh
	Sheena Stannard
	Richard Antrobus



Theatre Management Committee

Chair	Mr Tim Huisamen
HOD Drama	Professor Gary Gordon
HOD English	Professor Paul Walters
HOD Music	Professor Marc Duby
School of Languages	Professor Russell Kaschula
Theatre Director	Ms Alex Sutherland
Senate	Professor George Euvrard
Senate	Dr Anton Krueger
Senate	Dr Tim Radloff
Finance	Mr Mike Olivier
Estates	Mr Cromwell Dyala

Drama Department and Theatre Complex

Chief Technical Officer	Oliver Cartwright
Head of Wardrobe	Rita Westbrook
Design & Technical Supervisor	Roux Engelbrecht
Secretary	Vusiwe Mnyobe
Messenger & Clerk	Vuyelwa Nonie Hoza
Stage Hand	Welcome Mgqwanci

Produced by the Rhodes University Drama Department
Corner Somerset & Prince Alfred Streets | Grahamstown | South Africa
PO Box 94 | Grahamstown | 6140 | Tel: 046 603 8538

Drama Department | Events 2009

May 19 - 23 **Moments with Minghella**
Co-ordinated by Acty Tang
a tribute to Anthony Minghella

June **National Arts Festival**
Student Festival

August - September **Young Directors' Season '09**
Annual showcase of young
directorial talent. Honours and
masters students select cutting
edge productions which examine,
expose and entertain.

October **Theatre in Motion '09**
Physical Imagination Takes Flight
Postgraduate choreography,
physical theatre and dance.