

2016-12-01

The Rock' Will Appear Dec. 3

Unknown

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.pittstate.edu/brandenburg_history

Recommended Citation

Unknown, "The Rock' Will Appear Dec. 3" (2016). *William Aaron Brandenburg Collection Documents*. 10.
https://digitalcommons.pittstate.edu/brandenburg_history/10

This Newspaper is brought to you for free and open access by the University Archives at Pittsburg State University Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in William Aaron Brandenburg Collection Documents by an authorized administrator of Pittsburg State University Digital Commons. For more information, please contact dlwhite@pittstate.edu.

THE ROCK WILL APPEAR DEC. 3

CAST TO UTILIZE HOLIDAYS
FOR REHEARSALS

SETTING TO BE RICH

Biblical Background of Play Will
Be Manifest in Oriental
Costumes and
Scenery

"The Rock," by Mary P. Hamlin, is the title of the play to be presented by the Arden Players Thursday, Dec. 3 at 8 o'clock in Carney Hall.

The play itself is a recent masterpiece of literature, drawing its theme and inspiration from the Bible. A play of its kind has never been given before on this campus and this play only once before in Kansas.

The beautiful story that the play embraces shows the character development of Simon Peter and is especially appropriate so near the Christmas season. The lines of the play are simple but are of themselves so significant that they will demand intensive acting and powerful interpretation.

The cast is small, consisting of eleven persons, only four of which are women. The cast which was selected the last part of September has been working steadily since that time and have agreed to give up their Thanksgiving vacation in order to spend some earnest efforts on the last rehearsals of the play which will be given only four days after the holidays.

The cast and characters portrayed are: Perdue Graves as Simon Peter, a fisherman; Pauline Boellner as Adina, his wife; Beulah Shinkle as Adina's mother, Deborah; Randal Ross as Ucal, a rich Hebrew merchant; Ardis Monroe as Mary of Magdala; Richard Hull as Pandira, a young Greek; Paul Ham as Titus, a Roman officer; Oren Cash as Agur, a physician; Anderson Clover as servant to Ucal; Emery Duggen as servant to Agur; and Georgia Nation as servant to Magdala.

Some Costumes Made Here

The costumes worn by several of the characters will show an Oriental elaborateness and will be procured from Kansas City. The simple Hebrew coats and mantles have been designed and made under the supervision of Miss Hubbard, Emma Werner and members of the cast.

The scenery will include the design and construction of two new sets, the first of which is used in the first and second acts and represents a walled courtyard in Capernium opening into the street on one side and to the interior of a poor fisherman's dwelling on the other side. The third scene represents the roof of a house in Bethany which overlooks the city of Jerusalem.

"The Rock" was written in 1922 by Mary P. Hamlin in collaboration with George Arliss, who is one of the few real artists of the American stage.

The play opens in the courtyard of the house of Andrew and Simon in the great cosmopolitan city of Capernium, where the four Roman roads cross, and go out to all parts of the known world. In the first act, Simon, a poor young fisherman pours out to his wife, Adina, his ambition to become a great merchant. He believes in his dream and he believes in himself, but neither one can see any opening in their environment of poverty.

Simon Must Choose

Uncle Ucal arrives; with him opportunity. Meanwhile, however, Simon has been fired by enthusiasm for a strange teacher from Nazareth.

The conflict between the aims of the two brings the question for Simon to decide "Whom shall I follow?"

This conflict is intensified after Jesus changes Simon's name to Peter the Rock, but failed to act as Simon had planned for him to act. This antagonism of spirit between Jesus and Ucal colors the whole second act and is seen working in Simon's own mind.

The third act is laid on a house top in Bethany, the evening of the crucifixion. The death of their leader has come as a crushing blow to all, but to Peter it is not only the end of hope but the discovery of himself as a coward and a traitor.

How can he, whom Jesus has called the Rock, ever hold up his head again since he has betrayed his master? The struggle in his soul is shown throughout the closing scene.

The play as a whole is an attempt to answer the age-old question "Shall man succeed in that he seems to fail?"