

**UNIVERSITY THEATRE ANNOUNCES FRESNO PREMIERE OF  
*A PARTICLE OF DREAD (OEDIPUS VARIATIONS)***

**AUGUST 30, 2017** – Fresno State University Theatre is pleased to announce the first show of our 2017-2018 season, *A Particle of Dread (Oedipus Variations)*, written by Sam Shepard and directed by J. Daniel Herring. *A Particle of Dread (Oedipus Variations)* is the last play written by the late American playwright, Sam Shepard. Shepard was regarded as one of the American Theatre's finest playwrights. University Theatre is proud to present this production, dedicated to the memory of Mr. Shepard. The production will run September 29<sup>th</sup> – October 7<sup>th</sup> in the Dennis & Cheryl Woods theatre on the campus of Fresno State.

In *A Particle of Dread*, Sam Shepard takes one of the most famous plays in history—*Oedipus Rex*—and transforms it into a modern American classic. In this telling, Oedipus, King of Thebes, prophesized to kill his father and marry his mother, alternates between his classical identity and that of contemporary “Otto.” Dazzlingly inventive, ringing with the timelessness of myth, *A Particle of Dread* is an unforgettable work that grapples with questions of storytelling and destiny—the narratives that we pass down, and how they shape our lives. It is a play that lingers in the mind long after we finish the last scene.

Following our October 1, 2017 matinee performance, we will be hosting a talkback with the cast and Nora Chapman, Associate Dean of the College of Arts & Humanities.

The cast includes; Sara Marie Adam, Ruby Arreguin, Hannah Berry, Kat Campos, Gian Console, Thuy Duong, Aaron Gomes, Ian Jones, Andrew Navarette, Anthony teNyenhuis, Andrew Trevino, and Steven Weatherbee.

The production is under the direction of J. Daniel Herring. The production team includes; Lia Christine Dewey (Stage Manager), Caleb Wilson (Assistant Stage Manager), Jeff Hunter (Scenic Designer), René Nielson (Props Designer), Liz Waldman (Sound Designer), Regina Harris (Lighting Designer), Kristine Doiel (Costume Designer), and Rachel Martinez (Hair/Makeup Designer).

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# ***A PARTICLE OF DREAD (OEDIPUS VARIATIONS) FACT SHEET***

## **WHAT:**

*A Particle of Dread (Oedipus Variations)*

Written by Sam Shepard

Directed by J. Daniel Herring

*Run time: Approx. 90 minutes*

## **WHEN:**

Sept. 29-30 & October 3-7 @ 7:30pm

October 1 @ 2pm

Talkback w/ Nora Chapman: Sunday October 1, 2017 @ approx. 3:30PM

## **WHERE:**

Dennis & Cheryl Woods Theatre

Fresno State Campus

5201 N. Maple Ave.

Fresno, CA 93740

## **TICKETS:**

\$17 – General Admission

\$15 – Faculty/Staff, Alumni, Seniors (60+) and Military

\$10 – All Students (Children under 5 NOT admitted)

Available for purchase at: [www.fresnostate.edu/theatrearts](http://www.fresnostate.edu/theatrearts) or 559.278.2216