Antaeus Theatre Company Presents

LES LIAISONS DANGEREUSES

By Christopher Hampton
From the Novel by Choderlos de Laclos
Directed by Robin Larsen

Scenic & Projection Designer
Yee Eun Nam

Lighting Designer
Leigh Allen

Props Designer
Erin Walley

Costume Designer
Jocelyn Hublau Parker

Composer & Sound Designer
Jeff Polunas

Violence Designer
Ned Mochel

Production Stage Manager
Chad West

Ensemble


This production is generously supported in part by the David Lee Foundation.

*Member, Actors’ Equity Association, the union of professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States. This production is presented under the auspices of the Actors’ Equity Los Angeles Membership Company Rule.

The video and/or audio recording of this performance by any means whatsoever are strictly prohibited.
Welcome to the 2017/18 season at Antaeus, our first full season here at the Kiki & David Gindler Performing Arts Center. The Antaeus community of theater artists and theater lovers has wasted no time in making the most of our new home. One evening not too long ago in the library, we had the donors from our Director’s Circle enjoying an exclusive conversation with Shakespeare expert and As You Like It director Rob Clare; next door in the Black Box, students in the Antaeus Academy were rehearsing Shakespeare scenes for class; and in the theater, the cast of As You Like It was warming up for the evening show. On a different night in the library, you might find new work being developed in the Antaeus Playwrights Lab, a Chekhov class in the Black Box, and Les Liaisons Dangereuses rehearsal in the theater. This is the place to be for theater in Los Angeles.

The plays in our 2017/18 season explore issues of gender, power, authoritarianism, identity, and the human heart. We hope you will not only be entertained but also engaged in a conversation about who we are and where we are going in these challenging times.

How will you join the conversation? Will you take a class? Will you become a season subscriber? Or will you join our Director’s Circle? With so much going on, we invite you to be a part of it all and make Antaeus your new home for live theater this year and for many years to come.

Bill Brochtrup, Rob Nagle and John Sloan
Co-Artistic Directors
Director’s Note

Reading Pierre Choderlos de Laclos’ 1782 novel, Les Liaisons Dangereuses, alongside Christopher Hampton’s 1987 stage adaptation, one is struck by how faithful the playwright is to his source material and by how disturbing Laclos’ portrait of power and gender remains even today. Hampton would be the first to name the novelist chief auteur of the drama, and in our production we too have attempted to be faithful to M. de Laclos and his masterpiece. As a resource and inspiration, the novel has been invaluable, and I wish every play came with a brilliant 400-page guidebook.

Laclos’ life and times suggest two impulses at work in the novel, impulses particularly relevant to our own age. The first and most obvious is that Laclos’ portrayal of the wealthy 1% who dominated 18th-century France is, to put it mildly, unflattering, and while this did not prevent the nobility from avidly reading the notorious ‘libertine’ novel (Queen Marie Antoinette owned a copy), the book’s political implications did not go unnoticed by readers in 1782.

The second impulse is much entangled with the first. After the publication of his novel, Laclos began a treatise on the disenfranchisement of women. He explicitly argued that men will always use force and tradition to enslave women, and that women can only escape slavery through “une grande revolution.” Writing about the oppression of women may have been in part a covert way for Laclos to write about the general state of French society, but the fundamental story elements of Les Liaisons Dangereuses explicitly involve wealthy and powerful men dominating and sexually exploiting women.

This is my third production with Antaeus, and each – Mrs. Warren’s Profession and Les Liaisons Dangereuses directly, Uncle Vanya more subtly – has been a remarkable opportunity to learn what women have struggled with in the past. I am incredibly lucky to enjoy freedoms that were denied my predecessors. But … I can imagine Choderlos de Laclos looking upon our world, following the news of the last eighteen months, and saying: “Plus ça change, plus c’est la même chose.” We all know there’s more to be done.

Robin Larsen
Director
LES LIAISONS DANGEREUSES

Cast of Characters

LA MARQUISE DE MERTEUIL  Reiko Aylesworth/Elyse Mirto
LE VICOMTE DE VALMONT  Scott Ferrara/Henri Lubatti
LA PRÉSIDENTE DE TOURVEL  Lindsay LaVanchy/Liza Seneca
MME DE VOLANGES  Dylan Jones/Bellina Logan
CÉCILE VOLANGES  Chelsea Kurtz/Elizabeth Rian
AZOLAN  Chad Borden/Aaron Lyons
LE CHEVALIER DANCENY  Josh Breslow/Paul Culos
MME DE ROSEMONDE  Anne McNaughton/Lorna Raver
ÉMILIE  Nadège August/Ellis Greer
MAJORDOMO  Turner Frankosky/Paul Stanko

Special Thanks
  John Allee
  Portia Juliette
  Tamara Krinsky
  Ann Noble
  Kristin Rogers

All Antaeus full productions are partner cast. Please see insert for this performance’s cast.

Les Liaisons Dangereuses runs approximately two hours and 30 minutes, which includes one 10-minute intermission.
For the Production

Assistant Stage Manager
Jessica Osorio

Hair Designer
Jessica Mills

Scenic Artist
Orlando De La Paz

Assistant Directors
Rachel Berney Needleman
Julie Lanctot

Production Manager &
Technical Director
Adam Meyer

Rehearsal Stage Manager
Kristin Weber

Movement Designer
Heather Allyn

Dramaturg
Christopher Breyer

Assistant Technical Director
Rene Parras Jr.

Sound Design Associate
Devon Swiger

Mission

Antaeus is a cooperative theater ensemble founded to empower the actor and to bring classical theater to Southern California. The company exists to create a family of artists and audiences and is dedicated to exploring stories with enduring themes.

Vision

PRODUCTION: In a virtual, media-driven world, we value the communal experience of live theater. We are dedicated to excellence in the performance of the written word. We challenge and inspire our community through storytelling that is visceral and immediate.

PROCESS: We are devoted to the ongoing development and growth of our artists and remain committed to exploring new ways of rehearsing and performing. We nurture an environment where artists can risk failure in the pursuit of greatness.

EDUCATION: We believe that learning never ends. We train ourselves; we train the next generation; and we include our community in this work.

Why Partner Casting

Double casting, or as we call it “partner casting” (two actors sharing the same role) has been an Antaeus practice since we formed our company in 1991. Partner casting was originally a logistical solution to our members’ need to make a living while committing to the demands of a theater performance schedule. Sharing roles brings surprising benefits. We learn from each other as we collaborate the creation of a character. In performance, the constantly changing lineup keeps our performances sharp. We are constantly on our toes and open to the unexpected. Antaeus audiences can count on seeing excellent actors working at the top of their game. The strength of our ensemble is a direct result of the partner casting process.
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Elyse Mirto

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ENSEMBLE


REIKO AYLESWORTH (LA MARQUISE DE MERTEUIL): At ANTAEUS: Debut. Theater: Top Girls (Williamstown Theater), Shakespeare and The Last Stand Quartet (Kennedy Center), Lost and Found (NYFT/Lucille Lortel), Expats (New Group Theater), Humpty Dumpty (McCarter Theater), Robbers (American Place Theater), Missing Marissa Kissing Christine (Primary Stages), Cheap Sentiment (George Street Playhouse). TV/Film: Seal Team, Scorpion, NCIS, Elementary, Person of Interest, Hawaii 5-0, Lights Out, Lost, Damages, ER, The Good Wife, Revolution, CSI, 24, Stargate Universe, Ed, The West Wing, Conviction, Law & Order SVU, Muscle, Mr. Brooks, Random Hearts, The Understudy, Bad Parents, Alien vs Predator: Requiem. Member of The Actors Center NYC.


JOSH BRESLOW (LE CHEVALIER DANCENY): At ANTAEUS: Debut. New York Theater: Unhealthy (HERE), Squiggy and the Goldfish, Trees Like Nails, An Air Balloon Across Antarctica (Cherry Lane Theater). LA Theater: Flowers for Algernon, Oliver! (Deaf West), Theater District (Black Dahlia, LA Ticketholder Award: Best Supporting Actor, Two Garland Award Nominations), and others. Film: Jack Reacher: Never Go Back, Love & Other Drugs, Trial By Fire, Houdini. TV: New Girl, Late Night with Conan O’Brien, Once and Again, General Hospital, The Brothers Garcia. Web series: Dating Avi, Naked Funeral, Reliance, Wing Women, Bloodlight.

PAUL CULOS (LE CHEVALIER DANCENY): At ANTAEUS: As You Like It, Macbeth, Peace in Our Time. Other Theater: Bram Stoker’s Dracula (LA Theatre Works), Come Back Little Sheba (A Noise Within), The Hamlet Project (Loose Canon Collective), Two Gentlemen of Verona (PCPA), Jason & (Medea) (LA New Court), A Midsummer Night’s Dream, Macbeth (Fugitive Kind). TV/Film: Modern Family, Shameless, The Middle, Video Synchronicity. MFA: UC Irvine; BA:
Western Michigan University.


**TURNER FRANKOSKY (MAJOR DOMO):** At ANTAEUS: Debut. *Les Blancs* (Rogue Machine Theater), *Titus Andronicus* (Theatricum Botanicum), *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Macbeth*, *The Rover* (Santa Cruz Shakespeare), *Romeo & Juliet*, *As You Like It*, *A Woman of No Importance* (Theater at Monmouth). Turner is an Idiot at Wet the Hippo Collective and models for art classes around Los Angeles. Training: Antaeus Academy, BFA USC.


**BELLINA LOGAN (MME DE VOLANGES):** At ANTAEUS: Debut. Other Theater: *The Search For Signs of Intelligent Life...Revisited* (Los Angeles LGBT Center),
Agamemnon (Getty Villa), New York Theater: Women and Wallace, Seniority (Playwrights Horizons), For Dear Life (The Public Theater), Merchant of Venice (NYSF). Regional Theater: The Illusion, Arms and The Man, The Rivals (Hartford Stage), As You Like It (Shakespeare Theatre Company), Five by Tenn (The Acting Company, USSR Tour). TV/Film: ER, Twin Peaks, Sons of Anarchy, Enlightened, Midnight, Texas. Training: The Juilliard School.


AARON LYONS (AZOLAN): At ANTAEUS: The Crucible, Cousin Bette. Other Theater: The Devil and Billy Markham, Pulp Shakespeare, Delusion. TV: The Wasteland, Weeds, Saint George, Through the Wormhole. Film: To The Beat!, I Am I, Don Quixote, Back Pages, The Postgraduate. Having been around the LA Theatre scene for 15 years, Aaron has served as actor, director, designer, TD, PM and stage manager in over 75 productions (150 worldwide). aaronlyons.net

ANNE MCNAUGHTON (MME DE ROSEMONDE): At ANTAEUS: Founding Member (as an actor) Patience (NoHo Arts Festival); (as a director) The Liar, The Proof of the Promise, Trial By Jury, The Will. Other Theater: The Acting Company, American Conservatory Theatre, Berkeley Shakespeare Festival, Stanford University. Artistic Director, Valley Shakespeare Festival. Associate Artistic Director: Andak Stage Company. Resident Director: Berkeley Shakespeare Festival, Berkeley Stage Company and San Jose Rep. Director: Collected Stories, The Prince of L.A. (Old Globe), U.S.A. (Acting Company), and over forty more plays (regional and university theatre). BFA (Group One), The Juilliard School, Founding Member of the Acting Company; M.A. (Directing/Criticism), Stanford University.

ELYSE MIRTO (LA MARQUISE DE MERTEUIL): At ANTAEUS: As You Like It. Other Theater: Collective Rage: A Play in 5 Boops (The Theatre @ Boston Court), Barbecue (Geffen Playhouse), A Flea in Her Ear, Figaro (LA Drama Critics Circle nomination), The Guardsman (A Noise Within), Conviction (Rubicon Theatre Company, Ovation nomination), Steel Magnolias (Laguna Playhouse), Twelfth Night, Hamlet, Romeo and Juliet, Much Ado About Nothing (Kingsmen Shakespeare Festival). New York Theater: White’s Lies (Off-Broadway), Any Day Now (New York Innovative Theatre Award, lead actress), Next Year in Jerusalem (NYIT nomination), Catch the Fish, The Eternal Husband. TV: Grey’s Anatomy, Scandal, NCIS, Malibu Gothic, and a recurring guest star on The Last Ship. BFA from Western Michigan University. Royal National Theatre of Great Britain.

Young and the Restless. Film: Freeway, Rushlights, Sam Raimi’s Drag Me To Hell. Her audiobook narrations have received numerous Earphones Awards and Audie Award nominations.

ELIZABETH RIAN (CÉCILE VOLANGES): At ANTAEUS: Debut. Other Theaters: DED! (Matrix Theatre), Richard II (Hawaii Shakespeare Festival). TV/Film: Jane the Virgin, My Crazy Ex. Elizabeth wrote, produced and starred in her own original production of The Kindness of Strangers at the Hollywood Fringe Fest 2016. Elizabeth graduated with honors from Chapman University with a BA in Theatre.


PAUL STANKO (MAJORDOMO): At ANTAEUS: Debut. Other Theaters: Les Blancs (Rogue Machine Theatre), Midsummer Night’s Dream (Theatricum Botanicum), Kaidan Project (Rogue Artists Ensemble), The Hairy Ape (Odyssey Theatre), He Said, She Said (Underground Theater). TV/Film: Superior. Streaming: Severus Snape and the Marauders (YouTube), Dick Hopper Private Eye (Hulu). Training: Antaeus Academy, ComedySportz, BA Theater Studies/Acting, USC. stankoforever.com

PRODUCTION

ROBIN LARSEN (DIRECTOR): At ANTAEUS: Mrs. Warren’s Profession, Annie Baker’s adaptation of Uncle Vanya. Robin most recently directed at South Coast Repertory and the Wallis Annenberg. Credits include Albee’s A Delicate Balance (LADCC Award for Revival), West Coast premiere Four Places by Joel Drake Johnson (Ovation, LADCC and Backstage Garland awards for Best Production), Los Angeles premiere Harrower’s Blackbird (Los Angeles Times and LA Weekly “Best of 2011”), World Premiere Pursued By Happiness by Keith Huff, Los Angeles premiere I and You by Lauren Gunderson. Robin received the 2015 Los Angeles Drama Critic’s Circle Award for Career Achievement in Direction. She is an Academy Award-winning filmmaker.


ROB NAGLE (CO-ARTISTIC DIRECTOR): At ANTAEUS: The Liar, Macbeth, Peace in Our Time. Other theaters: Road Theatre Company, New World Stages, Skylight Theatre Company, South Coast Repertory,

Spouse: Heather Allyn. Pug: Roosevelt. robnagle.com

JOHN SLOAN (CO-ARTISTIC DIRECTOR): Welcome to our new home! John is proud to be in his sixth year serving as a Co-Artistic Director of Antaeus. As an actor he has appeared at the Mark Taper Forum, Geffen Playhouse, Pasadena Playhouse, South Coast Repertory, Theatre @ Boston Court, Echo Theater Company and Antaeus Theatre Company. Elsewhere: Denver Center Theatre, Intiman Theatre, Alabama Shakespeare Festival, La Mama Etc., Soho Rep., American Jewish Theatre, Mint Theatre Company. Selected TV credits include: *American Woman*, *Bones*, *Farmed & Dangerous*, *Liz & Dick*, *How I Met Your Mother*, *Happy Hour*, *Private Practice*, *Grey’s Anatomy* and *The Triangle*. Film: *The Oh in Ohio*, *Closure* and Eric Simonson’s short film, *House of Stairs*.

YEE EUN NAM (SCENIC DESIGNER/ PROJECTION DESIGNER): Yee Eun Nam is a scenic and projection designer for Opera, theater and any form of live performances currently based in LA. Her recent works include: projection design for *The Sweetheart Deal* and *A Mexican Trilogy: An American Story* at LATC, scenic and projection for *Citizen: An American Lyric* at the Kirk Douglas Theatre and The Fountain Theatre, *Sweep at Aurora Theatre*, *El Sapo* at Getty Villa Theater lab, *Single Black Female* at Crossroads Theatre Company. She received her MFA in Theater Design at School of Theater, Film and Entertainment Media in UCLA. yeeeunnam.com

JOCELYN HUBLAU PARKER (COSTUME DESIGNER): Theater includes: *The Revisionist* (Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts), *Uncle Vanya* (Antaeus Theatre Company), David Harrower’s *Blackbird* (Rogue Machine), *Joel Drake Johnson’s Four Places* (Rogue Machine), *The Fall to Earth* (Odyssey Theatre Ensemble), *Keith Huff’s Pursued by Happiness* (The Road Theatre Company), *Lauren Gunderson’s I And You* (The Fountain Theatre). Web Series: YOMYOMF’s *Sex & Marriage*. In Toronto, Jocelyn worked to produce and promote new and diverse voices with Cahoots Theatre Projects. Jocelyn would like to thank Chantal Filson for her brilliant expertise and support on this project. To
see more costume collaborations visit: didthatone.com.

**LEIGH ALLEN (LIGHTING DESIGNER):**
Leigh is a recipient of the Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle Award for Career Achievement. Other accolades include: Ovation, Best Production and Lighting nomination, *Dying City*; LADCC award, Production, *One Night in Miami*; Garland Award, Cousin Bette; LA Weekly Award, *Treefall*; Ovation, Production of the Year, *Killer Joe*; GLAAD Award, *Like a Dog on Linoleum*; Macy Award, *The Secret Garden*; and LADCC and LA Weekly Awards, *Johnny Got His Gun*. Other lighting design credits include: the world premieres of *Boise, USA* (Matrix Theatre) and *Flim Flam: Houdini and the Hereafter* (Malibu Playhouse), both written by Gene Franklin Smith.

**JEFF POLUNAS (SOUND DESIGNER/COMPOSER):**
Selected credits include: South Coast Repertory, International City Theatre, Summer Repertory Theatre, Son of Semele, The Chance Theater. Polunas received his MFA in Sound Design from UC-Irvine and is also The Production Sound Engineer for CSUF Theatre & Dance Department.

**ERIN WALLEY (PROPS DESIGNER):**
Erin previously worked on *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* at Antaeus Theatre Company. Her other recent prop work includes: *Big Night, Zoot Suit, Amelie, and Grey Gardens* with Center Theatre Group, *Ah, Wilderness* and *Man of La Mancha* at A Noise Within, and *With Love And A Major Organ* at Theatre @ Boston Court. Current projects include *Mrs. Warren’s Profession* at A Noise Within and *Bright Star* at the Ahmanson. She is a graduate of the University of Missouri, Kansas City with an MFA in Theatre Scenic Design and received an Ovation Award for Intimate Scenic Design in 2016.

**JESSICA MILLS (HAIR DESIGNER):**
Jessica has worked all around the world on Disney Cruise Lines, Nashville Opera, LA Opera, the Hollywood Bowl, designed *Zoot Suit* at the Mark Taper Forum, and her most recent production with Antaeus was *Cloud 9*. When not attached to a show, she designs and builds for individual clients at her studio.

**CHRISTOPHER BREYER (DRAMATURG):**
Christopher Breyer is Literary Director & Dramaturg of the Ojai Playwrights Conference and a writer, director, and consultant on performance, narrative, and production for theater, film, television, and non-entertainment enterprises. A member of Antaeus, he has worked on many of the company’s productions, among them, *Mrs. Warren’s Profession* and *Uncle Vanya*, both directed by Robin Larsen.

**HEATHER ALLYN (MOVEMENT DESIGNER):**
At ANTAEUS: *The Malcontent, You Can’t Take It With You*. Other choreography: *Play Dates* (Green Beetle Productions). Heather is thrilled to be working with Antaeus again. She primarily works in Reality TV Casting but enjoys getting to play in the theater when she can. She trained as a dancer at the School of American Ballet, Steps 74, the Broadway Dance Center, and Alvin Ailey. Education: Northwestern University. Husband: Rob Nagle. Pug: Roosevelt.

**NED MOCHEL (VIOLENCE DESIGNER):**
Ned has been the violence designer for many LA and Chicago companies. Ned did violence work for numerous productions at The Geffen Playhouse including Beth Henley’s *Jacksonian* both at The Geffen Playhouse and Off Broadway. Ned was
fight director for the west coast premieres of the Tracy Letts’ plays *Killer Joe*, *Bug* and *Superior Donuts*. He was fight director for Steppenwolf’s *The Song of Jacob Zulu* on Broadway, and The Lyric Opera’s production of *McTeague*, directed by Robert Altman. Ned received a 2009 and 2013 LADCC award for the VS. Theatre Company’s productions of *Cops* and *Friends of Cops* and *On an Average Day*.

CHAD WEST (PRODUCTION STAGE MANAGER): This is Chad’s first production as part of the ANTAEUS production team. Most recently Chad has been involved in productions on the east coast such as the Outcry 2017 Tour, Exponential Conference. Chad’s other credits include working with numerous Artists from around the word such as: LA Unbound, Emily Meister, Yusuf Nasir, Donyelle Jones and Dasha Tertova. CIRCA, Morphoses, Luna Negra Dance Theater, Jessica Lang Dance, Canada’s Royal Winnipeg Ballet, Dance Heginbotham, Tero Saarinen Company and The Boston Camerata, Liz Gerring Dance Company, The Hong Kong Ballet, Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company, and The Joffrey Ballet. Chad received his degree from Elon University in Theatrical Design and Production Specializing in Lighting Design and Dance.

JESSICA OSORIO (ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER): At ANTAEUS: As You Like It. Other credits include: If All The Sky Were Paper (Kirk Douglas Theatre). Jess recently graduated from AMDA-LA with a bachelor’s degree in acting. She is extremely excited and blessed to call Antaeus her new artistic home - giving her the opportunity to work alongside outstanding people. A special thank you to her friends, family and everyone involved with bringing this story to life. Jess would love to thank Kristin and Kimberly Weber, for helping her realize her love for stage management. Enjoy the magic!

RACHEL BERNEY NEEDLEMAN (ASSISTANT DIRECTOR): At ANTAEUS (Affiliate Member). As director: Ten by Tennessee for ClassicsFest; as assistant director and dramaturg: As You Like It, Cloud 9, Henry IV, Part One, The Curse of Oedipus, Wedding Band and The Liar. Elsewhere, Rachel has directed Gigi Bermingham in Cabaret Noel, and workshops and readings of new plays for theaters including The Blank, Skylight Theatre Company and Theatricum Botanicum. Rachel has also produced at Skylight and Pacific Resident Theatre and served as a fellow on Jewish Women’s Theatre’s NEXT @ The Braid Arts Council.

JULIE LANCTOT (ASSISTANT DIRECTOR): Julie graduated from UCLA’s Theater, Film and Television in 2016 and has been working in LA ever since. Although she has attended classes in the Antaeus Academy, this is Julie’s first time assistant directing at Antaeus. She has worked in the Casting Department at Center Theatre Group and produced extensive theater festivals and plays while in school. She has performed in numerous productions around Los Angeles, most recently at the Crown City Theater.

DEVON SWIGER (SOUND DESIGN ASSOCIATE): This is Devon’s first production at Antaeus. This past year she has worked at the Totem Pole Playhouse and Spoleto Music Festival. She is currently working with Diablo Sound at Universal Studios Halloween Horror Nights.
ENSEMBLE MEMBERS


ANTAEUS
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