



MEDIA INFORMATION

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House Seats: Antigone in Ferguson

Premieres Sunday, February 3 at 8 p.m. on ALL ARTS

Synopsis:

Experience a powerful fusion of Sophocles' classic tragedy, *Antigone*, with live music from a contemporary gospel choir and highly personal community discussion. This multifaceted production explores themes of tragedy, trauma and social justice, and shows us that a 2500-year-old play is still relevant today. The all-star ensemble of actors includes Samira Wiley, Chris Noth and Tamara Tunie.

Review:

"It is the gospel chorus... that viscerally lifts the play into timelessness... Lushly blended in layered harmony with detours into virtuosic solos, their voices swell in wonder, praise and sorrow at the mysteries of life and fate." – *The New York Times*

Noteworthy Facts:

- Inspired by the 2014 police shooting of Michael Brown in Ferguson, Missouri
- Live choral music performed by a diverse choir, including police officers, activists, youth, teachers, and concerned citizens from Ferguson, Missouri and New York City
- Developed by Theater of War Productions
- This production was filmed at Harlem Stage
- Samira Wiley originated the role of Antigone when it was first presented in 2016

Notable Talent:

- **Samira Wiley** is a producer and an award-winning actress most notably known for her roles in *Orange is the New Black* and *The Handmaid's Tale*, for which she won a Primetime Emmy Award for Outstanding Guest Actress in a Drama Series.

- **Chris Noth** (Creon) is a two-time Golden Globe nominee and SAG Award nominated actor. While best known for his TV roles on *Law & Order* and *Sex and the City*, he has performed in several Broadway and Off-Broadway productions.
- **Tamara Tunie** (Ismene, Eurydice) is an actress, director, and producer. She is best known for her roles on *Law & Order: Special Victims Unit* and *As the World Turns*.
- **Eisa Davis** (Antigone) an award-winning actress, singer-songwriter, and playwright. She is known for her roles on *House of Cards* and *The Wire*, is most notably known for her work as playwright with works such as *Angela's Mixtape and Bulrushes*, which was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize.
- **Chinaza Uche** (Haemon, Guard, Messenger) is a New York based stage actor. His credits include works with Playwright's Realm, New York Theatre Workshop, La Mama, and The National Black Theatre.
- **Duane Foster** (Choir Member) taught Michael Brown at Normandy High School. He was Brown's 7th grade speech and drama teacher and 12th grade music appreciation teacher.

Series Overview:

With performances, exclusive back-stage access and in-depth artist interviews, House Seats is your ticket to the very best of all things theater. Episodes include a star-studded performance of "Antigone in Ferguson," a powerful fusion of Sophocles' tragedy, live music and community discussion; and "Prinze," a one-man show about the life of the late actor and comedian Freddie Prinze.

Run Time: 1 hour

Production Credits:

House Seats: Antigone in Ferguson is a production of WLIW LLC for WNET. For Theater of War Productions Bryan Doerries is Artistic Director. For Harlem Stage Patricia Cruz is Executive Director. James King is Managing Director. For The Office Rachel Chanoff is Director. Diane Eber is Producer. For ALL ARTS Kristy Geslain and Ally Gimbel are Senior Producers. Joe Harrell is Senior Director. Diane Masciale is Executive in Charge.

This production of "Antigone in Ferguson" was exclusively supported by the Stavros Niarchos Foundation whose generous support made it possible for audiences to experience this critical work, free of charge, at Harlem Stage.

Underwriters:

Leadership support for ALL ARTS is generously provided by Jody and John Arnhold, Sue and Edgar Wachenheim III, the Kate W. Cassidy Foundation, The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, Rosalind P. Walter, and The Agnes Varis Trust.

Press Kit:

<https://allarts.wliw.org/pressroom/house-seats-antigone-in-ferguson/>

Early Screener: Available upon request

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About ALL ARTS

Powered by public media and supported by an arts-minded community, ALL ARTS is a single place for everything that makes your heart beat, your mind expand and your spirit explore. From the stories behind the art, to smart conversations with foremost experts and in-depth investigations that open doors to the world of art in all its forms, ALL ARTS is for artists and art lovers of all ages. ALL ARTS is currently accessible on the [Web](#), [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#), and streaming apps on iOS and Android smartphones and tablets, Roku, Apple TV, and Amazon Fire TV.

About WNET

WNET is America's flagship PBS station: parent company of New York's [THIRTEEN](#) and [WLIW21](#) and operator of [NJTV](#), the statewide public media network in New Jersey. Through its new [ALL ARTS](#) multi-platform initiative, its broadcast channels, three cable services (THIRTEEN PBSKids, Create and World) and online streaming sites, WNET brings quality arts, education and public affairs programming to more than five million viewers each month. WNET produces and presents a wide range of acclaimed PBS series, including ***Nature***, ***Great Performances***, ***American Masters***, ***PBS NewsHour Weekend***, and the nightly interview program ***Amanpour and Company***. In addition, WNET produces numerous documentaries, children's programs, and local news and cultural offerings, as well as multi-platform initiatives addressing poverty and climate. Through THIRTEEN Passport and WLIW Passport, station members can stream new and archival THIRTEEN, WLIW and PBS programming anytime, anywhere.