

EDHS STUDIO 81 PRESENTS

# METAMORPHOSES

BY MARY ZIMMERMAN

**NOVEMBER 3, 4, 5**  
**NOVEMBER 10, 11, 12**  
**NOVEMBER 17, 18, 19**

~ SHOW STARTS AT 7PM ~

GET TICKETS: [STUDIO81ARTS.COM](http://STUDIO81ARTS.COM) // STUDENTS: \$12 // ADULTS: \$15

561 CANAL STREET, PLACERVILLE, CA 95667





## **STUDIO 81/ EDHS Drama Department**

Studio 81 is home to El Dorado High School's Award Winning Drama Department. Chaired by the EDHS Drama Department's Paul Tomei, Studio 81 produces plays and theatre events that are student driven and provide a wide and culturally diverse variety of performances.

At El Dorado High School, a visual or performing arts classes is mandatory for high school graduation. Studio 81 offers three classes: Beginning, Advanced, and Production Drama. All classes can be taken for elective credit and the highest level repeated as a requirement for a fourth year of English. For students interested in Behind the Scenes work, we also offer a Theatre Tech class for students who want to help build sets, costumes, and advertise for shows!



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### **Paul Tomei**

Paul Tomei has been a full time Drama Teacher at El Dorado High School in Placerville, California for the past 23 years. He received a B.A in Theater from C.S.U Sacramento, and studied Acting at the California Institute of the Arts in Valencia, Ca. Paul received his Teaching Credential from Chapman University and most recently went back to school to receive an M.A in Directing from The Chicago College of Performing Arts. Paul currently teaches

two sections of Beginning Drama, one section of Advanced Drama, a Theater Technology course and a Play Production class.

In his almost two decades of teaching and directing, Paul has received many honors and awards. In 2006 Paul was one of 6 recipients in the State of California to receive The Carlston Family Foundation Outstanding Teachers of America Award. In addition, Paul is continually nominated by the Sacramento Area Regional Theatre Alliance for Direction and Overall Production for his plays, and has received the prestigious Elly Award 15 times. Paul's students have gone on to perform on Broadway, Regional Theatre, TV and Film and have started their own professional theatre companies.

# Director's Notes

It has been a thrill to collaborate with such an amazing cast, crew and talented team of designers on this production of *Metamorphoses*. I have always loved Mary Zimmerman's work and have been intrigued by her adaptations over the years.

*Metamorphoses* takes place around a pool of water. It begins with a woman talking of how bodies can assume new shapes, and her words spark stories of transformation — from the creation of the world to human bodies changed into animals and trees — that take place in and around a water's edge. Our cast of 29 actors portray a variety of characters from Greek mythology, from the well-known stories of Midas' golden touch and the self-involved Narcissus to the lesser-known stories of Alcyone's grief and Erysichthon's punishment. Monarchs and sailors and heroes and peasants make choices, good and bad, that trigger a physical transformation that may turn out to be a gift, a curse or something else altogether.

Basing her play on Roman poet Ovid's *Metamorphoses*, the story of Eros and Psyche in Lucius Apuleius' *Metamorphoses* and Rainer Maria Rilke's classic poem *Orpheus, Eurydice, Hermes* (1904), adapter and director Mary Zimmerman theatricalizes the stories using language and images familiar to the 21st century to reach back to tales as old as civilization. A Therapist helps Phaeton put psychological language to his fraught relationship with his father Apollo. Orpheus and Eurydice acknowledge the many variations of their story that have arisen over more than 2,500 years of repetition.

"Everyone changes. Change is so necessary, yet so painful," says Zimmerman. "It's the condition of human life. There will be transformation, and you will grow old." In telling its stories of change, *Metamorphoses* celebrates the very essence of theater — its words, humanity, community and ability to create space for alteration."

Thank you for being here tonight and allowing us the opportunity to share with you.

*Paul Tomei*





# DIRECTORS AND CREW

**Directed by:** Paul Tomei  
**Dramaturg:** Carissa Drummond  
**Set Designer:** Ben Schilling  
**Lighting Designer:** Marc Dubin  
**Costume Designer:** Bella McGlaughlin  
**Puppetry:** Gavin Sellers  
**Publicity:** Maggie Bush  
**Poster/T-Shirt Design:** Sylvan Pangbroehr  
**Lighting Control Operator:** Lauren Guttie  
**Sound Control Operator:** Kendall Weinreich  
**Costume Assistant:** Pyper Holt  
**Sound Control:** Miah-Rose Duncan



# Synopsis

## Cosmogony

A woman, a scientist and the god Zeus discuss and speculate on the creation of the universe.

## Midas

After doing a good deed and being granted any wish he desires by the gods, the greedy Midas asks that everything he touches turns to gold. But his wish quickly becomes a curse, and he sets off on an impossible journey to find a pool of water that could potentially reverse his fate.

## Alcyone and Ceyx

When King Ceyx embarks on a sea voyage that Queen Alcyone begs him to forgo, he dies in a shipwreck. Overcome with grief, Alcyone goes to the shore and sleeps in the shallow pools — a mournful act that moves the gods to show empathy and transform the couple's future.

## Erysichthon

Erysichthon scorns the gods and holds nothing sacred, so he has no problem chopping down a tree that belongs to Ceres. In an act of retribution, Ceres commands the spirit Hunger to give Erysichthon an insatiable appetite that yields disastrous and devastating results.

## Orpheus and Eurydice

On her way to marry Orpheus, Eurydice steps on a snake and dies. Distraught, Orpheus travels to the underworld and begs Hades to free her. Hades agrees on one condition: Orpheus must not look back at Eurydice until they reach the living world — a test he may be unable to endure.

## Pomona and Vertumnus (with Narcissus interlude)

The love story of Pomona and Vertumnus begins with a cameo by Narcissus, who is so enthralled by his own reflection in the water that he freezes. Then we jump to Pomona, a wood nymph who is so passionate about gardening that she ignores her suitors. So the shy, smitten Vertumnus disguises himself in different ways just to be near her. To win her affection, Vertumnus tells her the story of Myrrha, which helps Pomona see through his ruse and open her heart.

## Myrrha

King Cinyras' daughter Myrrha habitually refuses her suitors, so Aphrodite curses her. With the help of a nursemaid, Myrrha encounters her blindfolded father, who tries to drown his daughter in rage when the truth is revealed.

## Phaeton

Apollo's son Phaeton is a spoiled brat who spends his time whining to his Therapist about his life, his many demands and his adventures setting the world on fire.

## Eros and Psyche

On a mission for Aphrodite, Eros sets out to punish Psyche for her great beauty. But in a twist of fate, Eros falls madly in love with Psyche instead. Lies from Psyche's sisters and her own disobedience cause suffering until the gods intervene and help the lovers' story end happily.

## Baucis and Philemon

Zeus and his son Hermes dress as beggars and come to earth to discover what human beings are like, but no one welcomes them except for Baucis and Philemon. Because of the elderly couple's kindness, the gods grant their wish to die at the same moment and spare their grief.



# Metamorphoses Cast



**Klaryce Aho**

Scene 3: Sailor  
Scene 5: Denizen  
Scenes 6-7: Pomona



**Vincent Griffin**

Scene 2: Midas  
Scene 5: Orpheus  
Scene 9: Eros  
Scene 10: Midas



**Evan Anderson**

Scene 1: Zeus  
Scene 3: Sailor  
Scene 5: Hades  
Scene 10: Zeus



**Areianna Grissom**

Scene 4: Ceres  
Scene 10: Bauchis



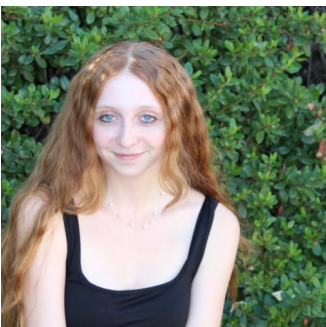
**Hunter Cavallaro**

Scene 2: Servant  
Scene 3: Sailor  
Scene 4: The Buyer  
Scene 7: Cinyras



**Makayla Hendren**

Scene 4: Mother  
Scene 7: Nursemaid



**Jade Gailey**

Scene 3: Henchman  
Scene 4: Oread  
Scene 5: Fate



**Harper Hennike**

Scene 3: Lucina  
Scene 5: Denizen



**Nate Giles**

Scene 3: Poseidon  
Scenes 6-7: Vertumnus



**Rylie Higdon**

Scene 4: Spirit of  
the Tree  
Scene 6: Performer



# Metamorphoses Cast



**Avalon Hodge**

Scene 3: Performer  
Scene 6: Performer



**Jace Masterson**

Scene 3: Sleep  
Scene 5: Denizens  
Scene 10: Woman at  
the Door



**Jayce Kaldunski**

Scene 3: Henchman  
Scene 6: Narcissus  
Scene 8: Apollo  
Scene 10: Philemon



**Sophie Mcknight**

Scene 2: Midas  
Daughter  
Scene 5: Denizen  
Scene 10 Offstage  
Voice  
Scene 10: Midas  
Daughter



**Mila Kerns**

Scene 3: Henchman  
Scene 9: Q



**Natalie Mulhollen**

Scene 3: Aphrodite  
Scene 8: Phaeton



**Ian Loeprich**

Scene 2: Silenus  
Scene 3: Henchman  
Scene 5 Hermes  
Scene 10: Hermes



**Emma Paraskevas**

Scene 1: Scientist  
Scene 5: Fate



**Lin Lundine**

Scene 2: Baccus  
Scene 3: Sailor  
Scene 5: Sisyphus



**Nieva Parsons**

Woman/Laundress 1  
Narrator 1



# Metamorphoses Cast



**Aurora Piearcy**

Scene 5: Persephone  
Scene 7: Aphrodite



**Liam Shorrock**

Scene 3: Ceyx  
Scene 6: Performer



**Myra Pittman**

Scene 3: Alcyone  
Scene 4: Hunger  
Scene 5: Fate



**Gilana Torres**

Scene 4: Erysichthon



**Sophia Rael**

Scene 5: Fate  
Scene 9: Psyche



**Olivia Vaz**

Scene 3: Laundress  
Narrator 3, Therapist



**Calen Romig**

Laundress 2  
Narrator 2



**Mia Velo**

Scene 7: Myrrha



**Carlie Rumsey**

Scene 5: Eurydice  
Scene 9: "A"



# Coming this Spring!



**May 11-13 and 18-20**

A watery wonderland, perfect for the entire family! Seeking children ages 8-12 for additional fish, seaweed and kelp!

Email Paul Tomei at [ptomei@eduhsd.k12.ca.us](mailto:ptomei@eduhsd.k12.ca.us)



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