



Antigone: In the Language of Kings at Getty Villa (© Craig Schwartz Photography)

REVIEW: *Antigone: In the Language of Kings* at the Getty Villa. One cool thing about archetypal mythology is how its themes and fundamental dynamics are not only timeless but infinitely available for zeitgeisty adaptation and contextual transposition without losing their core messages. That's how canonical archetypes work, and how they remain living, relevant scenarios. Enter Evelina Fernández and her adaptation of the final piece in Sophocles' inescapable trilogy, playing this month only at the Getty Villa's magical outdoor amphitheater. Directed by José Luis Valenzuela for the Latino Theater Company, the performance happens in three languages, moving fluidly across English, Spanish, and Nahuatl, with supertitles, and includes gorgeous ceremonial costuming, music and song, and a smattering of well-timed comic relief—none of which are in the "original" but all of which, accomplished through stage direction and some terrific acting, make this most ancient of texts feel entirely, absolutely new. Transposing the setting to pre-conquest Tenochtitlan (and its political inflections to the present day) only strengthens the universality of its themes—love, loyalty, law, and destiny. *Performances through October 3; Tickets: \$45-\$60; getty.edu.* —SND