



SORBONNE
UNIVERSITY
ABU DHABI



Protagoras Confined

(A virtual theatre play)

An adaptation of Wajdi Mouawad's play *Willy Protagoras enfermé dans les toilettes*, by Haleema Farahani, Meriem Bouimout and Kaouther Zammazi

Sunday 11 April 2021 7:00 pm



About the play

Two families victims of war struggle to live together in one apartment. To protest against the growing tension, son of proprietor, Willy Protagoras strategically locks himself in the only bathroom of the flat. Residents and officials living in the building meddle, coveting the Protagoras property that is the only one to have a sea-view. Social and personal issues flare as Willy subjects everyone to a tragi-comic confinement, to which many of us might relate to today.

This special theatre play video project filmed on Zoom is based on the play Willy Protagoras Enfermé dans les Toilettes (Willy Protagoras locked in the toilet) published in 1994 by Wajdi Mouawad, Lebanese-Canadian award-winning playwright and director of La Colline Théâtre National in Paris.

This play is part of the vision of the Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi Theatre Group for 2021, focusing on theatre related to the Arab world, celebrating esteemed authors with origins from the MENA region.

As part of their final project for the academic year, Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi students have translated the play from French to English before adapting it to Protagoras Confined. It is an original creation from Haleema Farahani, heading production, with Kaouther Zammazi and Meriem Bouimout co-writing the script. The project features personal photographs from cast and crew as background visuals for Zoom recordings, depicting the drama set in Lebanon. Alongside Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi students and alumni performing, the video also stars talented actors from the UAE community and abroad, forming a culturally diverse, international cast that is able to come together by teleconferencing.

For Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi theatre instructor, director Sol Abiad, the ongoing pandemic striking the world ensues a paradigm shift in teaching and practicing theatre. This project is testament to the enduring spirit of human creativity, innovation and teamwork that ultimately prevails in theatre making, regardless of the obstacles.

Cast names and roles

The Protagoras Family



Rami Baba
as Willy



Mathilde Ahmed
as Jeannine



Qais Shamseddin
as Assad

The Philistiraestine Family



Kaouther Zammazi
as Abgar



Maria Gregoric
as Ulie-Char



Martin Scholtz
as Conrad

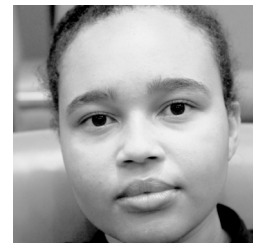
The Residents



Chelsea Coloma
as Catherine Octobre



Akhil Jose
as François Rancoeur



Kim Freeman
as Remie Ervefel



Meriem Bouimout
as Maxine Louisaire



Natalie Wehbe
as Marguerite Cotaux