AMM(I)GONE

Amm(i)gone, an adaptation of Sophocles' Antigone, is an apology to and from a mother. Creator and performer Adil Mansoor explores queerness, the afterlife, and obligation using canonical texts, teachings from the Quran, and audio conversations between a queer mama's boy and his devout Muslim mother. Since discovering his queerness, Mansoor's mother has turned towards her faith in an attempt to save her son in the afterlife. In an effort towards healing, Mansoor has invited his mother to join him as dramaturg and co-conspirator. In discussing and translating various adaptations of the source play, together they mine Greek tragedy, Islamic traditions, and their own memories to create an original performance locating love across faith. Can prayer substantiate care? Can care manifest as artistic methodology and inquiry? Can Mansoor and his mother contend with Antigone's fate?

Upcoming performances: The Flea, NYC, March 13-April 7, 2025; Theater Mu/Jungle Theater, Minneapolis, July 11-13 2025 Tour produced by Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company and PlayCo in association with Kelly Strayhorn Theater.

ADIL MANSOOR is a Pittsburgh-based director and educator centering queer folks and people of color. He has developed new work with The Eugene O'Neill Theater Center, Manhattan Theatre Club, Playwrights' Center in Minneapolis, The Playwrights Realm, Mercury Store, Pittsburgh Public Theater, and others. Directing projects include Daddies by Paul Kruse (Audible), Gloria by Branden Jacobs-Jenkins (Hatch Arts Collective), Kentucky by Leah Nanako Winkler (Pittsburgh Playhouse), and Once Removed by Paul Kruse (Tribeca). His solo performance Amm(i)gone is a National Performance Network Project co-commissioned by Kelly Strayhorn Theater and The Theater Offensive. Amm(i)gone's national tour is produced by Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company, The Play Company, and Kelly Strayhorn Theater. Mansoor is a founding member of Pittsburgh's Hatch Arts Collective and the former Artistic Director of Dreams of Hope, an LGBTQA+ youth arts organization. He was part of the inaugural Artist Caucus gathered by Baltimore Center Stage, Long Wharf, St. Louis Rep, and Woolly Mammoth. He was a Sundance Art of Practice Fellow and received the 2024 Emerging Artist Carol R. Brown Award. Mansoor holds an MFA in Directing from Carnegie Mellon University. <u>https://www.adilmansoor.com</u>





NIEGEL SMITH is a Bessie Award-winning theater director and performance artist, known for his bold and experimental work. As Artistic Director of The Flea, NYC's Obie Award-winning theater, Niegel has transformed the organization into a hub for Black, brown, and queer artists. His recent projects include The Ritual of Breath Is the Rite to Resist, a multimedia opera honoring Eric and Erica Garner: The Bark of Millions, a queer rock opera by Taylor Mac and Matt Ray: and The Great Thirst, Justin Tranter's alt-pop musical set in a post-apocalyptic world. Niegel's work has been presented at The Brooklyn Academy of Music, The Public Theater, St. Ann's Warehouse, Lincoln Center, and The Sydney Opera House. His participatory walks and performances have been showcased by The Brooklyn Museum, Abrons Arts Center, and The New Museum. He co-directed Taylor Mac's A 24-Decade History of Popular Music, a Kennedy Prize-winning and Pulitzer Prize-finalist work. Niegel associate directed the Tony Award-winning musical FELA! and worked on Broadway and off-Broadway productions of Tony Kushner's Caroline, or Change. A graduate of Dartmouth College, Niegel has received residencies and fellowships from the Sundance Theatre Lab, the MAP Fund, and the National Endowment for the Arts, among others. For more, visit <u>www.niegelsmith.com</u>.

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