



The Westport-Weston Arts Council presents
 the Premiere Performance of the Opera

February 8, 1981
 4:00 P.M.
 Westport Town Hall

Artists:

Sandra McKearin - soprano (Antigone)

Joel Anyan - tenor (Haemon)

Joel Jones - baritone (Creon, Oedipus)

Gail Ente - soprano (Ismene)

The Westport Madrigal Singers
 Director Jeanne Kimball (Chorus)

Janet Weaver - flute

Jan Burnett Blundell - soprano (Jocasta)
 piano

Darrylyn Manring - cello

Irene Tyrell - bells

Jim Pandolphi - trumpet

Mark Hill - synthesizer

Melissa Nichols - Dancer, Act III, 1987

A N T I G O N E

music by Winifred Keane

words by Simon Greco

Act I:

1. Overture	Instrumental	1
2. Hail friends, hail! (News)	Trio	8
3. O gods of our fields	Chorus	13
4. What is this dirge	Guards	16
5. Listen to me (Comfort)	Creon and Chorus	17
6. O Zeus, source of eternal life (Chant)	Chorus and Bells	20
7. O come, princess (Welcome)	Creon and Antigone	38
8. O mighty Zeus (Quest)	Antigone and Chorus	39

Act II:

1. I regret to report (Battle))	44
2. Would that all time and tides (Love Duet)) Antigone and Haemon	49
3. What a dawn it was (Waltz))	53
4. Victory!	Chorus and Guards	57
5. Hail, royal Creon!	Chorus and Trumpet	59
6. People of Corinth (Decree)	Creon, Chorus, Antigone, Ismene and Haemon	61

Act III:

1. Grief	Flute and Cello	70
2. O my father	Antigone and Oedipus	72
3. O my mother	Antigone and Jocasta	75
4. O Haemon	Antigone and Haemon	79
5. I must bury my brother (Death)	Antigone and Synthesizer	84
6. Rest now, noble woman	Chorus and Descant	88

SYNOPSIS OF ANTIGONE

A story of Love and Courage, Antigone is a modern chamber opera with music by Winifred Keane and words by Simon Greco, based on the ancient Greek Myth as told by Sophocles. Antigone, who is the daughter of Oedipus and Jocasta, fulfills the curse on the house of Cadmus by defying death to follow her convictions.

In Act I, the opera opens with news that Oedipus is dead, and that Antigone, who had accompanied her father into exile after he blinded himself, is returning to Corinth. The people are afraid of the curse on the House of Cadmus and pray to their gods for protection. Creon comforts the people and tells them that the brave Oedipus will sanctify their land. They chant as Creon welcomes Antigone, then leave her to pray alone. The ominous music of the Oracle answers her request for enlightenment.

In Act II, the battle between Antigone's two brothers recedes, as Creon's son, Haemon, asks her to be his Queen. The victorious army returns, led by Creon. He issues a decree that the Hero, Eteocles, is to be buried in honor, but his brother, Polynices, who fought against Corinth is to be left untouched for the dogs. Antigone objects to this sacrilege, but defiance is death!

In Act III, Antigone is alone with her memories. She hears the voices of those she has loved - her father, mother, and lover. She realizes she must bury her brother, regardless of the consequences, in order to follow her own truth. After her death, the people praise her courage and pray for forgiveness. The Oracle ends, the Life-Force continues.