

'Yup'ik Antigone' a hit in France

Perserverance Theatre's production of "Yup'ik Antigone," written and directed by Juneau playwright Dave Hunsaker, opened the Theatre of Nations Festival last week in Nancy, France, to an enthusiastic international theatre audience.

"Yup'ik Antigone" showed "acting from the heart," said a French reviewer, and representatives of well-known theatres such as Jerzy Grotowski's Polish Theatre Lab commented that they believed the play to be one of the most significant festival pieces and predicted

that the scenic and ritual elements will be reflected in theatres around the world.

"It's been even more rewarding than we could have imagined," said Debbie Baley, Producing Director. "The Theatre of Nations organizers and the French people have been wonderful to work with."

"It's been even busier too," she added, "keeping up with interviews by European radio, tv, and print media." The actors also did a special performance of Yup'ik dances in Stanislaw Public Square in Nancy.

From Nancy, "Yup'ik Antigone" heads to Epinal, France, where they will do one performance and then on to a New York opening at La Mama Theatre on June 26. They will perform there for two weeks.

"Yup'ik Antigone" was developed in cooperation with the Village of Toksook Bay, and portions of the project and the tour were funded by the Atlantic Richfield Foundation, the Juneau Arts & Humanities Council, The State of Alaska and individual contributors.

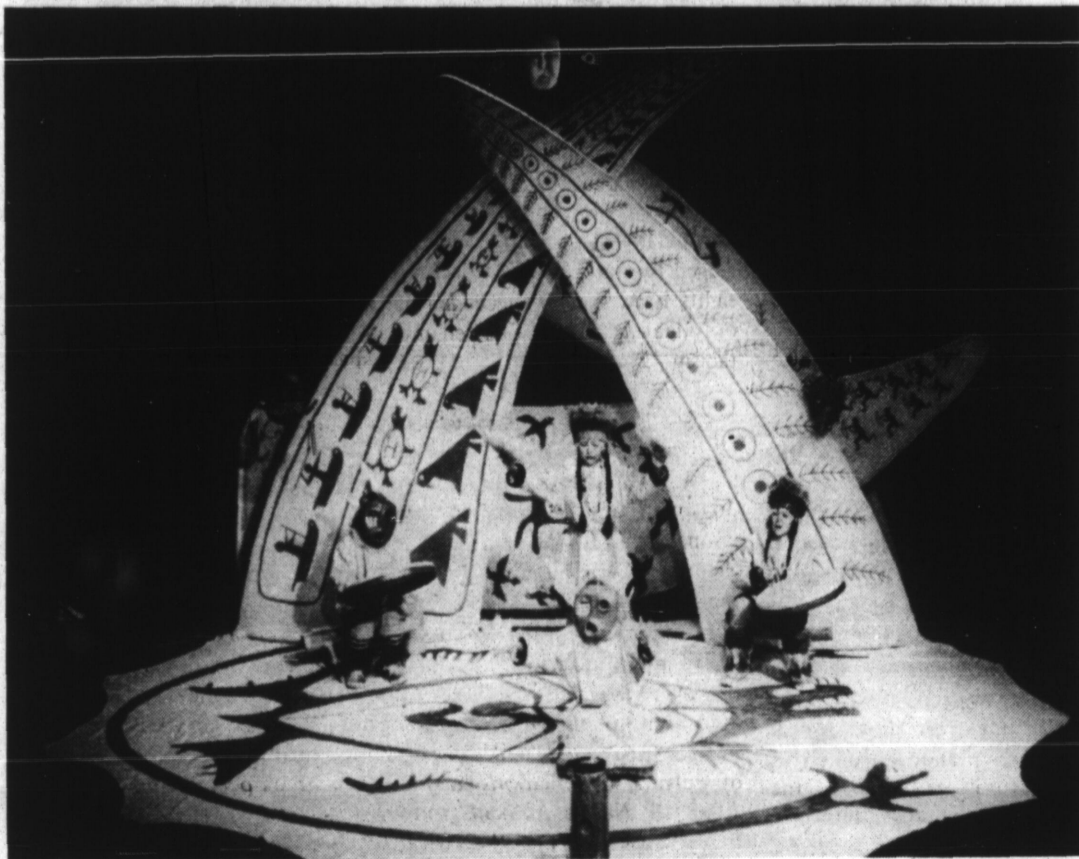


Photo by Carl Terry

Ceremonial dance from Yup'ik Antigone.