

The Verdict is Out at Orange Lutheran's 12 Angry Jurors  
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Twelve individuals, one purpose; to decide the fate of a young man accused of murder. With twists at every turn, each juror tackles a difficult journey of self-discovery as they deliberate truth from falsehoods. The story explores the powerful dynamics that exist among strangers, and the ethical tug-of-war that occurs when a human life is on the line.

With an unwavering attitude, Juror #8 played by Melkie Sherman gazes contemplatively out the window as the discussion gains traction. His impressive stoicism commands the attention of his fellow jurors as he plays the devil's advocate, speaking with a concise fluidity that pulls the audience in with a morbid curiosity.

Julia Schlachter's portrayal of Juror #7 is a cleverly imagined portrayal of a humorously impatient Yankees fan. Schlachter strides about the stage with a confident belittlement as she stands over the chairs of a few Jurors with a threatening glare, doing everything in her power to get to her baseball game on time. Schlachter is present in every scene, with small exasperated expressions like the checking of her wristwatch or the roll of an eye.

A youthful anomaly amongst the jurors, Brandon Paulo takes an uncertain characterization of Juror #5. With rapid glances around the room, Paulo emits an undeniable wavering as he tries to understand the evidence of the trial.

As Juror #3, Kyle Monson marches about the room with a squared posture. His sharply masculine voice cuts like a knife as he makes every attempt to dominate the room and conversation. The chemistry between Monson and Sherman (Juror #8) is especially impressive, with palpable tensions rising at each disagreement. Monson's outraged bursts contrast harshly with the stoicism of Sherman, making them a complicatedly interesting pairing.

Hair and makeup achieved impeccably by James Early and Callie Milstein adds the perfect touch to the individualist group of citizens. A 1950's hairstyle is done on each actor, implementing the use of a variety of styles such as victory rolls and side parts. Additional makeup is added to the older characters, the emphasizing of wrinkles making it easy to see the age of the characters.

Orange Lutheran's production of 12 Angry Jurors is a captivating story and a must-see for anyone interested in exploring the human condition, the nature of truth, and the imperativeness of a jury within the legal system.