OEDIPUS REX more like oedipiss pecs: *A May Day Rendition*
*by Allison Eckert, Emily Aguilar, and Talia BarNoy*

CAST
LEADS
Oedipus - Elizabeth Hamilton
Creon - Layla Fistos
Tiresias - Emma Unglaub
Jocasta - Julia Billera
Messenger - Emily Lazo
Shepherd - Al Nash
Apollo - Kyra Kovačić (R)

CHORUS
Haverbro - Simone Hoagland (R)
Feminist - Alice Hockstader (R)
Fangirl - Lillie Olliver (R)
Boomer - Kennedy Derleth (R)
Goth - Nora Williamson (R)
Dryad - Lucia Hamman (R)
Goose-thena - Evvia Townley Bakewell (L)
Goose-thena’s flock -
- Hannah Gordon (L)
- Abby Champlin (L)
- Al Nash (When not Shepherd) (L)
- Emily Lazo (When not Messenger) (L)
Memelord - Abby Pasternak (L)
Meta - Marion Hamilton (L)
Pacifist - Kathryn Sutherland (L)
Scene I

[CHORUS enters stage from R & L and lies down on the floor coughing and dying.]
[OEDIPUS enters stage C and looks around him in shock]
OEDIPUS: What’s wrong, you guys?
[CHORUS suddenly sits up and begins song]

Everything is Awful

CHORUS:
Everything is awful
Everything is bad when there's a plague in Thebes
When you're dying in Thebes

Everything is worse cause our crops are dying
We’re gonna die, you and I are gonna infect each other
Let's pray to the gods
That they'll stop killing cows, killing crops
We are begging give us some peace!

Everything is awful
Everything is bad when there's a plague in Thebes
When you're dying in Thebes

APOLLO:
Woo! Three, two, one, go!
Have you heard the news? Everyone's talking

Life is bad 'cause everything's awful
First a famine, now there's a new disease
Beg the gods cause I don’t think this’ll cease
Fields are empty but the graves are all full
Don’t think we’ll ever know peace
Some years ago, the king gave us peace
He charged the sphinx like a bull, and didn’t act dull
But that was then, this is now
He was awesome then but it's all awful now, (awful now)
People scared, clueless kings  
Awful facts make it worse  

War, plagues, death, they're awful  
Famine, divine wrath, they're awful  
Starving and dying, yeah, that's awful  

CHORUS:  
Everything is awful  
Everything is bad when there's a plague in Thebes  
Everything is awful  
When you're dying in Thebes  

GOTH: I love death but man this sucks.  
DRYAD: I know right? Nature is healing but the Thebans sure aren’t.  

[HAYERBRO throws something like it's a basketball]  
HAYERBRO: Kobe!  
META: What does that even mean?  
MEMELORD: R.I.P. to a 2018 baller meme and a Lower Merion king.  
BOOMER: Kids these days say the strangest things…  
FANGIRL: I’m just glad Jocasta hasn’t died yet. She’s soooooo cool.  
FEMINIST: It’s amazing, considering our lazy king hasn’t done anything yet  
FANGIRL: Right? She’s way too good for him.  
PACIFIST: Well, Oedipus did send Creon to consult the oracle.  

FEMINIST: Another underrated Strong Female Character  
GOOSE-THEN: FEMALE FLESH!!!  
META: Will you guys ever shut up and say something that actually furthers the plot for once? Look, Creon’s back!  

[Creon enters from L]  
OEDIPUS: Creon! Welcome back!  
CREON: Listen dude, I went up to the Oracle, and he told me  
    things I’m not sure are meant for all to hear.  
OEDIPUS: I’m sure it’s fine. Those who plague together stay together. What you have to say to them, you can say to me.  

**Poor Unfortunate Souls**  
CREON  
Alright, your funeral. I’ll tell you what he said. It's what I live for. [goes to L pillar]  
To help unfortunate rulers like yourself.  
Poor souls with no one else to turn to.  

[CREON puts on oracle robe]  
CREON [imitating the oracle]  
I admit that right now I am Apollo.  
Yes, the oracle can channel, well, a god.  
But you'll find that what I have to say  
Will make you run away  
Repent, see the light, and make a switch  

OEDIPUS [goes to R pillar]  
Go on
CREON
Ugh, fine.

CREON [imitating the oracle]
And I fortunately know a little secret
It's a tale that I'm sure will impress
And dear sir, She said, don't laugh
I'll tell it on behalf
Of the miserable, the lonely, and depressed

OEDIPUS
Creon...

CREON [imitating the oracle]
Poor unfortunate souls
In pain, in need
This one longing to be successful
That one wants to get the girl
And do I help them?
Yes, indeed
Those poor unfortunate souls
So sad, so true
They come flocking to my temple
Crying, "Prophecy, Oracle, please!"
And I help them!
Yes I do
Now listen closely please good king
A murderer, She told me,
Has taken refuge in your brother-in-law’s Thebes
Yes the one who murdered Laius
The king who once spoke upon Thebes’ dias
What a poor unfortunate soul!

OEDIPUS
You must be joking

CREON
Why would I joke about something so life saving as this?

CREON [imitating the oracle]
Oh you don't understand, heh heh. Life's full of tough riddles, isn't it? Heh heh.
But, here, there is one more thing.
We haven't discussed the reason you need to know this.
[Creon pauses for dramatic effect]
You asked me to stop plague, super duper easy, no really!
What you need to do is - drive him out.

OEDIPUS
How do I find him? How can I-

CREON [imitating the oracle]
You'll have your army, your little soldiers.
And don't underestimate the importance of your citizens, ha!
The gods up there don't like a lot of blabber
They think a king who’s idle is a bore!
Yet on earth it's much prefered for kings to hear every word
And after all dear, what are oracles even for?
Come on, you need to pay a bit more of attention
True gentlemen would learn all the facts
But they dote and swoon and fawn
On a lady who's withdrawn
It's she who holds her tongue who gets a man
Come on you poor unfortunate soul
Go ahead!
Make your search!
I'm a very busy deity and I haven't got all day
I’m just Apollo
Sun and song!
You poor unfortunate soul
It's sad but true
If you want to cross the bridge, my sweet
You've got to see the roads
Go ahead and take a breath
And find who murdered that old toad

OEDIPUS
Creon, thank you, now I've got to find out more

CREON [imitating the oracle]
The boss is on a roll
This poor unfortunate soul!!!!!!

[CREON flourishes and removes Oracle costume]
CREON: That felt weird.
HAVERBRO: Your mom felt weird.

[MEMELORD high fives HAVERBRO]
FEMINIST: Men…
META: Wrong mom.
OEDIPUS: Ok, so, how are we gonna find the murderer? That was years ago
CREON: Well–we could ask Tiresias for help?
OEDIPUS: Great idea! [to CHORUS] Can you guys go get him for us?
HAVERBRO: [pounds his chest and gives him a peace sign]
You got it bro.

[OEDIPUS and CREON exit C. CHORUS exits L & R returns searching for TIRESIAS]

DRYAD: Hellooooooo? [pause] HELLO?
PACIFIST: Why are you yelling?
DRYAD: Well Teiresias is blind, right? So we have to yell to make sure he finds us.
FANGIRL: Sweetie, we are finding him.
BOOMER: Here, kitty kitty.
DRYAD: Well at least I know he's not a cat.
BOOMER: Come again?
GOOSE-THENAL: I EAT CAT FOOD FROM THE CAN!
GOTH: Shush! What’s that in the distance?
PACIFIST: Oh, I think that’s him!

[CHORUS exits L. OEDIPUS enters C, CHORUS enters L with PACIFIST and MEMELORD leading TIRESIAS]
OEDIPUS: There he is! Just the insightful guy I need. Tell me, what do you know about Laius’ death?

TIRESIAS: I don’t think you want to know about that…

OEDIPUS: C’mon tell me, I promise I won’t be mad.

TIRESIAS: Here’s the thing: you are the murderer.

OEDIPUS: [immediately enraged] What? No way!

I don’t Dance

CHORUS
Hey, prophet prophet
Hey prophet prophet sing

OEDIPUS
I’m saying that I’m just the king

CHORUS
Hey prophet prophet
Hey prophet prophet sing
Yeah

TIRESIAS
I'll show you that it's one and the same
Ruling, murder same game
You did it
Walked up to Laius, started swinging.

OEDIPUS
I rule Thebes now, and that's all
This is what I do
OEDIPUS
But you can’t see

CHORUS
Get him out of the city!

OEDIPUS
You can’t see

TIRESIAS
I say I can

OEDIPUS
There's not a chance, oh

TIRESIAS
I speak, you scream, I’m a servant of Apollo

OEDIPUS
You can’t see, no

TIRESIAS
Calm down, chill out, use your eyes
Mocking me, spinning out, you are unwise

OEDIPUS
I wanna rule my city, not be shitty
(CHORUS GOES “SHHHH”)
OEDIPUS: You’re lying you blind old blind man!
TIRESIAS: This is too much, I’m out.
OEDIPUS: You can’t leave, I’m banishing you first!
TIRESIAS: [to PACIFIST and MEMELORD] Get me out of here, this king is going to sink the city.
[TIRESIAS exits L with PACIFIST and MEMELORD]

OEDIPUS: It just doesn’t make sense! Why would that fake prophet lie to me like that? Somebody must have put him up to it….Creon!

FANGIRL: Ugh, where’s Jocasta? Why hasn’t she gotten into the story yet?
META: Don’t worry, the bombshell will show up with a bombshell.
GOOSE-THENA: I LOVE BEAUTIFUL EXPLODING WOMEN!

[CREON enters C]
CREON: You called?
OEDIPUS: How dare you! I can’t believe you would bribe that awful prophet!
CREON: Do what now? What are you even talking about?
OEDIPUS: You’re a traitor! You bribed Tiresias to say I was the murderer!
CREON: What? No! I would never do that! You’re the best thing that ever happened to me!

I won’t Say I’m In Love
CREON
If there's a prize for perfect ranks,
I guess I've already won that
No kingship is worth treachery
Why would I betray you, I’m good, no thanks

OEDIPUS
Who d'you think you're kidding
The city’s earth and heaven to you
Try to keep it hidden,
Creon I can see right through you
No you can't conceal it
I know what you’re feeling
What you’re thinking of

CREON
No chance no way I didn’t betray you, no no

OEDIPUS
You scoff you swear why deny it oh oh

CREON
It's too much work I won't betray you
I thought you knew that I liked you
It feels so good not having to rule
I’m here screaming "Would ya listen dude"
Alas you're too stubborn for that
OEDIPUS
Man you can't deny it
Who you are and what you’re doing
Creon I’m not buying
Hon its cause of you that
I called that fake prophet up
When you gonna own up that you’re an evil evil man

CREON
No chance no way I didn’t betray you, no no

OEDIPUS
Give up, give in, check the oaths you're a traitor

CREON
This scene won't play I won't say I'm a traitor

OEDIPUS
I'll do it until you admit you're a traitor

CREON
You're way off base I won't say it
Get off my case I won't say it

OEDIPUS
Creon don't be sly, I’ll kill you you traitor

CREON
Woah

By the gods I say that I'm no traitor!

OEDIPUS: Creon you’re banished! Get out of my sight!
CREON: Please I swear on the gods I didn’t betray you!

[Enter JOCASTA from C with PACIFIST and MEMELORD]
FANGIRL: It’s Jocasta! She’s a total milf!
BOOMER: What’s that? Did you say milk?
DRYAD: I prefer oat milk myself.
MEMELORD: Okay Boomer
JOCASTA: Babe? Why are you bullying my brother? You know he’s sensitive about the plotting uncle trope.
OEDIPUS: He made Tiresias say some really upsetting things
CREON: I did not do that!
JOCASTA: I don’t know what this is about, but he swore on the gods so you have to believe him.
MEMELORD: Just fold it in Oedipus! You just fold it in.
PACIFIST: What are you doing? There’s no need to yell.
JOCASTA: Don’t be so worried about that prophet; nobody can really tell the future.
OEDIPUS: What do you mean?
JOCASTA: Have I ever told you about the prophet who told Laius and me that our son would kill his father?
OEDIPUS: I didn’t know you had a son!
JOCASTA: Well, I don’t anymore! And Laius is dead too, but the prophet got a lot of stuff wrong.
OEDIPUS: What?
JOCASTA: Listen up…
Nobody’s Perfect

JOCASTA:
One, two, three, four
Everybody kills babies
Everybody has those days
Everybody knows what, what I'm talkin' 'bout
Everybody gets that way

JOCASTA & CHORUS
Everybody kills babies
Everybody has those days
Everybody knows what, what I'm talkin' 'bout
Everybody gets that way, yeah!

JOCASTA
Sometimes I'm in a jam
I've gotta make a plan
It might be crazy
I do it anyway
No way to stop for sure
I figure out a cure
If Laius hears a prophet
My son I must deposit

The prophet said Laius would die
By his baby with his own eyes!

Nobody's perfect
I had to destroy it

Fastened his ankles
'Til I got it right

JOCASTA & CHORUS
Nobody's perfect
You live and you learn it
And if I kill a son sometimes
Nobody's perfect

JOCASTA
Sometimes a prophet dreams
But then it flips on me
Doesn't turn out how we planned
Laius killed in the homeland
Where three roads did meet
He there met his defeat
Thieves did strike him down
The prophet was really a clown

Yeah his intentions were good, yeah, yeah, yeah
Sometimes just misunderstood

JOCASTA & CHORUS
Nobody's perfect
Prophets gotta work it
Again and again
But they're never right

Nobody's perfect
You live and you learn it
And if you get confused sometimes
Nobody's perfect

GOTH: This is the kind of angsty content I live for.
FANGIRL: Okay, but Jocasta? She’s literally perfect. I’m gonna die.
GOOSE-THENA: Did you say Goose-Thena? Sacrifice? For me? Yes?
DRYAD: No, no. But, if you want, I have some grass and bugs?
GOOSE-THENA: Human flesh?
DRYAD: [*rubbing her back*] No…later…
META: Yeah we should have surplus of that by the end of the play
OEDIPUS: Wait, so where did you say Laius died?
JOCASTA: At the meeting of three roads—why?
OEDIPUS: Were there any survivors?
JOCASTA: One, yeah, but when you arrived he asked to be sent away.
OEDIPUS: So where is he now?
JOCASTA: I can write it down for you [scribbles a note and hands it to him]
OEDIPUS: Great thanks!

[OEDIPUS exits R, MESSENGER enters L]

MESSENGER: My Queen, I have a message for your husband.
JOCASTA: I can take it for him.

We Don’t Talk About Bruno (Incest)
CHORUS
We don't talk about Incest, no, no, no
We don't talk about Incest

MESSENGER & CHORUS
Well! I was sent away (They were sent away)
From his childhood home
And I unfortunately have bad news (They have bad news)
Oedipus’ father, Polybus, is dead (Dun Dun)
You telling this story or am I? (I’m sorry, messenger, go on)
Corinth says, "Please come back home" (They want him to rule)
Corinth says, “Please be our king” (They want him to rule!)
Dying so naturally (His father did, but anyway)

CHORUS
We don't talk about Incest, no, no, no
We don't talk about Incest (Hey)

OEDIPUS and SHEPHERD enter R

JOCASTA
You know what this means, because your father wasn’t murdered
We can no longer fear the prophecy we heard
I’ll start the celebrations right away (Ch, ch, ch)
OEDIPUS grabs Jocasta’s arm
Honestly my sweet this is a gift so humbling
But something about this still leaves me fumbling
We’re grappling with prophecies we don’t understand
Do you understand?

MESSENGER [spins Oedipus to face him]
I used to be a Shepherd years ago
When i came upon a baby on Mount Cithaeron
Yeah, his ankles were pinned and the thought still makes me spin (Hey)

CHORUS [approaching Oedipus and surrounding him in a snapping circle]
We don’t talk about Incest, no, no, no
We don’t talk about Incest

FANGIRL
Tiresias told me my ships would die
The next day, dead (No, no)

HAVERBRO
He told me my stocks would crash
And just like he said (No, no)

BOOMER
He said that all my hair would disappear
Now, look at my head (No, no)

MESSENGER & CHORUS
Your fate is sealed when your prophecy is read

SHEPHERD
You should know that that baby still limps
From the injuries he had long ago
You should know that the baby was you
And that Polybus wasn’t your dad (Oh no, We’re talking anyway)

MESSENGER
You should know that when I found you near Thebes
It was Laius’s servant, who gave you to me

OEDIPUS & META
It’s like I hear him, now (Hey bro)
I want not a sound out of you (Do you get it now?)
I can hear him now

JOCASTA [TO THE AUDIENCE]
Um, oh no
Yeah, about that, oh no
I really need to tell him, oh no
Just say the truth and the whole truth, you know

CHORUS
Oedipus, your wife's here

JOCASTA exits C
CHORUS
Go on save her

MEMELORD: Well I'll be honest; I don't really understand. But I fell down this hill, and I got glue on my hands. Now I got records on my fingers.

HAVERBRO: Whaaaat?
MEMELORD: Records on my fingers. I got records on my fingers, and I just can't stop.

BOOMER: Please stop!
MEMELORD: I can't stop. I got a Goose-thena controlling me.

GOOSE - THENA: Honk.

META: Oh with all the gods- what are you all doing? Serious things are being explained.

GOTH: Yeah shut up, this is pure carnage.

OEDIPUS: What do you mean you gave me to him? And Polybus isn’t my dad?

SHEPHERD: Look; it’s pretty bad. I didn’t think this would happen. I thought I would just give a kid away instead of killing it.

MESSENGER: I know it can be hard to hear that you were adopted, but that doesn’t make Polybus any less your dad.

OEDIPUS: Oh god…so that means…

Bet On It

OEDIPUS
Oracles always talkin' at me

Prophecies tryin' to get in my head
I wanted to listen to my own heart talkin'
I needed to count on myself instead

CHORUS
Did you ever

OEDIPUS
Kill your father accidentally

CHORUS
Did you ever

OEDIPUS
Ignore all the prophecies

CHORUS
Did you ever

OEDIPUS
Marry your mother unknowingly
Did you ever mess up?
Did you ever not know?
I have to stop, that I should do
I gave it all I got, that was the plan
I found out what I lost
And now you can
Bet on it, bet on it
Bet on it, bet on it (Bet on him)
I wanna make it right, but there is no way
To turn my life around, today, what a day
The things I did to my mom were not okay
Bet on it, bet on it
Bet on it, bet on it
I saw the crossroads and thought nothing of it
I killed that man and then just split
That that was my dad is heartbreaking
How did I make such a mistake

CHORUS
Did you ever

OEDIPUS
Run from a prophecy

CHORUS
Did you ever

OEDIPUS
Blame the world, but never blame you

CHORUS
He will never

OEDIPUS
Try to run away again
I’m going to fall into misery and never emerge from it

[JOCASTA comes back on stage from C, freaking out]

JOCASTA: Babe, I think we need to break up
FANGIRL: Yes! Finally!
APOLLO: Hellllooooooooo Big Hill-lympus!
OEDIPUS: WHAT ARE YOU SAYING??!!??!!
APOLLO: Welcome to another episode of Prank My Mortal, the only show where gods ruin mortals’ lives purely for entertainment!
PACIFIST: Why would you do that?!
APOLLO: The crowd loves it!
AUDIENCE PLANTS: *stand up and cheer*
GOOSE-THEN A: Honk!
OEDIPUS: You ruined my life for a PRANK SHOW!
APOLLO: Calm down, Mister All-About-Me, you didn’t actually sleep with your mom.
JOCASTA: Oh thank gods!
FANGIRL: Does this mean they’re not gonna break up?
OEDIPUS: So, I’m not adopted?
APOLLO: No, you are. You’re just not Jocasta’s kid.
JOCASTA: So what happened to my kid?
APOLLO: You successfully destroyed it. I believe in a woman’s right to choose.
HAVERBRO: Now hold up…
FEMINIST: No uterus, no opinion!
META: This whole exchange is going to get cut from the final script.
FANGIRL: Jocasta! You’re so brave for sharing your story!
GOTH: Hardcore. Rock on.
PACIFIST: But nobody dies in Greek Play?
APOLLO: [pulls up a script] Do you see this cast list? Is there a baby in this cast list? Tell me. Right here. Right now.
META: [grab baby doll from earlier] But what about…?
APOLLO: [grabs baby doll and yeets it into the audience]
MEMELORD: Yeet!
GOOSETHENA: Snack! [Runs off stage and returns with bulging stomach]
OEDIPUS: What is my life?!?!
APOLLO: Well, that’s enough of a lead-in. Hit it!
GOTH: [*hits Boomer*]
BOOMER: ooOOH MY BACK

Let’s Get Loud/You Got Pranked

CHORUS (no Apollo)
Ah, hey, hey, hey, hey, hey, hey

APOLLO & CHORUS
Apollo llegó (Hey, hey, hey, hey, hey, hey)
Φαίνομεν (fainomen)

CHORUS
Ah, hey, hey, hey, hey, hey, hey, hey
Hey, hey, hey, hey, hey,

APOLLO
Here we go!

CHORUS
You Got Pranked, You Got Pranked
Turn the lyre up, let's do it
C'mon people You Got Pranked
You Got Pranked
Turn the lyre up to hear that sound
You Got Pranked, You Got Pranked

APOLLO
Ain't nobody gotta tell ya
What I’m gonna do
You can’t live your life
I live it all the way and do it for ya
Every feelin' every beat
Can be so very sweet and you can’t taste it, mm-hm!

CHORUS & APOLLO [as parenthesis]
He’s gonna do it (I gotta do it)
He’s gonna do it his way
He’s gonna prove it (I gotta prove it)
He’s gonna mean what you say (C'mon you know what we're here for!)
He’s gonna do it (Do it)
He’s gonna do it his way
He’s gonna prove it (Prove it)
He’s gonna mean what you say

APOLLO
Life's a party, make it hot
Gods don't ever stop, whatever reason  
Every minute, every day

CHORUS & APOLLO [as parenthesis]  
Manipulate all the way you gotta break 'em ('Cause I'm going to wreck your life)
He's gonna do it (I'm gonna do it)
He's gonna do it his way
He's gonna prove it (He's gonna prove it)
He's gonna mean what you say
He's gonna do it (Do it)
He's gonna do it his way
He's gonna prove it (Prove it)
He's gonna mean what he say

CHORUS
You Got Pranked, You Got Pranked
Turn the lyre up to hear that sound
You Got Pranked, You Got Pranked
Ain't nobody gotta tell you
What you gotta do, oh no
Let's get down, let's get down
Let's get down, let's get down (It's just a party baby c'mon!)
What you gotta do
You Got Pranked, You Got Pranked
You Got Pranked, You Got Pranked
You Got Pranked, You Got Pranked
Turn the lyre up to hear that sound
You Got Pranked, You Got Pranked

Ain't nobody gotta tell you
What you gotta do
Ah!

APOLLO
You didn't know I could do that, did ya…?