

Julius Caesar, written nearly four hundred years past, has passed down through the centuries and performed by hundreds of companies all across the world. One of Shakespeare's greatest achievements, Caesar is a play of power and intrigue, pulling its characters primarily from Sir Thomas North's translation of the Greek biographer Plutarch's Parallel Lives, which gives accounts of famous Greek and Roman soldiers and statesmen. The play has remained current because of the universal themes upon which it draws. In our century, the play has been performed as political commentary, often modernizing the scenery and dress to align with a specific movement. In 1937, Orson Welles used Caesar as a powerful statement against fascism that ran an incredible 157 consecutive performances.

Last performed at Wabash in 1937, Caesar returns to our stage as the opening performance of the 89/90 season. For the occasion, director Dwight Watson has made several stylistic changes that emphasize the timeless, universal power of the play. Working with costumer Laura Connors and set designer Rob Hartz, Watson has created a vibrant interpretation for this stage.

Daniel Lindahl '91
Assistant to the Director