

March 22 – 1PM (EEST) – Concert Reading of Fulbright playwright, Dr. David Crespy's *La Susona* – Old Philosophy Building, Atrium, School of English, Aristotle University campus.

Please join me for an in-person, concert reading of my ten-minute play *LA SUSONA*, sponsored by the School of English, on Wednesday, March 22, 13:00 (1PM EEST) at the Atrium of the Old Philosophy Building on the Aristotle University campus. The script is part of my play cycle *Mi Corazón Español Vive Ahora En Grecia: Six Plays of Sephardic Spain & Greece*, and is my primary creative research project for my 2022-23 Fulbright Award to Spain and Greece. This cycle of plays focuses on the Spanish roots of the Jewish communities of Thessaloniki and Veria.

The reading will be cast with student performers from Aristotle University. For the first fifteen minutes, I'll present on my writing process, how I develop the history of these unique and important Greek Sephardic Jewish communities into dramatic literature, and this will be followed by the reading of the play, with a question-and-answer period to follow.

***LA SUSONA* by David A. Crespy
Dramaturg, Assistant Director, Konstantina Lampropoulou**

CAST OF CHARACTERS

NARRATOR/Stage Directions – Despoina Koulali
DIEGO – Panayiotis Papadopoulos
SUSONA – Zoi Vrentzou

SYNOPSIS: *La Susona* is based upon the legend of Susan ben Susón, Jewish Converso in 15th century Seville, Spain of an uncanny beauty who, while trying to protect her Christian noble lover, betrayed her father, and thereby sealed her horrific fate. The setting is Calle de la Muerte, Barrio de Santa Cruz (La Judería), Sevilla, España, 1480.

PLAYWRIGHT, DRAMATURG and PERFORMERS:



David Crespy (PLAYWRIGHT) is a professor of playwriting, acting and dramatic literature at the University of Missouri, and is the 2022-23 Fulbright Scholar to Spain and Greece. His Fulbright project is to develop six new plays about the Spanish roots of the Sephardic Jewish community of Thessaloniki, titled *Mi Corazón Español Vive Ahora En Grecia*. Dr. Crespy received a previous Fulbright Fellowship to Greece in 2018 to write a trilogy of plays about the Jewish Community of Thessaloniki, *Madre de Israel: Three Plays of Jewish Salonica*, which is part of his family's Greek and Spanish heritage in Europe. You can learn more about Dr. Crespy and his work at <https://theatre.missouri.edu/people/crespy>. His new book, *Dreamwrighting: Dreamwork for Dramatic Writing for Stage and Screen*, will be published by Brill in 2024.



Konstantina Lampropoulou (DRAMATURG, ASST. DIRECTOR) has 2 years' experience in acting and voice training in Duende and Monks theatre companies and has been auditing the Aristotle University's drama school's theory classes including professor Liani's "Jews' depiction in theatre: from Marlow to Clementi". She has been coached in Greek ancient drama and Boal theatre. Some of her scene work includes Brecht's *Mother Courage and her Children*, Ibsen's *Hedda Gabler* (Aunt Yule), F.D. Lorca's *the Shoemaker's Prodigious Wife*, Camus's *The Misunderstanding* (Martha), Euripides's

Iphigenia in Aulis (Clytemnestra), and Akis Dimou's *Night of the Secrets* (Miranda). She directed Tennessee Williams' one act play *The Dark room* and she starred in Lorca's *Los Títeres De Cachiporra* in 2022 as Figaro the Barber at the Sofouli theatre (directed by Michailidou). Other projects include studio narration recordings of Papadiamantis' *Short Stories*, commedia dell' arte street theatre and extras work in the Hollywood movie *Tin Soldier*. Multilingual, Konstantina has a background of lighting engineering and architectural design, and she is keen on DIY arts and crafts, scenography, and costume design.



Despoina Koulali (NARRATOR) is a third year student in the Department of English Language and Literature of Aristotle University of Thessaloniki. She plays the flute and is interested in literature, creative writing and theater.



Zoi Vrentzou (SUSONA) is a third year undergraduate student in the English Language and Literature department of Aristotle University. She has a great interest in translation and literature, especially drama and experiments with creative writing.



Panayiotis Papadopoulos (DIEGO) is a student on the department of English Language and Literature of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki. He is ardent with creative writing and acting and is a student at the Action Theater Drama Studio.