



GO! Contemporary Dance Works presents

# CLEOPATRA

The Last Pharaoh

Welcome dancers!

I am excited to present to you the script, premise and story of OUR Cleopatra.

There is much depth to this ballet! I have mapped our plan out and on paper, but of course this is a new production so there will be much experimentation and shifting throughout our process (which is the fun part!).

Know now there will be additions and changes to this map and I expect all to be open minded and flexible. Once the majority of the choreography is completed (we will move very fast) we will build in transitions for set changes and development of the storyline. We will also be adding dancers from the senior company into sections such as Moving Columns, Victory Parade, Cleopatra's World Falls Apart, and The Feather of Truth.

Please read through the packet thoroughly so all of you understand the story and your part within the whole.

Included in this packet:

1. **Premise** for OUR APPROACH to this story.
2. **The actual historical story** from a hodgepodge of sources-there is much discrepancy about her life.
3. **The Cast List** - presented by order of appearance with part descriptions, definitions and historical facts. I did designate in a few places if it was pointe or barefoot but I have not made final decisions for all the pieces. I will add that as we move forward.

Choreographer assignments and schedule is next on my list. In the meantime we intensely focus on The Nutcracker and the KSO, as it is important we represent ourselves well for every performance opportunity. **I AM TELLING YOU UPFRONT AT THIS POINT: ABSOLUTELY NO MISSES WILL BE ALLOWED BEGINNING FRIDAY, JAN 20.** We have too much to do and I absolutely cannot work the schedule around misses (which I have to do if dancers are missing). If you have a college audition and it cannot be moved I will work around that, but that only.

While I know that reading a new cast list is exciting, I am also aware that it can be upsetting and create feelings of disappointment and jealousy. I want you all to be mindful of that. Do not doubt your individual value or worth in this ballet - all are important. Please make effort to trust my decisions as I know all of you very well as dancers. You have this incredible opportunity to contribute to a new ballet that will be presented to our community and to be part of a group of dedicated people who love the art of dance. Together we all get to create something out of absolutely nothing more than a spark of interest I had in Cleopatra two years ago. You also have the support of your parents and household that supports you as a performing artist. And to be honest, that is the biggest gift of all. Without the support of my parents, even to this day, you would not have this opportunity through me.

Please be respectful and thankful for those incredibly large gifts and get past the small stuff.

See you in rehearsals - be ready!

*-Lisa*

## GO!'S PREMISE/ANGLE



This last Pharaoh of Egypt used her beauty, cunning, sexuality and powers of persuasion to entice two of the world's most powerful men to keep her once powerful empire free of complete Roman control. Besides dealing with problems abroad, Cleopatra VII had to overcome an Egyptian society that did not accept females as sole rulers without male guidance. The Ptolemaic Dynasty ruled Egypt for 300 years until the death of Cleopatra VII (it began after the removal of the Persian rule in 332 BC). The Ptolemaic Dynasty was of Greek descent from Alexander the Great. Cleopatra was not Egyptian.

This ballet will focus on: 1.) Cleopatra's determination on being the sole ruler/Pharaoh of Egypt; 2.) Her relationship with and plot to kill her younger sister, Arsinoe along with her younger brother/husband Ptolemy XIII; 3.) Her first appearance with Julius Caesar (who will be represented by a single group of dancers representing the embodiment of Rome as Cleopatra seduced Caesar as Rome itself), and 4.) Ancient Egypt rituals, characters, culture and politics. No focus will be placed on her relationship with Mark Antony, although he was the final weapon she used to kill Arsinoe.

Arsinoe will be a main role opposite to Cleopatra and will be the main focus and the driver for Cleopatra's actions. Arsinoe was next in line to rule. It is said that Arsinoe plotted a violent rebellion against Cleopatra, defeated Julius Caesar's Roman army with her rebel army at the Lighthouse of Pharos and was labeled Queen of Egypt by her followers. Cleopatra seduced Julius Caesar who returned her to her throne as Queen. Cleopatra convinced Caesar to capture and kill Arsinoe to secure her grip on the throne. Arsinoe was abducted after the Battle of the Nile, where Rome conquered her rebel armies. Taken to Rome and paraded for execution, the Roman citizens reacted so violently against her death that Julius Caesar spared her and exiled her to the temple of Artemis in Ephesus.

In 44 BC Julius Caesar was assassinated by a group of senators on the Ides of March (15 March) during a meeting of the Senate. Caesar was stabbed to death 23 times. Cleopatra then seeks out Mark Antony, a powerful Roman who needed Cleopatra's financial supports. We will not be covering Mark Antony but will be traveling through this time in Cleopatra's life. Mark Antony acknowledged and secured her position as sole ruler of Egypt. She convinced him to complete the mission of murdering her sister Arsinoe. Mark Antony completed the mission and had Arsinoe stabbed to death in the temple, which was an outrageous deed even in that time period.

Mark Antony followed Cleopatra back to Alexandria and they lived a life of indulgence while scheming to usurp Octavian as the next ruler of Rome. Rome declared war on Egypt and defeated the Egyptians in the battle of Actium in 31 BC. Some say that Mark Antony committed suicide after falsely hearing of Cleopatra's death and others say it was due to political failure. Cleopatra died by her own choice as well, holding an asp, viper or cobra, to her breast. She was 39 years old at the time of her death and had been queen for 22 years and Antony's partner for 11 years.

There is much legend mixed with truth in the story of Cleopatra VII. While we will stay true to the basic historical facts, we will skip many of the detailed facts and take an abstract approach with many events, and add many embellishments. Cleopatra will be portrayed as a brilliant and strong woman whose goal was to secure Egypt's independence by having an alliance with Rome. She was prepared to do this at any cost, including killing her siblings. Arsinoe will be portrayed as an equally brilliant opponent to Cleopatra, who fiercely wanted Egypt free of Rome through rebellion and war. It is my belief that Arsinoe may be seen as the murdered heroine in this ballet. We will all be learning much about this fascinating woman and time in history!



**THE ACTUAL STORY** begins in Alexandria, Egypt in the year 51 BC. Ptolemy XII, the Pharaoh of Egypt, died and willed his rule to his 18-year-old daughter Cleopatra VII (who some say co-ruled with him prior to his death) and her 10 year old brother Ptolemy XIII. Cleopatra had to wed her brother and co-ruler due to Egyptian law, which called for any female ruler to have a consort who was a brother or son. Ptolemy was only 10 at the time of ascension and Cleopatra took full advantage of the difference. She dropped Ptolemy XIII's name from all administrative documents and had her own portrait and name placed on legal tender, ignoring her brother's claim of co-regent. She became the dominant ruler. Cleopatra had a younger half-sister, Arsinoe, who was next in line for the throne.

Cleopatra and Ptolemy wrestled control of the throne in 50 BC with the prompting of his advisers led by Pothinus. Arsinoe IV sided with her brother. Cleopatra wanted Egypt to remain free of Roman rule by developing an alliance while her siblings believed Egypt should forcibly rebel and fight against Rome. Both sides had their own followers and there was civil unrest in the streets. In 48 BC Cleopatra VII was removed from power and was forced into exile in Syria.

In Syria, Cleopatra raised an army on the Egyptian border and returned to face her brother at Pelusium. Meanwhile there was a conflict between Roman leaders Julius Caesar and Pompey the Great, a military leader and politician during the fall of the Roman Republic. This conflict led both rulers to the border of Egypt for battle. Julius Caesar went to Alexandria to mediate the dispute of leadership in Egypt, as written in Ptolemy XII's will (Ptolemy XII and Caesar were allies). The will stated that in any discrepancy in the rule of Egypt was to be negotiated by Julius Caesar.

Informed that Julius Caesar was in Alexandria, Cleopatra devised a plan to meet him on her own terms seeking a political alliance and her return to the throne. With the help of Apollodorus, a Greek savant and professor of rhetoric, a plan was put in place to sneak her back into Alexandria, into the castle and into Caesar's presence. Cleopatra was wrapped inside a rolled rug which was hoisted onto Apollodorus' shoulder and carried into Caesar's bed chamber. When the rug was opened, Cleopatra rolled out and charmed Caesar. Within that same evening, Cleopatra linked herself with the Roman Empire.

The next morning Ptolemy found them together. Ptolemy's and Arsinoe's army attacked Caesar and his men and drove them from the castle. They escaped to the Lighthouse at Pharos where Arsinoe plotted and executed a surprise attack on Caesar. Caesar escaped, swam to safety, and stumbled back to Cleopatra at the palace, dropping his purple cloak. Arsinoe raised Julius Caesar's cloak as a mark of her impressive victory and her rebel forces declared Arsinoe their Queen. When Julius Caesar's reinforcements arrived, the Roman legions went into Egypt, conquered Ptolemy's armies, drowned Ptolemy X in the Nile and took Arsinoe hostage. This was called the Battle of the Nile. Arsinoe was then taken to Rome.

In cohort with Cleopatra, Caesar planned to have Arsinoe presented in Caesar's famous victory parade, to be strangled in public. She was paraded through the streets of Rome in chains. The people were horrified at the notion of murdering this little girl with tears streaming down her face. Caesar understood that killing Arsinoe would turn the crowds against him-so he spared her life. She was taken to the Temple of Artemis in Ephesus.

Julius Caesar returned Cleopatra to her throne, and she then married her youngest brother Ptolemy XIV who was only eleven years of age (he later died from "mysterious circumstances-she had him poisoned). Around this time Cleopatra became pregnant by Caesar and she gave birth to a son, Ptolemy XV also called Caesarion or Little Caesar.

In 44 BC Julius Caesar was stabbed to death. Mark Antony claimed Caesar's authority as Octavian (the next ruler in line) was ill. Cleopatra made her son (son of Julius Caesar), Caesarion the co-ruler of Egypt. Mark Antony requested a visit from Cleopatra questioning her about Caesar's death. (Many say Cleopatra instigated the meeting as she was searching for someone in power in Ephesus to kill Arsinoe). They meet in Tarsus, Asia Minor and he showered her with gifts. Mark Antony needed her finances and Cleopatra needed his political support as well as his ability to reach Arsinoe. Captivated by her, Mark Antony returned to Alexandria with Cleopatra, recognized her as an independent monarch and lived with her. Together they planned and schemed to rule the civilized world. Mark Antony's entwinement in the Egyptian kingdom led him to divorce from Octavian's sister and a complete alienation from the sympathies of his native people. In 31 BC Octavian and the Roman Senate declared war against Cleopatra. The navel Battle of Actium between Octavian's forces and the combined forces of

*Mark Antony and Cleopatra, is a disaster for the Egyptians. Antony and Cleopatra, both present at the battle, evade capture and flee to Egypt.*

*Months later the Roman Army was at the city gates of Alexandria and Cleopatra fled to her mausoleum. Some say that Mark Antony received false news that Cleopatra has died, leading him to fall on his sword. As he did not immediately die, he heard Cleopatra still lived and had himself carried to her retreat to die in her arms. In actuality there was little doubt that Antony would likely have been publicly killed for his trespasses against Octavian and Rome, and thus his suicide was a tactic to avoid a more disgraceful and public death. Faced with the prospect of losing her kingdom and possibly paired with devastation of Mark Antony's death, Cleopatra later committed suicide, sneaking a poisonous snake inside her retreat in a basket. She died bitten by an asp, or viper (some say it was a cobra), as she held it to her breast. The asp also bit and killed her two handmaidens, Iras and Charmion. The asp was a symbol of divine royalty:*

*Cleopatra was 39 years old at the time of her death, and had ruled Egypt for more than 20 years. **There is much mystery in Cleopatra's death.** Many believe she committed suicide by poison, as a snake bite is a long and tortuous death. Some say Octavian could have played a hand in her death. The truth remains elusive. Octavian then moved to kill Cleopatra's son, Caesarian.*

*Cleopatra's death marked the end of the Hellenistic period and Ptolemaic rule of Egypt, as well as the beginning of Roman Egypt, which became a province of the Roman Empire.*

**INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT CLEOPATRA** - *while our Cleopatra is "the embodiment of Egypt" here are some personal suggestions on her by different historians that I thought were interesting.*

1. Cleopatra was not Egyptian and was a product of incest. Like many royal houses, members of the Ptolemaic dynasty often married within the family to preserve the purity of their bloodline. It is likely her parents were brother and sister.
2. Cleopatra's beauty was not her biggest asset. She spoke up to 12 languages, was educated in mathematics, philosophy, oratory and astronomy. Egyptian sources described her as a ruler "who elevated the ranks of scholars and enjoyed their company." The ancient writer Plutarch claimed her beauty "was not altogether incomparable" and that it was instead her speaking voice and "irresistible charm" that made her so desirable.
3. She had a hand in the deaths of three of her siblings to keep her rule: her two husband/brothers and half sister, Arsinoe.
4. She defined pageantry. When she met with Mark Antony in 41BC, it is said she arrived on a golden barge adorned with purple sails and oars made of silver. She had been made up to look like the goddess Aphrodite and sat beneath a canopy while attendants dressed like cupids fanned her. She was truly the queen of PR.
5. Cleopatra's eyeliner was not only to enhance her appearance but contained ingredients that prevented eye infections.
6. Cleopatra played both the harp and flute.
7. The name Cleopatra means 'glory of her father'. Her father favored her over her other siblings as she showed signs of great intelligence.
8. She developed her perfume in a personal workshop/factory as she believed certain scents could hold power over certain people. It is also believed that she used henna as nail polish.
9. She wrote a medical paper called "Cosmetics" with her medical and pharmacological findings.
10. Her ancient tomb has never been recovered.
11. She had 4 children. Her sole daughter, Cleopatra Selene II (one of twins) was the ruler of Cyrenaica and also Libya for a short while.
12. She led a naval army in the Liberator's Civil War in 43 BC.
13. She was incredibly intelligent for her time with skills in diplomacy and public communication.
14. She believed she was the goddess Isis reincarnated on Earth and gained worship from the world. She presented herself with great pageantry wherever she went.
15. She is considered one of the most successful and powerful queens in world history and it is believed her death led to the decline of the Egyptian economy.



# CLEOPATRA

## CAST LIST

### Embodiment of Egypt

#### Cleopatra VIII Thea Philopator

*Julie E. Cox*

### Embodiment of Rome

#### **Julius Caesar**

*Adult Cast*

## ACT ONE

*Cast list presented in order of appearance*

### SCENE 1 - ANCIENT EGYPT 51 B.C.

#### **SHEMU**

#### **The Harvest Turns To Gold**

*Lucy Addicks*

*Mary Virginia Bohner*

*Sara Logan Cada*

*Rachel Carroll*

*Pearl Clayman*

*Catherine Driscoll*

*Izabella Maestroiani*

*Molly Meyers*

*Morgan Parrish*

*Mary Lyn Quillin*

*Hallie Rhodes*

*Lily Beth Shugart*

*Lydia Smithey*

*Amelia Ainsworth*

*Sophia Garza*

*Sara Harper*

*Elizabeth Hinton*

*Gabi Maestroiani*

*Natalie Nettles*

*Natalie Radabaugh*

*Although modern Egypt is the world's largest importer of wheat, Egyptians have known for thousands of years a huge celebration of the harvest, among the dozens of popular, national and religious holidays. The cultivation and harvesting of wheat is depicted on the walls of the tombs and temples of Pharaonic, and Egypt was known to cultivate two types of wheat, "wheat oats" and wheat flour (grain).*

## TEMPLE OF ISIS

### Goddess Isis & Queen Cleopatra - en pointe

*Colby-Ann Donohoe (Isis)*  
*Julie Cox (Cleopatra)*

### Eye of Ra & Queen Nefertiti - en flat

*Ella Gibson (Eye of Ra)*  
*Rachel Hinton (Nefertiti)*

### The Sphinxes

*Marlee Jenkins*  
*Fiona Porter*  
*Jaynie Stówę*

### Hieroglyphics

*Ellery Carlon*  
*Addianne Graham*  
*Amelie Hayter*  
*Rachel Ho*  
*Julie Karnes*  
*Ariana Mason*  
*Julia Thomas*  
*Sydney Williams*  
*Katie Wynne*

*Isis was the most powerful and popular goddess in Egyptian history. She was associated with virtually every aspect of human life and, in time, became elevated to the position of supreme deity; "Mother of the Gods", who cared for her fellow deities as she did for human beings. Like most monarchs of her time, Cleopatra saw herself as divine; from birth she and other members of her family were declared to be gods and goddesses. Cleopatra called herself "the new Isis," telling her subjects she was the embodiment of Isis on Earth. Highly image-conscious, Cleopatra maintained her mystique through shows of splendor, and pageantry, identifying herself with the deities, creating much of the mythology that surrounds her to this day.*

*Nefertiti and her husband were known for a religious revolution, in which they worshipped solely the sun disc, Aten, as the only god. With her husband, she reigned at what was arguably the wealthiest period of ancient Egyptian history. The **Eye of Ra** is a being in ancient Egyptian mythology that functions as a feminine counterpart to the sun god Ra and a violent force that subdues his enemies. The eye is an extension of Ra's power, equated with the disk of the sun, but it often behaves as an independent goddess.*

*The **Great Sphinx** is an emblem of ancient Egyptian culture. The Sphinx itself symbolized the pharaoh presenting offerings to the sun god. The Great Sphinx at Giza, near Cairo, is probably the most famous sculpture in the world. With a lion's body and human head, it represents the form of a powerful sun god, and is the incarnation of royal power and the protector of the temple doors. Carved out of natural limestone, the Sphinx is 65 feet high and 240 feet long.*

*The word **hieroglyph** literally means "sacred carvings." The Egyptians first used hieroglyphs exclusively for inscriptions carved or painted on temple walls. They were the formal writing system used in Ancient Egypt, used for writing the Egyptian language. Hieroglyphs combined logographic, syllabic and alphabetic elements, with some 1,000 distinct characters.*

## SCENE 2

### **CLEOPATRA**

#### **Cleopatra's Maidens**

*Maddie Carroll  
Ella Deel  
Kaitlyn Goldston  
Lydia Grace Shelton  
Camille Wilson  
Hazel Wright*

#### **Palace Children**

*Youth cast*

#### **Tapputi**

*Sara Logan Cada*

#### **Fragrance en pointe**

*Izabella Maestroiani  
Mary Lyn Quillin*

*It's believed Cleopatra had her own perfume/fragrance factory and created signature scents instead of wearing what would be the relative equivalent of putting on a store-bought brand. It is legend that her perfume is what seduced Julius Caesar and that when Cleopatra traveled she soaked the her ship sails in perfume so strong that all could smell her before she arrived. Her perfume scent is still trying to be recreated today:*

*Tapputi was a perfumer in the 13th century BC who oversaw the Royal Palace. She invented the still, used for purifying substances like alcohol, and perhaps became the world's first chemist.*

#### **Cleopatra's Alter Ego**

*Darby O'Connor-Lanigan*

*An alter ego (Latin for "other I", "doppelgänger") means an alternate self, which is believed to be distinct from a person's normal or true original personality. Finding one's alter ego will require finding one's other self, one with a different personality.*

#### **Statues Moving Columns**

*TBD*

## SCENE 3

### ROYAL PALACE IN ALEXANDRIA

#### I. The Ptolemaic Throne

##### Ptolemy XIII Theos Philopator

*Matvey Ganusov*

*Ptolemy was Cleopatra's brother, co-ruler and husband. He was 10-12 years old when he began his rule and was pushed aside by Cleopatra. Great rivalry between Ptolemy and Cleopatra was fanned by political influences including the general Achilles.*

*Ptolemy exiled Cleopatra to Syria in 48 B.C. Gaining favor with Julius Caesar, Cleopatra was declared Queen of Egypt.*

*Ptolemy was killed, or possibly drowned at the Battle of the Nile while fighting the Romans at around age 15.*

##### Arsinoe IV

*Jeanene Winston*

*Arsinoe was the younger half-sister to Cleopatra and next in line for the throne. She plotted a violent rebellion against Cleopatra, defeated Julius Caesar's Roman army with her rebel army at the lighthouse of Pharos and was labeled Queen of Egypt during Cleopatra's exile to Syria. After Cleopatra convinced Julius Caesar to kill Arsinoe, Arsinoe was captured and taken to Rome to be led in Caesar's Triumph for execution. Caesar was pressured to spare her and exiled her to the Temple of Artemis at Ephesus where she feared her ambitious sister. After securing the affections of the Roman triumvir Mark Antony, in 41BC Cleopatra persuaded him to execute Arsinoe. Arsinoe was killed at the Temple of Artemis, a heinous act even in those times.*

##### Pothinus

*Brenna Featherston*

*Pothinus was the appointed regent for the underage Ptolemy XIII in 51 BC as a part of Ptolemy XII's will. He used his influence to turn Ptolemy against Cleopatra, and Pothinus planned to act as the power behind the throne once Cleopatra was overthrown. Caesar deeply distrusted Pothinus and refused his offer to give him a tour of the Royal Palace in Alexandria.*

*While Ptolemy XIII was still alive, Caesar had Pothinus executed for inciting civil war in Alexandria.*

##### Asp

*Lily Beth Shugart*

*Both cobras and vipers were encountered by people in the Ancient world and referred to as asps. The snakes were used to execute criminals of high social rank, since a snake bite seemed to confer a dignified death. Asps were also worshiped in temples set aside for them, and they still are in many parts of Southeast Asia. In Egypt, the cobra was used as a symbol of royalty, and it is believed that Cleopatra VII of Egypt committed suicide with the assistance of an asp.*



## II. Palace Variations

*\*Mary Lyn and Izabella will be Cleopatra's maids in this scene in fragrance costume*

### **Variation 1: Ptolemy and Egyptian Children**

*Matvey Ganusov*

*Youth Cast*

### **Variation 2: Sosigenes of Alexandria**

*Marlee Jenkins (Sosigenes)*

*Rachel Carroll (Sirius - a star)*

*Molly Meyers (Inanna - goddess of the moon)*

*The calendar, or rather, two sets of calendars, were invented by the ancient Egyptians before Cleopatra. One of these was a lunar calendar, which was used mainly for the organization of religious festivals. The other was a solar calendar, which was used for administrative purposes and in the day-to-day lives of ancient Egyptians. The solar calendar of the ancient Egyptians is the first known calendar to have 365 days in a year; hence it is the precursor to the Gregorian calendar that is used today and was a miracle of its time.*

*Sosigenes was a learned Greek astronomer, as was a tutor and adviser to Queen Cleopatra, educating her on philosophy, poetry, astronomy and other fields of science. He proposed a calendar that followed solar cycles rather than the previous lunar calendar. This calendar featured an additional day every four years for consistency; now called 'leap year'. Names of Caesar and subsequent Roman emperors became names of months we still use today; such as July after Julius and August after Augustus.*

### **Variation 3: Snake Charmers & Cobras**

#### **Charmers**

*Kaitlyn Goldston*

*Camille Wilson*

#### **Cobras**

*Ellery Carlton*

*Maddie Carroll*

*Ella Deel*

*Addianne Graham*

*Amelie Hayter*

*Rachel Ho*

*Julie Karnes*

*Ariana Mason*

*Lydia Grace Shelton*

*Julia Thomas*

*Sydney Williams*

*Hazel Wright*

*Katie Wynne*

### **Variation 4: Tetradrachms**

*Mary Virginia Bohner*

*Pearl Clayman*

*Morgan Parrish*

*Natalie Radabaugh*

*According to Merriams-webster dictionary, a tetradrachm is an ancient Greek silver coin worth four drachmas. This coin was minted during Antony and Cleopatra's alliance. By pairing their faces on coinage, the rulers advertised their powerful partnership, which was so strong that*

*Cleopatra's profile is an exact copy of Antony's portrait. Cleopatra's image appears on the front of the coin, which identifies her as the more important of the two rulers. A crown circling her carefully braided hair symbolizes her status as a queen.*

### **III. Alexandrian Civil War**

#### **Gold Scorpion**

*Lucy Addicks*

#### **Red Scorpion**

*Lydia Smithey*

#### **Cleopatra's Faction (possibly en pointe)**

*Amelia Ainsworth*

*Catherine Driscoll*

*Elizabeth Hinton*

*Rachel Hinton*

*Natalie Nettles*

*Gabi Maestroiani*

*Jaynie Stówe*

#### **Arsinoe & Ptolemy's Faction (sticks-barefoot)**

*Sara Logan Cada*

*Colby-Ann Donohoe*

*Ella Gibson*

*Fiona Porter*

*Sophia Garza*

*Sara Harper*

*Hallie Rhodes*

*In ancient Egypt, Scorpions were frequently depicted on tombs and on monuments and were affiliated as a symbol to some goddesses.*

## **SCENE 4**

### **CLEOPATRA'S EXILE TO SYRIA**

#### **Desert Sand**

*Ellery Carlton*

*Ella Deel*

*Kaitlyn Goldston*

*Addianne Graham*

*Amelie Hayter*

*Ariana Mason*

*Lydia Grace Shelton*

*Julia Thomas*

*Sydney Williams*

*Camille Wilson*

*Hazel Wright*

*Katie Wynne*

**SCENE 5**

**ROME ARRIVES IN ALEXANDRIA**

**The Roman Machine**

**(Embodiment of Julius Caesar)**

*Adult Cast*

**Roman Soldiers**

*(Barefoot)*

*Ella Gibson*

*Marlee Jenkins*

*Fiona Porter*

*Mary Lyn Quillin*

**Egyptian Citizens**

*(Pointe)*

*Amelia Ainsworth*

*Mary Virginia Bohner*

*Rachel Carroll*

*Pearl Clayman*

*Sophia Garza*

*Sara Harper*

*Molly Meyers*

*Lily Beth Shugart*

*Jaynie Stowe*

**Roses**

*(Pointe)*

*Catherine Driscoll*

*Elizabeth Hinton*

*Gabi Maestroiani*

*Natalie Nettles*

*Natalie Radabaugh*

**Golden Statue**

*Hallie Rhodes - en flat*

**Small Golden Statues**

*(Pointe)*

*Maddie Carroll*

*Rachel Ho*

*Julie Karnes*

**SCENE 6**

**ROMAN CHAMBERS IN CLEOPATRA'S PALACE**

**Egypt Persuades Rome**

Cleopatra & Roman Machine

**Women of Egypt**

*Lucy Addicks*

*Colby-Ann Donohoe*

*Rachel Hinton*

*Izabella Maestroiani*

*Morgan Parrish*

*Lydia Smithey*

**END ACT ONE**

**ACT TWO**

*Cast list presented in order of appearance*

**SCENE 1**

**THE BANKS OF THE NILE RIVER**

**Lady of the Nile**

*Morgan Parrish -pointe*

**Ladies of the Nile**

*(Pointe)*

*Mary Virginia Bohner*

*Pearl Clayman*

*Colby-Ann Donohoe*

*Lily Beth Shugart*

**REEDS**

**(Papyrus and Cattails)**

*Ellery Carlon*

*Maddie Carroll*

*Ella Deel*

*Kaitlyn Goldston*

*Addianne Graham*

*Amelie Hayter*

*Rachel Ho*

*Julie Karnes*

*Ariana Mason*

*Lydia Grace Shelton*

*Julia Thomas*

*Sydney Williams*

*Camille Wilson*

*Hazel Wright*

*Katie Wynne*

**Water Hyacinths***(Barefoot)*

*Sophia Garza  
Elizabeth Hinton  
Gabi Maestroiani  
Natalie Nettles  
Natalie Radabaugh  
Catherine Driscoll*

*The great Egyptian dynasties prospered for millennia along the fertile banks of the Nile River. This slim green ribbon snaking through the vast eastern Sahara represents the only significant source of water in the region. Annual floods of the Nile brought water, rich nutrients, and silt that enabled and sustained early agriculture, the basis of the developing civilization in the region. Ancient Egyptians believed that the source of the annual flooding was tears of sorrow that the goddess Isis cried for her deceased husband Osiris.*

**ROME CONQUERS EGYPT****I. Lighthouse of Pharos - Egypt conquers Rome**

*Matvey Ganusov as Ptolemy  
Jeanenne Winston as Arsinoe  
Adult Cast as Roman Machine  
&*

**Arsinoe's Rebel Egyptian Army**

*Lucy Addicks  
Amelia Ainsworth  
Rachel Carroll  
Rachel Hinton  
Molly Meyers  
Sara Harper  
Lydia Smithey  
Jaynie Stówe*

**II. Battle of the Nile - Rome conquers Egypt**

*Jeanenne Winston as Arsinoe  
Matvey Ganusov as Ptolemy  
Adult Cast as Roman Machine*

*Ladies of the Nile will be the water that drowns Ptolemy*

**Roman Soldiers**

*(Barefoot)  
Sara Logan Cada  
Ella Gibson  
Marlee Jenkins  
Fiona Porter  
Hallie Rhodes  
Mary Lyn Quillin*

**Arsinoe's Rebel Egyptian Army**

*Lucy Addicks  
Rachel Carroll  
Izabella Maestroiani  
Molly Meyers  
Lydia Smithey  
Jaynie Stowe*

**SCENE 2 - STREETS OF ROME**

**I. Caesar's Victory Parade**

This will be a large but short scene where Arsinoe is paraded for execution in the streets of Rome.

Dancers will be put in this scene later!

**II. The Ides of March**

*The Roman Machine*

**The Senate**

*Sara Logan Cada  
Fiona Porter*

**Knife Assassins**

*Amelia Ainsworth  
Catherine Driscoll  
Sophia Garza  
Sara Harper  
Elizabeth Hinton  
Gabi Maestroiani  
Natalie Nettles  
Natalie Radabaugh*

**SCENE 3**

**THE TEMPLE OF ARTEMIS**

*Arsinoe  
Cleopatra  
Alter Ego  
Gold Scorpion*

**Artemis**

*Rachel Hinton*

**Priestesses**

*Mary Virginia Bohner  
Pearl Clayman  
Colby-Ann Donohoe  
Ella Gibson  
Marlee Jenkins  
Izabella Maestroiani  
Morgan Parrish  
Mary Lyn Quillin  
Hallie Rhodes*

**Bows & Arrows**

*Ellery Carlton  
Maddie Carroll  
Ella Deel  
Kaitlyn Goldston  
Addianne Graham  
Amelie Hayter  
Rachel Ho  
Julie Karnes  
Ariana Mason  
Lydia Grace Shelton  
Julia Thomas  
Sydney Williams  
Camille Wilson  
Hazel Wright  
Katie Wynne*

**SCENE 4****CLEOPATRA'S END****1. Her World Closes In****Large Cast from Sr. Co**

TBD but most likely all that are not in the Temple scene or Death Scene

**2. Cleopatras Death by Asp**

*Cleopatra  
Alter Ego  
Asp  
Fragrance Dancers (possibly)*

**SCENE 5****THE AFTERLIFE****Feather of Truth**

*TBD-depends on show run time:-)*

**FIELD OF REEDS**

*Sr. Co. (unless you were in Cleopatra's Death Scene)*

*The Feather of Truth: The ancient Egyptians believed that the heart recorded all of the good and bad deeds of a person's life, and was needed for judgment in the afterlife. After a person died, the heart was weighed against the feather of Maat (goddess of truth and justice). The scales were watched by Anubis (the jackal-headed god of embalming) and the results recorded by Thoth (the ibis-headed god of writing). If a person had led a decent life, the heart balanced with the feather and the person was rendered worthy to live forever in paradise with Osiris. The ancient Egyptians believed that life on earth was only one part of an eternal journey which ended, not in death, but in everlasting joy. When one's body failed, the soul did not die with it but continued on toward an afterlife where one received back all that one had thought lost. When death came, it was only a transition to another realm where, if one were justified by the gods, one would live eternally in a paradise known as The Field of Reeds. The Field of Reeds (sometimes called The Field of Offerings), known to the Egyptians as A'aru, was a mirror image of one's life on earth.*

**THE END**