

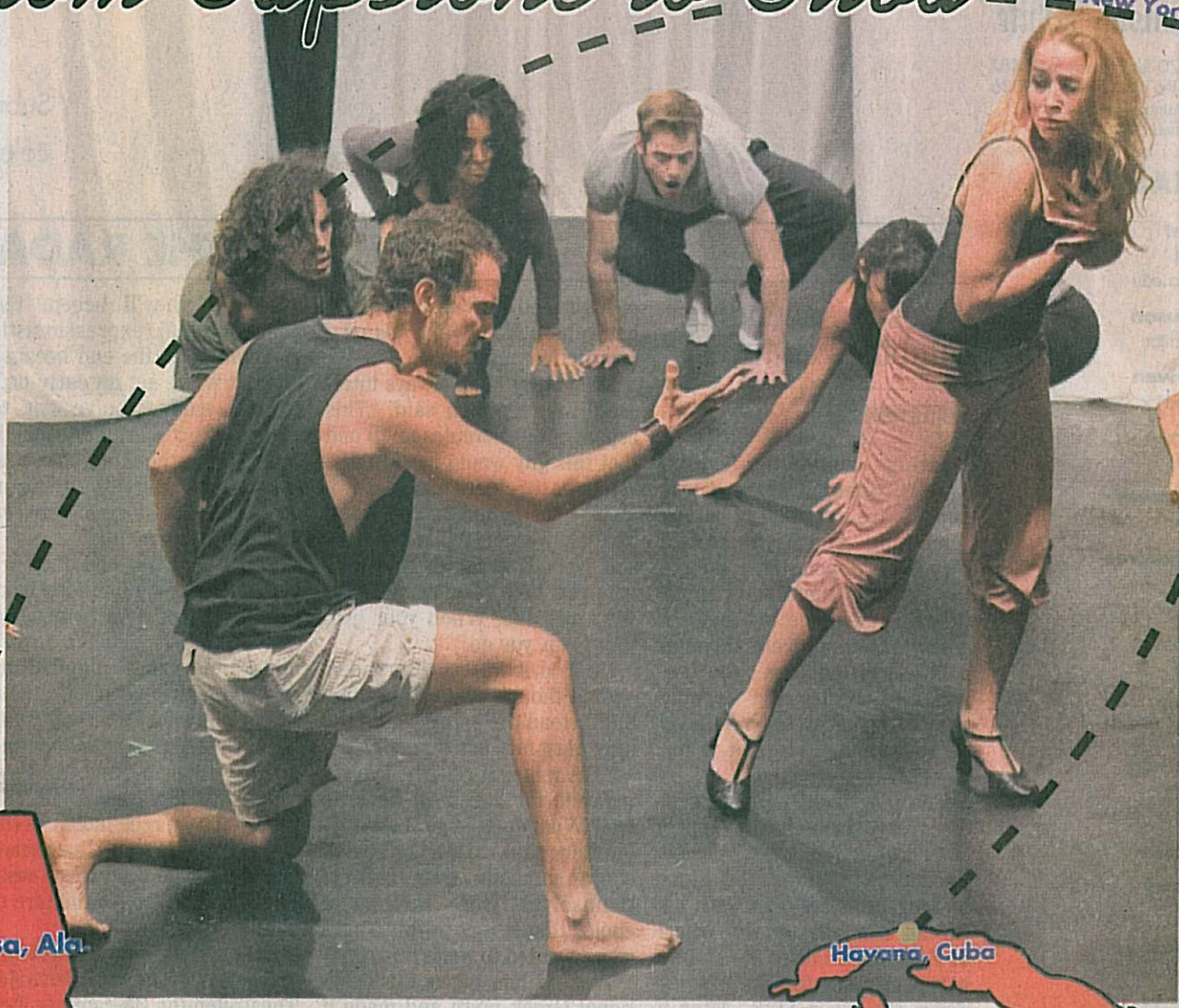
# Crimson White

Serving The University of Alabama since 1894

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CULTURE | THEATER

## From Capstone to Cuba



New York, NY



Tuscaloosa, Ala.



Havana, Cuba

UA students and Cuban actors collaborate for the upcoming bilingual, mythological and rock-infused play "Alcestris Ascending."

CW | Photo Illustration by Austin Bigoney and Stephanie McNeal

### Theater students, Cuban actors collaborate for play

By Katherine Owen  
Production Editor

University of Alabama students will be taking the stage in Tuscaloosa, New York City and Havana, Cuba, this summer with their production of "Alcestris Ascending." The play, an adaptation of Euripides'

Panitch as part of creative research in the Alabama-Cuba initiative. The production includes UA students and Cuban actors and actresses, and is performed in both English and Spanish.

William Ruiz, assistant director for "Alcestris Ascending," said including the English and Spanish languages in the play brings both cultures to the stage, allowing one to learn about the other.

"It's not only the language, it's also the culture," Ruiz said. "It's a different culture

and a different way of living. And I think that that's very interesting for an audience and for actors in the performance. It makes you grow by watching the way that the other ones work, then you add that to your own."

He said the duality of cultures on the stage also creates a community for the audience, by transforming the play into a form of communication beyond words.

"For an audience, theater is about