**Is Freedom a Right? Plymouth State University Questions Everything.**

(At Plymouth State University, the Music, Theatre and Dance Department’s production of The Trial, an adaptation by Paul Mroczka based on the novel by Franz Kafka presents a cautionary tale of political commentary. Running from September 21-23 and September 29-30 at the Silver Center, this story of scandal and human rights is a dark tale of warning.)

Josef Kaye has been arrested, but he does not know why. Everywhere he goes he learns less and less about what his trial is about. The court is confusing, opening up more questions as he delves deeper. He does not know who he can trust.

Before his trial began, he was just an everyday banker. He’s the chief financial executive at E-vest bank. He’s on top of the world, but once his life comes crashing down, he does not even know who he can trust anymore

“We have a lot of rights, and we shouldn’t take them for granted.”

Says Paul Mroczka, writer and director of *The Trial.* He believes that The Trial is warning us about the political state that we are in. Kaye is kept in the dark, and uninformed. He fears for the things he says that may hurt him. Everyone is out to get him.

“It’s like the old mantra from World War II and Nazism,” says Mroczka, “’I wasn’t concerned until it happened to me.’ There’s a moment towards the end where he meets someone in a similar situation, and he then realizes that it is not a new thing.”

*The Trial* is a dark play to warn about the dangers of losing the rights to freedoms in the united states. It is a commentary about political powers, using charm, sex, money, and power to plow through the judiciary system. It begs, the question: “Is knowing the right people helping me, or harming me?”

“Sometimes we don’t have rights, will we always have that, will we ever lose them?” says Mroczka.

The play is set in New York city, when the original was set in Europe. The desire was to make it more contemporary and relatable, a more obvious message to a broader audience. It uses chamber theatre style to narrate each scene. A very basic scenic design to focus on each character, and their relationship to and with Josef Kaye.

This play contains dark scenes, sexual themes, and adult language. It is Best suitable for a mature audience of 17 or older.

Plymouth State University and the department of Music, Theatre, and Dance presents *The Trial* adapted by Paul Mroczka based on the novel by Franz Kafka from September 21-23 and September 29-30 in Studio Theatre at the Silver Center of the Arts. Performances are 7PM September 21st, 29th, and 30th, 8PM on September 23rd, 6PM on September 22nd, and 1PM on September30th. Tickets are on sale now. Visit the Silver Center of call (603) 535- ARTS for tickets and more information.