## Beauty From Ashes Senior Showcases 2021



Weekend 1, April 30-May 1: Yankelina Duran, Maggie Martin, Julia Murphy, and Brittany Cardoza

Weekend 2, May 6-8: Maeve Brooks, Sofia Jeanes, and Olyvia Shaw More information available on our Instagram @gordoncollegetheatre and on individual showcase posters

### Beauty from Ashes Senior Showcases 2021



#### **SENIOR SHOWCASES 2021**

The purpose of the Theatre Department's Senior Showcase is to create a tangible expression of each student's artistic mission statement. With these performances, they do not simply wrap up their four years of theatre education, they launch into their careers with a production of their own creation. In most cases, these shows are both written and directed by the students themselves, who must then share their vision with a coordinated team of student actors, designers, stage managers, and assistants. Please enjoy these performances, which showcase four years of personal development and collaboration and point toward lives of artistic dedication.

#### PERFORMANCE ORDER

April 30 - May 8

Weekend One: Livestreaming,

Weekend Two: Livestreaming + Limited In-Person Attendance

April 30 and May 1

**Bread and Roses** | 6:30 PM Created by Yankelina Duran

> **Believe** | 7:00 PM By Maggie Martin

**More to the Story** | 8:00 PM By Julia Murphy

**One Another** | 8:30 PM By Brittany Cardoza May 6-8

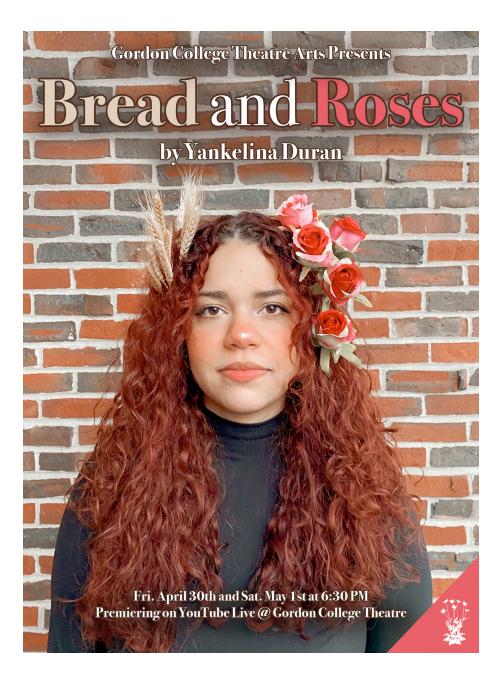
**Wonder Pita** | 7:00 PM By Maeve Brooks

**The Hurt(ing) & The Hope(ful)** | 8:00 PM By Sofia Jeanes

**Beauty's Daughter** | 9:00 PM By Dael Orlandosmith Performed by Olyvia Shaw

#### **Special Thanks**

to Norm Jones, Jeff Miller, Jessica Richmond, Ryan Cannister, Julia Murphy, Dr. Christine Gardner, Elise LoSardo, fellow Class of 2021 Seniors, and the many others who helped in countless ways to make the Senior Showcase possible.



#### **Bread and Roses**

Created by Yankelina Duran | Yankelina.Duran@gordon.edu

I strive to radiate joy and community in areas where division is prone; within ourselves, work, family and in the world. The world is in need of equality, justice, and light. Theater has the power to change and heal. I have learned through the Arts to blur the lines between necessity and beauty. This way I feel full. I believe we are the salt of the world. As salt heals wounds, we will together heal the world through theatre. I yearn to help others understand the differences, but most importantly similarities, between necessities and desires. Bread & Roses. Water and dessert. Healing and beauty. Once the line is blurred, we can collaborate to create masterpieces that heal and beautify the world through theater, as actors and servants. This way we can create light, beauty, and change within ourselves, our community, and those who are in the audience.

BREAD AND ROSES is a film that encapsulates the idea that the arts, which are usually deemed unnecessary, are necessary. The metaphor "We need bread, and roses, too," from the 1912 Mill strike in Lawrence, MA, is the foundation. The film shows how sparse our lives are without the arts and how much we will lack (physically, emotionally, and spiritually) without these "roses" in our lives. An original poem titled Pan y Rosas weaves various forms of art, interviews, and history together, that all respond to the question, "Can humans live a substantial life without roses?"

A special thanks to Norman Jones who guided my senior thesis endeavors and allowed me to interview him along with a few other amazing professors that blessed me with their time. Thank you to Dr. Daniel Norton, Dr. Amy Hughes, and Dr. Graeme Bird for their wisdom. Lastly, I thank God for the opportunity to have met everyone in this Theatre department. Thank you!

# **Selieve**a Musical Theatre Cabaret

by Maggie Martin



Fri. April 30th and Sat. May 1st at 7:00 PM Premiering on YouTube Live @ Gordon College Theatre



#### Believe A Musical Theatre Cabaret

By Maggie Martin | Maggie.Martin@gordon.edu

#### **Personal Mission Statement:**

I've always felt a deep connection with theatre and the stage, particularly the expressive and emotional aspect of acting. Theatre has the power to touch hearts and bring people together, providing comfort and support through community. When we watch the actors onstage, we gain a very deep empathy for the characters. We feel that we can connect emotionally to characters on a much deeper level. But more than that, theatre for me is a liberating experience. The stage is a place where I feel at home. Stepping out onstage, all my doubts and insecurities just fly out the window. It's just me and the stage. Theatre gives me the confidence to be myself.

As a high-functioning autistic, I struggled with feelings of insecurity. Growing up, I felt like I stuck out like a sore thumb sometimes, because I wasn't always at the same level of independence as my peers, and because I struggled with forming and keeping friendships. I felt like my struggles related to Belle from Beauty and the Beast. When I first began doing theatre in third or fourth grade, I felt like I had found a place where I could truly be myself. Through theatre, I built up self-confidence, and gained courage to take on new challenges every day. I learned that vulnerability isn't a sign of weakness, it's a sign of strength. Theatre has taught me to have more faith in myself, and to not let fears or insecurities hold me back. It's taught me that what makes you different makes you unique.

My personal mission is to encourage my audience to embrace their differences, because they make us unique. I want others to see that a 'label' does not define you. Your character is what truly defines you as a person.

#### **Artistic Statement:**

All too often, we become our own worst critics. We look in the mirror and despise the person we see. We grow to become very hard on ourselves, focusing on the negative aspects rather than the positive attributes. We start to doubt ourselves and our abilities. I've had those thoughts before, on so many occasions, and there were times where I had to stop and ask myself, "Why? Why was I given these challenges?"

But now I acknowledge that God always has a plan for us, and He put us on Earth for a greater purpose. God sees us, knows us, and loves us, because we are His children. We have to remember to believe in ourselves even in our moments of doubt. We should give our cause to heaven, and trust in the Lord, for He is always there for us, every step of the way.

My artistic mission is to use my voice to inspire others to find their own voice, and their own purpose. I want them to remember to have faith in themselves and faith in His love. I want my audiences to know that they should be true to themselves, because faith is the key to unlocking your potential.

-Maggie Martin

"To thine ownself be true."—William Shakespeare, Hamlet

"And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them."—1 John 4:16

"I'm not scared to be seen. I make no apologies. This is me."—Keala Settle, The Greatest Showman

"I'm beautiful in my way, 'cause God makes no mistakes. I'm on the right track, baby, I was born this way." —Lady Gaga

#### **CAST AND CREW**

Jackson Caito Hannah Hartman Maggie Martin Eve Peppler

Stage Manager Anna Fenton
Camera Operator Beverly Olson
Sound Operator Jesse Kriesel
Technical Manager Jess Richmond

#### Special Thanks:

Thank you to my fellow co-stars for stepping up to the plate and giving it their all with this performance!

Thank you to Anna Fenton, my stage manager, for assisting me in the development of this showcase.

Thank you, Norm Jones and Jeff Miller, for encouraging me to keep challenging myself, and for helping me to grow in my skills as a performer.

Thank you to my family, for their unconditional love and support, and for reminding me that "The Martins never give up!"

And finally, a big thank-you to my fellow Theatre Arts Seniors, who encourage me to step out of my comfort zone and inspire me to take new challenges head-on.

#### **FEATURING**

"What's Inside" (Waitress the Musical)
Written by Jessie Nelson and composed by Sara Bareilles

Performed by Maggie Martin, Hannah Hartman, and Eve Peppler

"We don't make art..." Amy's monologue (A Thing of Beauty by Adam Szymkomwicz)

Performed by Eve Peppler

"Corner of the Sky" (*Pippin*) Written by and composed by

Performed by Jackson Caito

"She Used To Be Mine" (Waitress the Musical)
Written by Jessie Nelson and composed by Sara Bareilles

Performed by Maggie Martin

Jim O'Connor and Laura Wingfield, Scene 7 (The Glass Menagerie by Tennesee Williams)

Performed by Jackson Caito and Hannah Hartman

"I Have Confidence" (Rodgers & Hammerstein's The Sound of Music)

Performed by Maggie Martin

#### **RIGHTS INFORMATION**

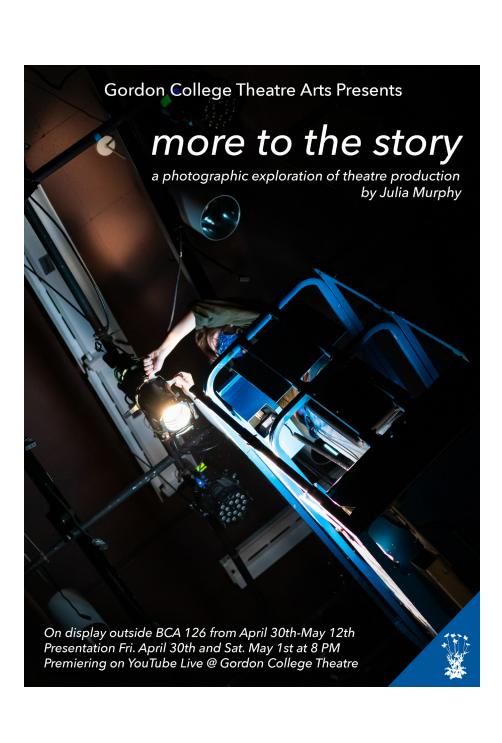
Piano Accompaniment provided by YouTube.

The Accompanist. "Corner of the Sky" (Pippin) Piano Accompaniment. Link to channel: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WgFe2bsliZo

Marion Abbott. "I Have Confidence" (The Sound of Music) Piano Accompaniment. Link to channel: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k7zRq8JkxEc

Piano Dreamers. "What's Inside" (Waitress the Musical) Piano Accompaniment. Link to channel: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4fEK71xSygE

Vamp Till Cue. "She Used To Be Mine" (Waitress the Musical) Piano Accompaniment. Link to channel: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7IFUpJiKWi4



#### more to the story

#### a photographic exploration of theatre production

By Julia Murphy | Julia.Murphy@gordon Juliamurphy.myportfolio.com

**Presentation:** April 30th and May 1st at 8:00 PM, premiering on YouTube Live **On display:** April 30th-May 12, outside of BCA 126

Since becoming part of Gordon Theatre Arts at the beginning of my sophomore year, I have come to have a deep appreciation for the backstage work of theatre. There is so much right there under the surface of theatre advertisements and bright Broadway lights. Behind the scenes work is an artform in itself. I believe that the energy and talent that goes into creating a production deserves to be beautified just as much as the performance, because production work is undeniably incredible and awe inspiring.

I am lucky to have found a community that has helped me to explore a world that was rather unknown to me beforehand, and to have found people who wanted to help me learn more about myself. This project is my love letter to all that I have learned during my time in this community, and to all of the people who have helped me discover my talents and passions within the theatre.

#### **CAST**

Models Mikee Parangalan

Zech Pappageorge

Jesse Kriesel Yankelina Duran

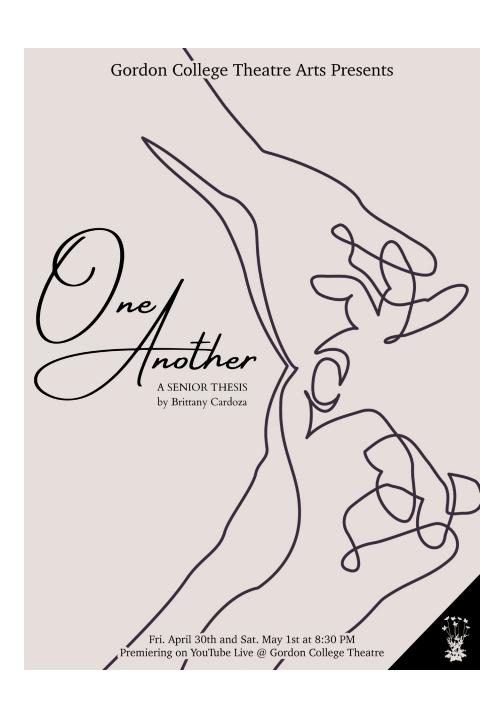
Chris Ortiz Miranda Taylor Trace Reynolds Mo Stratton

Aidan Stockin Alyssa Leston

Beverly Olson Maeve Brooks

Lighting Plot Michael Harvey
Set Models Amber Primm

Special thanks to all of the amazing people listed above, as well my mother and father, Neil, Claire, Annie, Elizabeth, and the Wacker family, who have given me endless love and support. Thanks to Ryan Cannister, Luke Miller, Jessica Richmond, Norm Jones, and Jeff Miller for teaching me everything that I know and having faith in me. Thanks to The Sweaty-Toothed Madmen for giving me the most interesting four years of my life. Most of all I would like to thank Juice Wacker for helping me discover what I love, and for being my best friend.



#### One Another

By Brittany Cardoza | Brittany.Cardoza@gordon.edu

"We're all just walking each other home."

Everyone deserves to feel seen, heard, worthy, loved, and known. We can do this for one another by listening to each other's thoughts and stories. There is power and beauty in every story, high or low. Music is a powerful medium through which people can share, and my hope is that we can hear these stories and listen well. What if we loved one another not despite our differences, experiences, and flaws, but even more because of them?

#### **CAST**

Jenna Sullivan
Orlane Destin
Jake Doble
Brittany Cardoza
Helen Peppler
Laura Iwaskiewicz
Joel Iwaskiewicz
Arianna Earnshaw
Eve Peppler
Ryan Geary

## WONDER FITA by Maeve Brooks



May 6th-8th at 7 PM | The Margaret Jensen Theatre Limited capacity seating, reservation required for entry For reservation information, go to @gordoncollegetheatre on IG Livestream available on our YouTube @ Gordon College Theatre



#### **WONDER PITA**

By Maeve Brooks | Maeve.Brooks@gordon.edu

We were created to tell stories. They entertain, heal, and provoke thought. Stories help us make sense of the world and force us to ask questions. They allow us to revert to our childlike wonder. Let us not lose our wonder. This story is true. A labor of love. A story of redemption. I hope you listen, learn, and laugh.

#### Mini Glossary:

- Torshi: Persian pickle that is never supposed to be eaten straight from the jar
- Pollow: Basmati Rice. An absolute essential.
- Khoresh: Persian Stew. May cause commotion in the cafeteria
- Tahdig: Crispy rice at the bottom of the pot. Everyone fights over the last piece.

#### **CAST AND CREATIVE TEAM**

Playwright & Performer

Stage Manager

Lighting & Sound Designer

Props Master
Production Manager

**Board Operators** 

Maeve Brooks

Mikee Parangalan Mikee Parangalan

Miranda Taylor Beverly Olson Seth Morgan

Zech Pappageorge

Special Thanks: To Joon Joon, Mom, Noo Noo, Dai Sepi, and Dai Navid, thank you for sharing your stories with me. I am so thankful for your trust. Dad, Lily, Eve, and Phoebe, thank you for supporting me and loving me even when I sing "Cain't Say No" too loudly. Mikee Parangalan, my fearless stage manager-designer extraordinaire! Thank you for everything, dear friend! I could not have done this without you. And a huge, love-filled, thank you to everyone listed above and those who helped me through this writing process: Lisa Mahooti, Norm Jones, Jeff Miller, Rebecca Minasian, Jess Richmond, Julia Murphy, Mikee Parangalan, Zech Pappageorge, Kristina Stevick, Mark Stevick, and the lovely advanced creative writing class.



#### by Sofia Jeanes

May 6th-8th at 8 PM | The Margaret Jensen Theatre Limited capacity seating, reservation required for entry For reservation information, go to @gordoncollegetheatre on IG Livestream available on our YouTube @ Gordon College Theatre



#### The Hurt(ing) & The Hope(ful)

Created by Sofia Jeanes I sofia.jeanes@gordon.edu

#### Mission Statement:

Humankind exists within the fields of constant polar tensions. We live between the worlds of mortal and immortal. We live among the shadows of the heavy and dance in the warmth of the light. Each individual is shaped by the polarities that they encounter: the hurt and the hope, the joy and the heartbreak, the peace and the turmoil.

As we navigate our own swirling emotions and experiences, we tend to imagine our life experiences are solitary. When these experiences and realities are intentionally shared, we open ourselves to the truth; we are not on this journey through life alone. Unity, hope, and healing arise for the individual and the collective through stepping into the narrative of another. When things are personal, they become universal.

I believe in the power of vulnerability and honesty and the strength and courage necessary to express them in their fullest. I seek to bring light and levity to the experience of being human through a synthesis of the personal experience with art through collaboration to highlight the universal. I want to make the unseen, seen and the unheard resound. I believe that Love truly does conquer all and that the human draw allurement toward hope is reflective of the eternal within each person. My goal is to create spaces where people can collectively take time to wonder, provoke the unknown, and ask hard or uncomfortable questions whilst also balancing the weight of our realities with the light. Throughout my artistic exploration- I will continue to push myself to do hard things, to ask big questions, and to dwell within the tension.

#### Director's Note:

What you're about to hear are real stories from people just like you and I, read by actors. These stories are all transcripts taken directly from interviews that have been conducted over the past several weeks. The prompt for these interviews was simple, "tell me about a time where you experienced hope, and another where you experienced hurt." The actors have no idea whose stories they're about to read, or what story may be contained in each envelope. They have no background information about the people who have shared their stories- where they're from, what they might be like or how old they are. This show is an experiment with the intention of reminding us all that the human experience is not at all a solitary thing and that our stories are far more connected than we think. - Sofia Jeanes

#### CAST

Ling Austin Anna Fenton Elise Losardo Miranda Taylor Aidan Stockin

Special Thanks to: Everyone who contributed their stories to this script, Ian Clayton, Abby Moline, Dr. Gardner, my family, Jeff Miller for introducing me to experimental theater, and social media for letting this project happen.

"I could have given birth at sixteen But I was too busy dodging bullets Iwas harnessed in uty's Daugh

May 6th-8th at 9 PM | The Margaret Jensen Theatre Limited capacity seating, reservation required for entry For reservation information, go to @gordoncollegetheatre on IG Livestream available on our YouTube @ Gordon College Theatre



#### **Beauty's Daughter**

By Dael Orlandosmith Performed by Olyvia Shaw | Olyvia.Shaw@gordon.edu

As an actor, I want to act in away that reaches people viscerally. I want to captivate, leave audiences uncomfortable, evoke emotion, start conversations, relate and create a space for empathy. The world can change if we look first at ourselves, how we live and how we seek out our own part of this play called life. How do we play this part and how does our part affect the entire worldly mechanism? Theatre plays a powerful role in awareness- internally and externally. We all endure the struggles that come with insecurities, but theatre givesroom for usto examine them and decide what to do with them.

Of course what you take away is up to you but it's my mission to keep your attention, and give you messages that don't just stop at your eyes but instead infiltrate your entire body making each sense flood with sensations that draw you in, make your heart beat faster and spark anything...something. What ever stage I'm on, whatever venue, a difference can be made. Taking the opportunity to relate and trade placeswith that 37 year old lawyer from Manhattan or that 16 year old girl who just found out her parents are getting divorced. Whoever I am, I want to make you feel. Theatre pulls together all of our flaws and our fears, authorizing space for assimilation, empathy and love.

-Olyvia

"Life is full of beauty. Notice it." - Ashley Smith

Thank you Jeff Miller and Norm Jones
Thank you to my wonderful directors and fantastic crew
Thank you Bev
Thank you Mom, Dad and Payge
Thank you for showing up

#### **CAST AND CREW**

Diane, Papo, Blind Louie, Olyvia Shaw

Mary Askew, Anthony, Beauty

Director Hannah Schuurman
Director Jessica Richmond
Stage Manager Emma Beverly Olson
Lighting Designer Zechariah Pappageorge
Light Board Operator Michaela Parangalan

Sound Designer Emma Beverly Olson

#### ABOUT GORDON COLLEGE

Gordon College is the preeminent Christian college in the global hub of higher education—widely respected for its commitment to bold intellectual inquiry, personal mentoring and academic rigor. Through a broad spectrum of liberal arts and sciences, students develop the intellectual scope and leadership skills to address the increasingly complex challenges of a global society.

Just north of Boston and only a few hours from the financial and political capitals of the Western world (New York and Washington, D.C.), the College is ideally situated to offer students extraordinary access to leading-edge opportunities for professional and leadership development. Gordon stands apart from other outstanding institutions in New England by combining an exceptional education with an informed Christian faith.

The College offers 38 majors and 43 concentrations for undergraduate study, as well as graduate programs in education and music education. The campus includes the Phillips Music Center and the Barrington Center for the Arts. Both facilities help solidify Gordon's position as a premier cultural center on Boston's North Shore.

#### A CHRISTIAN PERSPECTIVE ON THE ARTS

As a Christian liberal arts college, Gordon College is committed to producing a wide variety of plays that assess the human condition, raise moral questions and acquaint students with the history of theatre. The words and views expressed in the plays are the responsibility of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of Gordon College, its faculty, staff or

