



FRIENDS  
UNIVERSITY  
FALL THEATRE

*How do you say goodbye to yourself? How does a person remember to forget?*

# EURYDICE

*A Modern Retelling of a Greek Classic*

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15  
7:30 P.M.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16  
7:30 P.M.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17  
2 P.M.

**BLACKBOX STUDIO THEATRE, RINEY FINE ARTS CENTER**

FRIENDS  
UNIVERSITY

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**THEATRE**

# THE CAST

## *Eurydice*

Eurydice.....Adyanna Hibbs  
Orpheus.....Tyrone Jackson  
Her Father.....David Orozco  
Very Interesting Man.....Zachary Jenkins  
Lord of the Underworld.....Alexander Miller

## *A Chorus of Stones*

Big Stone.....Hannah Farmer  
Little Stone.....Alexandra Tchernaya  
Loud Stone.....Adelynn Hobbs

## CONTENT NOTE

*This production explores themes and narratives about death and grief.*

*"Eurydice"* is presented by arrangement  
with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc.



# PROGRAM

## MOVEMENT 1 - LOVE

Claire De Lune.....Claude Debussy  
piano sonata performed by Pascal Rogé

## MOVEMENT 2 - LOSS

Choral et variations.....Henri Dutilleux  
performed by Emil Reinert

## MOVEMENT 3 - MEMORY

Claire De Lune.....Claude Debussy  
performed by Frankfurt Radio Symphony Orchestra

*This performance runs for 90 minutes with no intermission.*

# DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Sarah Ruhl's *Eurydice* is written in three movements – a poetic symphony of love, loss, memory & rhythm. Although the play is an elegy, it lives in the world of magical realism - a form of theatre that takes reality and elevates it, making the impossible, possible! Emotion is heightened, fleeting, childlike and profound. In our production we honor the fantastical circumstances, but also find the string-like connections. We explore the play as a meditation; (dis)harmonious, (off)balanced, challenged to accept imperfection and transience.

In the original Greek myth Eurydice marries Orpheus. Shortly after her wedding, she is pursued by a covetous shepherd, steps on a serpent and suffers an untimely death. Orpheus then travels to the underworld to rescue her, and using the power of his music, softens Hades' heart. Hades is so moved by Orpheus' music that he grants him passage to restore Eurydice to the upperworld. Yet, in true mythological form, there is a catch. If Orpheus looks behind him to see Eurydice before she has passed through the gates, he will lose her forever. He looks...and sends his lover back into the underworld for eternity.

When I first read *Eurydice*, I was immediately captivated by the effortless beauty of its poetic language. Sarah Ruhl masterfully re-imagines the age-old myth of Orpheus and Eurydice, offering a profound and entirely new perspective as we navigate the world through Eurydice's eyes. Through this fresh perspective, we discover the timeless themes of love, the journey of grief, the art of letting go, and the weight of memories. How do you remember to forget? On earth we are left to cope with the tragedy of death, finding solace in the poetic space between the words and notes of music.

In silence.

Daniel Gonzalez-Myers  
Director

# ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

## Designers

### Set construction

Richard Shultz, Theatre Workshop Class

### Costumes

Daniel Gonzalez-Myers

### Lighting Design

Dan Harmon

### Sound Design

Daniel Gonzalez-Myers

## Creative Team

Daniel Gonzalez-Myers - Director

Madi White - Intimacy Consultant and Coordinator

Gavin Gonzalez-Myers - Assistant Director/Choreographer

Lilly Busatti - Makeup Designer/Assistant

## Crew

### Stage Manager

Rebecca Grosselin

### Assistant Stage Manager

Phoenix West

### Rehearsal Stage Manager

Gavin Gonzalez-Myers

### Stage Crew

Kalon Kirk

## Special Thanks

**Dr. Amy Bragg Carey**

Friends University President

**Dr. Nathanael May**

Fine Arts Division Chair

**Leigh Barton-Green**

Fine Arts Events Coordinator

**Bob Hett**

Director of Technical Services

**Robyn Mabe**

Fine Arts Administrator

**Joice Henry**

Special Appointment Instructor of Music Theatre

**Misty Maynard from Kechi Playhouse**

**Roxy's Downtown**

**The Myers Family**

# BIOGRAPHIES

**Daniel Gonzalez-Myers** (Director/Costumer/Sound Designer ) is a Theatre Professional who hails from South Florida. He got his BFA in Musical Theatre Performance from ECU in North Carolina. He went on to perform in countless regional theatres throughout the country including MTW right here in Wichita! His most recent roles include Frank n' Furter in *Rocky Horror Picture Show*, Angel in *Rent*, and Gomez in the *Addams Family*. He specializes in Musical Theatre vocal techniques, the Meisner acting technique, Stage Makeup, and Audition prep. He performs in many different spaces around town and is so happy to have found a thriving artistic community here in the middle of the country! *Thank you to the cast on making my directorial debut at Friends one I will never forget. Enjoy the Show!*

**Madi White** (Intimacy Coordinator) is a multi-talented professional with a diverse background in acting, directing, clown and teaching. She holds a degree in musical theatre and music, with a specialization in physical performance, from Wichita State University. In addition to her extensive experience in these areas, Madi is also skilled in movement and fight choreography, which enhances her physical storytelling abilities. She was recently selected to collaborate with the esteemed Bill Irwin, further deepening her expertise in the art of clowning, a discipline she has been passionately studying worldwide for the past eight years.

**Gavin Gonzalez-Myers** (Choreography) KS native, graduate of Wichita State, is a choreographer based out of Wichita, KS. Before 2021, Gavin lived, produced, and taught in New York with the White Plains Music Conservatory and Brickhouse NYC. Currently, Gavin teaches at Friends University, produces theatrical and artistic development events at Harvester Arts and around Wichita, as well as performs with SMACKDAB Dance Lab. Recently, he has also choreographed *Once Upon a Mattress* at Collegiate High School and *Descendants The Musical* at Collegiate Middle School. He would like to thank his husband, Daniel, his family and friends, and all of those who support the arts.

*Thank you for seeing this show!*

@gavin\_myers | @local.abundance

# BIOGRAPHIES

**Sarah Ruhl** (Playwright) was born in Wilmette, Illinois in 1973, where her father instilled in her a love of music and a fascination with language. She initially aspired to specialize in poetry while studying at Brown University. However, her father's untimely death instead inspired her first play, *The Dog Play*. She earned a BA in 1997 and an MFA in 2001. *Eurydice* was written in 2003 and saw productions at Circle X Theatre, Georgetown University, Berkeley and Yale before making it to New York's Second Stage Theatre in 2007. While *Eurydice* was making this journey, Ruhl found success with shows such as *Melancholy Play*, *Virtual Meditation #1*, and *Passion Play: a Cycle*, which won the Pen American Award and the Fourth Freedom Forum Playwriting Award from The Kennedy Center.

## Technical Team

**Rebecca Grosselin** is a senior majoring in Conservation Science and minoring in Biology at Friends University. She has been participating in technical theater since her sophomore year of high school and has been stage managing since her junior year of high school, having been a part of 20+ shows up to now. She'd like to thank the staff, faculty, and students involved in Friends' Fine Arts Program and can not wait to see what these wonderful people accomplish in the future.



**Phoenix West** is a freshman majoring in Spanish, and is originally from Valley Center, KS. She has a diverse background in the arts, having spent many years in dance, vocal music, and guitar lessons before discovering her passion for theater. Phoenix has appeared on stage in several productions, including *Peter Pan* as a pirate with Music Theater for Young People, *Sketchbook in the Park* as an old lady at Valley Center High School, and *The Odd Couple* as Renee with Wichita Children's Theater.

In addition to her acting experience, she has also contributed backstage, working with the tech crew on costuming and set construction for various productions, including *Senior Directed One Acts*, *Hornet Highlights*, and *Sleepy Hollow* at Valley Center High School. Most recently, Phoenix completed her work on the fall musical *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* at Friends University.



# THE CAST



**Tyrone Jackson (Orpheus)** a freshman, born and raised in Wichita Kansas majoring in psychology and minoring in theatre. He started his theatre journey at East high school, as you may have seen him recently in *"Hairspray"* or *"Almost Maine."* He is very grateful to play this role. He would like to give as much appreciation to the most high, his family and major thanks to Daniel and Gavin for guidance throughout the process.



**Adyanna Hibbs (Eurydice)** is from Clearwater Kansas. She is a freshman majoring in Music Theatre. She first discovered her love for theater in middle school and was hooked ever since. She has been previously seen as M'lynn in *"Steel Magnolias"* and as the Witch in *"Big Fish."* She is very excited and honored that she gets to play this role with people who love performing as much as she does. She is very thankful to have Daniel and Gavin as mentors as she has learned so much from them.

She would like to thank her family and friends for always being her biggest fans and supporters. She hopes everyone enjoys the show as much as she does!

**David Orozco (Father)** is in his junior year and this is his first theatrical drama. He was born in Colorado, raised in Colorado Springs, and he moved to Kansas this year. He started participating in theater and music theater in his senior year of high school, and he has already had experience in shows like *"Matilda the Musical."*

# THE CAST



**Zachary Jenkins** (*Very Interesting Man*) is a Junior Computer Science Major here at Friends University. Hailing from Burns, KS, Zach has been involved in Fine Arts from a young age. While Zach is involved in numerous Fine Arts groups at Friends, including the Singing Quakers and Wind Ensemble, this is his first theatre production at Friends University. Prior to being at Friends, Zach performed as "The Ugly Duckling" in *Honk* and "Mr. Body" in *Clue*.

Zach wants to thank his friends and family for their support of his involvement in the arts, and wants to thank you for coming to the show!"



**Alexander Miller** (*Lord of the Underworld*) is in his second year at Friends working toward a Bachelor of Spanish and a Global MBA. Alexander has been a performer and lover of the arts since 6 years old, owing his start and love of theatre to Arlington Classical Theatre productions (*Shakespeare on the Porch*). He is excited to bring you "The Lord of the Underworld" in his third production with Friends.



**Hannah Farmer** (*Big Stone*) is a brand-new freshman at Friends University, she is currently majoring in theater education. She hopes to teach her very own high school students how great theater can be. She was raised in Wichita, Kansas so you might have seen her in her last performance of '*Almost Maine*'. Hannah would like to thank her dad Andy as the show made her realize how important love from a father can be. She would also like to thank her boyfriend Yanni for spending hours helping her memorize her lines.

# THE CAST



**Alexandra Tchernaya (Little Stone)** is an international student from Belarus, Minsk and freshman here at Friends university majoring in Music Theatre minoring in Dance. She started to perform in theatre, in Belarus, when she was 3. Credits prior to this show are Dorothy in the “Wizard of Oz” and Luise from “Nellie Bly: ten days in the madhouse”. She would like to thank her family, especially her mother Natalia and her father Sergio. She would also like to thank her friends for the support and love that they

always give her and her professors that believe in her and encourage her every day. She is so excited to be a part of this play and hope you will enjoy it!



**Adelynn Hobbs (Loud Stone)** is a senior majoring in Music with a minor in Music Theatre. You may have previously seen her in ‘Catch Me if You Can’, ‘Footloose’, and ‘The Tender Land’ at Friends University. Outside of theater, she has a passion for adventuring in the outdoors, animals, dancing and singing her way through the school hallways, and spending time with her people. This show is incredibly special to her as she gets to work alongside some of her closest friends in the process.

She is grateful to her family, directors, and precious friends for their constant support being given to her.



MUSICAL THEATRE AT FRIENDS UNIVERSITY

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THANKS  
FOR COMING!

JOIN US AT ANOTHER EVENT!

NOVEMBER

Jazz In The Chapel | Tuesday 19, 7:30 p.m. | Chapel, Riney Fine Arts Center\*

Casado Jazz Night | Wednesday 20, 7-9 p.m. | Casado Campus Center

Gallantry + Cendrillon (Fall Opera double-bill) | Nov. 22-24 | Sebitts Auditorium

Wind Ensemble Concert | Monday 25, 7:30 p.m. | Sebitts Auditorium

DECEMBER

Christmas Candlelight | Dec. 6-8 | Sebitts Auditorium

Visual Arts Showcase | Monday, 9, 5-7 p.m. | Riney Atrium\*

\*new performance space in the Riney Fine Arts Center

TICKETS AND FULL CALENDAR AT  
*friends.edu/fineartstickets*

SAVE THE DATE

*Guys & Dolls*  
Spring Musical

Friday, February 14  
7:30 p.m.

Saturday, February 15  
7:30 p.m.

Sunday, February 16  
2 p.m.

Sebitts Auditorium | Tickets available in December



NEWSLETTER

*friends.edu/theweeklyhappenings*



SOCIAL MEDIA

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