

MESSIAH UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF
THEATRE AND DANCE
PRESENTS

THE SPRING SENIOR SERIES

AN EVENING OF PERFORMANCE
CREATED AND PRESENTED BY DEPARTMENT SENIORS

APRIL 24- 25 @ 8:00 P.M.

**“THE ULTIMATE WORSHIP EXPERIENCE:
PHASES OF LIFE”**

**CREATED BY
TZENIAH FRAZIER**

POORMAN BLACK BOX THEATER
CLIMENHAGA BUILDING

**2024-2025
SEASON**

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DEPARTMENT OF
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Mission Statement: As a community of Theatre and Dance artists, we cultivate the stewardship of intellect and imagination in a forum for civic dialogue as we seek to understand our calling in Christ.

messiah.edu/departments/theatre

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saw tonight, please
spread the word on
social media!**



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**THE PHOTOGRAPHY, VIDEOTAPING, OR OTHER VIDEO OR AUDIO
RECORDING OF THIS PRODUCTION IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED.**

“THE ULTIMATE WORSHIP EXPERIENCE: PHASES OF LIFE”

Created by Tzeniah Frazier



CAST

Julia Kropp
Lilly Davey
Ella Talbot
Joanne Fan
Sarah Dunn
Tzeniah Frazier

PRODUCTION TEAM

Artistic Director..... Tzeniah Frazier
Choreographer..... Tzeniah Frazier
Stage Manager..... Solangie Almeyda
Costume Designer Tzeniah Frazier
Lighting Designer Lea Ratos
Sound Designer Tzeniah Frazier
Program Photo Credit Gabrielle Mendoza
Project Advisor Gregg Hurley
Chair of the Theatre and Dance Department..... Daniel Inouye
Technical Director Benjamin Roberts
Production Manager Patricia DuBois
Publicity Coordinator Abby Crispin
House Manager Rebecca Zheng
Light Board Operator Lea Ratos
Sound Board Operator..... Solangie Almeyda

SPECIAL THANKS

Thank you to all the dancers, stage crew, and Gregg & Susan Hurley for helping my vision come to life.

PROGRAM ORDER

Where Are You

Psalms 38:1-14: Lord, do not rebuke me in your anger or discipline me in your wrath. Your arrows have pierced me, and your hand has come down on me. Because of your wrath, there is no health in my body; there is no soundness in my bones because of my sin. My guilt has overwhelmed me like a burden too heavy to bear. My wounds fester and are loathsome because of my sinful folly. I am bowed down and brought very low; all day long I go about mourning. My back is filled with searing pain; there is no health in my body. I am feeble and utterly crushed; I groan in anguish of heart. All my longings lie open before you, Lord; my sighing is not hidden from you. My heart pounds, my strength fails me; even the light has gone from my eyes. My friends and companions avoid me because of my wounds; my neighbors stay far away. Those who want to kill me set their traps, those who would harm me talk of my ruin all day long they scheme and lie. I am like the deaf, who cannot hear, like the mute, who cannot speak; I have become like one who does not hear, whose mouth can offer no reply. (NIV)

A Fallen People

Human

Galatians 1:12: I did not receive it from any man, nor was I taught it; rather, I received it by revelation from Jesus Christ. (NIV)

Hear me...See me...I need you

Surging Forward, Releasing Fears, Holding Faith

Philippians 3:13-14: Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus. (NIV)

Intermission

Pain Before Praise

Isaiah 6:1-3: In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord, high and exalted, seated on a throne; and the train of his robe filled the temple. Above him were seraphim, each with six wings: With two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they were flying. And they were calling to one another: "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord Almighty; the whole earth is full of his glory." (NIV)

Eternal Tranquility

John 14:27: Jesus says, "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not be afraid."

You Found Me

Psalms 38:15-22: Lord, I wait for you; you will answer, Lord my God. For I said, "Do not let them gloat or exalt themselves over me when my feet slip." For I am about to fall, and my pain is ever with me. I confess my iniquity; I am troubled by my sin. Many have become my enemies without cause; those who hate me without reason are numerous. Those who repay my good with evil lodge accusations against me, though I seek only to do what is good. Lord, do not forsake me; do not be far from me, my God. Come quickly to help me, my Lord and my Savior. (NIV)

A NOTE FROM THE CREATOR

“The Ultimate Worship Experience: Phases of Life” highlights the many trials and tribulations we, as followers of Christ, experience. With each song telling a unique story within the larger narrative.

Tzeniah Frazier, Creator

BIOS

Tzeniah Frazier is a professional dancer and aspiring dance psychologist/dance movement therapist from Detroit, MI. She focuses on the connection between body and mind and believes that the mind influences the body physiologically and psychologically. Her work offers the audience an opportunity to experience what the dancers are communicating by interpreting the raw emotions displayed. She values dance to become more vulnerable in an organic manner rather than a forced one. This concept of the connection between the body and mind distinguishes Tzeniah, as she believes that you can't truly express yourself through dance if your mind isn't present.

Lilly Davey is a sophomore dance, and Christian ministries major from Westchester, New York. She has been dancing for 5 years, and her primary style is modern.

Sarah Dunn is a sophomore dance and English double major and is excited to be performing in her sixth show at Messiah. Sarah has been dancing since age three, with a focus on ballet, although she enjoys learning and performing in every style. She is extremely thankful for the opportunity to be a part of this performance!

Joanne Fan is a junior psychology major and dance minor from Southampton, PA. She has danced mainly ballet since she was four and has had the opportunity to train in other styles at Messiah such as jazz and contemporary. She thanks God for the opportunity to perform in this show and is so grateful to everyone involved.

Julia Kropp is a dance and marketing double major. Born and raised in Oneonta, New York, Julia has been dancing for 15 years, with an emphasis on ballet.

Ella Talbot is from Lock Haven, Pennsylvania. She has been dancing since the age of four and has been blessed to find a language in dance that allows her to praise the Lord.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

Dedicated to my mother, Elizabeth Washington, and Spirit of the Moment. Thank you for your yes.

This production features the following musical selections:

“Where Are You?” by Chandler Moore

“Find My Peace” by Naomi Raine

“People” & “Church People (Reprise)” by Jonathan McReynolds, Pastor Mike Todd, The Walls Group

“Till it Kills me” by Trulah & Madison Ryann Ward

“Reach” by DOE

“Holy Only” by Travis Greene, Forward City, TONYFRESH, Chaquanna Iman

“Come To Jesus” by SANCTUARY Worship, Blake Perry, Emoni Robinson, Kira Daffin

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BY THE BOG OF CATS Written by Marina Carr, Directed by Daniel Inouye

Loosely based on Euripides' tragedy *Medea*, this is the prophetic tale of Hester Swane, an Irish Traveller, who attempts to come to terms with a lifetime of abandonment in a world where all whom she has loved have discarded her. Set on the bleak, ghostly landscape of the Bog of Cats, this provocative drama discloses one woman's courageous attempts to lay claim to that which is hers, as her world is torn in two. Hester's long-term lover, Carthage Kilbride, with whom she has a seven-year-old daughter, is selling her "down the river" for the promise of land and wealth through a marriage with the local big farmer's daughter. In the final moments of the action, we witness a woman provoked beyond the limits of human endurance. *By the Bog of Cats* is a furious, uncompromising tale of greed and betrayal, of murder and profound self-sacrifice.

Poorman Black Box Theater Oct. 3-5 at 8 pm; Oct. 6 at 3 pm

SHOELESS JOE Directed by Susan Hurley

Fall musical theatre cabaret

Poorman Black Box Theater Oct. 12 at 8 pm; Oct. 13 at 3 pm

TARTUFFE Written by Molière, Translation by Richard Wilbur, Directed by Ed Cohn

The story takes place in the home of the wealthy Orgon, where Tartuffe—a fraud and a pious imposter—has insinuated himself. He succeeds magnificently in winning the respect and devotion of the head of the house, and then tries to marry his daughter and seduce his wife and scrounge the deed to the property. He nearly gets away with it, but an emissary from King Louis XIV arrives in time to recover the property, free Monsieur Orgon, and haul Tartuffe off to jail. And so his duplicity is finally exposed and punished.

Miller Theater Nov. 14-16, 22-23 at 8 pm; Nov. 17 & 24 at 3 pm; *Nov. 21 at 10 am special performance

BLUE CHRISTMAS DANCE CONCERT Directed by Gregg Hurley

Messiah University dance students acknowledge the struggles and challenges of this broken and fallen world with a lament-driven dance experience. Reflect with us through the medium of dance in an intimate evening of words, music, and dance that will tenderly prepare us all for the joyous season of Advent.

Poorman Black Box Theater Nov. 21 at 7 pm

FALL SENIOR SERIES

An evening of performance created and presented by department seniors.

Poorman Black Box Theater Dec. 13- 14 at 8 pm

PETER RABBIT AND ME Written by Aurand Harris, Directed by Ed Cohn

Peter Rabbit and Me is a delightful dramatization of the beloved story of Peter Rabbit. Beatrix Potter, age 13, is a poor little rich girl secluded in her top-floor nursery. She creates her own excitement by inventing and illustrating stories about her pet animals. Beatrix transforms into Peter, her Governess becomes Peter's mother, and her stern Victorian father becomes Farmer McGregor. Here is a revealing and charming glimpse of Victorian society in contrast to the antics of the uninhibited animal world. *Peter Rabbit and Me* is filled with humor, adventure, colorful characters and all of the magic of children's theatre.

Poorman Black Box Theater Jan. 24-25 at 7 pm; Jan. 26 at 3 pm

HUMANITIES SYMPOSIUM DANCE CONCERT Directed by Gregg Hurley

Dancing is a scholarly pursuit. Watch and consider how the dance program tackles the annual Humanities symposium topic in its own unique way.

Poorman Black Box Theater Feb. 21 at 4 pm; Feb. 22 at 8 pm

SHOELESS JOE Directed by Susan Hurley

Spring musical theatre cabaret

Poorman Black Box Theater March 1 at 8 pm; March 2 at 3 pm

SPRING SENIOR SERIES

An evening of performance created and presented by department seniors.

Poorman Black Box Theater March 21-22 at 8 pm; April 24- 25 at 8 pm

ANYTHING GOES Music and Lyrics by Cole Porter, Original Book by P.G. Wodehouse, Guy Bolton, Howard Lindsay & Russel Crouse; New Book by Timothy Crouse & Jacob Weidman, Directed by Daniel Inouye

When the S.S. American heads out to sea, etiquette and convention head out the portholes as two unlikely pairs set off on the course to true love - proving that sometimes destiny needs a little help from a crew of singing sailors, a comical disguise, and some good old-fashioned blackmail. This hilarious musical romp across the Atlantic, features Cole Porter's joyful score, including "I Get A Kick Out of You", "You're the Top" and the show-stopping "Anything Goes."

Miller Theater April 3-5, 11-12 at 8 pm; April 6 & 13 at 3 pm; *April 10 at 10:00 am special school performance

CULMINATION '25: SPRING DANCE CONCERT Directed by Gregg Hurley

Dancing is an artistic endeavor. Celebrate spring and the dance accomplishments of Messiah University's theatre and dance department in an offering of favorite dance pieces from the year, new faculty work, student adjudicated creations, and senior capstone projects all in one fun and glorious dance concert!

Miller Theater May 2 at 8 pm; May 3 at 2 pm