CSB/SJU Theater Spring 2017

**Senior Project: Beth Cassidy**

**Gutless and Grateful**, a One Woman Musical

Colman Theater Black Box College of St. Benedict
January 20-21, 2017

**Senior Project: Sarah Catcher, Jefferson Cunningham**

**Fools**, A Comedy by Neil Simon, Directed by Sean Dooley

Colman Theater, College of St. Benedict
February 23-28, 2017

Stop Kiss by Diana Son, Directed by Kaarin Johnston

Gorecki Theater, College of St. Benedict
March 30-April 2 and April 6-8, 2017

Kinespheric Encounters: A Dance Concert

Choreographed by David DeBlieck

Colman Theater, College of St. Benedict
May 4-6, 2017

**49th Kennedy Center American Theater Festival**

Beth Cassidy and Jefferson Cunningham are invited to the Festival in the Homestretch, Directed by Sean Dooley.

Congratulations to the Irene Ryan Nominees for their performance in The Homecoming, Directed by Sean Dooley.

CSB/SJU Fine Arts Programming

**Cover Image**

Cover Image on loan from Kimbell Art Museum, Fort Worth, Texas

Douris (painter) Greek (active c. 500–460 B.C.) Red-Figure Cup Showing the Death of Pentheus (exterior) and a Maenad (interior) c. 480 B.C. Terracotta, H. 5 in. (12.7 cm); Diam. 11 1/2 in. (29.2 cm) AP 2000.02

**Acknowledgements**

CSB/SJU Fine Arts Programming

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For tickets call 320-363-3777

An ancient Greek tragedy
(Do not deny your god!)

**The Bacchae**

by Euripides

November 10-12 and 17-19 at 7:30pm

November 13 at 2pm

College of Saint Benedict / St. John’s University Theater-Department presents

2016 FAE Event

www.csbsju.edu/theater

David DeBlieck: Set Design, Kari Johnson: Stage Manager, Merle Henrys:

Theater Faculty and Staff
The Story

This play is set in ancient THEBES (Greece, not Africa), a city founded by Cadmus when he sowed dragon teeth in the earth and soldiers sprang up from the teeth. He had several daughters, each of which faced terrible suffering. Zeus fell in love with one of them, Semele, and she became pregnant with the son of the great god. Just like in many families, Semele’s parents and sisters did not believe her when she said the king of all gods had made her pregnant and when she died by lightning they said it was proof she had been lying all along. However, Zeus saved the unborn baby, named him Dionysus (also called Bromius) and had him safely raised by nymphs.

Time passed and King Cadmus decided to retire and passed the throne on to his grandson Pentheus (son of Agave). Dionysus was taught mysteries by his father Zeus and created his own rituals so people could worship him; they were happy to worship him since he invented wine and gave this gift to humans. Dionysus and the female followers he collected on his way through Lydia, Persia, Araby and the eastern Mediterranean arrived in Thebes to make sure his “family” and “hometown” accept him as a god. Dionysus has driven all the women of Thebes, including his grandmother and his aunts, off to mount Cithaeron where they practice his rituals, drinking wine, dancing and playing with wild animals. King Pentheus, his cousin, sees him as a human troublemaker who should have his head cut off. That is the when the play begins.
Megan Noetzel is a sophomore who hopes to pursue a career in Counseling and Health Promotions. This is her third production at CSB/SJU and is thankful for the wonderful opportunities the department has given her.

Cormac Quinn decided after years of crafting sets that he should try dancing on the set as well. Shout out to Ken Cartwright!

Joe Roberts is a flashy guy looking to beef up his grinder profile. He is so excited to play Cadmus, the bear that’s always been inside him.

Cortland Styles-Brown is a junior here and this is his second production at CSB/SJU.

Spencer Vogel is a sophomore with experience in acting, stage managing, directing and writing.

Marisela Weber (Sela) is a sophomore who hopes to teach English and direct theater in a high school setting. She would like to thank her little sister Alayna for always supporting her—“I love you!”

Farrad Williams is from Newark, N.J. This is his first production at CSB/SJU after being a part of several productions in high school. He is grateful for this wonderful opportunity. Farrad hopes to become a professional actor and director as well as an Emmy/Tony winner.

Anja Wuolu is a first year who was involved in theater through high school and is so excited to be a part of CSB/SJU production of The Bacchae!

### Dionysus:
This play has as its main character the Greek god Dionysus, inventor of wine. The first recorded theater festival in the world began in Athens in 534 BCE; writing plays and putting them on at the festival was the way the citizens of Athens worshipped Dionysus. Seeing great tragedies was a form of worshipping this god. Dionysus was, in a way, a personification of the grape vine itself: in the fall the vine is cut back and appears to be dead; in the spring life spreads from the stump and the large leaves feed the great clusters of grapes. According to William Arrowsmith, the translator of our version, the play is, “best read as an anthropological passion play of the mystical scapegoat or the Year-Daimon. Dionysiac religion is the field on which the action of the play takes place, not what it is deeply about.”

Later in the same introduction to the play he states that one should, “be aware of the intentional ritual irony that underlies the death of Pentheus—he dies as a scapegoat and a living substitute for the god he rejects. This, however, is an irony of the play, not its meaning.”

Euripides (c.480-406 BCE) wrote this masterpiece shortly before his death and it was produced in Athens posthumously by his son; it won Euripides his first prize at the city Dionysia, the theater festival honoring Dionysus.

### Scenery Construction
- Elise Adrian
- Genevieve Ahlstrom
- Ian Bush
- Noah Campbell
- Megan Daly
- Brianna Eaglin
- Evelyn Flaherty
- Salvador Garcia
- Isabel Huot-Link
- Elizabeth Larson
- Trey Perez
- Cormac Quinn
- Jared Rhaburn
- Carmen Roskos
- Gina Santella
- Aaron Schwietz
- Spencer Vogel
- Jacob Woolfrey
- Tianyi Zhanq
- AnnMarie Backstrom
- Josh Behrendt
- Sydney Dugas
- Leslie Fenske
- Paul Hartman
- Mikayla Kelly
- Caitlin Miller
- Emerita Palencia
- Lars Swedberg

### Costume Construction Staff
- Sarah Fischer
- Sarah Griffin
- Fan Li
- Caitlin Miller
- Cathy Nguyen
- Yuxi Yang

### Introduction to Costuming Class
- AnnMarie Backstrom
- Brianna Eaglin
- Evelyn Flaherty
- Gladys Gutierrez-Anaya
- Sabrina Haben
- Paul Hartmann
- Emerita Palencia
- Joshua Pestana Mata
- Thomas Richmond
- Carmen Roskos

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AnnMarie Backstrom is a junior and this is her second production in a CSB/SJU theater production. She has also worked in technology, costuming and marketing for other productions.

Breanna Burggraf is a junior and this is her third year involved with the CSB/SJU theater department, and this is her third production in which she is acting. She was in The Cherry Orchard and Miss Julie.

Sarah Catcher is a senior and has loved her time as a Bennie theater major. Upon graduation, she plans to pursue a drama therapy degree in London, England.

Shona Christie is from Australia and is studying philosophy and theater at CSB/SJU. Prior to coming to the U.S.A. she was in a devised production of Peter Pan and played Laura in The Glass Menagerie.

Emily Dosch has been involved in Student Projects but I’m excited to be involved in a fully-fledged show here at CSB/SJU! Thanks to her amazing friends and family for their support. #TeamDionysus

Evelyn Flaherty is a sophomore; this is her second production at CSB/SJU. She is looking forward to her role as Assistant Set Designer next semester.

Rosa Elena Hernandez is from Mexico, grew up in Texas and moved to Minnesota for college in order to pursue a political science degree. This is her very first production and she is excited to work with such awesome people.

Kelly Holman is a sophomore and in her first CSB/SJU production. She is very grateful to have been a part of such an awesome cast. Hail Bacchae!

Isabel Huot-Link is a first year student who acted, stage-managed and directed in high school and is ready to try lots of things in college. Theater is pretty nice!

Elizabeth Larson is a senior who is hoping to continue working in theater and music and is grateful for the opportunity to be involved with this production.

Caitlin Miller aspires to be an astronaut but for the meantime she travels through time to appear in collegiate performances. She starred as the original Juliet in Shakespeare’s play. Here she graces us with her talent.

Cathy Nguyen is a first year and this is her first CSB/SJU production after three years of being involved with high-school theater. She is grateful for the experience and would like to thank her family and friends for all their support! “I love you!”