Scherzo Mortale

Director's Notes

In Ezekiel chapter four God commanded the prophet to stage a play. It was done to admonish Israel. While we claim no divine inspiration for this work, it is produced as a clarion call with several blasts. To a materialistic world, the admonition is self-evident. One's preoccupation with things at the expense of others is a cancer. In this work, Pierrot and Columbine represent the materialists in our world.

The shepherds, ironically named Thoraka and Makaira, respectively the breastplate and the short sword, represent the third world who labor, often under the watchful presence of religion, and who eke out an existence without any dreams or hopes.

The character of Cothurnus represents the traditions of religion. This character has nothing to say to the materialists, but seems to impose itself on the oppressed shepherds. See what messages can be gleaned from this concept. What satisfaction is gained from the Pierrot and Columbine relationship? What is the problem with the arts in their context? What is the concern of tourists in a third world? What is the fate of a church that has no direct involvement in people's lives? How do third world individuals view an inept church? What is the solution to all these concerns?

Thank you for joining us in our new flexible theater.
Cast

Pierrot: Jonathan Lowery
Columbine: Cari Rittenhouse
Cothurnus: Andrew Schmidt
Thoraka: Libby Mille
Makaira: Bekki Berger

Production Crew

Director: Dr. Lou Campbell
Assistant Director: Olivia Mullins
Stage Manager: Bethany Herron
Lighting: Chad Miller
Costumes: Andrew Schmidt
Props: Julia Rodriguez
House Manager: Shelley Miller
Program Design: Olivia Mullins

Special Thanks

Mr. Scott Highsmith
Mrs. Laura Campbell
Maintenance Department of Belhaven College
About the Cast

Cari Rittenhouse plays the role of Columbine. She plans to graduate this May with a Bachelor of Arts in Dance. Her theatre repertoire includes roles from *The Fantasticks*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Kiss Me Kate*, *Once Upon a Mattress*, and *Pirates Of Penzance*.

Jonathan Lowery plays the role of Pierrot. He is a sophomore Theater Performance major at Belhaven. While in high school, he participated in various high school plays. His latest performance was with the Belhaven Theatre department in *Pirates Of Penzance*.

Andrew Schmidt is playing the part of Cothurnus. He is a junior Theatre Performance major at Belhaven. He has taken roles in *Pirates of Penzance*, *A Midsummer Nights Dream* and *The Thorn*. He was also a co-host on Action House T.V. In the future he would like to make a positive impact on the world through media and entertainment.

Libby Mille* plays the part of Thoraka. She is a freshman Theatre Ministry major. She has played a role in *Rejoice*. She plans to use theater as a ministry on the mission field.

Bekki Berger is playing the part of Makaira. She is a one year theatre student from New York. She is here at Belhaven to get more experience and training for the ministry she is involved with at YWAM New York. Her repertoire includes roles in many plays, some of which are *Anne of Green Gables*, *Annie*, *Diary Of Anne Frank*, and *Pirates of Penzance*. When she leaves Belhaven, she plans to go back to YWAM New York to continue staffing and building their performing arts ministries. She dreams of starring in shows on Broadway in the future.
Dr. Lou Campbell (Director) is Professor and Chair of Theatre at Belhaven College. Twenty years ago, he created the Joshua Squad, a physical performance missions team now headquartered at Belhaven. The local squad now has three years of missions experience abroad as well as many domestic appearances. In 2001, Dr. Lou was listed in the Who's Who honoring our nations most respected teachers. He was honored by the International Men of Achievement from Cambridge, England for his work in performing arts medicine and mime. Dr. Lou is a published playwright, screenwriter, and novelist. His novel, *Wind of Destiny*, can be found in local Family Christian bookstores.

Olivia Mullins (Assistant Director) is a sophomore dance major at Belhaven. She has currently not been in any major theater productions, but has aspirations of doing so. She has been involved with the Joshua Squad for a year and a half and has participated in many local ministry opportunities with them. She enjoys being involved with the theatre department; she hopes to learn a great deal that can be used in performing arts ministry.

Bethany Herron (Stage Manager) is a sophomore Theater Performance major at Belhaven. She transferred here in the fall from Oklahoma City University. Her repertoire includes roles in Belhaven’s *Pirates of Penzance*, South Western University’s *Bye-Bye Birdie*, *The Sound of Music*, and many one acts such as *An Accident*, *Information Please*, and *The Open Window*. After graduating from Belhaven, Bethany hopes to open her own drama and dance studio.

Julia Rodriguez (Box Office and Props) is a freshman Theater Ministries major. She has been involved in many church plays as well as *Meet me in St. Louis* and *Pirates of Penzance*. Julia would like to use her theater ministries degree to teach drama in the Christian school at her church and help with the church’s plays and mission trips.
“Christ in the Concrete City”
Sculpture by S. Johnston

The same piety and hypocrisy that turned a crowd of people from crying hosannas and waving palm branches into the angry mob that screamed “Crucify him!” by the end of the week still runs rampant in the church today. We are a two-faced people who, in our own stubborn pride, refuse to turn fully in humility toward our Savior from whom all truly good things radiate and around whom all life orbits. This is the truth that struck me as I read Christ in the Concrete City, and is what I hope that others are able to see through the play and through my work.

About the artist: Shannon Johnston is a junior art major at Belhaven College. Her parents currently live in Salina, Kansas; however, she was raised all over the United States. This is the first time that Shannon has produced an artwork to be presented in conjunction with the Belhaven Theater Department, but has previously worked with Backdoor Theater, Wichita Falls, Texas. Shannon has been perusing art for over ten years now, and hopes to go on to get a Masters of Fine Art and start an artistic career.

Silent Auction: If you are interested in purchasing the sculpture “Christ in the Concrete City” please fill out the form below, and place in the receptacle by the sculpture as you leave the theater. The recipient of the sculpture will be contacted by early next week. There is a starting bid of $40.00.

Name: ___________________________ Phone: __________________
Address: __________________________
E-Mail: ___________________________ Bid: ____________
Musical Review last year. April is a theater major and plans to attend USM in the fall. She hopes to be a famous actress or more realistically a drama teacher at Ridgeland high school in the future.

Daniel Burd: Dan has been involved in theater for over 13 years. He has performed in such plays as “Into The Woods,” “You’re a Good Man Charlie Brown,” “The Mystery of Edwin Drood,” “Mame,” “No More Victims,” and “The Pirates of Penzance.” He has worked with Youth With A Mission Metro New York for 8 years and is currently on sabbatical with his wife Rebecca and son Tyler. Dan is a non-degree seeking theater student at Belhaven College.

Crew Biographies

Angelle Brignac: Angelle is a sophomore technical theater major from Baton Rouge, LA. Her main interest is in costume design. In her two years here, she has worked on costumes for all of the Belhaven productions. She is very excited to have the opportunity to stage-manage for this show, and at the same time to take a break from costuming. After this show, she will dive into A Midsummer Night’s Dream as costume chief, getting right back into the swing of things.

Laura Piantanida: Laura Piantanida is a senior Theatre major with an emphasis in production. She has been on the set construction crew for a number of plays, including Once Upon a Mattress, As You Like It, and The Pirates of Penzance. She designed the backdrop for the Spring 2002 Broadway Review. She is also the set designer for Christ in the Concrete City.

Chad Miller: Chad is a junior Computer Science and Math major from Long Beach, Mississippi. He has worked on and designed lights for many Belhaven productions, both theatre and dance. He is excited to be a part Christ In The Concrete City, and once again have the opportunity to design lights.
Biographies

Frank Dolansky, Director: Frank has been with the Belhaven College Department of Theatre for eighteen months and thanks God every day for the privilege of serving here. His daily desire is living life fully in the presence of God, bruises, bumps, warts, and all, confessing his sins and walking in the forgiveness and grace that Jesus Christ so valiantly, yet humbly provided through His crucifixion and resurrection. Directing credits include Love's Labor's Lost, Henry V, The Hound of the Baskervilles, and Something's Up down in Bethlehem. He has an incredibly beautiful wife who is both an excellent counterpart and a necessary counterpoint, and a son who shows him every day how to become a better father and stay young in the process.

Rosh Raines: Rosh, a sophomore Theatre Major, has been in Once Upon a Mattress, As You Like It, and The Pirates of Penzance. He is excited to be involved with Christ in the Concrete City, and hopes that the message touches the hearts and souls of the audience. He would like to thank his parents in Pennsylvania for supporting him through all things.

Nate Quarterman: Nate is a sophomore philosophy major. He played the parts of Jacques in the Belhaven College production of As You Like It, and Noah in Cory Drake’s production of The Flowering Peach. His interests include theater, soccer, drums and guitar. He also landed the part of Demetrius in the upcoming A Midsummer Night’s Dream.

Heidi Lodge: Heidi is a theatre major from Clarkston, WA. She has performed in The Sound of Music, Silver Wings on Blue, As You Like It, My Fair Lady, Two Gentlemen of Verona, and Grease. Most recently, she stage-managed The Pirates of Penzance. She is looking forward to upcoming shows and has really enjoyed working in Christ in the Concrete City.

Vanessa Waggoner: Vanessa is a junior Theatre Ministries Major. She has been involved in many productions here at Belhaven College. The most recent was this fall’s musical, The Pirates of Penzance, and she is enthusiastic about being a part of this show. She is looking for how God is going to use theatre and ministry in her life.

April Solano: April is very excited to be in the cast of Christ in the Concrete City. This is her second appearance on the Belhaven stage, the first being the Broadway
Christ in the Concrete City

Cast List

Man 1 .......................................................... Rosh Raines
Man 2 .......................................................... Dan Burd
Man 3 .......................................................... Nate Quartermian
Man 4 .......................................................... April Solano
Woman 1 ..................................................... Heidi Lodge
Woman 2 ..................................................... Vanessa Waggoner
Guitarist ..................................................... Dennis Bonds
Clave .......................................................... Ryan Johnston

Production Staff

Director .................................................. Frank Dolansky
Technical Director ................................. Frank Dolansky
Stage Manager ........................................ Angelle Brignac
Set Designer ............................................ Laura Piantanida
Costume Designer ................................ Angelle Brignac
Property Manager ................................ Julia Rodriguez
Costume Mistress ................................ Bekki Berger
Set Construction ................................. Cast, Crew, Stagecraft class, & Brad Hutson
Sound ....................................................... Cory Drake
Light Design ............................................... Chad Miller
Light crew .............................................. Angelle Brignac
Program Copy ........................................ Beth Ingram
House Manager ..................................... Shelley Miller
Head Usher ............................................ Kristina Jackson
Box Office .............................................. Julia Rodriguez

A play by Philip Turner
Produced by Special Arrangement with
Baker's Plays

Special Thanks
Arthur Morton
Theresa & Evan Dolansky
Dr. Lou & Laura Campbell
Mr. & Mrs. Rodriguez
Palm Incorporated
Christ in the Concrete City

Director’s Notes

Christ in the Concrete City is not a fairy tale about long ago events to which we cannot relate. It is the relevance of Jesus Christ in our concrete cities of today. It relates historical events 2000 years ago with the contemporary lives we live. In the playwright’s words, “Our story is the drama of God gate crashing the petty concerns of men.” The actors play many parts, jumping from scene to scene, from historical times to contemporary times, and from neutral chorus to involved participants.

The play juxtaposes current lifestyles, people, and events with their historical counterparts. Thus you will see Ciaphas, a religious leader of Christ’s day, draped with an ancient prayer shawl standing next to Pontius Pilate, a governor, dressed in the business jacket of today’s politician. You will see 1st century disciples dressed in cloaks walking with today’s housewives wearing head wraps. All designed to share the playwright’s vision that: “Firstly, it is the story of something that happened… Secondly, the story of the Passion is one of universal significance, speaking timelessly to all mankind… Thirdly, the Crucifixion and Resurrection are events of personal significance speaking intimately to the individual in the secret places of his own soul, and urging him to action here and now.”

Finally, we all struggle with sin in many areas but our pride fights against that and keeps us from confronting and admitting this to ourselves and others. Every day we have the choice of serving Christ and His kingdom or Satan and his. Because this play calls that to attention, some scenes take us to the depths of our own hearts, yet the play ends with the triumph of Christ’s resurrection from the dead and His offer to shine light into our darkness and move into the streets where we live, promising to be with us always, to the end of the world.

I ask that you not just enjoy the show, but that you ponder our labor here tonight and walk away different than when you arrived.

Thanks. “The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brethren.”