

LEON THEATRE PRESENTS

937

BY DON ZOLIDIS

DIRECTED BY:
ASHLEY CAMPBELL
& TIA HUETTEL



11.9 & 10
7:00 P.M.
LEON HIGH SCHOOL

CONTENT WARNING: THIS SHOW IS BASED ON REAL EVENTS AND PEOPLE FROM A TERRIBLE TIME IN HISTORY. THERE IS FRANK TALK OF THE ATROCITIES OF THE HOLOCAUST AND THE USE OF A GUN TO COMMIT A VIOLENT ACT. PLEASE BE WARNED ABOUT THIS CONTENT AND CONSIDER WISELY THE AGES OF CHILDREN YOU MAY BE BRINGING TO THE SHOW.

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937 BY DON ZOLIDIS

DIRECTOR'S NOTES BY ASHLEY CAMPBELL AND TIA HUETTEL

**"FOR EVIL TO FLOURISH, IT ONLY REQUIRES GOOD MEN TO DO NOTHING"
{SIMON WIESENTHAL}**

937 IS THE STORY OF THE S.S. SAINT LOUIS AND THE 937 JEWISH REFUGEES ESCAPING NAZI GERMANY DURING THE HITLER REGIME. ALTHOUGH THE PIECE IS HISTORIC FICTION, IT HAS A VERY STRONG FOUNDATION ON THE REAL-LIFE EVENTS THAT OCCURRED ABOARD THE S.S. SAINT LOUIS AND ITS TRIP TO HAVANA, CUBA. THIS PIECE HOLDS A SPECIAL PLACE IN BOTH OF OUR HEARTS, AS BOTH OF US HAVE STRONG TIES TO GERMANY. TIA'S GRANDMOTHER, MARIANNE HUETTEL, AS WELL AS HER SISTER, ROSWITA HUETTEL, WERE BOTH IMPRISONED IN A NAZI WORKCAMP WHEN THEY WERE YOUNG. MARIANNE USED HER TALENT AND PASSION FOR THE ARTS TO PAINT BACKDROPS FOR THE VERY PEOPLE WHO WERE IMPRISONING HER, ALLOWING HER TO GET EXTRA RESOURCES WHICH WERE VITAL TO HER AND HER SISTER'S SURVIVAL. MARIANNE PASSED HER LOVE FOR THE ARTS DOWN TO TIA, AND SHE HOPES THAT SHE IS MAKING HER PROUD.

ASHLEY LIVED IN GERMANY FOR HER SOPHOMORE YEAR OF HIGH SCHOOL AS A ROTARY YOUTH EXCHANGE STUDENT. SHE WAS ABLE TO TALK WITH PEOPLE WHO HAD FIRST-HAND EXPERIENCED THE AFTERMATH OF THE SECOND WORLD WAR AND THE TURMOIL THAT IT BROUGHT UPON THEM AND THE COUNTRY. WHILE SHE WAS LIVING ABROAD SHE WAS ABLE TO VISIT THE DACHAU CONCENTRATION CAMP. THE TIME SHE SPENT WALKING AROUND THE GROUNDS, LEARNING PEOPLE'S STORIES, LISTENING TO TESTIMONIALS FROM SURVIVORS, MADE A LASTING IMPRESSION ON HER AND INSPIRED HER TO USE THIS PLAY AS A MEMORIAL FOR THE MANY PEOPLE WHO LOST THEIR LIVES IN THE CONCENTRATION CAMPS AND FOR THOSE WHO HELPED TO FIGHT THE EVIL OF THE NAZI REGIME.

WHAT DREW BOTH OF US TO THIS PIECE THOUGH, WAS THAT IT IS NOT JUST A SAD HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL PIECE. IT SHOWS THE PEOPLE AS THEY ARE, THEIR HUMOR, RELATIONSHIPS, FRIENDSHIPS, MISCHIEF, AND THEIR STRUGGLE WITH THE CIRCUMSTANCES THEY ARE FACING, NOT JUST THE FACT THAT THEY ARE REFUGEES ESCAPING FROM GERMANY. WE HOPE THAT THIS STORY INSPIRES YOU TO SPREAD HOPE, STAND UP FOR WHAT YOU BELIEVE IN, AND NEVER FORGET THE LIVES LOST DURING THIS DARK TIME OF HISTORY. WE HOPE THAT YOU ENJOY THE SHOW AS MUCH AS WE HAVE ENJOYED PREPARING IT FOR ALL OF YOU!

937 CAST & CREW BIOS

(and a word from Mrs. Marshall)

STUDENT DIRECTORS

ASHLEY CAMPBELL (Co-DIRECTOR) IS A SENIOR AT LEON HIGH SCHOOL, WHERE SHE IS



EXTREMELY ACTIVE IN THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION (PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE HEAD/COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR), THESPIAN HONOR SOCIETY (TROUPE SECRETARY/NATIONAL HONOR THESPIAN), KEY CLUB (PRESIDENT), CHORUS DEPARTMENT (CAPITAL SINGERS PRESIDENT/MELODEARS), AND THEATRE DEPARTMENT (THEATRE IV HONORS). THIS YEAR SHE WILL ALSO BE SERVING AS THE LEON COUNTY SCHOOLS STUDENT SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER. IN HER FREE TIME, YOU CAN FIND HER DANCING AT SHARON DAVIS SCHOOL OF DANCE, SKYPING HER FRIENDS AND FAMILY IN GERMANY, VOLUNTEERING WITH GIRL SCOUTS, OR HANGING OUT WITH HER FAMILY. PREVIOUS CREDITS INCLUDE LES MISERABLES (MADAME THERNARDIER), LITTLE WOMEN (AUNT MARCH/MRS. KIRK), MY FAIR LADY (SERVANT'S CHORUS), STEEL MAGNOLIAS

(SHELBY), CATCH ME IF YOU CAN (MELLIE, DAS MÄDCHEN), THE LITTLE MERMAID (OCEANETTE/MAID), HARVEY (MRS. CHUMLEY), AND PIRATES OF PENZANCE (GENERAL'S WARD). ASHLEY WOULD LIKE TO THANK HER PARENTS, DAN AND COLLETTE, FOR ALWAYS ENCOURAGING HER TO SHOOT FOR THE STARS, MRS. MARSHALL FOR TRUSTING HER AND TIA WITH THIS ENORMOUS RESPONSIBILITY, TIA FOR BEING HER ROCK AND RIGHT ARM DURING THIS ENTIRE PROCESS, AND TO ALL OF THE CAST AND CREW FOR WORKING SO HARD TO BRING THIS BEAUTIFUL STORY TO LIFE. *(Ashley is the real Wonder Woman, managing everything with exuberance and excellence. She has worked on this show so diligently and with such respect for the subject matter. She directs everything in her life as beautifully as she has directed this production.)*

TIA HUETTEL (Co-DIRECTOR) HAS BEEN ACTING SINCE FIRST GRADE IN WHICH SHE PLAYED THE ROLE OF 'PIGLET #3' IN FAIRY TALE FLORENZA. HER NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENTS INCLUDE PLACING THIRD IN THE 6TH GRADE FAIRVIEW MIDDLE SCHOOL SPELLING BEE, AND EATING AN ENTIRE BLOCK OF CHEDDAR IN ONE SITTING. SHE WILL PROBABLY BE RICH AND FAMOUS WHEN SHE IS OLDER. *(Tia is a mix of crazy creative freedom and disciplined focus. She is so much fun to work with and never lost her patience or sense of good humor during this process. I cannot wait to see what she does next, especially whatever leads her to the rich and famous portion of her future.)*



CAST & CREW

ASHER ADAMS (PRESIDENT BRU,) IS A SOPHOMORE AT LEON. THIS IS HIS FIRST LEON PLAY BUT HE HAS FEATURED IN A FEW FSU STUDENT FILMS AND SCHOOL PLAYS AT FORMER SCHOOLS. HIS HOBBIES INCLUDE SWIMMING, PING PONG, AND HANGING WITH HIS FRIENDS. *(Asher is a delight. His fun sense of character makes every scene unique and his kindness to everyone makes him an excellent ensemble member.)*



MYA BARBER (HOUSE MANAGER) IS JUNIOR AT LEON HIGHSCHOOL: SHE IS A THREE YEAR LEON THEATRE AND CHORUS STUDENT. MYA IS A STARTING HER 3RD YEAR ON LEON'S VARSITY BASKETBALL TEAM. SHE IS ALSO A MEMBER OF CAPITAL SINGERS AND MADRIGALS. MYA IS THRILLED TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS HEARTWRENCHING PRODUCTION. *(Mya continues to amaze me with her performances and the way she takes on responsibilities. She is always true to herself and brings a joyful confidence into everything that she does. Her smile lights up every day and every room she walks into.)*

CATE BILBREY (DUTCH AMBASSADOR) IS A JUNIOR AT LEON, THIS IS HER THIRD SHOW AND THIRD YEAR IN THEATRE. ALONG WITH THEATRE, CATE IS ALSO PRESIDENT OF LEON'S MODEL UN TEAM AND A MEMBER OF PEACE JAM. SHE WOULD LIKE TO THANK HER FRIENDS, FAMILY, AND DIRECTORS, ASHLEY AND TIA. *(Cate is such a throwback to the glorious stars of the 30's & 40's. Continually classy, with a bit of sass, she thoughtfully and carefully prepares anything that she does. She is purposeful and brings a sense of cool headedness and confidence into each endeavor she pursues.)*



SARAH BROCK (SET DESIGN / CONSTRUCTION) IS EXCITED TO BE WORKING IN TECH CREW FOR THE FIRST TIME IN A SHOW. SHE HAS TAKEN THEATRE CLASSES SINCE 6TH GRADE AND ENJOYS ACTING BUT LOVES THE NEW EXPERIENCE OF DOING THINGS BEHIND-THE-SCENES. SHE HAS PARTICIPATED IN OTHER SHOWS SUCH AS THOROUGHLY MODERN MILLIE JR., WILLY WONKA JR., AND THE LION KING JR. SHE IS ALSO A PART OF LEON THESPIANS. *(Sarah brings sweetness wherever she goes. This is the first time doing set design and construction and she was always so willing to do whatever was needed. Her kindness makes this world a better place. She is a lovely quiet and caring presence in our classroom and is an amazing writer, musician, and actor also.)*

KENARA BROWN (ELISE) IS THE DAUGHTER OF DANIELLE AND KENYA BROWN. SHE IS IN HER 6TH SHOW AT LEON: TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD (CHOIR GIRL) THE LITTLE MERMAID (JELLYFISH) THE ARSONISTS (MAID) HUNCHBACK OF NOTRA DAME (ROMANI) LES MISERABLE (BEGGAR). SHE IS IN CAPITAL SINGERS AND MELODEARS AT LEON HIGH SCHOOL. SHE WOULD LIKE TO THANK HER FRIENDS AND DIRECTORS TIA AND ASHLEY FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO PORTRAY THIS ROLE, HER BROTHER FOR HELPING HER RUN LINES, AND HER MOTHER AND SISTER FOR THEIR LOVE AND SUPPORT. *(Kenara could take on any role and make it work. She is always ready for a challenge and gives 110% to whatever she is doing. I love her spirit and enjoy watching her grow in her acting and performing skills.)*



CAITLYN BURKE (SELMA) IS A SENIOR AT LEON HIGH SCHOOL, THIS IS HER 8TH PLAY AT LEON. CAITLYN IS AN HONOR THESPIAN AND A PROUD MEMBER OF THE THESPIAN TROUPE'S PRODUCTION TEAM. CAITLYN'S MOST RECENT ROLE WAS TRUVY IN LEON'S STEEL MAGNOLIAS. CAITLYN WOULD LIKE TO THANK EVERYONE WHO TOOK THE TIME TO COME OUT AND SUPPORT LEON THEATRE. *(Caitlyn is so valuable to Leon Theatre. Her make-up designs are always exciting and I love the way she dissects a script and takes the words and creates characters and designs for performances. She has such depth to her design and acting.)*

RYAN CARLTON (STAGE MANAGER) IS A SENIOR AT LEON. THIS IS HIS FIRST PRODUCTION WITH LEON THEATRE, HE IS ALSO INVOLVED IN CAPITAL SINGERS, MADRIGALS, AND MANE EVENT AT LEON. HE WOULD LIKE TO THANK ASHLEY AND TIA FOR TRUSTING HIM AND BELIEVING THAT HE WOULD MAKE A GOOD STAGE MANAGER. *(So we threw Ryan into the role of first time Stage Manager. And now, I am hoping I can keep him as my Stage Manager forever. He fully embraced this role. He was so thorough in his note taking and execution of his role that we can't believe he hasn't been doing this for years. What a trooper and what a fast and eager learner!)*



ALEX CRAGO (SHIP CREW) IS SOPHOMORE WHO LOVES ACTING BUT HAS STAGE FRIGHT. *(Alex is also a fantastic comedic actor and has a wonderful sense of humor. He is an awesome student and always goes above and beyond in anything that he does for class. He is also a kind and caring human being and I love seeing him grow and mature as he continues to pursue his dreams.)*

EDDIE EDGERSON (AMERICAN AMBASSADOR, SHIP CREW) HAS BEEN IN LEON THEATRE SINCE HIS FRESHMAN YEAR AND HIS FAVORITE COLOR IS APPLE JUICE. *(Eddie constantly surprises me with his amazing performances and the way he naturally is able to inhabit so many different characters. He is always calm, cool, and collected. He is so much fun to watch as he continues to grow as a performer and he really wants us to put on a Shakespeare Star Wars play.)*





MIA FORD-GREEN (ELDERLY WOMAN, CUBAN AMBASSADOR, SHIP CREW MEMBER) IS A SENIOR AT LEON AND THIS IS HER EIGHTH SHOW AT LEON. MÍA WAS A PART OF PROSPECT HIGH: BROOKLYN, ANTIGONE, TO KILL A MOCKING BIRD, A MIDSUMMER NIGHTS DREAM, THE HUNCHBACK OF NORTE DAME, AND STEEL MAGNOLIAS, AND LES MISERABLES. MÍA IS HEAVILY INVOLVED IN THE PERFORMING ARTS PROGRAMS AT LEON AND SHE WOULD LIKE THANK HER FORMER THEATRE/CHORUS TEACHERS, FRIENDS, AND FAMILY FOR PUSHING HER TO STEP OUT OF HER COMFORT ZONE TO DO THE BEST SHE CAN ON STAGE. *(Mia Ford-Green is kindness personified. There is no way on God's green earth that I would have survived without her indomitable spirit and love of leading warm up games all day long. There are no small roles to Mia, she faces everything she does with passion and perseverance.)*

SKYLER HANCE (MAKEUP DESIGN) IS A SENIOR AT LEON HIGH SCHOOL AND HER THIRD YEAR OF TAKING THEATRE. THIS IS THE FIRST PERFORMANCE SHE WILL BE ASSISTING IN. SHE ENJOYS WATCHING NETFLIX AND EATING CINNABON TOASTER STRUDELS. *(Skyler is such a talented designer. Her costume designs truly show her sense of style and grace. She did some wonderful research into the REAL people our actors are representing and that shows just how amazing she is when she is inhabiting the role of an artist!)*



SEBASTIAN HILL (SCHROEDER) IS A JUNIOR AT LEON'S HIGH SCHOOL PLAYING THE ROLE OF GUSTAV SCHROEDER. HE IS THE SON OF TERRY AND YOLANDA MIRANDA HILL. YOU MIGHT HAVE SEEN HIM AS GRATIARE IN LEON'S PRODUCTION OF LES MISERABLES. *(I met Sebastian back stage at Les Mis and asked him why I hadn't met him yet. He said it was because he "wasn't a Theatre kid." Well, I think we might be making him into a Theatre kid slowly but surely. He is a talented performer and adds a strong sense of humanity and I think the real Schroeder would be thrilled by Sebastian's portrayal.)*

JORDAN JACKSON (SOFI) STARTED THEATRE IN CHURCH IN 2ND GRADE. SHE HAS HELD AN ENSEMBLE ROLE IN THE PAST LEON PLAYS: TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD AND THE ARSONISTS. HER LOVE FOR THEATRE HAS GROWN WHILE TAKING MRS. MARSHALL'S THEATRE CLASS OVER THE PAST 5 YEARS. JORDAN WOULD LIKE TO THANK TIA AND ASHLEY FOR TRUSTING HER TO PLAY THE CHARACTER OF SOFI. SHE WOULD LIKE TO DEDICATE HER INVOLVEMENT IN 937 TO HER MOM FOR IGNITING HER LOVE FOR ACTING. *(Jordan is a constant delight, in and out of the classroom. She is always trying to "get her life together" and I think she has conquered that goal with a bit of grace and humor, plus a ton of talent and dedication.)*

