

A-State Theatre presents: "The Revolutionists"

CAROLINE AVERITT

LIFE EDITOR

ELIJAH TEMPLETON

OPINION EDITOR

The curtain is closing on the Department of Theatre's season with "The Revolutionists."

DayDay Robinson, assistant professor of theatre, is directing the show. "The Revolutionists" follows four women, three historical figures and one fictional character, caught up in the French Revolution as one woman, a playwright, works to tell their stories and rewrite their history.

"(The play) talks about the importance of having your story told, about having a space where they can be honest with each other and say things they would not normally say in public, but told with modern language, talking the way we talk now," Robinson said.

this time, as they had a similar revolution to the one in France during the Reign of Terror. "She is the anchor of the group, the most grounded. She is determined, strong and brave," Hood said.

One of the three central historical figures is Marie Antoinette, played by Abby Orr, a sophomore theatre major from Jonesboro. This is her first straight play and college production, so Orr said she is thankful to the cast and crew for being gracious and showing her the ropes.

She said she hopes the audience learns no one is a one-dimensional character in life.

"I think so often we see life in black and white because it is easier to understand that way. But this play reminds us to see the humanity in everyone," Orr said.

Another central figure of the show is Charlotte Corday,

she enjoyed the process.

"I would recommend that people come and watch this show so that they can get a new glimpse into the history of the French Revolution while enjoying the beautiful relationships between the women of its time," Provence said. "I hope the audience takes away the message that we as people need people. Friendship and sisterhood really can overcome anything."

Rounding out the trio of historical figures is Olympe De Gouges, a famed playwright, played by Skylar Conger, a senior theatre major from Haskell, Arkansas.

"My favorite part is getting to experience new discoveries every day while acting," Conger said. "I hope that the audience gets a new insight on just how terrifying it was and is to be a woman."

Robinson said the rehearsals in the lead-up to the show have been her favorite part of the production.

"As I'm watching these women in the story be real and honest with each other and have these difficult conversations that are both funny and heartbreaking, I am seeing our cast do the same thing with each other," Robinson said. "It's building that community, that feminine energy, that safe space that we are all able to just be ourselves, which is kind of what the story is all about."

played by Emily Provence, a junior theatre major from Searcy. Provence said her character is the "angel of assassins" and that the show has been challenging since the character is nothing like her in real life. Nevertheless,

"I think so often we see life in black and white because it is easier to understand that way. But this play reminds us to see the humanity in everyone," Abby Orr said.

The show's one fictional character is Marianne Angelle, played by Kyla Hood, a senior theatre major from Jonesboro. Angelle is a Haitian spy, mother and revolutionary. Hood said Angelle represents the women of Haiti during



GRAPHIC COURTESY OF ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY

Poster for "The Revolutionists"

Robinson said this show will be entertaining to those who may not think they are fans of theater.

"It's hilarious! Yeah, some people are going to die, but it's a comedy and (the playwright) never wants us to forget that

it's a comedy. Even if (the audience) can't relate fully to the stories of feminism and femininity, they can relate to the idea of leaving a legacy. What do you leave when you are gone and who tells your story?" Robinson said.

Performances will be held at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Saturday and April 19-20 and at 2:30 p.m. Sunday and April 21. Arkansas State University students get in for free with their A-State ID.

THIS WEEK'S POP PICK

RACHEL RUDD | EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

"CREATURES IN HEAVEN"
GLASS ANIMALS



PHOTO COURTESY OF GENIUS

Glass Animals returns to the mainstream with the release of "Creatures in Heaven," the first single of their upcoming album "I Love You So F***ing Much," set to drop July 19.

Lead vocalist Dave Bayley teased wanting to make a space-themed album in the past and while that isn't super obvious in "Creatures in Heaven," the themes of love, specifically a first love, bleed through the song's soft melodies.

Lyrical, "Creatures in Heaven" is a step down from the band's more metaphorical and abstract lines from 2014's "ZABA" and 2016's "How To Be A Human Being," trading their distinct songwriting style for something more repetitive and radio pop.

This is most clearly seen in lines such as "Three in the morning, be in the moment /

Here in the moment, free in the moment," and "Cause it's merely a moment, here for a moment / Here is the moment, here for a moment."

While this may push away hardcore Glass Animals fans, the song is still catchy, reminiscent of a slow summer jam sure to lure in more casual listeners.

"Creatures in Heaven" leans more into the heavy production of 2020's "Dreamland," sounding less experimental and more pop-friendly and synthesized. Bayley's odd pronunciation of words returns in this single, which does clash with the laid-back instrumentals.

However, "Creatures in Heaven" has moments where the stars align. It gradually grows on listeners with its intimate instrumentation and the occasional lyrics that, while simplistic, still beautifully capture the idea of first love.

Those who loved "Dreamland" will enjoy "Creatures in Heaven," although fans of Glass Animals's older works will have to hold off until the release of the full album to see if the band's eclectic style returns in full.

Final Score: 6/10

Lizzy McAlpine brings older, more mature sound to new album

COLUMN BY
CAROLINE AVERITT

LIFE EDITOR

I have been a fan of Lizzy McAlpine since her second album "five seconds flat." I had high expectations, but with her third studio album, "Older," nothing could be better than this.

You probably know her hit song "ceilings" which went viral on TikTok back in 2022. Despite her increasing popularity, she has stayed true to her alternative roots.

McAlpine brought all her best qualities to this album. It has her classic haunting themes and angelic voice, but it also strips everything down and brings a new maturity to her discography.

This album includes many piano and acoustic guitar ballads that sound like they were written in a bedroom instead of a studio, which gives them an intimate touch. While most of the production is simple, it is still cohesive and uses small details to enhance her songs.

My favorite track is by far "Drunk, Running." The chorus ends with the lyric, "Say 'I love you' and then drink it backwards." If you pay close

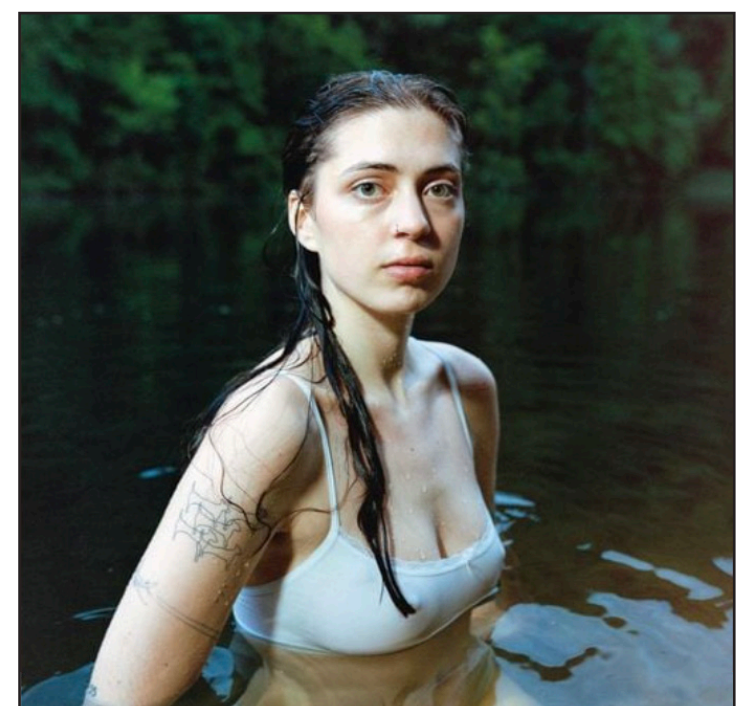


PHOTO COURTESY OF GENIUS

Album cover for "Older" by Lizzy McAlpine

attention, the end of the song plays McAlpine singing "I love you" backward. This small touch to the production takes it from a good song to a masterful one.

It is clear she has found her sound and is sticking to it. As someone who is about to graduate college, this album about maturing and getting older hits home.

This album has something for everyone and every moment

of life. There are songs for crying and songs for dancing. The album hits emotions of heartbreak, anger and self-hatred but still leaves the listener feeling hopeful by the end.

I am always shocked that Lizzy McAlpine is not more popular. If you have only heard "ceilings," I recommend you check out "Older" and the rest of her discography.

Official Score: 10/10

CLUB SPOTLIGHT: MARINE BIOLOGY CLUB

JERRY DON BURTON

NEWS EDITOR

For those interested in marine life, the Marine Biology Club allows students to engage themselves in the field through hands-on experiences and monthly Zoom meetings.

John Artim, lecturer of biology and sponsor of the Marine Biology Club, said the club has students from various fields such as biology, agriculture and psychology.

“The Marine Biology Club has always, in different ways when different students have been running it, tried to facilitate people’s interests and come together and either be social and talk to other people or find a way to pursue those interests,” Artim said. “Either locally or by occasionally getting together and, say, doing a field trip to Florida over spring break.”

Christiana Knapp, a senior psychology and animal science double major from Beebe, Arkansas, is president of the Marine Biology Club. She said the club had issues with attendance and participation last school year, but hit a sweet spot this semester, reaching 45 members.

Knapp said she became president this semester after noticing nobody was listed as president. She said Artim made her the president because “No one else has asked.”

The club president said being involved in the Marine Biology Club ties her majors and minor together and brings her closer to her career

goal of conducting research with marine mammals.

Club treasurer Esther Brostrand is a senior wildlife fisheries and conservation major from Jonesboro. She said she never planned on becoming treasurer but is glad she joined.

“I have enjoyed my time, spending time with friends as well as participating in the events we have,” Brostrand said. “I believe clubs in general are a good way to network with other people and enable them to make contacts.”

Artim said since Arkansas is a landlocked state, it can be difficult for students to explore marine science. He said this is why organizations like the Marine Biology Club need to exist so interested students can collaborate and find ways to pursue their shared interests.

The Marine Biology Club has organized several events this year. The club participated in a behind-the-scenes tour of the research facilities at the Memphis Zoo, traveled to a local fishery to practice PIT tagging fish and hosted a movie night event.

“Part of the goal when we started was to try and offer hands-on experiences. Part of the PIT tagging is that that’s actually an activity you can put on your CV as a skill that you have,” Knapp said. “For the behind-the-scenes at the Memphis Zoo, we actually met several people, including the head woman in charge of the animal research. If you want to network it’s not a bad place to start.”



PHOTO COURTESY OF CHRISTIANA KNAPP

The Marine Biology Club visiting the Memphis Zoo.

Passive integrated transponder (PIT) tags allow researchers to accurately and safely track individual organisms. Scientists often use PIT tags on marine life to track movement and population growth or decline.

Knapp said another goal for the club is to keep involvement and discussion regarding marine biology alive because, while she said many students are interested in the field, the marine science minor was discontinued at Arkansas State University. Brostrand said the club is going to emphasize keeping the club alive in upcoming semesters.

“The main thing is to keep communication alive, participation alive and see if it grows from there,” Brostrand said.

The Marine Biology Club collaborates with other clubs on campus. Knapp said the Marine Biology Club collaborated with the Wildlife Society during their movie night event. Artim said the club often intersects with other organizations

Marine Biology Club members are involved and interested in. “One of the things about Marine Biology Club is that marine studies is such a broad topic it can encompass social sciences and the humanities,”

Artim said. “If folks have interests in those directions, I’d like to strongly support them because it’s intrinsic to being interested in that topic.”

Knapp said the Marine Biology Club will host an election this semester to nominate members for leadership positions within the club. Knapp said the club is looking to fill a social media manager position during their election.

Upcoming events include another movie night and a Spring River summer float trip.

The club president said students interested in the club can email her or Artim

for information on how to join. Artim can be emailed at jartim@astate.edu.

Knapp said posters are also placed around the Lab Sciences West building with a QR code to join the Marine Biology Club GroupMe chat. There are no requirements or dues needed to join the club.

“I know there are a lot of students out here who are nursing students or wildlife students but there can be a lot to learn from marine sciences,” Brostrand said. “I just hope that students give stuff a try before they say ‘Oh, that’s not for me.’”

Carson Davis, special to *The Herald*, contributed to this report.

Student Speak: Tell us a joke!



Photo by Shelby Russom | Staff Photographer

Brett Branum is a first-year history and biology double major from Senath, Missouri.

Brett said:
“Why did the photon not pack a suitcase? Because he’s traveling light!”



Photo by Shelby Russom | Staff Photographer

Hannah McKinney is a first-year social work major from Chesapeake, Virginia.

Hannah said:
“What do you call a cow with no legs? Ground beef!”



Photo by Shelby Russom | Staff Photographer

Drew Walker is a junior music education major from Jonesboro.

Drew said:
“If I were a stripper, people would pay to dress me instead.”



Photo by Shelby Russom | Staff Photographer

Jess Crum is a graduate student studying music education from Stuttgart,

Jess said:
“What is brown and sticky? A stick!”