

ORDINARY DAYS is presented
by arrangement with Concord Theatricals
www.concordtheatricals.com

RIT

College of Liberal Arts
School of
Performing Arts



RIT PERFORMING ARTS PRESENTS

ORDINARY DAYS

MUSIC, LYRICS, AND SCRIPT BY ADAM GWON

PERFORMANCES

MARCH 30–APRIL 2, 2023 AT 7:30 PM

LOCATION

UNIVERSITY GALLERY IN BOOTH HALL



ORDINARY DAYS

MUSIC, LYRICS, AND SCRIPT BY ADAM GWON

Director

Dr. Kelley Holley

Music Director

Dane Noble-Rosema

Assistant Director

Darian Slattery

Costume Designer

Jacqui Thompson

Stage Manager

Catherine Hamp

Lighting Designer

Mark Wenderlich

Projection Designer

Dan Roach

Properties Designer

Simon Mastroserio

Setting

New York City, 2009

This performance runs approximately
90 minutes with no intermission.

RIT recognizes that we gather on the traditional territory of the Onöndowa'ga: or "the people of the Great Hill," in English known as Seneca people, "the keeper of the western door." We honor the land on which RIT was built and recognize the unique relationship that the Indigenous stewards have with this land.

Director's Note

Dr. Kelley Holley

"You are the city," proclaimed artist-architect Petra Kempf, a provocative statement that recognized that it is the people, not the buildings, that make up a city. *Ordinary Days* agrees. While the musical brings us to recognizable places in New York – the Met, Central Park, Broadway – it directs our attention to the lives of its residents. In the mundane moments of everyday life, *Ordinary Days* finds beauty. Channeling this perspective, the character Warren optimistically sees the people milling about on the street as art. Gothamites wash the city in color, each a brush mark on the canvas of the city. Daily life is not juxtaposed against art, it is art.

But this is not immediately apparent to the four characters in *Ordinary Days* – Deb, Warren, Claire, and Jason – who are busy trying to figure out their own place in an overwhelming, bustling city. Each grapples with what is holding them back, eager to bridge the gap from where they are to a better future. Composer-lyricist Adam Gwon may have felt many of these same emotions as he wrote *Ordinary Days*. He, too, was living in New York City, wondering if he would ever achieve the dreams that lay before him. It is all too easy to get swept up by the big dreams and the scary unknowns and forget to hold onto and cherish the small moments in between. Each is a part of the larger whole of our lives: the droplets of paint that compose the painting of our lives, and that of the place we share together.

If the script of *Ordinary Days* normally asks us to think about art, this production at RIT does doubly so. Staged in the University Gallery, we are surrounded by art in a space designed to showcase it. Galleries and museums let us slow down and contemplate the creative choices made in each piece, a fit setting for a musical that tasks us with turning that same attention toward everyday life. The University Gallery stands in for the musical's the Met. Consequently, we see paintings by Claude Monet, Nicolaes Maes, and Jacques-Louis David, projected in the musical, on the walls alongside the talents of RIT students. By staging this show in the University Gallery, we bridge the gap between New York City and the robust, creative community at RIT.

For Warren, the relationship between everyday life and art is best articulated through the art of Monet. I find this relationship in a painting entitled *Q Train* by Nigel Van Wieck. In the painting, a young woman sits slumped on the bright orange seats of the New York City subway, her face obscured and her legs akimbo. She seems deep in thought. This image does not romanticize the city: the location and subject are both mundane, a moment you could catch and easily overlook. And yet, caught between the two: the city exhales, a glimmer of beauty in the everyday. If Petra Kempf reminds us that the city is made of its people, *Ordinary Days* casts that special relationship as stunning. You are the city, you are the art.

Ordinary Days is my first show at RIT, having joined the School of Performing Arts in August. To me, these still feel like the extraordinary days when everything is new. I'm very glad to have spent these first days with the talented and creative students who make up the cast and crew of *Ordinary Days*. I'm glad to be here with you.

"And now here I am with you, as we overlook the city..."

Cast

Deb.....	Alison Maselek^
Warren.....	Declan McHale^
Claire.....	Gabriela Rivera Araujo^
Jason.....	Will Buxton^
Ensemble and Swing.....	H Rose
Ensemble and Swing.....	Kira Welker^

Crew and Administration

Director.....	Dr. Kelley Holley
Assistant Director.....	Darian Slattery
Music Director.....	Dane Noble-Rosema
Stage Manager.....	Catherine Hamppe^*
Assistant Stage Manager.....	Dov Alperin^, Erin Heh^*, Karla Torres^*
Costume Designer.....	Jacqui Thompson^*
Projection Designer.....	Dan Roach
Properties Designer.....	Simon Mastroserio^*
Lighting Designer.....	Mark Wenderlich
Finance and Marketing.....	Ben Willmott
Light Board Operator.....	Dov Alperin^
Projection and Captions Operator.....	Des Amaya*
Properties Crew.....	Benjamin Hartman-Seeskin*, Daniel Kim*
Costume and Makeup Crew.....	Libby Lebeau^*
Marketing and Program Designer.....	Emily Rhone
Graphic Designer.....	Kayla Brady
Theatre Ensemble Instructor.....	Alexa Scott-Flaherty
Production Assistant.....	Michael Dwyer
Performance Interpreters.....	Nancy Kikendall, Anna Walton
Theatre Arts Program Director.....	Andy Head

Bios

Alison Maselek [she/her] (Deb) is a 1st-year American Sign Language Interpreting major from Sewell, NJ. Favorite previous roles include Elsa from *Frozen Jr.*, Roxie from *Chicago*, Olive from *Spelling Bee*, and Maggie from *A Chorus Line*. She would like to thank her amazing family, all prior theatre educators and directors, Will, and the entire production team of *Ordinary Days* for making this dream show happen!

Catherine Hampp [she/her] (Stage Manager) is a 3rd-year Mechanical Engineering major with a minor in Theatre Arts from Binghamton, NY. Her favorite previous roles include directing *How to Succeed in High School Without Really Trying* and being an assistant stage manager for the Tioga Hills musicals. Catherine would like to thank her friends and family for their support. Enjoy the show!

Declan McHale [he/they] (Warren) is a 2nd-year Biomedical Sciences major. He's originally from Newton, NJ. His favorite roles include Voice of Prior Walter from *Angels in America: Millennium Approaches* and Nostradamus from *Something Rotten!* He wants to thank the audience, his family, and friends for supporting live theatre, in addition to the production team of *Ordinary Days* for making this show possible!

Dov Alperin [he/they] (Assistant Stage Manager) is a 1st-year Computer Engineering Technology major. He's originally from Brooklyn, NY where he grew up surrounded by theatre. His favorite stories to write and work on are those that make New York City a character. He'd like to thank you for coming to see the show.

Erin Heh (Assistant Stage Manager) is a 1st-year in the Physicians Assistant program, minoring in Theatre Arts. Her favorite previous roles include Elle Woods from *Legally Blonde*, Van Helsing from *Dracula*, Clarence from *It's A Wonderful Life*, Helena from *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Joanne from *Godspell*, Little Red Riding Hood from *Into The Woods*, and Lady Catherine from *Pride and Prejudice*. Enjoy the show! :]

Bios

Gabriela Rivera Araujo [she/her] (Claire) is a 1st-year Psychology Major and Pre-Med student. Originally from NYC, she has lived in Seoul, South Korea for the past three and half years. Her favorite roles include Audrey from *Little Shop of Horrors* and Lucy from *13: The Musical*. Gaby wants to thank her mamá, David, her dad, witalinda, and her wonderful and supportive family & friends! She is very excited to take part in her first university production and also wants to thank EVERYONE for coming to see *Ordinary Days*! SSDGM! @gabriela.rivera.18

H Rose [he/him] (Ensemble/Swing) is a 4th-year Humanities, Computing, and Design major. He's originally from Watkins Glen, NY. His passions include writing funny program bios and rewriting them to seem professional. H would like to thank the cast and crew for bringing this show to life and YOU for being here to see it!

Karla Torres (Assistant Stage Manager) is a 1st-year Psychology major, originally from Rochester, NY. She has always had a love for performing, but she is excited to have more experience working behind the scenes. Karla wants to thank everyone for coming and supporting the performing arts program here at RIT. She hopes that you will continue to support RIT as we grow our program and that you enjoy the show.

Kira Welker [she/her] (Ensemble/Swing) is a 4th-year BS/ME student pursuing her Bachelor of Science degree in Industrial and Systems Engineering and her Master of Engineering degree in Engineering Management with a minor in Theatre Arts. She is originally from Pittsburgh, PA. Her favorite roles include Portia from *Something Rotten!* and Evil Tina from *She Kills Monsters: Virtual Realms*. Kira would like to thank her friends and family for all of their support! She would also like to thank everyone involved in this show for all of their hard work! Enjoy the show!

Will Buxton [he/him] (Jason) is a 2nd-year Game Design and Development major from Newtown, PA. Favorite previous roles include Adam from *Children of Eden* and Amos from *Big Fish*. He would like to thank his family, his friends, and his girlfriend for all their love and support, and he hopes you enjoy the show!

DEAF

NTID Performing Arts
presents



Written by Ilya Kaminsky
Directed by Malik Paris

Deaf Republic takes place in an unspecified time of political unrest in an occupied territory. The story unfolds in episodic poems, opening with the shooting of a young deaf boy at a protest. In response, the entire town adopts deafness as a strategy of resistance.

April 14-16, 2023

RIT Inn & Conference Center
Henrietta Ballroom

Visit NTID Performing
Arts website for more
information



Mature Content Warning:
This play contains themes such as
sexuality, murder, and police violence.
Most appropriate for ages 13 and up.



Special Thanks:

President David Munson

Dr. Ellen Granberg

Dr. Anna Stenport

Dr. Kelly Norris Martin

Dr. Erica Haskell

Robert Lewis, Josh Labman, and RIT Tech Crew

RIT/NTID's Department of Access Services

Anna Walton

Nancy Kikendall

NTID Performing Arts

Eric Moslow

Carol Phillip

Rosie Mazique

Joe Janover

Amy Cochrane

Dr. Jill Bradbury

Margo Clements

Vincent Ularich

Ernie Roszkowski

Captioning is provided by a grant from
NYSCA/TDF TAP Plus



Council on
the Arts

tdf

Originally Produced in New York City by Roundabout Theatre Company, Todd Haimes, Artistic Director; Harold Wolpert, Managing Director; Julia C. Levy, Executive Director, as part of Roundabout Underground at the Harold and Miriam Steinberg Center for Theatre

ORDINARY DAYS was presented at the National Alliance for Musical Theatre's Festival of New Musicals in 2008. www.namt.org.

ORDINARY DAYS was originally produced and performed by Pennsylvania Centre Stage at Penn State University.

ORDINARY DAYS was first developed by New York Theatre Barn in New York City in 2007.