The Department of Theatre Arts & Dance Presents

**VIOLET**

Lyrics and Book by
BRIAN CRAWLEY

Music by
JEANINE TESORI

Based on
“The Ugliest Pilgrim”
by Doris Betts

Director
C. PATRICK GENDUSA

Musical Direction
KENNETH WEBER

Choreography
ALYSSA M. STOVER
ELLIOIT HARDIN

Marquette Theatre

March 29, 30 at 7:30 p.m.
March 31 at 2 p.m.
April 4, 5, 6 at 7:30 p.m.

$12 General Admission
$10 Students/Faculty/Staff
Group Rates Available

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The Department of Theatre Arts + Dance Presents

Violet

Music by Jeanine Tesori
Book and Lyrics by Brian Crawley

Marquette Theatre
March 29, 30 + April 4, 5, 6 @ 7:30p
March 31 @ 2:00p

Please note that the performance lasts roughly 1 hour and 30 minutes. Photography or recording of any kind is strictly prohibited. No intermission. No late entry and no re-entry during the performance is allowed.

Violet is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI).
All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI.
www.MTIShows.com
CAST

Violet ................................................................. Cara Duffaut
Flick ........................................................................ Ryan Wiles
Young Vi ................................................................. Allison Gruetzner
Father .................................................................... Michael James
Monty .................................................................... Michael James

Woman with Fan, Music Hall Singer, Mabel................................. Analyse Nelson
Woman Knitting, Landlady, Gospel Soloist ................................ Eden James
Old Lady, Hotel Singer, Old Lady 2 ....................................... Nicole Cardelli
Creepy Guy, Bus Driver 2, Radio Singer, Billy Dean, Virgil.......... Lucas Weynand

PRODUCTION STAFF

Assistant Projections ..................................................... Gabrielle Lopez-Ruiz, Elliot Hardin, Annie Oddo
Stagecraft II Class & Scene Shop Work Study Students .......... Meagan Daves

ARTISTIC STAFF

Technical Director .................................................. C. Patrick Gendusa*
Music Director ....................................................... Ken Weber
Scene Designer ...................................................... Marty Aikens
Lighting Designer .................................................... Mandi Wood
Sound Designer .................................................... Ted Cordano
Assistant Stage Manager ........................................... Madeline Taliancich, Elexis Selmon
Public Relations Coordinator ................................. C. Patrick Gendusa*
Assistant Choreographer ........................................ Zach Weber, Justin Hunter
Props Assistant ..................................................... Kristen Swanson*
Assistant Projections ............................................... Gabrielle Lopez-Ruiz, Elliot Hardin, Annie Oddo

CREW

Light Board Operator ............................................ Naomi Lofton
Sound Board Operator ........................................... Chiara Romano
Wardrobe/Make-Up Crew ................................. Josie Gautier, Cereyna Bougouneau, Haley Taylor
Master Carpenter ................................................ Nick Bremer
Stagecraft II Class & Scene Shop Work Study Students .......... Meagan Daves

Publicity Manager .................................................. Shelbi Copain
House Manager .................................................... Sophia Christilles
House Crew ......................................................... Madeline Read*, Kevin Aguilar, Sarah Schuler, Taiya Culbertson

Costume Technicians ........................................... Cassidi Poulin, Madeline Read, Baylee Robertson

*Denotes Alpha Psi Omega Membership
CAST

CARA DUFFAULT (Violet)
is a senior musical theatre major at Loyola. She is thrilled to be a part of this moving show with such talented castmates. Her most recent role was Wednesday Addams in *The Addams Family*. She would like to thank the production staff for this amazing opportunity and her mom for being her number one fan.

RYAN WILES (Flick)
is thrilled to be in his first Loyola production! His previous credits include Lion from *The Wizard of Oz* and Donkey from *Shrek the Musical*. He is very thankful for the opportunity to work with such a great cast and wonderful crew!

MICHAEL JAMES (Monty)
is super excited to be playing Monty in his second production at Loyola. He’d like to thank the cast, director, and everyone involved in the show for all the hard work they have put into this incredibly moving story.

ALLISON GRUETZNER (Young Vi)
A sophomore Musical Theatre major, Allison is grateful to have been given the opportunity to play Young Vi in *Violet*! This is her second Loyola production, following *Richard III*, where she played Prince Edward. She sends thanks to her family, friends, and professors for their endless love and support.

JAVIER MEDEROS (Father)
is excited to be on the Loyola stage once again. Credits include *These Shining Lives* (Tom Donahue), *Informed Consent* (Two/Graham), *The Christians* (Pastor Paul), *Forum* (Pseudolus), and *Little Shop of Horrors* (Orin Scrivello). He thanks Patrick, his family, his friends, and his girlfriend for their support.

ALEX CHRISTIAN LUCAS (Bus Driver, Preacher, Rufus, Radio Singer, Bus Driver 4)
is a Broadway World Award Winning New Orleans native and a proud member of the American Guild of Musical Artists and the New Orleans Opera Chorus. He is a Junior here at Loyola and has been performing since he was eight years old, having utilized his talents on stages both locally and nationally in over thirty musicals and several operas.

BEN BENIGNO (Leroy Evans, Waiter, Mechanic, Radio Soloist, Bus Driver 3, Earl)
is so excited to be working alongside such an incredible cast and crew. Thank you to Patrick, who has helped me break out of my shell, and to Cassidi, who has spent countless hours making sure this production runs smoothly. Nothing but love for MY stage manager. Enjoy the show!
LUCAS WEYNAND (Creepy Guy, Bus Driver 2, Radio Singer, Billy Dean, Virgil) is thrilled to be a part of a musical for the spring semester. Shoutout Mom and Dad!

NICO CARDELLI (Old Lady, Hotel Singer, Old Lady 2) is super excited to be a part of Loyola’s production of Violet. She has also been in Music Man, Grease, Thoroughly Modern Millie, and also had the opportunity to be an ASM for Loyola’s production of Pygmalion.

EDEN JAMES (Woman Knitting, Landlady, Gospel Solosit) is a first year student at Loyola University. She loves zydeco music and her dad, Troy’s shrimp fettuccine. She is inspired by her mother’s nonprofit arts organization and one day hopes to start her own.

ANNAL YSE NELSON (Woman with Fan, Music Hall Singer, Mabel) is a freshman and is so excited to be part of her first musical at Loyola. “I’d like to thank Patrick and Ken and everyone else involved in making this possible for me!”

Special Thanks

Dean Kern Maass
Dr. Meg Frazier
Mrs. Cheryl Conway
Ken Weber
Alyssa Stover
Elliot Hardin
Pepperoni’s Cafe
Fairfax Fabrics
ARTISTIC/PRODUCTION STAFF

C. PATRICK GENDUSA* (Director)
has worked professionally as a performer, director, and instructor in New York, Texas, New Mexico, Virginia, and Louisiana. He received a BA in Theatre Arts from St. Edwards University and his MFA in Acting and Directing from Texas Tech University. Currently, he is the Chair and Artistic Director of the Department of Theatre Arts & Dance at Loyola University New Orleans. At Loyola he has directed A Girls Guide to Chaos, The Laramie Project, Almost, Maine, Godspell, Blithe Spirit, Patient A, World Goes 'Round, A Grand Night for Singing, The Spitfire Grill and The Christians. He received a Big Easy Award for Best University Production for Godspell and The Christians. Patrick is a proud member of the Screen Actors Guild and the American Federation of Television and Radio Artists.

MARTY AIKENS (Technical Director & Scenic Designer)
has worked with many performance companies including Cirque du Soleil and the Utah Shakespearean Festival. He holds a B.A. in Acting and Directing from the University of Tennessee and an M.F.A. in Theatre Design and Production from Tulane University. He served as Artistic Director of Atlanta’s critically acclaimed Jack in the Black Box Theatre Company. Marty then moved into Atlanta’s Magnet School for Performing Arts and North Springs Charter High School as faculty, resident designer, and technical director. In television, Marty has worked with NBC, Fox, and CBS. Currently, Marty produces and directs a lifestyle/foodie magazine show called “A Taste of the Good Life”. His New Orleans design work includes Woyzeck (Tulane / New Orleans Fringe Fest), Totalitarians (Southern Rep), Pterodactyls (Promethean Theatre Co.), and The Producers and Into the Woods (Rivertown Theatres).

SOPHIA CHRISTILLES (House Manager)
is a sophomore Theatre major with a Business minor. Loyola credits include: The Christians (assistant stage manager) Richard III (props assistant), Informed Consent (sound designer), and Pygmalion (stage manager). Sophia would like to thank her mentor and friend Marty Aikens for his continuous guidance and support.

SHELBI COPAIN (Publicity Manager)
is a sophomore Musical Theatre and Mass Communication major. Her Loyola Credits include: The Christians, Informed Consent, These Shining Lives, and Life Sucks. She’d like to thank the house and pub team for their patience and hard work.

MEAGAN DAVES (Assistant Projections Designer)
is a sophomore Studio Art major, with a Theater Arts minor. Meagan has been working behind the scenes for many of Loyola productions for the past year. Shows include The Christians (work study build crew), Richard III (work study build crew), Informed Consent (sound board operator), and These Shining Lives (build crew). Meagan would like to thank her friends and family for all their support. Meagan also thanks Marty Aikens and Patrick Gendusa for this awesome opportunity.
TED CORDANO (Sound Designer) is a sophomore at Loyola New Orleans University studying Film and Theater Arts. He started to gain his interest in theatre from his time at Archbishop Riordan High School serving many areas of running and production crew. Ted hopes to serve his best as the Sound Designer for *Violet*.

KELLIE GRENGS (Costume Director/Costume Design Advisor) teaches a variety of courses and supervises the Costume Studio at Loyola. She oversees costume design and construction for the department productions with over 70 of her designs on the Loyola stages. Her freelance work includes photography for local publications and managing a small business. Kellie is a board member of the Freret Improvement District and Development Director of Zeus’ Rescues. Both are non-profits in New Orleans that benefit our community. She earned her M.F.A. in Costume Design from Tulane University and holds a B.S. in Apparel Design & Manufacturing from the University of Wisconsin-Stout.

ELLIO T HARDIN (Assistant Choreographer) is a Sophomore at Loyola University and he is majoring in Digital Film with a Minor in Theatre Arts and Dance. He wants to choreograph a show his senior year: “I want to thank my Mom and Grandma for supporting and believing in my dreams”. Ciao for now folks.

EMILY PATRICK (Student Dramaturg) is a freshman at Loyola University, who is incredibly excited to be working as the Student Dramaturg for *Violet*. Emily would like to thank the cast and crew, as well as her family for all of their support.

CASSIDI POULIN (Stage Manager) is a sophomore at Loyola and honored to be the Stage Manager for *Violet*. She has been a part of 5 other productions at Loyola, as a cast member, assistant projections designer, and crew member. Congrats to the cast and crew for their hard work in this production! Cassidi wants to thank her family for all of the love and support they give her.

BAYLEE ROBERTSON (Costume Designer) is a sophomore at Loyola University pursuing a degree in Theatre Business and minoring in Studio Art. In addition to being employed in the university costume studio, Baylee recently assistant designed *These Shining Lives* last fall. *Violet* will be Baylee’s second main-stage design, the first being *Informed Consent*. Baylee thanks her friends, family, and Kellie Grengs for their support and guidance.

ELEXIS SELMON (Assistant Stage Manager) is a first year student at Loyola University who is very passionate about theatre and music. Taking on the role as ASM on *Violet* is definitely a highlight of her first year at Loyola, and she is beyond excited to see how her creative horizon will continue to grow.
ALYSSA STOVER (Choreographer)
holds an M.A in Dance Theories and Practices from the University of North Carolina-Greensboro, where she taught ballet, dance appreciation, and dance history as a department TA, presented research at the Congress on Research in Dance, and served as the President of the Association for Graduate Students in Dance. She received her B.F.A. in Dance and History from Tulane University, where she was a member of the Newcomb Dance Company and performed in works by Alice Pascal Escher, Barbara Hayley, Beverly Trask, John Allen, and Michaela Cannon. Alyssa performs with D’Project, Komenka Ethnic Dance and Music Ensemble, Ballet Hysell, and as an independent artist. Her choreography has been performed in Southern Voices: Dance Out Loud, Whispers and Voices, The Death Monologues, Let’s Dance: A Modern Dance Tribute to David Bowie, Et Tu? A Show of Life, Death, and Re-birth, and in Loyola University Preparatory Arts’ spring concerts.

KRISTEN SWANSON (Assistant Properties Designer)
is a third year student pursuing a degree in musical theatre and minor in entrepreneurship. She is thrilled to be working on her first show as Assistant Properties Designer. She was previously seen on stage with Loyola as Eliza Doolittle in Pygmalion and Noah in Caroline, or Change.

MADELINE TALIANCICH (Assistant Stage Manager)
is thrilled to be working as an ASM on Violet! So far at Loyola, she has worked on set construction and as an electrician. Madeline would like to thank the cast and crew for their dedication, Patrick for this opportunity, and her parents for their continued support.

KENNETH WEBER (Music Director)
Served as musical director for the Loyola productions of World Goes ’Round, A Grand Night for Singing, The Spitfire Grill and The Christians. Ken works full time as university minister at Loyola, directing liturgy and music. His background in opera has lead him to perform frequently with the New Orleans Opera, Loyola Opera Theatre, and several other companies around the country.

MANDI WOOD (Lighting Designer)
is a local lighting designer thrilled to be working on her third production with Loyola Theatre and Dance! Mandi works extensively as a freelance lighting designer and is the resident Assistant Lighting Designer for New Orleans Opera Association. Her design work has been featured with Southern Rep Theatre, New Orleans Opera, The Nola Project, Creede Repertory Theatre, The Tennessee Williams Theatre Company of New Orleans, New Orleans Shakespeare Festival at Tulane, Le Petit Theatre du Vieux Carre, and Lafon Performing Arts Center. Previous Loyola lighting design credits: These Shining Lives, Pygmalion, and Cendrillon (Loyola Opera Theatre). Mandi received her MFA from Tulane University and is currently teaching Lighting Design in the Theatre department at Loyola.
LOYOLA UNIVERSITY NEW ORLEANS
DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE ARTS & DANCE
ANNOUNCES THE 2019-2020 SEASON

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<th>MARQUETTE THEATER</th>
<th>OCTOBER 4-6, 10-12, 2019</th>
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<td><strong>ANNE-LIESE JUGE FOX</strong> studied theatre at Tisch School of the Arts, NYU and the International School of Theatre Jacques Le Coq in Paris where she focused on mask theatre, mime, and devised performance. She was a Board of Regents and Graduate School Dissertation fellow at L.S.U. where she received her doctorate in Theatre History, Literature and Criticism and Performance Studies.</td>
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<th>LOWER DEPTHS THEATER</th>
<th>NOVEMBER 8-10, 14-16, 2019</th>
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<td><strong>MARK ROUTHIER</strong> moved back to New Orleans two years ago after a year in Washington, DC where he ran the Directing Intensive with the NNPN MFA Playwrights Workshop at the Kennedy Center. He was the Director of New Play Development at Orlando Shakespeare Theater in Partnership with the University of Central Florida, where he was Assistant Professor in Directing and Acting from 2011 to 2015.</td>
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<th>MARQUETTE THEATER</th>
<th>MARCH 20-22, 26-28, 2020</th>
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<td><strong>TOM CIANFICHI</strong> began his career in New York as an actor, then a director, and then a casting director. In 2003, Tom and Bryan joined creative forces and founded Hazelnut on historic Magazine Street in New Orleans. Hazelnut has been featured in The New York Times, House Beautiful, Architectural Digest and People Magazine, among other prestigious publications.</td>
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Kaufman and Hart’s delightful comedy *You Can’t Take It With You* is a batty reflection on the madness of sanity in a mad world and it remains as insightful and delightful as when it first graced the stage. It’s a heart-felt comedy that resonates with a 21st century audience in need of a laugh. Directed by Anne-Liese Juge Fox.

Kander and Ebb’s 8-time Tony award-winning masterpiece has stood the test of time, including multiple Broadway revivals and tours as well as the film starring Liza Minelli, thanks in part to a beloved score with songs such as “Maybe this Time,” “Willkommen” and “Cabaret.” Presenting a world where nothing is as it seems yet entertaining to the last note, this dark, haunting musical drama remains as thoughtful and relevant today as ever. Directed by Tom Cianfichi and Bryan Batt.

Shakespeare’s most popular romantic tragedy of two star crossed lovers. This timeless story of young passions caught between the feuding families of Capulet and Montague will feature an all female cast!! Directed by Mark Routhier.

Bryan Batt has won two Screen Actors Guild Awards for his portrayal of Salvatore Romano on the iconic TV series MAD MEN. Bryan has been in nine Broadway shows and authored three books: “She Ain’t Heavy, She’s My Mother”, “Big, Easy Style” and “Pontchartrain Beach: A Family Affair”. He also starred in the films “12 Years a Slave” and “Jeffrey”. 

**Kauffman and Hart’s delightful comedy You Can’t Take It With You is a batty reflection on the madness of sanity in a mad world and it remains as insightful and delightful as when it first graced the stage. It’s a heart-felt comedy that resonates with a 21st century audience in need of a laugh. Directed by Anne-Liese Juge Fox.**
Everyone has little things they would like to change about themselves. Violet has a list of exactly what she wants, taking certain features from various film and tv stars from the 1960’s.

She wishes for:

A pair of Gene Tierney eyes- Gene Tierney was an American film and stage actress.

Ava Gardner’s Eyebrows- Ava Gardner was an American actress and singer.

Ingrid Bergman’s cheekbones- Ingrid Bergman was an Swedish actress.

Elke Sommers Hair- Elke Sommers was an German actress

Judy Garland’s chin- Judy Garland was an American actress, singer, dancer, and vaudevillian.

Grace Kelly’s nose- Grace Kelly was an American actress who became princess of Monaco

Rita Hayworth’s skin- Rita Hayworth was an actress and dancer.

As the pieces of Violets perfect puzzle fit together, the end result is:
VIOLET DRAMATURGY
by Emily Patrick, Student Dramaturg

Violet is based on the short story The Ugliest Pilgrim by Doris Betts. The story follows Violet, a young woman on a personal pilgrimage. Violet is on a journey of healing, but along the way, she discovers that physical healing is not the ultimate point of the story. The story is about Violet’s journey towards self-discovery. Learning who she is and what she really wants in life—not just to heal the scar across her face, but really to heal the biggest scars: those which the accident left across her soul. It is truly about learning to love oneself despite how others may perceive you and how you look.

The idea for the musical came after Jeanine Tesori, the composer, saw a film adaptation of the short story. She kept the idea on the back burner until she partnered with lyricist Brian Crawley on a project for BMI Lehman Engel Musical Theatre Workshop. She then brought up the idea of turning The Ugliest Pilgrim into a musical. At first, Doris Betts could not see how the story could fit into a musical setting, but after a great deal of time, treasure, blood, sweat, and probably tears, the musical Violet became a reality.

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DON BRADY (1934-2019)
IN MEMORIAM

Dr. Don Brady directed more than 50 plays and 2 operas, appeared in 30 motion pictures, and made over 40 national, regional, and local commercials. He held membership in Screen Actors Guild, The American Guild of Musical Artists and Actors Equity Association. Among his motion-picture credits are *The Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman*, *The Dallas Buyers Club*, *In the Heat of the Night*, *Pretty Baby*, *Cat People*, *Angel Heart*, the 1996 remake of *Lolita*, *Mandingo*, *99 Homes*, *A Love Song for Bobby Long*, and *Waiting*. He received the Big Easy Lifetime Achievement Award in 2007. These statistics are but a small part of Don's story.

As a playwright, Dr. Brady's work has been performed off-Broadway and at the University of Texas, Tulane University, and Loyola University New Orleans. His play *Now and at the Hour* was judged the first-place winner in the Contemporary Arts Center's five-state contest. Terrance McNally praised it as the work of a "unique voice" in American theatre. Dr. Brady wrote a new transliteration of Aristophanes' *Lysistrata* (book, music & lyrics) produced in April 2004 by Loyola University Theatre. In March 2006 he directed his final Loyola production, Shakespeare's *A Winter's Tale*.

I was in awe of Don Brady and his ability to lead students through the discovery of the joy and pain of creativity. Perhaps the most dramatic example of this was *Ain't Nothin' But a Thing*, a 1993 Loyola production about the homeless based on what students found on the streets, in shelters, and in emergency rooms. He would tell me where he had taken the students to do research, spending the night in the ER at Charity hospital under the Claiborne overpass. Don lived his convictions.

A social activist, Don was actively involved in prison education and reform and housing for the homeless. He worked with handicapped performers through the Louisiana Access Theatre. Mr. Brady, who was introduced to show business by the family of the actor Guy Kibbee (of such cinematic classics as *42nd Street* and *Mr. Smith Goes to Washington*) wanted to bring to light the social issues while in the Air Force stationed at El Paso, Texas.

He received his undergraduate Theatre degree from Western University (now the University of Texas at El Paso). He got a scholarship to Tulane, where he earned a master's degree in Theater History and Criticism and a Doctorate in American Theater History. He joined the Loyola faculty in 1964 and taught there until his retirement in 2007. He has left behind hundreds of survivors, he inspired so many with his talent, wit, passion, humanity, and loving heart. We have all been the better for having Don in our lives.

You are missed, my friend,
Georgia Gresham
Loyola Opera Theatre Presents:
Ravel’s L’enfant et les Sortileges
Sunday, Mar. 31, 3:00p.m. | Nunemaker Auditorium
Ticket required

Vocal Masterclass with Ruth Falcon
Apr. 1, 10:00a.m. | Nunemaker Auditorium
Free Admission

Loyola Choirs
Thursday, Apr. 4, 7:30p.m. | Roussel Hall
Free Admission

Loyola Spring Saxtravaganza
Sunday, Apr. 7, 3:00p.m. | Nunemaker Auditorium
Free Admission

Loyola Symphony Orchestra
Saturday, Apr. 27, 7:30p.m. | Roussel Hall
Free Admission

Senior One Act Play Festival
Apr. 29-30, 7:00p.m. | Lower Depths Theatre
Free Admission

Opera Workshop:
Offenbach’s 200th Birthday Celebration
Apr. 25, 7:30p.m. | Nunemaker Auditorium
Ticket required
Season Five,

Pretty Traps

the Glass Menagerie
August 2019 - Marigny Opera House

Period of Adjustment
December 2019 - Loyola University

In the Bar of a Tokyo Hotel
March/April 2020 - Loyola University

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