

Briarcrest Christian High School Presents

33 Variations

Written By
Moisés Kaufman

Sparks Chapel

October 1-3 • 7:00 p.m.

October 3 • 2:00 p.m.

Sponsored by



Director's Notes

Dear Patrons,

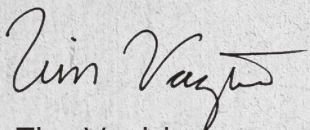
Beethoven's music has been a part of my life since I was very young. My mom was a pianist-but also an elementary school teacher and a mother of three-so the only time for her to practice was at 5:15 AM. This morning rehearsal of hers became the alarm clock of my early years-the music of all sorts of great composers filling the house and compelling all of its inhabitants to get ready for the day ahead.

For me, much like the main character of *33 Variations* and millions of other music lovers over the past two centuries, Beethoven's legend became the ideal for what all great composers of music constitute and what they should be striving to achieve. Scores of musicians and composers have faced the shadow of Beethoven since his death in 1827. Johannes Brahms labeled this anxiety as running away from the "tramp of giants." He described himself and his contemporaries, remarkable musicians and composers such as Franz Liszt, Clara Schumann, Anton Bruckner, and others, as "we men, who walk upright, are above the creeping things of the earth, [as this titan] is above us." I once attended a talkback with the Brooklyn Philharmonic where the conductor admitted to not programming Beethoven pieces for fear of criticism, and I have spoken with pianists over the years that intentionally decided not to program Beethoven as the scrutiny is greater for his pieces than for others.

This is all to say-Beethoven's place in the psyche of both musicologists and classical musicians often seems to be complicated, and this context is important to understand why Dr. Katherine Brandt has the hypothesis about Beethoven's obsession with Diabelli's waltz that defines the action of this play. What her journey reveals about the idolization of historical figures of great renown, and how humans elevate celebrity figures to a status above those in the present who love and care for them, drew me to this play more so than the story's connection with the legendary composer whose music loomed so large in my youth.

Today we invite you to, as Stephen Sondheim would say, "sit forward and attend" as we take you through Beethoven's and Katherine's race against mortality and their own obsessions. I want to personally thank my production team partners-Mr. Cole, Mr. Campbell, Mrs. Kathy Thiele, Mr. Jeff Meacham, Mrs. Neal, and Mrs. Hemund-for bringing this show to life along with our technical production and scenic design classes. Also, thank you to all our incredible BCS parents and staff for your continued support for these student actors and technicians.

Sincerely,



Tim Vaziri

33 Variations

Written by
Moisés Kaufman

Originally produced on Broadway, 2009 by David Binder, Ruth Hendel, Barbara Whitman, Goldberg/Mills, Latitude Link, Arielle Tepper Madover, Bill Resnick, Eric Schnall, Jayne Baron Sherman, Willis/True Love Productions and Tectonic Theater Project.

33 VARIATIONS is presented by arrangement with
Concord Theatricals on behalf of Dramatists Play Service.

www.concordtheatricals.com

Scenes

Act 1

Variation: Theme	Hospital Waiting Room and Beethoven's Residence
Variation: Research.....	Katherine's New York Apartment
Variation: Negotiating Genius	Diabelli's Office
Variation: Two Worlds	A Computer Shop
Variation: Fasten Your Seatbelts	An airplane and the countryside
Variation: Bonn.....	The Bonn Apartment
Variation: The Sketches-Part 1	The Beethoven House Archive and Beethoven's Residence
Variation: Classical Music	Concert Hall
Variation: Sketches-Part 2.....	Beethoven's Residence
Variation: Baseball	Train Station
Variation: Circus Music.....	Beethoven's Residence
Variation: Clara.....	Train Station
Variation: Dancing	A Dance Club and street in New York City
Variation: Accidents of Fate.....	Beethoven's Residence
Variation: The Exam	The Hospital
Variation: Septet.....	Various Locations

Act 2

Variation: Here Be Dragons	The Bonn Apartment
Variation: The Conversation Notebooks	Beethoven's Residence and The Archives
Variation: Physical Therapy	The Bonn Apartment
Variation: Joyful Silence	Beethoven's Residence
Variation: The Discovery.....	The Archives
Variation: Cheeseburger.....	The Bonn Apartment
Variation: Beauty.....	Diabelli's Office
Variation: Fugue	Beethoven's Residence
Variation: Morphine	A Cafe in Bonn
Variation: A Peace Offering.....	The Bonn Apartment
Variation: Not a Human Being.....	Beethoven's Residence and The Hospital
Variation: Limbo	Katherine's Hallucination
Variation: Breakfast	The Hospital
Variation: Variation #33	Epilogue

Past

Dr. Katherine Brandt Emma Schrier
Ludwig van Beethoven Connor Gillespie
Clara Brandt Marie Walters and August Smith
Mike Clark..... Nico Hampton and Mason Payne
Dr. Gertrude Ladenburger Kelly Brown
Anton Schindler Shep McElhaney
Anton Diabelli Luke Boer

Ensemble

Lillian Bendure
Quinlan Key
Emma Joy Matthew
Taylor Martin
Madison McCaskill
Lydia Raspberry
Natalie Roper



BRIARCREST
ARTS

Production Staff

Director Tim Vaziri
Choreographer Kathy Thiele
Technical Director and Lighting Designer Ben Cole
Costumer Angel Neal
Sound Designer TaVonte Campbell
Master Carpenter Jeff Meacham
Scenic Artist Peyton Hemund
Pianist for "The Diabelli Variations" by Ludwig Van Beethoven. Remi Masunaga
Collaborative Pianist Liz Parsons
Stage Manager Madison Hughes
Assistant Stage Manager Nyla Henze
Assistant Stage Manager Caroline Harvell
Hair and Makeup Design Vivien Miller
Accounting Brenda Taylor
Social Media Catherine Childs and Emma Schrier

Student Stage and Technical Crew

A1 John Haun
A2 Noah McCoid
Lighting Tech Katie Savage
Stage Hands Claire Harvell, Emerson Howard, Lilly Sullivan, Haley Moore
Hair and Makeup Tech Chloe Puryear, AC Cannon
Spotlight Ann Logan Moore, Lacy Duke
Camera Director Hutch Trevathan
Camera Operators Emmalyn Hopper and Lukas Klimo
Scenic art and projections created by our Set Design class.
Box set structure created by our Technical Production class.

Special Thanks

Briarcrest's Administration Team - including Dr. Frizzell, Mr. Salyer, Mrs. Stone, and Mrs. Swatley, our fine arts team, our parents - especially all of those who donated props, costumes, and hands for the front of house design, Mr. Jeff Meacham, Marc Anthony Marconi, and the Beethoven-Haus Bonn.

Cast



**Lillian
Bendure**
Ensemble



**Nyla
Henze**
*Assistant Stage
Manager*



**Lydia
Raspberry**
Ensemble



**Luke
Boer**
*Anton
Diabelli*



**Quinlan
Key**
Ensemble



**Natalie
Roper**
Ensemble



**Kelly
Brown**
*Dr. Gertrude
Ladenburger*



**Taylor
Martin**
Ensemble



**Emma
Schrier**
*Dr. Katherine
Brandt*



**Connor
Gillespie**
*Ludwig van
Beethoven*



**Emma Joy
Matthew**
Ensemble



**August
Smith**
Clara Brandt



**Nico
Hampton**
Mike Clark



**Madison
McCaskill**
Ensemble



**Marie
Walters**
Clara Brandt



**Caroline
Harvell**
*Assistant Stage
Manager*



**Shep
McElhaney**
Anton Schindler



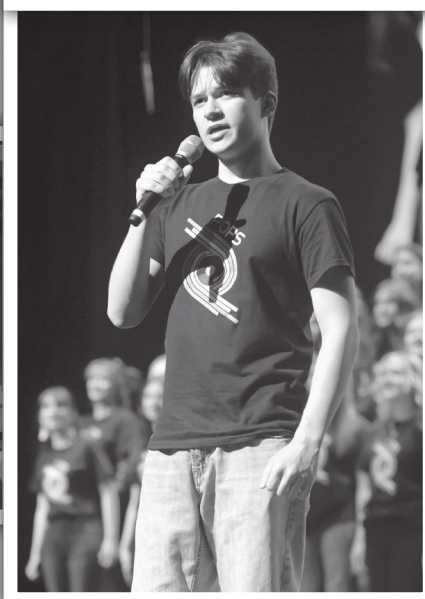
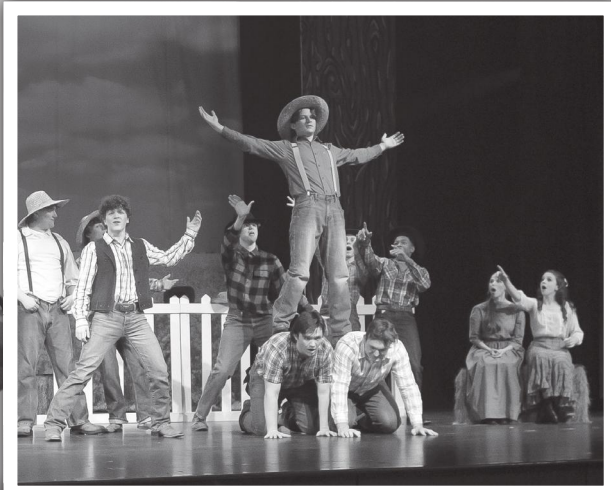
**Madison
Hughes**
Stage Manager



**Mason
Payne**
Mike Clark



Nico Hampton



We are so proud of you and
all the hard work you've put
into this production!

Watching you grow, both on and off the stage, has been such a joy. Keep following your passions, believing in yourself, and sharing your talents with the world. We love you more than you know, and will always be your biggest fans!

Love, Mom, Dad, Gunnar, Sophia, Grandma and Granddaddy

Lydia Raspberry



Lillian, We are so
proud of you!



**Madison, we love you and are so very
proud of you! Love- Mom, Dad, & Wyatt**



Marie Walters



*We love watching your story unfold in all its beautiful
variations, and we'll be in the audience for every chapter.
We love you and are so proud of you, Marie.
Love, Mom, Dad, and Joseph*

Congrats to August
and the entire cast and crew of
"33 Variations"



Love, Mom, Dad and Evan

Proverbs 16:3: "Commit to the Lord whatever you do,
and he will establish your plans."

WE LOVE WATCHING YOU SHINE,

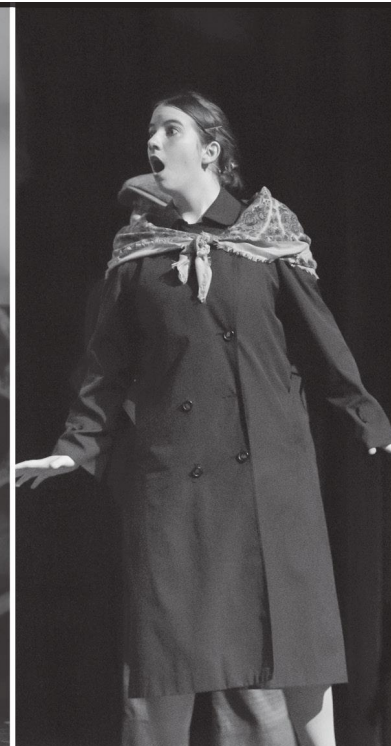
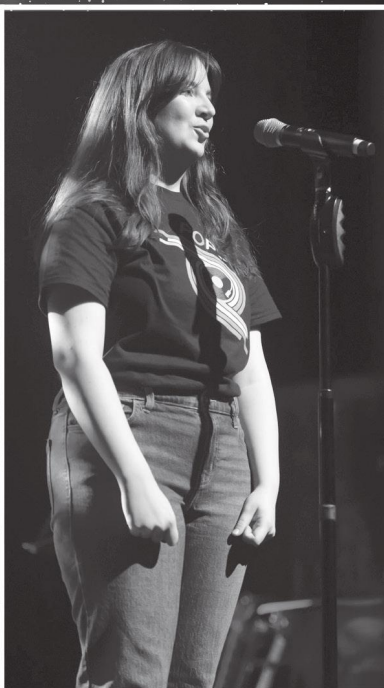
**EMMA
JOY**

WE LOVE
YOU!

Mom,
Dad, and
Levi



KELLY,
WE WILL ALWAYS BE
YOUR BIGGEST FANS!



**LOVE, DAD, MOM,
EMILY, NASON,
REBEKAH, AND TIMOTHY**

Your light shines bright sweet Taylor!

We are so proud of you and all that you do!
We love you very much! Love, Mom, Dad, and Payton



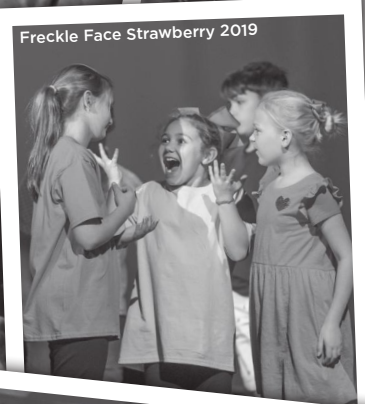
Into the Woods 2018



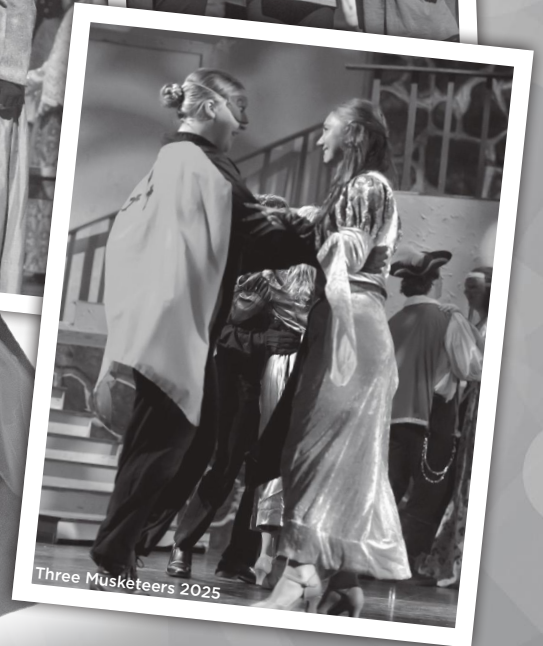
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Three Musketeers 2025



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