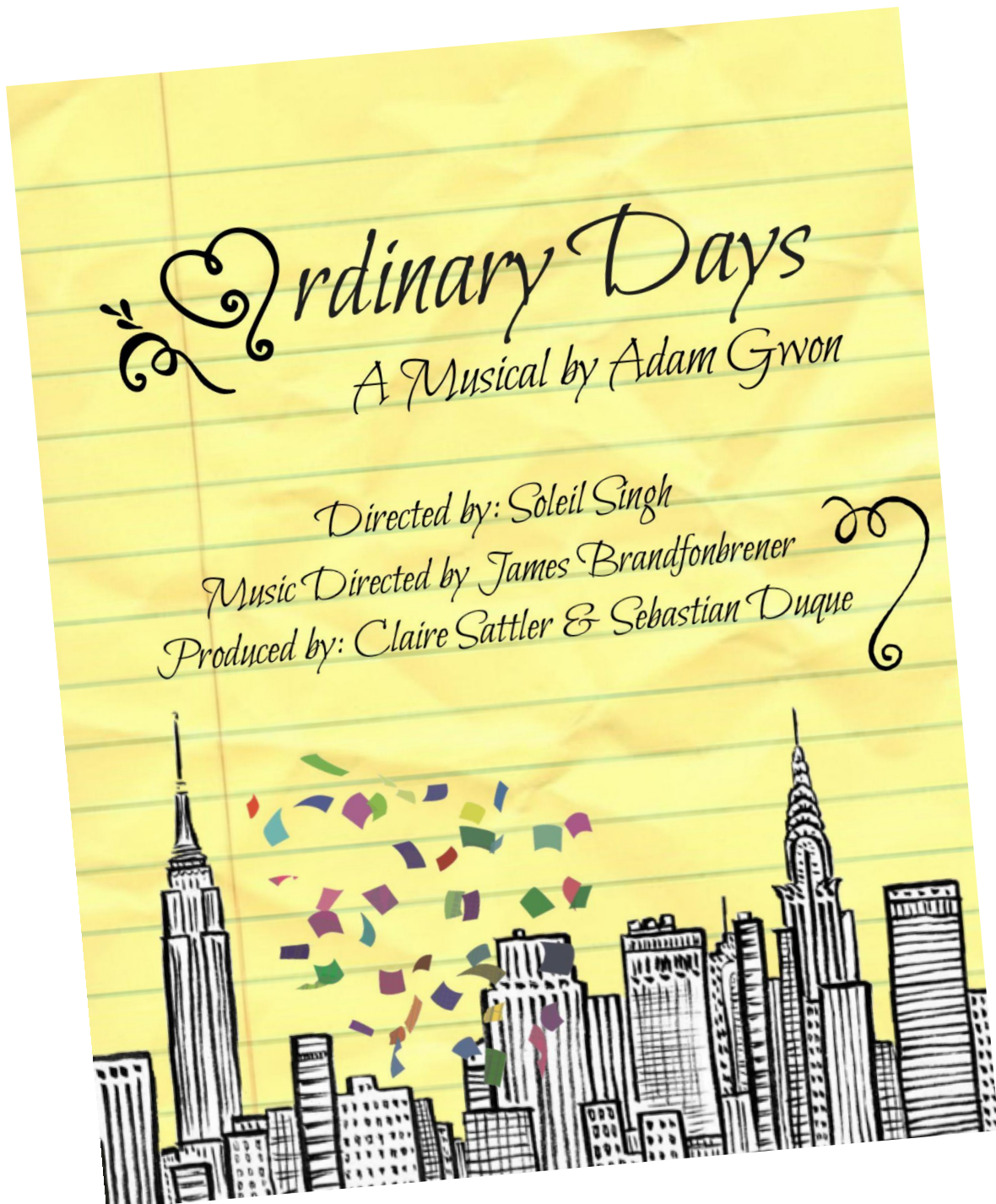


Ordinary Days Audition Packet

Ordinary Days is a sung-through musical that originally debuted in 2008, looking at the lives of four New Yorkers as they navigate love, art, passion, purpose and connection in a post 9/11 landscape. We follow aspiring artist Warren, perpetually dissatisfied grad student Deb, and couple-who-just-moved-in-together-and-are-probably-totally-fine-with-it Claire and Jason as their lives come together, break apart, bump up against each other, and interweave in surprising ways as each tries to figure out what, exactly, is beautiful to them in life?



Character Descriptions

WARREN

Vocal Range: G#2 - G5

A loveable oddball, WARREN is an artist with something to say, but he's not quite sure what it is yet. He's determined, positive, and a bit over-eager, but his heart is always in the right place. His budding friendship with DEB forces him to reflect on his "big picture" in life, while he helps her appreciate the everyday. Comedic delivery is essential. Tenor/Baritone.

DEB

Vocal Range: F#3 - E5

A no-nonsense high-achiever, DEB is a disgruntled grad student who is constantly looking elsewhere for happiness. Impatient, a bit neurotic, and despite her protests, overall a negative person, she's got big dreams but no real idea how to achieve them. When her world collides with WARREN, whom she initially dismisses as a "waste of a life," her walls come crashing down as she discovers what makes life beautiful. Comedic with strong diction. Mezzo.

NOTE: This role is precast, so we will not be auditioning for Deb.

JASON

Vocal Range: A2 - G#4

A devoted and loving man, JASON has recently moved in with his girlfriend, CLAIRE, and couldn't be more thrilled to start the next chapter of their lives, even if he has to stay in New York City. He knows exactly what he wants in life, or rather, *who* he wants, but he doesn't understand why CLAIRE is so resistant to their relationship's progression. After his energetic opening number, primarily sings reflective, emotional ballads. Tenor.

CLAIRE

Vocal Range: G3 - E5

Struggling with the progression of her relationship, CLAIRE is a headstrong and emotionally layered woman who can't seem to let go of the past. While she loves JASON, she's constantly in her own head and often shuts him out, getting in her own way of happiness. Strong, expressive belter who is very confident in both the comedic and the dramatic. Soprano.

Meet (some of) our team!

DIRECTOR: Soleil Singh (she/her)



Soleil Singh is a sophomore in Branford College majoring in Film and Media Studies and Psychology! Before Yale, she went to Booker T. Washington HSPVA where she studied theater, and was required to take a mime class (it was definitely a quiet class). She spent her first year assistant directing *Our New World*, acting in *Love and Information* (Fro-Showcase), and composing in NYC for the American Theater Wing and the National Endowment of the Arts as a winner of their 2020 songwriting competition. In her free time she loves watching cooking reality television shows even though she can't cook, eating bagels, and also teaching kids music through a non-profit she has with Dwight Hall!

MUSIC DIRECTOR: James Brandfonbrener



James Brandfonbrener is a senior in Morse and a Music major focusing on Composition. He has filled the role of music director in many shows at Yale, including *My World*, *Call Me From the Grave* and *The Cradle Will Rock*. He was also the music director for *Falsettos* and *Alice* (a main stage at the School of Drama) before COVID messed things up. James plays piano and trumpet all around campus and also really enjoys cooking and tea. He is looking forward to making a safe and communicative rehearsal space as well as an expressive and entertaining performance!

PRODUCER: Claire Sattler (she/her)



Claire is a junior in Pauli Murray College majoring in Theater & Performance Studies and MCDB because she hates free time and/or fun. She is the resident jack-of-all-trades of Yale Theatre, known for spending her freshman fall painting windows and floors for *Sweeney Todd* and *Rumspinga*, her freshman spring belting like a maniac in *American Idiot*, and her sophomore year writing and directing a bonkers virtual comedy play about Dungeons & Dragons called *Roll With It!*. In her (lack of) free time, Claire enjoys being addicted to boba, trying to write the next Great American Sitcom, and complaining about the MCAT. She's constantly juggling her responsibilities and clownery, so it only makes sense that she's also Vice President of the Yale Anti-Gravity Society.

STAGE MANAGER: Sophie Dopico (she/her)



Sophie is a junior in Benjamin Franklin College majoring in English. She has been the stage manager for several productions in the last two years, including *Schema*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *Dominion*, and *Unstable Connection*. When she's not preparing for rehearsal, in rehearsal, or cleaning up after rehearsal, she's procrastinating doing her homework by watching TikToks and way too much television (she just got caught up on *Ted Lasso* so if you have any suggestions on what she should watch next, please let her know). She's always

willing to talk about late night television shows, her hometown (Miami! the best city), and One Direction. Her two loves are iced coffee and mirror selfies.

What's the audition timeline for this show going to look like?

We're going to be casting in the Yale Drama Coalition's September casting cycle, which means that we'll start holding auditions on Friday, September 3rd. You'll be able to book a time that works for you by clicking the tab with our show name on it on the 'Auditions' page on the Yale College Arts website (<https://collegearts.yale.edu/opportunities/auditions>), although please note that you have to create a YCA profile to be able to book audition slots. If you have any questions about how to do so, please don't hesitate to contact our producer at claire.sattler@yale.edu and she will gladly walk you through it.

While it may be subject to change due to COVID-19 guidelines, here is a general outline of what our audition/callback schedule will look like:

Saturday, September 4, 2021: Season Preview- this is a fun and informative event held by the Yale Drama Coalition where all the shows casting that semester pitch their shows briefly, and you can talk to the show's representatives afterwards if you have questions or would like to get more information. You'll be able to hear our show's pitch and meet some of us on the team there.

Sunday, September 5, 2021: Audition workshop! (Details below)

Tuesday, September 7th & Wednesday, September 8th: Auditions, location TBD.

- We will be holding live auditions from 6:00-9:30 PM on these dates. While we would love to see you in-person, if you are unable to make these times, we ask for you to submit a self-taped audition video of you performing the song of your choosing, due by **11:59pm on Wednesday, September 8.**

11:59pm on Thursday, September 9: We will let you know at this point whether we will or will not be asking you to come in for a callback

Saturday, September 11, 5-10pm: Callbacks, location TBD, but it will likely be in either the Saybrook Underbrook or the Lighten Theater. Don't worry if you won't know where this is; if you're asked to come in for a callback, we'll give directions. Callbacks must be attended live, as you will be asked to perform with another actor.

Sunday, September 12: September Casting Day! That means that all the shows casting in the September casting cycle will get together in a room at noon and start calling actors to offer them roles.

What's an audition workshop? What can I expect if I attend?

An audition workshop is a chance to meet more of the production/creative team of the show, hear more about the show, the audition process, and the rehearsal/performance schedule, all in an informal and supportive environment. You'll also be able to hear more about what specifically we'll be looking for during the audition process, as well as to ask us any questions you have about auditioning, rehearsals, or the show itself. This is also a chance for us to give *you* more information about why you should want to be a part of our show - throughout the whole casting process, we're also auditioning for you as well, in a way! You can expect to meet the director, producer, and possibly the stage manager and members of the design team. Although this workshop will primarily be focused on what to expect when auditioning to act in the show, feel free to also attend this workshop if you're interested in working on the show in a production capacity, and would like to hear more about us!

What can I expect from the different stages of auditioning?

For the first round of auditions, we're going to ask you to sing a song of your choosing, ideally between 1-2 minutes, but it can be slightly longer. It can be anything from the musical theatre canon, or beyond — the most important thing to us is that it is something that you find fun and exciting to sing, and gives us a sense of your voice and personality as a performer, as well as what kind of material you're drawn to artistically. There will be absolutely no judgment for picking material that's 'inappropriate' for a contemporary musical theatre audition; if you're excited to sing it, we're excited to hear it! However, if you would like a couple of suggestions of things to sing at your audition (to save you the endless hours of googling 'not overused audition songs for belters', etc... We've been there...), here are some audition song suggestions we've put together for each character:

WARREN:

"Purpose" from *Avenue Q*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5glOLjR7VK4>

"In Short" from *Edges*

<https://youtu.be/NprGGnWK-Zk>

"Delivery" from *Working*

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c2_1AKO0A0Y

JASON:

"I Love Betsy" from *Honeymoon in Vegas*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZfLmtU80B-k>

“Run Away With Me” from *The Mad Ones*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Dk6H8FPfck>

“I Turned the Corner” from *Thoroughly Modern Millie*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mtJT0KJzbr4>

CLAIRE:

“A Way Back to Then” from *[title of show]*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o0iCWqfluQs>

“Holding to the Ground” from *Falsettos*

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JNc_gjprCMo

“Always Starting Over” from *If/Then*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u1Y3zsJnNLg>

If you are called back for a role, we will likely ask you to sing one of the solos of the character(s) you’ve been called back for, as well as part of a duet with that character’s scene partner (i.e. if you are called back for Claire you will sing a short duet with another actor called back for Jason and vice versa. If you are called back for Warren, you will sing a short duet with the actor cast as Deb.) These will be songs from *Ordinary Days* and we will send you the songs to prepare in your callback email. The best way to prepare for this is to familiarize yourself with the music of *Ordinary Days* sooner than later so this is not so stressful the day before callbacks.

What’s the rehearsal timeline going to look like?

This show is a sung-through musical, meaning that there is very little spoken dialogue, and almost the entire show is depicted through song. This means that our focus in the fall semester is going to be almost entirely on music learning, with a couple of introductory full-cast meetings with the director, music director and stage manager, and perhaps some initial tablework and/or character discussions with the director over meals. Blocking will likely kick into gear at the end of the fall semester.

Mid-September to late November: 4-8 hours of rehearsal per week, primarily music rehearsals.

Late November to late December: 4-8 hours of rehearsal per week, but a mix of music and blocking rehearsals.

WINTER BREAK: No formal rehearsals, but practicing your music and blocking on your own in this period is critical to being prepared when we return!

Mid-January to early February: 10-12 hours of rehearsal per week, primarily partial and full run throughs.

TECH (starts February 3rd): 15-25 hours per week

- Plus load-in (*the day the show loads into the theater, where the cast usually spends the day helping move sets/props/costumes into the theatre, hang lights, etc.*)

Performances (Thursday, February 10th; Friday, February 11th; Saturday, February 12th (2 shows)):
3-4 hours per performance (*includes time to get into costume/makeup, warm up, perform, and take off costumes, and clear the space*)

- Plus strike (*the evening or day after the show, when the cast usually helps to remove sets/costumes/props from the space, take down lights, clean up the space, etc.*)

What if I don't get offered a part?

Don't despair! We on the production team really want to provide as many opportunities as possible for people to get involved if they want to, and there are a variety of ways to get involved in this show. We're currently recruiting for 1-2 Assistant Directors, 1-2 Assistant Stage Managers, an Assistant Producer, a Sound Designer, a Set Designer, a Hair/Makeup Designer, as well as possibly assistants for other roles - feel free to reach out if there's a specific role you'd be interested in assisting for. If you don't end up getting cast in the show, but are still interested in the project, we strongly encourage you to reach out to either soleil.singh@yale.edu or claire.sattler@yale.edu about any of these roles that you're interested in - it's not a problem at all if you don't feel like you have relevant prior experience for these positions, we'll be more than happy to help mentor you throughout the process :) All that we're looking for is excitement, positivity and enthusiasm for this production - if this sounds like you, we'd love to hear from you!

Hope to see you soon!
Soleil, James, Claire, and Sophie <3