

Jackson Lods, a fourth-year in chemical engineering, playing as Edward Hyde, sings "Confrontation" to the audience during the "Jekyll & Hyde" musical performance in Stewart Theatre Feb. 14. The musical follows the journey of Dr. Henry Jekyll as he attempts to find a scientific solution to separate the good from the evil inside humans, resulting in his transformation into Edward Hyde.

PHOTO BY: JERMAINE HUDSON

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University Theatre
presents the
performance of
"Jekyll and Hyde"
in Stewart Theatre
Feb. 15-18.

A LOOK BEHIND THE CURTAINS

“Jekyll & Hyde,” the spring musical performed by University Theatre, tells the story of a scientist who dreams of bettering humanity through his research, but who falls victim to his own ambition. When the titular scientist Henry Jekyll creates an elixir intended to separate the good and evil in a person, he decides to use himself as a test subject. As a result, he finds himself split into two personalities: the good Henry Jekyll and the evil Edward Hyde.

NC State’s annual spring musicals are the height of University Theatre’s performances, representing the most ambitious combination of acting, directing, design and technical work. Over 100 students were involved in the production of “Jekyll & Hyde” in various capacities, ranging from lighting technicians to ensemble actors.

One of these students was Brinley Carter, a second-year in communication media, who was an assistant director for the production.

“Jekyll & Hyde” conveys the beautiful,

but sometimes tragic outcomes of ambition,” Carter said. “Jekyll aspires to help his father and all of mankind through his experiments, but instead of saving people from the evil parts of themselves, the evil in him causes him to kill other people.”

As an assistant director, Carter helped communicate with actors and coordinate elements of the production into a cohesive whole. She also acted as a swing, filling in when actors were unable to perform.

“Because of this project, I feel that I not only got the chance to understand how the directing process works, but to also apply what I’ve learned to acting as well,” Carter said.

Carter worked under Danica Jackson, the director of “Jekyll & Hyde” and an assistant director for University Theatre at NC State. In her third year here, Jackson worked behind-the-scenes to coordinate every element of the production.

“As a director I have to collaborate with a large number of designers and production team members to create this cohesive

vision,” Jackson said. For “Jekyll & Hyde,” this collaborative process began in early June.

“One of my favorite parts of being a director is the opportunity to do this research—known as dramaturgy—which helps inform the direction that my designers and I need to take,” Jackson said. The planning phase includes creating a condensed outline of why the show would make a good fit for the stage, along with proposing how it will be brought to life.

According to Jackson, “Jekyll & Hyde” was a very unique production. To bring the production to the stage, many elements needed to be planned and executed, including set design, lighting, sound design, acting and many more.

“In all, this production was an absolute dream come true for me,” Jackson said. “Selfishly, I am also more proud of myself and all these students than I have ever been for any previous show in my career, and I owe each of them and my colleagues a huge debt of gratitude.”

Story By: Rylee Teed





Quinn Kinser, a first-year in environmental science, dances with the ensemble during the performance of "Jekyll & Hyde" in Stewart Theatre Feb. 14. The musical was based on author Robert Louis Stevenson's novel, "The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde."

PHOTOS BY: KATIE RYDER



▲ Jake Ensey, a fourth-year in English, glares at Dr. Jekyll during a performance of "Jekyll & Hyde" in Stewart Theatre on Feb. 14. "Jekyll & Hyde" focuses on the duality of good and evil within man.

PHOTOS BY: EMILY PEEDIN

◀ Jackson Lods, a fourth-year in chemical engineering, falls to the ground as he switches from playing Dr. Henry Jekyll to Edward Hyde during the "Jekyll & Hyde" musical performance in Stewart Theatre Feb. 14. The musical follows the journey of Dr. Henry Jekyll as he attempts to find a scientific solution to separate the good from the evil inside humans, creating Edward Hyde in the process.

PHOTOS BY: JERMAINE HUDSON

▶ Dr. Henry Jekyll and Edward Hyde, played by Jackson Lods, a fourth-year in chemical engineering and mathematics, holds Emma Carew, played by Madalyn Alexander, a fourth-year in psychology and English, during the performance of "Jekyll & Hyde" in Stewart Theatre Feb. 14. The musical was based on author Robert Louis Stevenson's novel, "The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde."

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