



BRAZEN-FACED VARLETS
BUFFALO'S FEMINIST THEATRE COMPANY
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ACTORS FIND SANCTUARY IN JESSICA DICKEY'S "THE CONVENT"

Brazen-Faced Varlets Fall Production

Jessica Dickey's *The Convent*: November 2023

The Brazen-Faced Varlets are bringing Jessica Dickey's *The Convent* to Buffalo this November at the Compass Performing Arts Center. Dickey's piece keeps with the Varlets' mission of producing nonconformist theatre, featuring an eclectic group of women attending a stringent retreat in a medieval-style convent. Despite their severe environment, they are soon baptized with eighties pop, female mysticism, hallucinogens, and sex, a combination which leads them to explore desire, devotion, and intrinsic divinity.

The show marks Artie-nominated actor Stefanie Warnick's directorial debut with the Varlets. She reflects, "I don't think I could have asked for a better script and cast... the chemistry in the rehearsal room is palpable! These amazing actors are bringing the words to life and I can't wait to share this story with Buffalo." Sandra Roberts, who plays the truth-telling hellraiser, Patti, feels the positive energy as well. They say "working with the Varlets for the first time has been so inviting and delicious! It's such an open and collaborative environment, we feel free to play and create with each other." Roberts is joined on stage by four time Artie-winning actor, Pamela Rose Mangus: as well as Juli Gryier, Rachael Buchanan, and Gabrielle Nunzio. Last but not least, *The Convent* stars co-founders Heather Fangsrud and Lara D. Haberberger who were both nominated for the Varlets' production of *'night Mother* in 2018.

The Convent is a 90-minute performance with no intermission. Shows take place November 3rd through 18th at the Compass Performing Arts Center. Thursdays and Fridays performances are at 7:30 PM and Saturday performances are at 5:00 PM. The house will open 30 minutes prior to each performance. Tickets are available at theconvent.eventbrite.com. Please call 716-598-1585 for industry rates. The Compass Performing Arts Center is located at 545 Elmwood Ave, Buffalo, NY 14222 and is wheelchair accessible. There is an elevator and seating available on the ground level. There is a small parking lot next to the theatre as well as street parking on Elmwood Ave, Anderson Pl. and Utica St. Parking is also available at the Gallagher Parking Ramp for a fee. Refreshments will be available for purchase at the bar.

The Brazen-Faced Varlets' mission is to produce consequential works with strong artistic integrity while being committed to promoting the growth of female and gender-minority theater artists. They seek to break out of the traditional and stereotypical gender roles onstage and behind the scenes. Their work is for everybody; they strive to challenge, provoke, and delight their audiences. More information about the Brazen-Faced Varlets can be found at www.varlets.org. You can follow them on [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#), or send them an email at bfvarlets@gmail.com.

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