

Department of Theatre & Dance and
College of Communication & Fine Arts Present
A Reading of

OUR LADY OF 7-ELEVEN

A New Musical by Tommy Newman and Devanand Janki



November 21-24
Malone Hall Black Box Theatre



TROY
UNIVERSITY.

Department of
Theatre & Dance

\$5 General Admission
Trojan Center Box Office
troy.edu/theatreanddance

OUR LADY OF 7-ELEVEN

Setting

The interior of a 7-Eleven convenience store along the highway in New Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. Population 962.

Cast

Frankie.....Olivia Szymanski
Mary.....Aubrey Crigler
Mary Understudy.....Kate Simechak

Musicians

Tori Lee Averett - Piano
Dr. Robert Gibson - Guitar
Tosh Teeter - Bass
Tommy Newman - Percussion
Madison Windham - Percussion

OUR LADY OF 7-ELEVEN

Songs

Ring in Another Year Again

It All Goes To Hell

Before You Know It

A Bad Situation

Ancient History

At the Stroke of Midnight

Casting Lots

Our Lady

Whatever You Believe

Looking for a Miracle

Snowfall

OUR LADY OF 7-ELEVEN

Production Team

Director - Devanand Janki

Assistant Director - Ivana Taylor

Music Director - Tommy Newman

Assistant Music Director - Kate Simechak

Stage Manager - Alexis McNeal

Assistant Stage Manager - Mia Schuler

Assistant Production Manager - Maggie
Scarborough

Dramaturgs - Ivana Taylor, Alexis McNeal

Lighting Designer - Willow Corbitt

Sound Designer - Tommy Newman

Additional orchestrations by John Ingram

Sound Board Op - John Ingram

House Manager - Izzy Braddock

Graphic Designer - Jessica Fleischmann

OUR LADY OF 7-ELEVEN

Director's Note

Creating a new musical is a journey filled with collaboration, dedication, and a touch of magic. It's a rare and invaluable gift to have a space where a brand-new piece like *Our Lady of 7-Eleven* can be nurtured and brought to life. Developing this show alongside the immensely talented artists at Troy University has been nothing short of inspiring. Their hard work, passion, and commitment have left me in awe, and I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to work with such an extraordinary community.

This musical is a story about connection, faith, and the miraculous moments that remind us of our shared humanity. Set in the most unexpected of places—a 7-Eleven on a lonely highway—it explores universal themes of love, loss, motherhood, and hope, inviting us to find meaning and light in the small victories that shape our lives.

Tonight is a particularly special moment, as this is the very first time *Our Lady of 7-Eleven* is being seen and heard. Giving life to a new musical is one of the most challenging yet rewarding endeavors in theatre, and the audience plays an essential role in this process. Your reactions, energy, and insights are invaluable, allowing us to learn and grow as this story takes its first steps into the world. Thank you for being part of this journey with us.

Workshopping a musical like this is a deeply collaborative effort. It takes a village to bring a new piece to life, and this journey has been a testament to that truth. From the incredible students and faculty in Troy's Department of Theatre and Dance to my brilliant collaborator Tommy Newman, every voice and every effort has shaped this piece into something extraordinary.

At a time when theatre faces challenges across the globe, institutions like Troy University stand as beacons of hope, investing in new work and giving artists the space to take risks, find their voices, and tell meaningful stories. The Troy University community has embraced this project with open arms and has demonstrated a profound commitment to fostering new voices and stories. It is a rare privilege to work in an environment that values creativity and innovation so deeply.

In a world that often feels divided, *Our Lady of 7-Eleven* reminds us of the power of faith, connection, and finding light in the smallest of moments. It's a message that feels especially poignant today, and I'm honored to share it with you. If this story moves you, I encourage you to continue championing new voices and works in the arts. It is through your support that pieces like this can thrive and find their way to broader audiences.

Thank you, Alabama, for embracing *Our Lady of 7-Eleven* and helping us share this story with the world.

With gratitude,
Devanand Janki
Director, *Our Lady of 7-Eleven*

OUR LADY OF 7-ELEVEN

Special Thanks

Lance Noe

Maria Frigge

Dr. Hui-Ting Yang

School of Music Percussion Studio

Madison Windham

Kenny Beck

Caleb Quick

Will Jacks and Photography Students

Olaf Lieb

3 Frogz Studios

David Hubbard

Dr. Michael Thrasher

James Arakas

Jane Barwood

