

***Dear Charlotte* Illustrates the Lives of the Brontë Sisters**

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The Lyndall Finley Wortham Theatre at the University of Houston continues its 2018-19 season with guest director Christopher Owen's take on Joy Gregory's play *Dear Charlotte*. Running from November 2-11, *Dear Charlotte* offers a look into the early life of "Jane Eyre" author Charlotte Brontë in Victorian-era London.

Told through a narrative that includes excerpts from Charlotte Brontë's own writings, *Dear Charlotte* follows the personal journeys of Charlotte and her sisters Emily and Anne through an age when women were expected to be seen and not heard. This intimate retelling of the famous family's story highlights the importance of sisterhood and of self-discovery. Charlotte must learn to overcome personal hardships, feelings of low self-worth, and the sexism of the mid-19th century as she blossoms into the celebrated novelist who, along with her sisters, helped to revolutionize the literary world.

Featuring an all-student cast filled with new and emerging talents, *Dear Charlotte* sheds new light on the personal experiences of the relatively secretive Brontë sisters. Set designer Afsaneh Aayani has created a simple, yet transformative setting that will immerse theatergoers in the aesthetics of the Victorian era. This glimpse into the lives of the authors of "Jane Eyre", "Wuthering Heights", and "Agnes Grey" shares their stories, which touched an entire generation, with a modern audience.

Dear Charlotte will be presented on November 2, 3, 5, 8, 9, and 10 at 8 p.m., with 2 p.m. matinees on November 4 and 11. Tickets begin at \$10 for students and may be purchased online at www.uh.edu/kgmca/theatre-and-dance.