

ROSEBUD SCHOOL OF THE ARTS

Course: THR 359 Theatre Production & Performance (Show: Christmas in the Marketplace)

Term: Fall 2023

External Evaluator: Glenda Graham, FRSA

Student: Hayley Rosenau

In *Christmas In The Marketplace* Hayley played the character of Maria, a young member of the troupe of actors who perform the story of the Nativity. Maria then plays the role of Mary, the Mother of Jesus. Hayley has a naturally sweet face and spirited demeanour, which lend well to the role.

There were moments of transparency for Hayley and then other opportunities to let the audience in that she could have seized on; the scene where Mary is visited by the angel, Hayley looked intently into Jack's face, but then when she said, "I am amazed" she did not sound amazed. It would have been nice to see that though Mary was chosen by God she was not perfect, nor is Maria, the troupe member. Let's see Mary be shocked when the rose pricks her finger, and let's see her get visibly excited to know there's a human life inside her and also when she's holding her own baby, her Saviour, in her arms. Then when she hears that people are wanting to kill her son show us a Mother's righteous anger. Give the audience larger variances in the highs and lows of what you as the character is feeling, just as in real life, Hayley is good at showing us.

Some other moments to be specific is when entering the room looking for Jesus. Look at actual, specific places on stage to see if he's there and then actually ask the audience if they know where he is, every time. Specificity is key.

There was nice differentiation in her voice when depicting the two doves, joy and grief, and some lovely interaction between her and Matthew who was playing Joseph. It was a tender few minutes they spent together on the bench. Hayley is encouraged to lean even more into those moments of emotion, making each one fully rounded and believable. A way to do that is to transfer some of the character work she's been doing in Acting Coaching class and apply it to the work in this class so that all of her learning comes together to create a pyramid of success.