

## *Head Over Heels Director's Note*

My heels are over my head with excitement as we share a piece that I believe truly celebrates the journey of becoming. Through examining the historical source material, *The Countess of Pembroke's Arcadia* written by Sir Philip Sidney in the 16<sup>th</sup> century, we explore the original intent of the piece focusing on the Oracle's four prophecies:

1. "Thy younger daughter brings a liar to bed: He thou shalt forbid; she he'll then assume!"
2. "Thy elder daughter shall consent to wed; She'll consummate her love -- but with no groom!"
3. "Thou with thy wife adult'ry shall commit."
4. "You will meet and make way for a better King."

In effort to combat the King's archaic and inflexible rule, we utilize a conceptual device of Dungeons & Dragons where Pythio is the Dungeon Master (referee/storyteller) and the players form a party; adventuring to explore a fantasy world while engaging in an epic quest of self-discovery and self-advocacy. Inspired by the punk sound of The Go-Go's, the denizens of Arcadia endeavor to keep (or rather find) their individual and collective "beat" through vocals emulating the punk aesthetic and uniquely personal movement styles inspired by the constantly shifting essence of communal dancing. With every roll of the dice the characters make decisions and face the consequences. With daring imagination, we embark on a messy, magical, and human adventure to become!

BCE 🌈