



HARRPIES

PAYSON WHITWELL

MOLLY KIRSCHENBAUM



COSTUME DESIGNER **PAYSON WHITWELL** EDITOR **NATALIE HILL** DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY **MATT KLEPPNER**
 PRODUCTION DESIGNER **JOLIEN LOUIS** AND **DORA PALMER** UPM **RAVEN ROBINSON** DIRECTOR **MOLLY KIRSCHENBAUM**



WELCOME TO HARPIES



Harpies is an award-winning concept short written by Molly Kirschenbaum and Payson Whitwell, directed by Molly Kirschenbaum. It's great for when you can't decide if you'd rather watch The Favourite or Mean Girls and you also only have 10 minutes.



SYNOPSIS:

It's 1819, and Nora, a farmer's daughter, runs away from home in the hopes of becoming a famous painter at the all-boys Royal Academy of the Arts. She dons a fake mustache and the name "Sebastian", and, undercover, is admitted. But her world is shattered when the school admits its first woman, heiress Marguerite Durand. Unraveled by frustration, jealousy, and the unfairness of literally everything, Nora goes off the deep end.



ABOUT THE CREATORS

Molly Kirschenbaum and Payson Whitwell have somehow been friends since middle school. They have collaborated on Payson's solo show, *You Did It!*, and *Harpies*, a short concept film for a full-length feature. They are from Los Angeles, California, and identify heavily with the ideology of "two dumb b*tches telling each other exactlyyy".



MOLLY AND PAYSON IN HIGH SCHOOL

MOLLY AND PAYSON, 2024
PHOTO/STYLING BY EMILY DARLING AND
LUCY DREWLOW

BIOS



Molly Kirschenbaum (they/them) is an LA-based actor, musician, and writer. Most recently, they have appeared in Tim Robbins' workshop of *Topsy Turvy* at the Actor's Gang. Their solo show, *Hot! :(*, received the 2021 Encore award at the Hollywood Fringe Festival. They also have a band called Goblynne, which released their first album in 2023, which premiered as an LA-Weekly new music pick. Currently, you can find them doing stuff and freaking out.

@_goblynne

Payson Whitwell (she/her) is a LA-based writer and actor. As a writer, Payson deals with questions like: why does my mom act like that? Do I act like that? And, additionally, am I the only person in the world who cares this much about being pretty? Payson's solo show, *You Did It!* (directed by Molly Kirschenbaum) received the 2023 Encore Award at the Hollywood Fringe Festival, and premiered professionally at the experimental Cutting Ball Theater in San Francisco (with guest direction by Jax Blaska). Payson is a lover– not a fighter– a freak, and an intellectual. She has a bad habit of seeking things that cannot be found.

@paysonwhit

