

“Who will follow the music?” The panel after “The Secret” play about H. D.

The Bethlehem Gadfly Arts, the, Fun Stuff, H.D. (Hilda Doolittle), Touchstone Theater October 16, 2019

 36th in a series of posts on H.D. 

Gadfly's not done with coverage of Touchstone Theatre's "Festival UnBound" — not by a longshot. He will be featuring several of the panels that convened during the 10-days, panels where important conversations were occurring.

Listen to your high-achieving fellow townswomen talk about their lives.

What can we learn?

“Who will follow the music?”

WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP: Inspirations and Obstacles

after a performance of “The Secret”

moderated by Jennie Gilrain

The Secret begins one day, in late nineteenth century Bethlehem, when sixteen year-old, Helen Wolle, mother of H.D., entered a Moravian Seminary classroom to rehearse a song she looked forward to performing. Much to her shock and, in fact, trauma, she was roughly told to be quiet, to end “this dreadful noise.” by her pastor grandfather, Papalie. And Helen, who loved to sing so much and so well, would never sing again in public.

The focus of the panel will be on women in leadership. We will connect the panel to the play via a question that Mamalie (Hilda's maternal grandmother) asks Hilda in the beginning of the play, and H.D. asks the audience at the end of the play: "Who will follow the music?"

Moderator Jennie Gilrain, who also directed the play, here frames the panel:

<https://youtu.be/KEoQUuvbqII>

And here introduces the panelists: Phyllis Alexander, Yalitza Corcino-Davis, Abriana Ferrari, Mary C. Foltz, Nancy Matos Gonzalez, Margaret Kavanagh, Emily Santana, Dr. Paige Van Wirt. See [here](#) for short biographies.

<https://youtu.be/Sq5vJRzuYrQ>

Here is the full panel discussion, broken into two parts. Gadfly will return shortly with edited video of each panelist, enabling a better focus on individual stories.

<https://youtu.be/6tCQcmDcJfA>

<https://youtu.be/JMgmWGQvVfw>

Festival UnBound

Closed but never forgotten