Synopsis

Molly Bloom, produced by Fourth Gorgon Theatre, is an original adaptation of the final chapter of *Ulysses* by James Joyce. Hailed as one of the greatest works of literature in history, *Ulysses* is a modernist masterpiece. It charts one day in the life of protagonist Leopold Bloom, as he walks through the streets of Dublin in 1904. It's final chapter, however, focuses on the stream-of-consciousness of Bloom's wife, Molly. Her racing thoughts and feelings are captured as she lies awake in bed next to her sleeping husband. Molly contemplates sex, gender roles, and her infidelity, in a tidal wave of little anxieties that are the stuff of any given day. It is this chapter that Jocelyn Adema has transformed for the stage: her adaptation divides Molly's racing thoughts into four characters, and the ensemble, as one woman, nimbly navigates Joyce's text while seamlessly framing each moment with gorgeous movement and four-part harmonies.

Fourth Gorgon's production liberates Molly from the confines of a male author's perspective. The physicality and choreography leans into the bawdy nature of the text, firmly planting her in the bodies and lived experiences of women themselves. Molly menstruates, pisses, and farts, and the chapter famously climaxes with Molly Bloom bringing herself to orgasm. The production unearths the complexities of Molly's mind, by devoting an entire persona to each facet of her.