## BRILLIANT FEARLESS VOICES

# PEN TO MIC



**TRITON HIGH SCHOOL** 

## THE VIRTUAL EDITION

CAREFREE SKY I DREAM OF "BLUE" SUPERIOR BLUE IT IS THE SWEET BLISS "DROWNING IN MEGA BLUE WATERS" HALF SEA FOG "I AM VIOLET" ODE TO TIMELESS BEAUTY "SAYING YES MAKES YOU WORRY "I AM YELLOW" "LAYING IN A FIELD" BLOOM "I LOOK OUT TO THE SUNSET" NOT COOL DUDE "JEANS ON" "SUMMER NIGHTS COME UPON US" DON'T BE AFRAID OF THE FUTURE DID "I AM IN THE CUBE" CATHARSIS "A BIT IDEALISTIC" METAMORPHOSIS SCIENCE "I CAN'T WRITE POEMS" "AS USUAL" FEAR SEE WHAT I FEEL DIAMONDS AND PEARLS LOVE HIM ODE TO MOM LIGHTS GOLDEN BOY R.E.M. LOVERS

### Table of Contents by Author/Artist

Ryan Gibbs <i>Diamonds and Pearls</i> 25
🃸 🈍 Tabitha Harris
📸]agger Hassenberg 10, 18
₩adison Henry23
Jaden Hodge <i>Untitled5</i> <i>Fear23</i>
Gab Kerr Don't Be Afraid of the Future16
📸 Veronica Klock21
©Jada Jones8 Untitled7 Ode To Timeless Beauty8
Jalen Mac Minn <i>"Catharsis"18</i>
📸 Kaitlyn Malave14
Amber Marioni <i>Untitled</i> 12
📸 Stephanie Marlin
📸Annabelle Martino27
📸 Crystal Medina11
📸Alicia McKevitt12
📸Ean Miklosey9
Forrest Miller <i>Untitled</i> 15
📸 Justin Mitchell23
📸 Janalis Morales Serrano2
📸Ali Muhammad 15, 25
📸 Breanna Negron7
📸 Briana Nguyen27

#### Table of Contents by Author/Artist

📸 Matthew Otero 29
Yatra Patel <i>Untitled</i> 22
🃸Emily Perez3
📸Danielle Pezzano16
📸Omayra Rivera
Ethan Santi Untitled
Jenay Santos <i>see what i feel24</i>
Shawn Sepulvada <i>Not Cool Dude13</i> <i>Did17</i>
Nohman Sohail <i>Untitled</i> 11
📸 Mark Szafran15
Veronica Visconti <i>Untitled</i> 17
Kai Vogues <i>Science20</i>
📸 Ally Wark 5
Jazmine Zuniga-Riano <i>Untitled</i> 4

#### WE ARE ON OUR OWN BITTER WARM LIFE Take no form Heart torn We would cry But who stops that long for The world to notice A broken soul

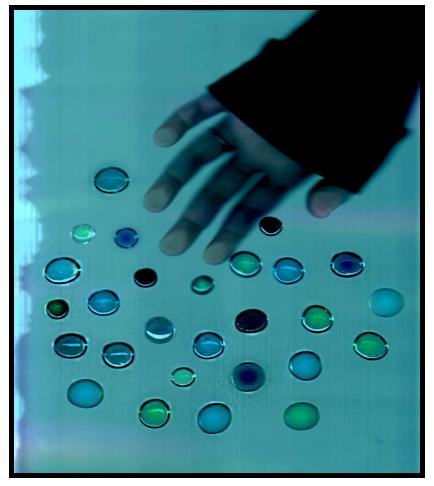
-JENAY SANTOS, "SEE WHAT I FEEL"

THE FOLLOWING PAGES CONTAIN ART - BOTH WRITTEN AND VISUAL - FROM OUR STUDENTS' PERSPECTIVES. THE THOUGHTS AND OPINIONS HEREIN BELONG SOLELY TO THE STUDENTS WHO HAVE BRAVELY SHARED THEM. Pen to Mic, Triton High School, 2020

#### Carefree Sky I Dream Of

by Emma Canzanese

Seize my tomorrow Learn my yesterday Ocean's breeze Salty sweet Sailing through Carefree sky When we have love to guide us as we go I'll take the path through the wind And you the vast sea below I need to know these answers Take these chances I need to know Find my way



📸 Toni Catando

by Reilly Ennals

Blue. Blue is all I can feel. A bottom of the ocean, almost-black blanket of blue covers me. Blue, you are Polonius- at first you seemed light and tranquil. All the time you deceived me, hiding your dark side. I thought you would protect me from the horrors of the outside world. I thought you would protect me from the horrors of the outside world. Ironically, all I have now *is* the outside world to distract me. And all I see is blue. Everywhere. This blue wind storm builds and swirls and pummels- blowing my hair into tangles, stinging my eyes with its dust.



📸 Janalis Morales Serrano

#### **Superior Blue**

by Lauren Buckingham

straight blonde hair tanned skin, clear faces toned stomachs, perfectly sloped noses and weight that finds home in the right places.

that is not me.

who am i? i am the girl you laugh at and call pig-nose, no-tooth, because my face does not match the looks of a barbie doll.

with your hurtful words you have filled the spaces between my teeth with words of self-hatred, insecurities and the heavy feeling of grief.

so, i sit, and cry, and wonder why my brown eyes do not match the ones that flaunt the so-called superior blue.



📸 Emily Perez



📸 Ariana Biancofiore



📸 Ian Fonollosa

#### by Jazmine Zuniga-Riano

It is the sweet bliss Of acidic blueberries Tingling at your cheeks And the luscious flavor of Relishing pomegranates Pervading candied lusting. It is a reminder of Feverish childhood dreams spent In meadows of cosmos and Lovely fragrant lavenders Where responsibilities Are forgotten and absent. It is the pink eternal Of mediterranean Sunset tranquility and The mystifying color Of the tempestuous skies.

😍 Toni Catando

by Jaden Hodge

drowning in mega blue waters waves cascade over my head struggling to catch my breath reminiscing as you sit there unfazed i never told you my inner thoughts You thought everything was fine while i was battling the Loch Ness the stress of telling you how i felt was Like treading water i didn't want you to worry i wanted for you to feel the same way i do but... it was obvious you didn't crave the same i believed you would be consistent as the tide you lied

i loved you as much as all the grains of sand but you left

Let go of my hand



📸Ally Wark

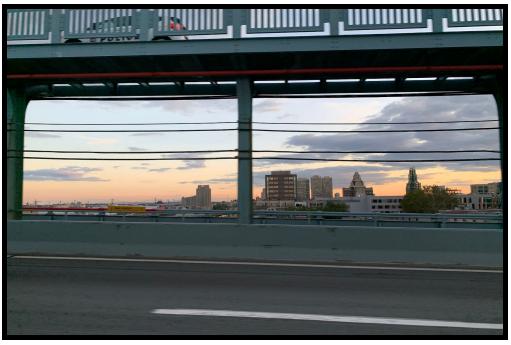


📸 Liahna Fernandez

#### Half Sea Fog

Anonymous

there i was another normal day, walking down the street hearing the ringing come from the block there i was another normal day, everybody out on the porch and the men on the corners like if there was a party there i was another normal day, another argument by the household which made me leave there i was another normal day, Thinking about going with the men to help my mom out there i was another normal day, going to the park just to make sure all of my cousins and friends are safe there i was another normal day, Someone asking me to make another "run" for them there i was another normal day, Thinking about another way to make the green there i was another normal day, Running away from the gunshots thinking who died this time There i was another normal day, going home thinking about how i will walk through the fall the very next day



by Jada Jones

I am violet. A quiet storm I clouded myself with a fog of shyness I rumble with silence But... I'm soaked with creative Sensitivity strickens my vines Loyal and laughter roars out of me I'm a swirl of imagination and randomness Some may notice Some may don't Just break through my walls It more then to me then you assume I'm unique I'm hard to find I'm violet

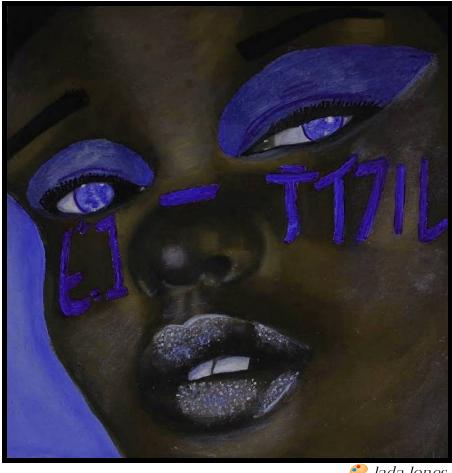


📸 Breanna Negron

#### **Ode To Timeless Beauty**

by Jada Jones

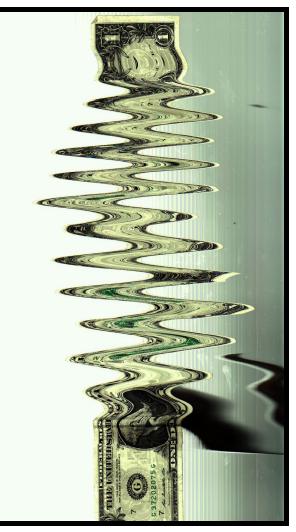
I adore your gracefulness like Audrey I adore your innocence like Marilyn Your hips sway with femininity As you paint your lips with a hue of timeless ruby I adore your strength like Dorothy I adore your compassion like Lena Your neck is cloaked with gems and diamonds Your smile is the whitest pearls I I adore I adore I adore you...



by Brandon Clark

Saying yes makes you worry. Facts. It's scary. It's the color red. It's unknown consequences It's the tilt of a too confident head atop broad shoulders draped in an evil apple jacket I run it when I walk onto the casino floor but I want more-play that roulette all day even knowing I would lose because I choose to live my life like the King of Hearts. Poker machines ring ching ching and bring money money money Jackpot! That's tough but I'm tougher, been through times that were rougher So, lady, you're out of luck because the dice are in my hand. Cuz, the man has just entered the building And I'm feeling fine as wine and worth more than all these chips

Combined.



📸 Shawn Coleman



📸 Ean Miklosey

by Lauren Fazi

I am yellow A pale yellow Reminiscent of soft sunlight Just enough to warm your cheeks But not too much as to overwhelm A comforting warmth

I am yellow A pale yellow Ever present and encapsulating Ever present but not always noticeable Quiet and reserved Seen but not heard

> I am yellow A pale yellow Like an aged painting Or an old book One thing to look at Another to peer deeper in

> > I am yellow A pale yellow



📸 Jagger Hassenberg

by Nohman Sohail

Laying in a field of pure pink petunias In a state of pure bliss Next to the soul I adore Waiting for true love's kiss

Perambulate onto the dimly lit stage Making a grand debut The crowd is silent, watching me dance In a pale Ballerina Tutu



📸 Crystal Medina



📸 Victoria D'Ilario

#### Bloom

by Rhiannon Atlee

Flowers bloom in the day lit sky, while stars bloom in the dead of night, if times grow difficult and you are drought with feelings of gloom, just look at the flowers and the stars and watch them bloom



📸 Alicia McKevitt

#### Untitled

by Amber Marioni

I look out to the sunset, bright, beautiful and bold. Listen to the waves crash as I lay on the warm sand with an iced tea in my hand. Hearing the seagulls and smelling the salty air. Feeling the sand between my toes and summer breeze in my hair. Shades of orange and pink cascade over the ocean and reflect onto my face. An empty beach is like having unlimited space. Walking slowly, leaving footprints in the sand. Just admiring this beautiful land. I search for seashells as I roam. I kneel down and touch the sea foam. Waves run along the shore. The twilight afterglow is a sight that I adore.

#### Not Cool Dude

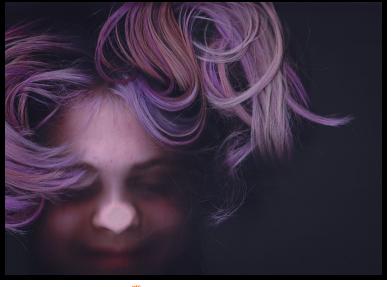
by Shawn Sepulvada

Proper attire and gelled back hair conforming to the statute of social standards all because of this "occasion." So what you turned 16 it isn't monumental yet you still wear your pompous dress flaunting around half-exposed breasts all in an attempt to feel like a type of queen. Nonetheless, you're my friend or so I thought until you found it funny to pour that salt to pour that pepper into that hat



📸 Tabitha Harris

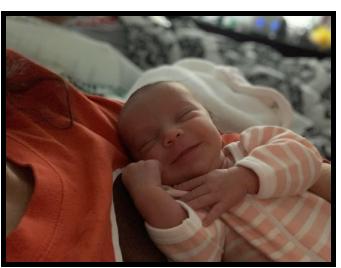
and place it upon my head. Clawing at my hair and picking at my scalp all because you found it funny to ruin my night. Not cool.



📸 Rhiannon Atlee

by Mike Donohue

Jeans on with jelly on my face while my favorite jams play 5 years old with a future ahead type of thing I think about 10 years later But the 5 will soon go silent as a new number arises with the whole family Cake, balloons no care with a hat covering my hair This is hardly the end but part of the beginning Got 12 more years to go and i'm all on my own But that's the future lets no get away from now With the music bumping and the cake coming closer I'm 6 i'm 6 I say as I rejoice and blow out the candles



📸 Kaitlyn Malave



📸 Allison Fitzpatrick

by Forrest Miller

Summer nights come upon us It's right around the corner Late nights and no morning bus When you can stay up and become a performer

Selling your fresh pink lemonade around noon Where everyone unites Even the trashy goons And once you're done, you fly your kite.

That's what summer is like Endless amounts of fun Getting lost riding bikes Until your chains come undone

And then you go to bed Late, after playing your games You have to keep up the dread And it's such a shame

That you have to wait Until summer comes again For now you have to hate Waking up early and, Waiting for the bus again



📸 Ali Muhammad



📸 Mark Szafran



📸 Danielle Pezzano

#### Don't Be Afraid of the Future

by Gab Kerr

I'm just going through the motions Want to give all my devotion But something is holding me back

High school doesn't last forever Surely something to treasure Time to get on the right track

Things will begin to change Am I ready for this stage Wish I could put my life on pause

This all so overwhelming My decisions are foretelling All of this is frightening because...

#### Did

by Shawn Sepulvada

I'm at the brink No, at the edge of insanity O' how it hammers me constantly Surrounding me and my persons' that they have multiple personalities Enveloped in the curtains That block the light from piercing my life They ask me... "are you okay?" But I don't know what to say For I believe that I am, but they ask me every day No way that is just persistence I must be seen as a pestilence

I knew from the very beginning, that I wasn't like the rest of them So tell me What do you think is wrong Personally I have no clue what's going on Trust me when I say I don't know either, Yet if there is one thing that is certain It's that I'm starting to teeter



📸 Shawn Coleman

#### Untitled

by Veronica Visconti

I am in the cube Crafted by not only enemies but by the ones I love The bread I make will never be enough My mind shines like a full moon but it will never be seen My puzzle lays next to me missing pieces Only to be filled in time only to be filled by me And only me The noises in my head grow stronger each day I blast the edison so I don't have to think anymore



📸 Rhiannon Atlee

#### "Catharsis"

by Jalen Mac Minn

I feel like glass when it shatters Like the space that I take up don't matter Made mistakes, I can't make up for the matter My stomach starts to swell and my brains acting scattered

It's something bout this feeling that I can't describe Everybody claims to care but everyone lies I rest my eyes Kick back, look into the sky Dreamin' bout what should've been but that's just in my mind I ain't inspired To be the person I'm supposed to I'm a thousand miles away from the people that I'm close to Everybody claim they love you 'til they turn around and hurt you And when you scream for help they'll pretend they never heard you I'm lost inside the trees It's been hard for me to eat I look at my reflection I hate everything I see Small boy, small world but I wanna do big things But I'm starting to get restless Rest in peace to all my dreams



📸 Jagger Hassenberg

Pen to Mic, Triton High School, 2020

#### Untitled

by Ethan Santi

#### A bit idealistic

I want every angel in heaven to love me I want every angel there is to hold me I wish time could be erased for my sake to feel every moment of love at once if my soul could be put out on display maybe I could be their hero



#### Metamorphosis

*by Tabitha Harris* I am constantly filled with temptation to start over. Devouring myself from the inside out, until I am clinging onto nothing but the ashes of a stranger who once wore my skinto escape a cocoon and emerge something different.

👶 Tabitha Harris

#### Science

by Kai Vogues

What's science Without the scientist - -Ions and an abacus? Prying from my hardest ship Crying while I make a fist Tryna do better Inspire with letters Deceiving like shredder Tear apart every rhyme Rewriting my lines Will it ever be fine I'm a regular guy - -No another Einstein



📸 Omayra Rivera



📸 Veronica Klock

by Meg Burns

i can't write poems

i've never had languid language flow through my fingertips as if i was a fountain spewing endless gallons of liquid lingo or like syrup from the bottle on sunday morning, smothering my mother's warm and buttery pancakes.

i spend hours cutting my way through the wilderness of my brain, to find the coveted line that keeps darting around my head.

When i finally grasp it, the process isn't easier in the slightest.

i get too caught up in the flow of the lines and trying not to rhyme because i think when you are stuck in those confines you feel pressured to follow your set guidelines and worry that the rhyme outshines your purpose.

and i don't want this to be what defines or headlines what people see of me,

just some loosey goosey dr suess-y wannabe

fleeting phrases flitter through my thoughts, but vaporize before i can even note the feeling of their warm aura or their impact on my subconscious

i want to be profound, i want to be thoughtful

But i get stuck in the foam and drown in the drought in my brain

Pioneering a poem is rough enough, but ending one?

Well i-

by Yatra Patel

As usual, I was waiting for my bus opposite a 7-11 in the morning. It was still dark and the day felt usual but surprisingly the roads were not busy at all. Right next to the sidewalk was a very old but small cemetery. However, today it felt eerily quiet and I kept turning around to see if something was there. I was met with a heavy fog hanging over the tombs. I pulled out my phone to check the time: it was 5:15.

Again and again, I kept looking back as if something was constantly staring at me. I pulled out my headphones in an attempt to make the uncomfortable silence go away. As I was listening to music, I didn't realize when a young girl came and stood beside me. She suddenly said "Hi" in an almost monotone, crisp voice and I jumped. I took a few steps away from her as she was painfully close to me. Her expression sat cold and absent. She was undeniably pale. Very pale. Her lips were lifeless and cracked as if she hasn't had water in years. Those dark eyes were bleak yet appealing with her hair masking much of her face.

Before I could say anything, she asked, "Can I have a quarter?"

I started to feel very sick about this situation and I didn't want anything to do with her, so I said, "Sorry, I don't have any quarters."

She raised her lifeless arm and pointed at my bag and said, "There is one in your bag."

As she continued to point, she maintained eye contact and it was very nerve-wracking. It was almost that she could see through me. The unsettling silence was wrecked as the bus pulled up behind me and I

quickly glanced at the bus. The moment I looked back, she was gone. I shot quick glances around to see if she was there. . .



📸 Tabitha Harris

but nope, she was gone. The bus stopped right next to me and I quickly got on without looking back. The bus was empty and so I found my usual seat and sat down. As soon as I sat down, I opened my bag and ruffled through the pocket to check if I did have a quarter. I searched through everything and I did find a quarter. I was starting to shake so I put the quarter back into the bag and pulled out the phone to call my mom. The time read 4:15 and I knew something was up. I jumped up from my seat but I felt a presence in the back of the bus. As soon as I turned around, I knew it was too late.

She was already on the bus.

#### Fear

by Jaden Hodge

Sitting in my room scared to go outside seeing myself struggle the reason why I cried. Not ever knowing if today will be my last. due to my skin color I'm always harassed. Existing all alone in this dreadful place can't stop feeling like I'm a disgrace. I never will be comfortable while I am here, This is why I live All my days in fear.



📸 Madison Henry



📸 Justin Mitchell

#### see what i feel

by Jenay Santos

we are on our own bitter warm life take no form heart torn we would cry but who stops that long for the world to notice a broken soul you would rather pass by with closed eyes than 2 see us cry painful sometimes the pain we caused because of lives we lost but still we stay strong fake smile and blank faces still we choose to fight still ignored, we pray that one day someone will see our pain and not judge us by how we look and act but how we act the part that is all we know to hide our pain and

close our gates to push away when you're brought up in a cold world you'll do anything to stay safe.



📸 Ariana Biancofiore

#### **Diamonds and Pearls**

by Ryan Gibbs

why would you do that to me why would you do that to her you out here running these streets i treat her like diamonds and pearls

recover from all of these burns you is my whole world at some point i took the wrong turn for heaven's sakes give me a cure i'm drinkin my life is blur i'll fix it and i'll just make sure

you're everything compared to her i'm really just missin them curls

now i'm layin in my bed and i got you in my head wish it never had to end there's no way we could just be friends and i'm missin touchin you hope you're missin touchin me loved kissin on them cheeks always held you when you reached for me wanted to take you to dorney i'll take you back to my pad we can just cuddle and laugh we don't have to take it fast try not to make you get mad never wanna see you sad



📸 Ali Muhammad



📸 Stephanie Marlin

### **Love Him** by Madison Benfield

Love is spending the whole day with your someone, and wondering where all of the time went. Love is waking up to a gentle kiss on the forehead, and knowing exactly who planted it. Love is too far to reach, until you hold it in the palm of your hand. Love is smelling his cologne in the hallway and grinning at the thought of him. Love is seeing your future in his eyes. Love is the feeling of his hands pulling you close, out of harm's way. Love is the sound of his comforting voice: "it will all be okay..." and love is knowing it will be--Because.... Love is a taste of forever.

> He loves you; So please...

love him back.



📸 Madison Benfield

Pen to Mic, Triton High School, 2020

#### **Ode to Mom** by Carina Gerace

How do you do it Mom?

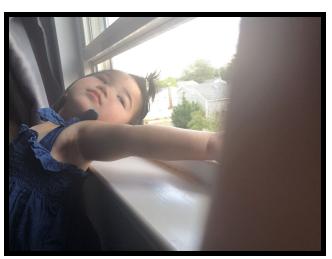
All by yourself A normal person would crumble Crumble to dust But you are not normal, Mom You are not a normal Mom

You are a paintbrush You brush the color into my life You brushed my teeth, brushed my hair, brush my tears away You are my Mother's *and* Father's Day

You have guided me through life's toughest aisles And while you may not walk me down the aisle One day I will meet you again, and we will walk through the gates of a different aisle



📸 Annabelle Martino



📸 Briana Nguyen

#### Lights

by Emma Canzanese



📸 Stephanie Marlin

Insomnia embraces me at 2 am Scolding me of past mistakes Illusions go, leaving me alone Going out of reach in daydreams Gazing at the eclipse from a rooftop Heartbeat rapid from arguing Booming light chilling me Running towards that magic that entices me Our last love is not over A loop never ending The fires of Regulus warming me Through the mist We are fine I smile at these lights

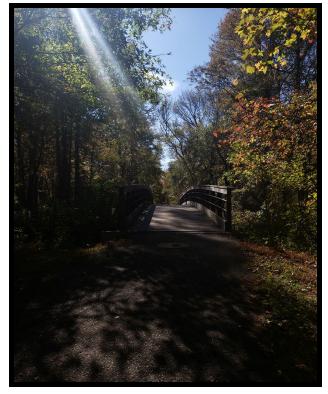


📸 Victoria D'Ilario

#### Golden Boy

by Ethan Santi

I won't let myself die Sometimes I want to forget what made me Other times I'd rather be born elsewhere, if at all The past won't let go of me I don't need answers I don't need apologies I don't need anyone Yet I want to be remembered Like hell, it's just me! Claustrophobic in my empathy Time is just the chatty chauffeur I'd rather live to talk his ear off



📸 Myranda Bourgeois



📸 Matthew Otero

#### **R.E.M.** Lovers

by Ethan Santi

That wisp of home came so inexplicably, too early "who was she?" the boy always wondered In otherworldly comfort she kissed him she led him by her hand she was mesmerizing, wholesome yet exciting she came to the boy many times, in many different forms and caricatures, but his sweet, shapeshifting phantom always brought joy such peace such closure utter contentment Yet as he's assured this heavenly reality is infinite Eye's flick open A horror in daylight Enough to make a young boy smile, and weep "I want to go back!" he cries, "where is she?" For it would be many, many sunrises before he truly awakens To not look within this world to find the love he so desperately sought to retain, But to close his eyes again

realizing

That love was within himself



📸 Ashley Dever

I WANT TO BE PROFOUND, I WANT TO BE THOUGHTFUL BUT I GET STUCK IN THE FOAM AND DROWN IN THE DROUGHT IN MY BRAIN PIONEERING A POEM IS ROUGH ENOUGH, BUT ENDING ONE? WELL I-

ARIANA BIANCOFIORE ANDA BOURGEOIS LAUREN BUCKING MEG BUN EMMACANZANES GATA) BRANDON CL SHAWN COLE ASHLEY VICTORIA MIKE DONO REILLY ENI LAUREN LIAHNA FERNAM ALLISON FITZP/ IAN FONOL CARINA GE AYAN GI TABITHA HARRIS **JAGGER HASSENBE** MADISON HE JADEN HODGE GAB KERR **VERONICA KLOC** JADA JONE JALEN MAC MI KAITLYN MAL STEPHANIE MA ANNABELLE MA CRYSTAL ME ALICIA MCK JUSTIN MIT **JANALIS MORALES SER** ALIMUHAM BREANNA NEGRO BRIANANCI V. haila EMILY P DANIELLE PEZZ JENAY SAI SHAWN SEPU NOHMAN MARK SZI VERONICA VISCO KAI VOGUE ALLY JAZMINE ZUNIGA-RIANO

RHIANNON ATLEE MADISON BENFIELD

- MEG BURNS, UNTITLED