The Lewis Center for the Arts Princeton Atelier presents:

The Last Boat
They say there are three deaths. The first is when the soul becomes disentangled from the body. The second is when the body is buried or burned. The third . . . well, the third happens when your name is one day forgotten, when it dissolves from the last tongue that holds it.

—Alec Lowman, inspired by David Eagleman, Sum: Forty Tales of the Afterlives

A story penetrates the whole ship and every part of it, the iron, the steel, the wood, all the holds, the coal-bunkers, the engine-hall, the stoke-hold, even the bilge. Out of these parts, full of hundreds and thousands of stories, tales and yarns, the ship tells the stories over again, with all the details and minor twists. She tells the stories to her best comrades—that is to the members of the crew. She tells the stories better and more exactly than they could ever be told in print.

—B. Traven, The Death Ship

DIRECTED BY Jennine Willett and Kevin C. Pyle

PARTICIPANTS
Harry Chiang '19
Teddy Chow '17
Katherine Frain '18
Nico Krell '18
Alec Lowman '16
Alex Quetell '17
Tori Rinker '16
Abigail Ulcej '16
Nina Wade '17
Emma Watkins '18
Bree White '16
Gienna Yu '16

DIRECTORS’ NOTES
Jennine Willett: The collaboration of the Atelier has given us the opportunity to learn from each other and fuel each other’s ideas, weaving them together to create something that is unique and only exists because all of us, as a group, explored a concept. The students in the course have each contributed to the performance in multiple ways, some being within their skill sets and some which have been new territory. We are pleased to present an immersive experience that gives our audience a glimpse into our explorations over the semester and our time working together as a class.

Kevin C. Pyle: Many of the themes woven through “The Last Boat”—Memento Mori, The Dance of Death, and most notably the journey of the soul, arose from our investigation of how artists across history have engaged the subject of death. Combing immersive and graphic storytelling, the piece seeks to engage a long tradition with new forms. Ars longa, vita brevis. Life is brief, but art is long.

Many thanks to Joshua Reaver for his performance, Kristina Vnook for stage management and Russell Christian and Calvin Pyle for production assistance.

Approximate Running Time: 28 minutes