

*Purdue University Department of Theatre*

## **Audition Announcement**

# **ANGELS IN AMERICA**

## **PART ONE: MILLENNIUM APPROACHES**

by Tony Kushner

Directed by Richard Stockton Rand

Performances: February 21 – March 1, 2020

### **Audition Information:**

**Generals:** Monday, September 30 6:30 p.m. – 10:30 p.m. in the Hansen Theatre

\*Please sign up for a 4 minute slot on the sign up sheet.

**Callbacks\*\*:** Saturday, October 12 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. in PAO 2164.

\*\* Actors who are called back will be notified by email after general auditions.

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### **Audition Requirements:**

**Purdue Theatre Acting Majors and Acting Certificate Students:** Please prepare one contemporary monologue, 1-2 minutes in length

**Purdue Theatre Majors, Theatre Minors, Theatre Design and Production Majors and Non-Theatre Majors:** Please prepare one contemporary monologue, 1-2 minutes in length. If you do not have a piece prepared, audition material is available on the callboard. Please familiarize yourself with the piece as much as you are able before general auditions; it need not be memorized.

**A Note on Staged Intimacy:** There are scripted instances of intimate physical contact in the play, which will be led in rehearsals by a consultant trained in staging intimacy. Roles with scripted intimacy required are indicated below. You will have the option to audition for roles requiring intimacy or not. Please note that on your audition form.

**Please note: There will be *no scripted staged intimacy* included in the either general or callback audition.**

**Enrollment Requirement:** Student actors cast in this production must register for 2-3 credits of THTR 536 Rehearsal and Performance.

## **Roles open for audition:**

### **LOUIS IRONSON**

Word processor for Federal Court of Appeals; intelligent, neurotic, fragile, compulsive. (Role requires a kiss with Joe; embrace, cradle and kiss Prior; a dance with Prior)

### **PRIOR WALTER**

Louis's boyfriend, occasionally works as club designer or caterer; lives very modestly but with great style off a small trust fund; witty, frail, intense and vulnerable. Actor also plays the Man In The Park. (Role requires the following: an embrace, cuddle, and kiss with Louis; a dance with Louis; wears only underwear in several scenes; hug, cradle, and kiss on forehead with Belize. Scripted to remove all clothing for nurse's exam; this element will be finalized after casting.)

### **ROY M. COHN**

Middle-aged; influential, successful NYC lawyer/powerbroker; relentless, manipulative, cunning; vehemently denies sexuality and battle with AIDS. Based on historical character. Actor also plays Prior 2. (Role requires embraces with Joseph)

### **JOSEPH PORTER PITT**

Lawyer, devoutly religious, married to Harper. Deeply closeted homosexual, struggles with moral conflict. Actor also plays Prior 1. (Role requires embraces with Roy and a kiss with Harper)

### **HARPER AMATI PITT**

Joe's wife; fearful, agoraphobic, and visionary; addicted to Valium. Actor also plays Martin Heller. (Role requires a kiss with Joseph)

### **BELIZE**

Identifies as African-American; registered nurse and former drag queen whose name was originally Norman Arriaga; extremely stylish and theatrical. Actor also plays Mr. Lies. (Role requires a kiss on Prior's forehead; hug or cradle with Prior)

### **THE ANGEL**

Ethereal, otherworldly messenger. Be prepared to move and dance, and fly. Actor also plays Emily, a Homeless Woman, and Sister Ella Chapter. [*Those auditioning for Angel should be prepared to choreograph movement to haiku poems at the Callback.*]

### **MR. LIES**

Harper's imaginary friend, a travel agent, played by actor playing Belize. In style and dress he suggests a jazz musician. Actor also plays Belize.

### **HANNAH PORTER PITT**

Joe's practically minded mother from Salt Lake City. She moves to New York when Joe comes out to her. Actor also plays Ethel Rosenberg, Rabbi Isidor Chemelwitz, and Henry.

### **ETHEL ROSENBERG**

Based on historical character; Ethel and her husband Julius were tried, convicted, and executed for spying. Actor also plays Hannah, Rabbi Isidor Chemelwitz, and Henry.

#### RABBI ISIDOR CHEMELWITZ

Orthodox Jewish rabbi. Actor also plays Ethel Rosenberg, Hannah, and Henry.

#### HENRY

Roy's long-time doctor. Actor also plays Hannah, Ethel Rosenberg, and Rabbi Isidor Chemelwitz.

#### EMILY

Registered nurse, caretaker for Prior. Actor also plays the Angel, a Homeless Woman, and Sister Ella Chapter. (Role requires examining Prior's body for lesions)

#### MARTIN HELLER

A Reagan Administration Justice Department supporter and publicist. Actor also plays Harper.

#### A HOMELESS WOMAN

Unmedicated psychotic who lives on the streets of the South Bronx. Actor also plays the Angel, Emily, and Sister Ella Chapter.

#### SISTER ELLA CHAPTER

A Salt-Lake real estate saleswoman. Actor also plays the Angel, Emily, and a Homeless Woman.

#### THE MAN IN THE PARK

Dressed in leather, seeking sexual liaison in Central Park. Actor also plays Prior.

#### PRIOR 1

Ghost of dead Prior Walter from the 13<sup>th</sup> century. A blunt, grim, dutiful farmer, he speaks loudly and abruptly with a guttural Yorkshire accent. Actor also plays Joseph.

#### PRIOR 2

Ghost of dead Prior Walter from the 17<sup>th</sup> century. Restoration fop sophisticated and bon vivant; speaks with elegant Received English accent. Actor also plays Roy.