

Purdue University Department of Theatre

Shrader Workshop Series

Audition Announcement

Big Ten Theatre Consortium New Play Initiative

BONNETS: (HOW LADIES OF GOOD BREEDING ARE INCLINED TO MURDER)

by Jen Silverman

Directed by Will Lewis

Performances: March 27-29, 2020

Audition Information:

Generals: Friday, January 24 5:30* p.m. – 10:30 p.m. in PAO 2154

*Please sign up for a 4-minute slot on the sign-up sheet below. Note that slots in the first minutes are reserved for actors cast in *Angels in America, Part One: Millennium Approaches*.

Callbacks:** Saturday, January 25 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. in PAO 2164.

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

Audition Requirements:

NOTE: Copies of the script are available in the Theatre Main Office (PAO 2165). Casting will be done in conjunction with *Water by the Spoonful*.

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 Singing: Each Bonnet character sings as part of a “punk rock” ensemble in various parts of the play. Trained singing voice not required, but be prepared to present your vocal ability during callbacks.

A Note on Staged Intimacy: There is a scripted instance of intimate physical contact in the play (a kiss between Claire and Laurent), 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.

A Note on Staged Violence: There are scripted moments of stage violence throughout the play, including a murder scene between Webster and Mrs. Wolcott, as well as simulated murder (no props)

between all Bonnets. All staged contact will be led in rehearsals by a consultant trained in staging violence.

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 1-2 credits of THTR 536 Rehearsal and Performance.

Roles open for audition:

CLAIRE: naïve, well-meaning (Role requires a kiss with Laurent and simulated murder of and by a Bonnet.)

VALERIE: ruthless, pragmatic (Role requires simulated murder of and by a Bonnet.)

WEBSTER: hopeless, in love (Role requires fight/murder scene with Mrs. Wolcott and simulated murder of and by a Bonnet.)

GEORGETTE: a good daughter, full of self-loathing (Role requires simulated murder of and by a Bonnet.)

PRUDENCE: forceful, unencumbered by empathy (Role requires simulated murder of and by a Bonnet.)

FORTITUDE: just wants things to be organized and polite (Role requires simulated murder of and by a Bonnet.)

MISTRESS STONE: on her way to the gallows (Role requires simulated murder of and by a Bonnet.)

MRS. WOLCOTT: formidable, steely, but impressive (Role requires fight/murder scene with Webster and simulated murder of and by a Bonnet.)

LAURENT: charming and gentle, a romantic (Role requires a kiss with Claire and simulated murder of and by a Bonnet.)

DANIEL STONE: charming and selfish, in it for himself (Role requires simulated murder of and by a Bonnet.)

GOD: just a voice, dry and uninflected until Sc. 8, when it begins to have deep feeling (Role requires simulated murder of and by a Bonnet.)

Additional Notes on Casting from the Playwright:

On Race: Roles can be cast with actors of any race or ethnicity.

On Gender: This play welcomes female-identifying, genderqueer, and non-binary actors in all roles.