



SAN DIEGO REPERTORY THEATRE

AT THE LYCEUM • HORTON PLAZA

Understudy Casting Notice for SD REP's 35th Season

San Diego Repertory Theatre is currently accepting submissions from local actors that would like to be considered for understudy roles in two upcoming shows in SD REP's 2010-2011 Season.

Understudies must be local to San Diego and non-union. There is some pay.

Please see below for show and role specifics.

Submission Process: Please send headshot and resume to:
Email: casting@sdrep.org
Subject: understudy casting

THE ROAD TO MECCA

Written by Athol Fugard

Directed by Todd Salovey

About the Play

Tony Award® winner Athol Fugard's inspiring portrait of an aging artist in an isolated South African village is considered by many to be his finest work. TIME Magazine calls it his "wisest, most balanced and most nearly universal play."

Miss Helen is a reclusive widow who has created her own "Mecca" by meticulously decorating her home and front yard with a cacophony of candles, mermaids, wisemen, peacocks and pyramids. The neighbors can't stop wondering "why?" Into Helen's quiet life enters a young teacher with a secret agenda and a local clergyman with a plan to get Helen to sign away her home and her freedom. The trio clashes in a battle for Helen's soul and her future.

The stage fills with crystalline light as two women learn to trust themselves and each other in this beautiful story about friendship and freedom.

Performance Schedule

Rehearsals Begin: August 30, 2010

Performance Dates: September 25 - October 17, 2010, possible extension to October 24, 2010

Performance Space: Lyceum Space

Understudy Roles

Miss Helen Martins – age 60s

Helen is an elderly South African widow and an artist of eccentric sculptures. She lives alone, is frail and birdlike and becoming increasingly unable to manage on her own. It's a tour de force role requiring

great vulnerability, exuberance, love, and emotional range. Actor must be comfortable with an Afrikaans accent (Rural South African accent).

Elsa Barlow – age late 20s - early 30s

Elsa is a teacher and Miss Helen's closest friend. She regards Miss Helen as a role model and source of inspiration. She is a strong-willed woman but in many ways confused and troubled herself. She arrives at Miss Helen's for an unannounced visit urging Miss Helen to resist local attempts to persuade her to enter a retirement home. Actor must be comfortable with an English accent.

Marius Byleveld – age 50s - 70s

He is a neatly dressed man with a simple sincerity and charm. He is a pastor and longtime friend of Miss Helen that is urging her to enter a retirement home. He is a far more complex character than he initially appears. At first, he seems to represent the repressive elements in conventional society. However, his concern for Miss Helen's welfare is genuine and motivated largely by the long-cherished love he feels for her. Actor must be comfortable with an Afrikaans accent (Rural South African accent).

STORYVILLE

A Musical

Book by Ed Bullins

Music and Lyrics by Mildred Kayden

Revised and Directed by Ken Page

The Musical

It's the Back 'O' Town Red light district of New Orleans in 1917. Louis Armstrong, Ma Rainey and Jelly Roll Morton are creating a unique American musical style – the jazz of the 20th century. This is Storyville, one of the most vibrant and mythical neighborhoods in America.

Butch Cobra Brown, a former prizefighter with trumpet in hand, arrives in New Orleans to join the musical renaissance. The star of the cabaret scene is torch singer Tigre Savoy, a single mom on the verge of a soaring musical career. Butch and Tigre might become lovers, but the political machine has its own plan for their futures. Butch is forced into a high-stakes boxing match that leads to a street brawl. The Department of the Navy shuts down Storyville forever—forcing the musicians, their culture and their music to roll north up the river, spreading the new sound and energy of jazz music across the heart of American culture.

Performance Schedule

Rehearsals Begin: October 13, 2010

Performance Dates: November 13 – December 12, 2010, possible extension to December 19, 2010

Performance Space: Lyceum Stage

Understudy Roles for WOMEN

MAMA CECELYN – 40 – 55 - African American

Caribbean decent. Strong Belt voice. Alto or Soprano. Strong actor. Sage, strong and wise, practices Voodoo, sees all.

COUNTESS WILLIE - 50-60 - Indeterminate-mixed race

Alto or Soprano. Good voice. Bisexual, flamboyant. European sophistication. Strong and commanding In charge. Madame of a Brothel in Storyville.

TEXAS/ OLD EMMA – 20-30 - Mixed race – Creole

Large belt voice, alto or soprano. Must move well. Large woman, voluptuous, loud and proud. Character actor w/Comedic ability. Prostitute in the Brothel

Understudy Roles for MEN

BUTCH “COBRA” BROWN – 20-30 - African American

Must have strong voice. Jazz baritone. Very attractive, sexy, charismatic with the ladies. Strong build as he’s an ex-heavyweight boxer. Trumpet player (but does not have to play the instrument). Moves very well.

HOT LICKS SAM - 40-50 - African American

Male character lead. Middle-High Baritone. Great performer with a good heart. Louis Armstrong type character. Horn player. (does not have to play)

GEORGIE “PUNCHIE” SAVOY – 8-10 - African American

Must sing and dance. Mischievous, charming, smart. The son of Tigre Savoy.

FRANKY - Middle to late 20’s - Caucasian or Latino

Tenor-baritone. Handsome, rough, athletic build. Must dance well. Sailor.

COCONUT JOE – 40-50 - African American

Character Actor. Not tall. Strong Bass or Baritone. Must move well. Strong comedic ability. Wise and funny.

ENSEMBLE MAN – 25-35 Caucasian or Latino

Must be a strong singer, actor and dancer or move very well to play different character parts.