

Production Pack

Hi! Thanks for expressing interest in helping us design and/or produce Deathwatch! Below are a list of team members we are seeking and a short description of what the role will entail. During your fifteen minute Zoom interview, we will ask you a few questions about your experience (zero required!) and your ideas for the play.

If possible, we would love for you to prepare some materials to help express your thoughts, whether that be sketches, a moodboard, or even just some dot points. Some excerpts from the script are pasted at the end of this document to give you a sense of the play, feel free to incorporate these into any ideas you have.

The Play

Deathwatch is an absurdist play by French playwright Jean Genet, set in a prison, revolving around the power struggle between three prisoners- Maurice, Jules LeFranc and Green Eyes- as they express their admiration, jealousy, desire and inevitably their violence. We will be staging the production in drag, meaning that our production will be drawing from drag king performances and personas for style and execution. Our vision is morbid, camp and colourful- drag is about expression and stretching creative muscles and we want our production to embody this ethos.

Learn more about drag kings:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IXshUNU65wI>

ROLE DESCRIPTIONS

Dramaturg

The dramaturg is responsible for overseeing script edits and overall staging, to make sure the production stays true to the playwright's intention. If you're a big fan of media literacy, research, and flexing your knowledge, apply for dramaturgy!

Costume

We are looking for people who are excited to bend the boundaries of fashion, texture, style, and accessory. Interest in drag fashion is strongly encouraged! Our costume team will be working closely with the cast to create a unique drag persona for each of our characters.

Hair + Makeup

Our makeup looks for this show are go big or go home. Similarly to costume, we want people with an interest in drag makeup to collaborate with our cast to develop strong and unique drag personas.

Lighting

Psychedelic, psychedelic, psychedelic! If you want to douse the cellar in bright colours and weird patterns, sign up to lighting! We're looking for assistants too, so don't worry if you have no experience.

Sound

Much like with lighting, we want our sound design to be psychedelic and a little freaky. If you want to help create the unsettling ambience of an absurdist prison, sign up for sound! Again, we encourage applicants with no experience to apply for an assistant role.

Composer

Are you good at writing music that's strange, bombastic, and a little bit off? Apply to be our composer! You'll be working closely with the sound department to create a strong unified tone for the show.

Set

Have you ever wondered 'what if there was a giant prison cell in the Cellar?' Have you ever pondered the logistics of how to make that happen? If you answered yes to either of these questions, come join our set team!

Stage Manager

The stage manager is responsible for handling props and making sure everything runs smoothly backstage during the show. If you have a good eye for detail and enjoy sourcing props, apply for Stage Management!

Graphics

The graphic designer will be making our poster, promotional material, and drawing on the Cellar chalk wall for show week. If you have a passion for Canva, we'd love to see what you can bring to the table.

Photography

Are you good with a camera? Do you want to sneak around during rehearsals to snap the perfect candid? Apply for photography!

Production Assistant

Production assistants are the jack-of-all-trades of our show. You will fill in for whatever roles are needing assistance throughout the process. If you want to get involved but don't know where to start, or just want to try a little bit of a lot of things, come sign up to be a production assistant!

SCRIPT EXCERPTS

ONE:

MAURICE : If Green Eyes wanted ...

LEFRANC : You haven't watched them! Just to see him, the way he goes through the halls, miles and miles of halls, with his chains. And what happens? His chains carry him. Snowball's a

king. Maybe he comes from the jungle, but he comes with his head up! And his crimes !
Compared to them, what Green Eyes did ...

GREEN EYES: [stopping, a gentle look on his face] : That'll do, Georgie. I'm not trying to pass myself off as a king. In prison, no one's a king, Snowball no more than the next guy. Don't think I'm taken in by him. His talk about crimes may be just a lot of hot air!

LEFRANC : Hot air!

MAURICE [to LEFRANC]: Don't interrupt him. [Listening at the door] It's almost time for the visit. The guards are at 38. [he strides about the cell clockwise]

GREEN EYES: Hot air. I don't know anything about his crimes

LEFRANC : The attack on the gold-train

GREEN EYES [still curtly] : I don't know anything about them. I've got my own.

MAURICE : Your own? You've got only one.

GREEN EYES: If I say "my crimes," it's because I know what I'm saying. I say "my crimes." And no comments or I might get nasty. Better not needle me. All I'm asking you is one thing. Read me my girl's letter.

LEFRANC : I've read it.

GREEN EYES: What else does she say?

LEFRANC : Nothing. I've read it all !

GREEN EYES [he points to a passage in the letter] : All right, you read it all. But what about that? You didn't read that.

LEFRANC : Don't you trust me?

GREEN EYES [stubbornly] : But what about that?

LEFRANC : What "that"? Tell me what it is.

GREEN EYES: Georgie, you're taking advantage because I'm illiterate.

TWO:

MAURICE : Calm yourself, Green Eyes.

GREEN EYES: I'm preparing executions. I'm freeing convicts. Look out, boys! [The door of the cell opens without anyone's appearing] It's for me? Is it? She's here. [He hesitates] Is she here? Well, go tell her to go away. [THE GUARD enters]

THE GUARD : Hurry up. Your girl's waiting for you in the visitors' room.

GREEN EYES: I'm not going.

THE GUARD : What?

GREEN EYES: I say I'm not going. You can tell her to go back home.

THE GUARD : You mean it?

GREEN EYES: Every word of it. It's over. The lady's dead.

THE GUARD : Well, that's your affair. I'll give her the message. [He looks about the cell]
Everything in order here?

LEFRANC : Everything's in order, you can see for yourself.

THE GUARD [to LEFRANC]: Is that so? What about that? [He points to the unmade bed]
Answer. [Silence] You won't answer? I'm asking you why the bed's not made . [A long silence]

GREEN EYES [to MAURICE and LEFRANC] : Well, you guys? You know nothing about it.
Speak up if it's you. Be frank. The boss won't make trouble.

LEFRANC : We know no more about it than you.

THE GUARD [still smiling] : I'd like to believe it. Frankness makes you choke. [To LEFRANC]
When do you get out?

LEFRANC : Day after tomorrow. 138

THE GUARD : Good riddance.

LEFRANC [aggressively] : Do I bother you? You should have said so yesterday. I'd have left this morning.

THE GUARD : You'll change your tone with me. Otherwise, I'll let you have another taste of the guardroom.