



## **AUDITION ANNOUNCEMENT – PRAYER FOR THE FRENCH REPUBLIC**

Dear Atlanta Actor,

Actor's Express seeks eleven actors for our production of PRAYER FOR THE FRENCH REPUBLIC by Joshua Harmon. AE is fully committed to diversity, inclusion and equal employment opportunity. We are committed to principles of ethical and diverse representation in our casting.

Rehearsals and performances are held indoors at Actor's Express. We are working with an AEA-approved safety plan that includes vaccination, testing, masking, cleaning and distancing protocols. Pursuant to current AEA guidelines, proof of full vaccination no later than two weeks prior to in-person work is a required condition of employment.

### **ABOUT THE PLAY**

On the eve of the 2016 French presidential elections, a Parisian doctor fears for the safety of her family amid the rise of antisemitism in France. As she considers relocating to Israel, we flashback to her great-grandparents anxiously awaiting the return of their loved ones who have recently been liberated from the concentration camps. This emotionally rich family saga introduces us to five generations yearning for the safety of home. The newest critically acclaimed play from Joshua Harmon (*Bad Jews*, *Skintight*).

### **SHOW PERSONNEL**

PLAYWRIGHT: Joshua Harmon

DIRECTOR: Freddie Ashley

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR: Freddie Ashley

ASSOCIATE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR: Amanda Washington

CASTING DIRECTOR: Justin Kalin

### **PRODUCTION INFORMATION**

REHEARSALS BEGIN: Tuesday, March 21, 2023

REHEARSAL DAYS AND TIMES: Tuesday-Thursday 6:30-11:00; Saturday-Sunday 10:00-6:30

TECH – April 15 – 16, 2023

DRESS REHEARSALS – April 18 – April 19, 2023

PREVIEWS – April 20 – 21, 2023

OPENING – April 22, 2023

CLOSING – May 14, 2023

SHOWTIMES – Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday at 7:30; Sunday at 2:00 and 7:30. No Friday night performances. Five performances per week. (Friday matinees on 4/21 and 5/12)

### **ROLES**

**Marcelle** - Female 50-69. A doctor, a mother. Very French. Jewish. Has a solid sense of her identity and place in the world. She recently achieved the status she's worked her whole career for. A forceful personality. She runs the show and does not suffer fools.

**Charles** - Male 50-69. Marcelle's husband. Also a doctor. A father. An Algerian Jew who has lived in France since his family fled Algeria when he was 6. Even-keeled and kind. Urbane. Thoughtful and solid. A man who knows from experience how bad things can get, and while he doesn't live in fear, he lives with

that awareness.

**Elodie** - Female 20-29. Marcelle and Charles' daughter. French-Algerian. Opinionated, outspoken, sarcastic, combative. Very smart, very funny. Quite depressed. Lives with her parents.

**Daniel** - Male 20-29. Marcelle and Charles' son. French-Algerian. A teacher in a Jewish school in a Jewish neighborhood. He has, in recent years, steadily become more religious than the rest of his family. Sexy in an unassuming way. A bit of an introvert who feels things strongly. Easy to like.

**Patrick** - Male 50-69. Marcelle's brother. Our narrator. An entirely secular Jew. To the point where he thinks religion, in general, is nonsense. Wry, ironic and charming. As outspoken as his sister and quite certain of his views.

**Molly** - Female 20-29. Distant American cousin. In France to study abroad. A bright and opinionated young woman who is optimistic and game. Far from ignorant, but her experience of the world is not yet very broad. We watch her assimilate some of the ancient complexities of the world as the play unfolds.

**Pierre** - Male 80+. Marcelle and Patrick's father. The last of many generations to run the family's piano store. A Holocaust survivor. The pain of his memories is kept in check by unflagging pragmatism, his belief in the primacy of family, and the familiarity of the piano store.

**Irma** - Female 60-79. Pierre's grandmother. Unsentimental, very French. A Jewish mother who survived WWII in her apartment with her husband, not knowing the fate of any of their children. Surpassing her worry and despair costs her, but she manages it.

**Adolphe** - Male 60-79. Pierre's grandfather. Visually impaired. A Jewish father who survived WWII in his apartment with his wife, not knowing the fate of any of their children. A quiet man, prone to interiority. But perceptive and kind, and skilled at navigating and soothing his wife's distress. And later, that of his son and grandson.

**Lucien** - Male 40-49. Irma and Adolphe's son. Pierre's father. A Holocaust survivor. Shattered and shell shocked by his experience in the camp, of course. But also dazed to be back in the world. Putting one foot in front of the other every day, for his son's sake. His son is his tether to life and a future and a belief that good still exists. Stillness on the surface; tumult underneath.

**Young Pierre** - Male 15+. To play 15. Lucien's son, who survived the Holocaust in the camp with him. Smart, but very uncertain and reticent. He has no idea how to be in the world. And how could he? Overwhelmed by the love his grandmother is desperate to shower on him, but always wants to do the right thing. Utterly reliant on his father.

### **AUDITION INFORMATION**

**When:** Audition videos accepted through **November 21, 2022**.

**Where:** These auditions will be video only.

**Contract:** Small Professional Theatre (SPT) Category 4 contract with Actors' Equity Association. Both AEA and non-AEA actors will be hired.

#### **What to prepare:**

- Sides available at [www.actorexpress.com/get-involved](http://www.actorexpress.com/get-involved).
- Please prepare sides for the character/s for which you would like to be considered. If you do not have access to a reader, you may prepare a monologue in the style of the play. No memorization required.
- Please include your headshot and resume with your submission.

#### **Submissions:**

- Upload your videos and materials at [www.actorexpress.com/get-involved](http://www.actorexpress.com/get-involved).

- If you have received this announcement in an email, please reply even if you are declining so that we know you have received this invitation and that we have correct contact information for you in our files.
- Please let Actor's Express know if you wish to be removed from our database.
- If you have questions, email [auditions@actorexpress.com](mailto:auditions@actorexpress.com).

Thank you,  
The Actor's Express Casting Team

**ACTOR'S EXPRESS**

**[www.actorexpress.com](http://www.actorexpress.com)**

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