



Casting Call *NEIL SIMON'S The Odd Couple*

Auditions: September 13 & 14

4:00-5:00 Roberts Stage in Panther Hall

Please prepare a comic monologue from a modern play. Please have your monologue memorized. You will also be performing the attached scenes. Please be familiar with the show and the excerpts provided below.

Production dates: December 06,07,08, 2018 Panther Hall

SYNOPSIS

Neil Simon's revision of his hugely successful play, *The Odd Couple*, sees the lead characters transformed into Olive Madison and Florence Unger. Olive and their group of girlfriends are enjoying their weekly Trivial Pursuit night in Olive's messy and ill-equipped apartment. As the game continues, Florence arrives, fresh from being dumped by her husband. Fearful that the neurotic Florence might attempt suicide, Olive invites her to move in as her roommate. However, Olive and Florence have VERY different personalities. Where Olive is messy, untidy, and unconcerned about the state of her apartment, Florence is obsessively clean, tidy, and obsessed with hygiene. Olive's easy-going outlook on life soon clashes with Florence's highly-strung neurotic tendencies, testing their friendship to the limit. When Olive organizes a double-date with the Costazuela brothers, their differences come to a head and sparks fly.

CHARACTERS

Olive Madison

Female Lead

Florence Unger

Female Lead

Mickey

Female Supporting

Sylvie

Female Supporting

Renee

Female Supporting

Vera

Female Supporting

Manolo Costazuela

Male Supporting

Jesus Costazuela

Male Supporting

SCENES FOR AUDITIONS:

THE ODD COUPLE

SCENE 1

FLORENCE Alright, how much longer is this going to go on. Are you going to spend the rest of your life not talking to me?

OLIVE You had your chance to talk last night. I never want to hear the sound of your voice again. Do you understand?

FLORENCE Si. Yo comprendo. Gracias.

Olive takes key out of pocket. Crosses to the Florence.

OLIVE There's a key to the back door. Stick to the hallway and your room and you won't get hurt.

FLORENCE Oh really? Well, let me remind you that I pay half the rent and I'll go into any room that I want.

OLIVE Not in my apartment. I don't want to see you. Cover the mirrors when you walk through the house. And I'm sick and tired of smelling your cooking. I've had it up to here with your polyunsaturated oils. Now get that spaghetti off my table.

FLORENCE That's funny. That's really funny.

OLIVE What the hell's so funny about it.

FLORENCE It's not spaghetti. It's linguini.

Olive picks up plate of pasta, crosses to the kitchen door, and hurls it.

OLIVE Now it's garbage!! Florence looks into the kitchen, aghast.

FLORENCE Are you CRAZY????...I'm not cleaning that up...It's your mess...Look at it hanging all over the walls.

OLIVE I like it.

FLORENCE You'd just let it hang there, wouldn't you? Until it turns hard and brown and yich- I'm cleaning it up!

Florence starts in.

OLIVE You touch one strand of that linguini and I'll break every sinus in your head.

FLORENCE Why? What is it that I've done? What's driving you crazy? The cooking? The cleaning? The crying? What?

OLIVE I'll tell you exactly what it is. It's the cooking, the cleaning and the crying. I can't take it anymore, Florence. I'm cracking up. Everything you do irritates me. And when your not here, the things I know you're

going to do when you come in irritate me...You leave me little notes on my pillow. "We're all out of cornflakes. F.U."...It took me three hours to figure out that F.U. was Florence Unger...It's no one's fault, Florence. We're just a rotten pair.

FLORENCE I get the picture.

OLIVE That's just the frame. The Picture I haven't even painted yet. Every night in my diary I write down the things you did that day that aggravate me and I haven't even put down the Gazpacho brothers yet.

FLORENCE Oh! Is that what's bothering you? That I loused up your sex life last night?

OLIVE What sex life? I can't even have dirty dreams. You come in and clean them up.

FLORENCE Alright, Olive, get off my back. Off! You hear me?

Florence turns away as if she's won a major battle.

OLIVE What's this? A display of temper? I haven't seen you really angry since the day I dropped my eyelashes in your pancake batter.

FLORENCE Olive, you're asking to hear something I don't want to say...But if I say it, I think you'd better hear it.

OLIVE I'm trembling all over. Look how I'm trembling all over.

FLORENCE Alright, I warned you. ..You're A wonderful girl, Olive. If it weren't for you, I don't know what would've happened to me. You gave me a place to live and something to live for. I'll never forget you for that. You're tops with me, Olive.

SCENE 2

OLIVE If I've just been told off, I think I may have missed it.

FLORENCE It's coming now.

OLIVE Good.

FLORENCE You are also one of the biggest slobs in the world.

OLIVE I see.

FLORENCE And completely unreliable.

OLIVE Is that so?

FLORENCE Undependable.

OLIVE Is that it?

FLORENCE Unappreciative, irresponsible, and indescribably inefficient.

OLIVE What is that, a Cole Porter song?

FLORENCE That's it. I'm finished. Now you've been told off. How do you like that?

Florence crosses away.

OLIVE Good. Because now I'm going to tell you off. For eight months I've lived all alone in this apartment. I thought I was miserable. I thought I was lonely. I took you in here because I thought we could help each other. ..And After three weeks of close, personal contact, I have hives, shingles and the heartbreak of psoriasis...I am growing old at twice the speed of sound. I Can't take any more Florence...Do me a favor and move into the kitchen with your pots and pans. I'm going to lie down now. Are these liver spots...

FLORENCE Walk on the papers, will you? I just washed the floors in there.

Olive comes out seething mad. She comes after Florence.

FLORENCE Keep away from me. I'm warning you, don't you touch me.

OLIVE In the kitchen! I want to get your head into the oven and cook it like a capon.

FLORENCE You're going to find yourself in one sweet lawsuit, Olive.

OLIVE It's no use running, Florence. There's only six rooms, and I know all the shortcuts.

Olive chases Florence offstage.

FLORENCE Is this how you settle your problems, Olive? Like an animal?

OLIVE I hope you can swim.

FLUSH SFX Florence comes back on stage.

FLORENCE Stand back! That's tear gas. You lay another hand on me and you'll be using eyedrops the rest of your life.

OLIVE You want to see how I settle my problems, I'll show you how I settle them.

Olive exits to bedroom

FLORENCE Alright. I warned you. I'm turning on my siren.
She presses the switch but it doesn't scream. She holds it to her ear and listens.

FLORENCE What's wrong with this? Have you been playing with my siren?
Bangs it on table in despair.

FLORENCE Goddam it! Twenty-two fifty for a piece of Japanese shit!

Olive enters and puts a suitcase on the table.

OLIVE I'll show you how I settle them! There! That's how I settle them.

FLORENCE Where are you going?

OLIVE Not me, you idiot! You!! You're the one who's going. The marriage is over, Florence. We're getting an annulment. I don't want to live with you anymore. I want you to pack your things, tie it up with your Saran Wrap and get out of here.

FLORENCE You mean actually move out?

OLIVE Actually, physically and immediately.

Olive drops pots and pans into suitcase.

OLIVE There! You're all packed.

FLORENCE You know I've got a good mind to really leave.

OLIVE Why doesn't she hear me? I know I'm talking, I recognize my voice.

FLORENCE In other words, you're throwing me out.

OLIVE Not in other words. Those are the perfect ones.

FLORENCE Alright. I just wanted to set the record straight. Let it be on your conscience. I left you plenty of food, you just have to heat it up. You can ask the neighbors how to light a match.

Florence heads for door.

FLORENCE I'd like to leave now.

Doorbell rings.

FLORENCE That's your bell...Aren't you going to answer it?

OLIVE Florence, we've been good friends too long to end this way. We're civilized people. Let's shake hands and part like gentleman...

FLORENCE There's nothing gentle about being kicked out.

OLIVE Okay...I tried. Olive opens door.

FLORENCE Have a nice game. If you're hungry, Olive'll get you a plate of linguini. Don't forget to duck...Goodbye everyone.

The production will also need technicians:

Prop Mistress, Costume Mistress, Stage Manager, Asst. Stage Manager, Stage Crew, Set Construction, Set Decorator, Sound Head, Sound Crew, Lighting Head, Lighting Crew.

Please see Mr. Doyle regarding Tech interest.