



Emerson Stage | Courtney O'Connor

Production Meeting: 3

Date: April 15, 2016

Start: 10:00am

End: 10:40amish

In Attendance: Annie du Boulay, Dan Burmester (briefly), Rachael Dahl, Ron DeMarco, Jaclyn Dentino, Janie Howland, Justin Kobylt, Alta Lewis Millard, Courtney O'Connor, Abby Shenker, Marta Sarrión Arrúe, Maddie St. Amour, Reagan White

Next Production Meeting: 10:45am-11:45am on April 22, 2016 in the Greene.

GENERAL

- 1) We have an all female design team! How awesome is that?
- 2) Courtney thanked everyone for all of the private meetings this week. Great ideas come from sitting in bougie coffee shops! But in all seriousness, it has really helped strengthen the vision of the show.
- 3) Over the course of these meetings, our vision has become a little clearer.
 - a) We are turning the Greene into a refugee camp - the refugee camp (not necessarily Syrian) is a decaying, transformed Greene.
 - b) We will be pulling props and costumes from the past two years of Emerson Stage shows (ie. the Lughnasa rocking horse). The idea is to raid what we have. Arshan thinks this is cool.
 - c) We are essentially creating our own Theatre-In-The-Round - the goal is to have the stage mimic the audience.
 - d) Courtney will like a lot of [stuff] everywhere (within fire codes, of course) of two varieties: what they have found and what they have taken with them from their homes – trash bags, rugs, blankets, boats?
 - e) Courtney wants actors rushing into the space, not hanging out in the space, except for Azdak if the actor doesn't double with another character.
 - f) The gal will not necessarily be used, but please plan on keeping it open.
- 4) Our fabulous assistant directors are: Tyler Ramirez and Kylie Kirk.
- 5) Courtney “suggests” everyone come sit in on call backs! You won't be making any casting decisions, (and even if you tried she'll most likely fight you) but she really wants this show to be made up of **one voice** as a collaborative group and would love to have you all as a presence in the room. “We're going to go all the way together,” Courtney O'Connor.
- 6) If you do intend to sit in during callbacks (Wednesday, April 21st from 7p-11p) please let Alta know. That way a seat will be ready for you (maybe even a table of your very own!).
- 7) Due to a very dear friend's current personal circumstances, the book Annie and Courtney talked about, **Stages of Decay** by **Julia Solis**, could not be brought in. The book is a coffee table book that shows pictures of many theaters in different stages of deterioration. Please take a look at it since it has inspired some aesthetic choices.
- 8) Not to worry, though! Courtney has paid more money for Barbara Streisand books. It's \$26 on Amazon ([LINK HERE](#)), and Courtney has already ordered a copy.
- 9) The prologue, as it is currently written, has been cut. Over the course of rehearsals a new, shorter one will be written, but the basic premise is two actors come rushing into the Greene, one being chased by the other with a prop knife. Other actors will call the actor with the knife out on having a *prop knife* and urge everyone to be patient and peaceful. The singer will then suggest to tell a story to pass the time.
- 10) The current groundplan adds 18 seats total. Here is the math: 30 seats on the set - 12 from the house = 18 added seats.
- 11) We ended our meeting with Vantablack. The new color that is only licensed to one artist and would make a woman wearing a little black dress look... well.. JUST LOOK.



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SCENIC

- 1) “Abby’s amazing,” Courtney O’Connor.
- 2) After discussing it over with Keith, the platforms of each riser will be in 4’ foot increments.
- 3) Abby’s current drawing has 4 risers each with an 18” rise.
- 4) **Scenic Prelims are due Tuesday, April 19, 2016 by 11:59pm.**
- 5) The current height for the risers totals 9’ high, but Abby and Janie will take a look at the math again.
- 6) Annie is “totally cool” with having items of clothing/shoes/things hanging from the grid, just please continue to keep in communication about what would go where! (After the comma is from Jess’ mouth).
- 7) We briefly brought up the idea of ripping out some of the railings to help “decay” the theater.
- 8) Production Management with the help of OA is happy to take a tour about the Green with you and help you sculpt around sprinklers and fire no-no areas.
- 9) The Greene Theatre will be stripped of all soft goods, L flats, everything.
- 10) Please see Sound #4 and all of Office of the Arts.
- 11) Please see General #3b, #5, and #6.

LIGHTING

- 1) Annie and Courtney discussed ways to mimic the lighting of the Greene as part of Annie’s design.
- 2) The cast will be interacting with the lights personally, and Annie will definitely be in rehearsals to help.
- 3) Abby was thinking of placing clothing/things on the grid over the audience and on the edges of the stage.
- 4) Please see General #3b, #5, and #6.

COSTUMES

- 1) Courtney would like to keep the “raided” costume items from Emerson Stage shows only.
- 2) For clarification, we are costuming people, not specifically students, as refugees. Students have not taken refuge in the Greene, ordinary people have.
- 3) **Costume Prelims are due Tuesday, April 19, 2016 by 11:59pm.** Prelims will be in the form of pictures not drawings!
- 4) Please see General #3b, #5, and #6.

SOUND

- 1) Elizabeth couldn’t be here. Despite popular belief Emerson College is a school and holds classes.
- 2) Elizabeth was around before this evening’s Guys & Dolls performance if anyone want to chat.
- 3) Courtney and Marta stumbled upon the idea of making an instrument out of non-instrument materials. For example, Arshan brought up the one stringed base made out of a bucket.
- 4) Word of your rainmaker came up in conversation. Perhaps it could be a piece “raided,” part of the refugee camp, and used by actors?
- 5) Courtney would love to meet up next week if possible! Please see your email for the times Courtney is free and we’ll chat about a time to chat.
- 6) Please see General #3b, #5, and #6.

PROPS

- 1) Marta will drop off a props toy box for the first rehearsal.
- 2) Courtney warned Marta that as much stuff is brought, be prepared to be asked for more.
- 3) Please see General #3b, #5, and #6.
- 4) Please see Scenic #6.



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PRODUCTION MANAGEMENT

- 1) Where is the Equity Cot? Is there one?
- 2) Courtney would love to rehearse in the Greene as much as possible.
- 3) In the meeting today, we tossed around the idea of loading in early so that they can rehearse on the set longer, bearing in mind Lighting and ALPS. What are the logistics of this?
- 4) Can Abby put painting on the side walls in the Greene including the walls of the stairs?
- 5) Please see all of Office of the Arts.
- 6) Please see Scenic #11.

GENERAL/COMPANY MANAGEMENT

- 1) We are scheduled to rehearse through September 1st, but this is moving day/Allston Christmas for many upperclassmen if they are cast. Before school lets out and after casting, Courtney is hoping to meet with the moving actors and learn their moving plans in order to facilitate scheduling.
- 2) Please see General #10. "David's going to love this," says Courtney O'Connor.
- 3) It is currently anticipated that this show will not need a lot of crew members due to actors not leaving the stage. The size of the Rodd Parker crew this past year seemed to be a liked size for this production.

OFFICE OF THE ARTS

- 1) In Abby's current design, she is hoping to add rows of seating on the stage. Is there an occupancy limit for the Greene?
- 2) Is there a safe way to get the actors from the gal onto the main playing space without using the back staircase?
- 3) Please see Scenic #7 and #8.
- 4) Please see Production Management #4.

Thanks much!
Jess Kemp, PS