

CSF VIDEO CALLBACK DIRECTIONS 2014

Tempest (by Audition Sides)

Side #1 Miranda

Miranda has been raised by a revenge consumed father in the company of a spirit and a 1/2 animal. Definitely more Jo than Blair. More Tarzan than Jane?

Side #2 Prospero (& Caliban)

Early in this play it would be nice to see a Prospero that, would he were written earlier, could have easily become Titus Andronicus or Lear. Caliban needs to watch his tactics here, he is more willful when Prospero is not around.

Side #3 Gonzalo

If there is a Santa Claus in this play, it is likely Gonzalo. The conscience of our shipwreck gang.

Side #4 Francisco (*likely unused as an audition side*)

Side #5 Sebastian

Looking for an “open mouth, insert foot” read on this short speech. With a possible take at the end realizing so.

Side #6 Sebastian & Antonio

With hope the conspirators here should be able to land the humor of this scene (Abbot and Costello) but also convey some menace. They do plan to kill these poor sleeping fools.

Side #7 Caliban

The “great now that Prospero can’t here me I hate him so much” speech. Caliban is 1/2 human so looking for physical life here without effecting vocals that inhibit understanding the text. Should have a nice build that us comically undercut by the terror of a spirit approaching.

Side #8 Trinculo

An audition monologue chestnut. ☺ The “wisest” of the clowns in our piece? Possibly years at sea and still curious. Likely tells tall tales and is practicing composing one here. With a deep reluctance to get too close. In the folio this is *one* sentence that builds.

Side #9 Stephano (& Caliban)

That drunk. You know the one. Where it brings out the alpha in him. But he also gets the whole bar to sing along? Who has always just missed a promotion but is smarter than his boss?

Side #10 Ferdinand

Look. This guy comes from royalty. Is not inclined to hard labour. If a seaman, likely a young green lieutenant. Court women bore him, but Miranda is like nothing he has ever seen before. And he would do *anything* for more time with her.

Side #11 Miranda & Ferdinand

This scene is definitely about two people falling madly for each other. But it's not the balcony scene. It should be awkward and hurky-jerky. Our Town meets Tangled?

Side #12 Caliban, Stephano & Trinculo

A comic trio with too many pints in them and a bad idea is hatched. Stephano and Trinculo are likely experienced drinkers. Caliban less so. Looking for three types of comics and a lot of negotiating who is in charge.

Side #13 Ariel

Ariel speaks in long complex thoughts and in the folio this speech, including material cut, is one sentence. I'm looking for someone able to present this as one long complex thought meant to intimidate, and Ariel has mean chops and a lot of power. Look for vocal variety.

Side #14 Prospero & Ariel

There us a lot to this scene but for audition purposes I'm looking to see how Ariel has transformed into someone rooting for our shipwrecked souls and watching Prospero receive that and be affected by it. He could only hear it from Ariel.

Side #15 Prospero

Such a simple speech. ☺ For callbacks I'm looking for clarity of thought and these three sentences. Coupled with a man who doesn't know his decision at the top of the speech. And walking away from the greatest power he has ever had for...

Side #16 Alonso

The sight alone of Prospero causes Alonso to resign. He strikes me as a man the crown sits uneasily upon and ultimately, what they both have in common, is the love for their children. So. That.

Page #17 Boatswain

Rough around the edges, lower class, a seaman for generations uneasy on land. Real terror at the sounds in the night, but sure as hell glad to be alive.

Merry Wives (by Character)

Falstaff- Aging Borscht Belt Comedian, whose control over his audience (and those around him) is rapidly deteriorating. He is finally coming face to face with the fact he might never achieve his dreams of grandeur, and that he may be, perish the thought... average.

Ford- Sweet, earnest, married FAR above what he thinks he deserved. Terrified of losing the life he feels he blundered into. Has always expected she would cuckold him- not due to her inadequacies, but due to HIS. Has prepared for this fight his whole life. Now that it is here, it is even more terrifying than what he suspected.

Mistress Ford- A former Belle of the Ball whose looks are beginning to fade. Witty, sharp as a stiletto- qualities atrophying as a housewife in a resort in 1962. Loves Ford dearly, but frustrated and anxious about what the future holds for her. Is this life "the best it can get?"

Mistress Page- Not quite the Belle of the Ball when she was younger, but somewhere in the top third, albeit with a great deal more attitude. Speaks her mind much more directly than Mistress Ford and really doesn't give a sh*t what anyone thinks. A touch of sass, without being obnoxious.

Page- Cool, calm, outgoing- the exact opposite of Ford, which is why they get along so well. Perhaps a bit of the 1970's in him, a whiff of an open shirt, perhaps?

Dr Caius- Flashy and debonaire, although rabidly insecure. Has no idea whatsoever how ridiculous he is to the world- assumes he is worshipped by all- a touch of Inspector Cleauseu.

Shallow- Ancient, has no business standing on his own two feet. Still harbors delusions of himself as an avenging knight. Ready for the final great battle of his life, which he is prepared to fight at a moment's notice. Constantly having heart attacks...

Hugh- Sweetness incarnate. Appalachian accent that is on the thick side. Well meaning, if totally confused.

Anne Page- A passionate hurricane of adolescence. Well aware of her power over men.

Slender- Wound tightly- blurts out first thing that comes to mind, as he places himself under so much pressure. A substantial backup of "bodily fluids" makes him Anne Insane. Sings without prompting, and without being aware of it.

Pistol/ Nym- Mediocre ventriloquist. "Corporal" Nym is his Gomer Pyle- style dummy. Baaad schtick. As play progresses, Nym speaks independently of Pistol, or so he thinks...

Fenton- Outsider. A bit of a bad boy (albeit Patrick Swayze in Dirty Dancing), at least he seems that way to Windsor.

Henry IV Part 1 (by Sides)

Prince Hal

#1: I'm looking for someone who can clearly set up the antithesis between "hey, I'm having a great time carousing with my buddies and all" and "but I know when the time comes I'll have to step up and be a prince". I'll leave it to the actor auditioning to decide whether there is any Machiavellian intrigue in that – or whether it's just the pursuits of a young man.

#2: Hal is funny: Have fun play acting. Have fun with your friend Falstaff.

Worcester:

Worcester is Hotspur's role model. Find the anger, intrigue, sense of humor, feelings of betrayal by Bolingbroke, and whatever else might be in there. There is a lot to mine in him.

Hotspur:

Find his rage and find his humor. Find his good sense as well.

Lady Percy:

She is in love but she's no pushover. She is strong, confident, sexy, and sticks up for herself. She is sincerely worried for her husband. She doesn't whine or feel sorry for herself.

Lady Mortimer:

Please prepare a very short song, something folksy. Speaks Welsh. Do you have a good ear for language??

Glendower:

He's a warrior and a leader of men. He is passionate about his beliefs.

Vernon:

He is level headed and a great chief. Find the reason and the logic.

Falstaff:

I am looking for a man who is less Santa Clause and more of a robust knight who's over the hill and let himself go. Sort of like Oliver Reed at the end of his career. Have fun. Use the words. Discover your own wit once in a while, perhaps.

Poins:

He is Hal's best friend. He is a GREAT best friend. Find the humor and the mischief.

Francis:

Poor Francis. He tries to do a good job. He is so confused. But above all, he wants to do his very best at all costs.

I Hate Hamlet (by Character)

Barrymore – Movie star, thundering Shakespearean actor at times, sexual miscreant and loves champagne, dashing, imperious at times, gleefully loving all the mischief he can create as a ghost. Not a pedant.

Andy – Youngish, handsome, believable that he'd be a TV star. Affable and charming. Not without an ego and genuine worries about playing Hamlet.

Felicia – Jubilant real estate agent that bursts into rooms, slight Brooklyn dame, energetic. Sharp wit. Late 30s, early 40s.

Lillian – Tiny old German woman, excellent German or Austrian dialect. Droll wit, dry sense of humor. Wry toughness, no nonsense.

Gary – Late 30s. Not a villain. Yes, he is crass and calculating but not stupid. He loves what he does and earnestly believes the truth of what he's saying. Exuberant.

Dierdre – A wild romantic, not a ninny or a bimbo. A bit loopy but full of breathless wonder for the theatre, for Andy, for everything.