

How to Get Involved with *Sometimes the Rain/Sometimes the Sea*

**Directed by New York based Theatre Director ARPITA MUKHERJEE**

**This production will perform via Zoom November 6 & 7, 2020.**

**Audition/Interest Signups are due by Sunday, September 27<sup>th</sup>.**

## **THE PLAY**

**Sometimes the Rain, Sometimes the Sea** by Julia Izumi is a whimsical and highly theatrical play that is wild in form and purpose with language and imagery that is full of humor and vigor. The play grapples with what it means to be young, fall in love, and believe in the fairy tales. It is a fable on growing up (that eternal tragic tale), and our consistent desire to push away the inevitable tragedy of getting older. It is also a tale about what it means to tell a tale, of how stories and myths hold us together in complicated ways. The play presents a unique opportunity to delve into a work that is both timeless and contemporary. The challenge in the play is also clear – it is an invitation to bring a rigorous interpretation of not only the visual world, but also of movement, tone, and the entire production “effect.” In addition, there is now the question of how we take this piece that so decidedly belongs in the theatre and wants to be experienced as a live event and re-create it on an online platform. The world is forcing artists to re-imagine what it means to gather and to connect and how can we take this play into zoom and keep alive its themes, language and vivid theatricality is a going to be a great test of our collective efforts to tell great stories with great limitations. More than anything, right now, we must dare to face the world with grace, fun and a formidable imagination. The full script can be read via the New Play Exchange database which is available at [www.lib.iastate.edu](http://www.lib.iastate.edu).

### **Two Ways to be Involved:**

1. **The Imagination Team:** A group of 4-6 students in a variety of disciplines – design, direction, production management, performance – will meet weekly starting September the week of September 28 to create the vision for the virtual presentation. In the process, we will also discuss and dream about what this production would look and feel like in a theatre. But this group will determine what will ultimately be what the Zoom audience experiences. This process will be an-depth look at how we take a text, interpret it, and then create an idea around which a production is built. Also, it will shed light on how collaborative processes can hone, clarify or even transform an idea. This will also serve as a rare look into new work development and what it means to perform a “new play” versus an established play from the canon. The presentation will be a culmination of the work of the production team as well as cumulative work with the actors. Therefore, this process will include all the elements of creating and putting up a play – pre-production, rehearsal, tech, preview and performance. However, it will be accommodated to the new format of Zoom. Those interested in being on the Imagination Team should fill out the form below. (It is possible to be a part of the

Imagination Team and a performer in the virtual production. Just indicate that on your form.)

2. **Perform in the Virtual Production:** Those interested in acting in the virtual production, will submit a video self-tape audition using the form below. Rehearsals will occur October 25-November 5 (yes, only 2 weeks!) (It is possible to be a part of the Imagination Team and a performer in the virtual production. Just indicate that on your form.) Below are the character descriptions:

### **Character Descriptions:**

**Performers of all races, genders, ethnicities, and abilities are encouraged to audition for all roles.**

**RAIN CLOUD** (pronounced like ☁️☁️) No age, then 28 / A rain cloud, then a female human  
The life of the party. Lives in the moment.

**BESSIE** (pronounced like 🐮🐮 ?) Age unknown / A cow? A sea witch? A human? A dream? A wise person. Someone you always go to for advice, even if they don't follow their own.

**RALMOND** (pronounced like "almond" with an R in front) 28, then no age/ A male human, then a rain cloud Rule follower. Likes structure and enjoys boundaries.

**MIDI** (pronounced like "mini" but with a D in the middle) 29 / A female human  
Empath. Really cares about the world, but neglects self-care.

**EDVARD** (pronounced like "Edward" with a V in the middle) Just Old Enough to Marry / A royal male human A hopeless romantic. In love with love. Impractical.

**INA** (pronounced like "I? Nah.") Old Enough to Marry / A secretly royal female human  
Suspicious. Does not put up with bullshit. Career-oriented.

**DOLAN** (pronounced like "Dole Whip" except instead of "whip" you say "an") Artist (need we say more?) Always in process. Insecure, goes in between self-doubt and delusions of grandeur.  
Timeless / Hans Christian Andersen

**LITTLE ONE** (NOT pronounced like "mermaid") Naïve. The kind of person that would definitely fall for a prank.

### **AUDITION REQUIREMENTS AND TIPS**

This is a self-tape audition. That means you will record your audition and submit it to us using the online audition form. Please keep the following in mind:

1. Begin your recording by slating - this means telling us your name and the role(s) you are auditioning for.

2. Next, tell us WHY you are interested in the role. What about the character is intriguing to you? Why do you think you'd be a good fit for that character?
3. Perform a 1-2 minute monologue or poem. (This can be ANYTHING...and does not need to be memorized...just choose something that lets you shine!)
4. Don't forget to tell us the title of the monologue/poem and who it is by.
5. Make sure your video is a mp4 file!

An example might go like this:

"Hello! My name is Sally Draper, and I am auditioning for RAIN CLOUD (although I'm interested in all the roles). I think I would be a great RAIN CLOUD because I love this character and totally relate to her journey...plus who doesn't want to embody a rain cloud? For my audition, I'm going to perform a 1-minute cutting of the poem "Twas the Night Before Christmas" by Clement Clarke Moore."

That's it! That's all you have to do!

**A few helpful tips:**

Make sure you look at the camera! We want to see you!

Make sure you are in the light - again, so we can see you

Speak clearly and loudly.

Watch your audition tape before you submit it - make sure we can see and hear you clearly

Have fun!

You do NOT need to have your monologue or poem memorized! If you are working from a script, just make sure to hold the script low enough that we can see your beautiful face!

**Ready to submit your audition and/or interest in the Imagination Team? Fill out this [form](#) by Sunday, September 27 at 5:00pm.**

**Credit Availability:**

1-2 credits of Theatre 301x available.