

Audition Information

NEW JERUSALEM

Director - Mary Beth Quillin

Setting: Amsterdam, Talmud Torah Congregation and the garden of the Spinning Wheel tavern. July, 27, 1656

Casting needs: 3 older men (45+) any ethnicity; 2 younger men (20's) any ethnicity; 2 women (late teens to mid 20's) any ethnicity. Please film yourself (and optional scene partner) and submit video or link to video by April 8, 2021 to jtgr.admin@gmail.com . If you have a scene partner read with you, please indicate if the partner is also auditioning. Also, please indicate which role(s) you are interested in. If callbacks are needed, we will be in touch. Links to Monologues and dialogues are on the JTGR audition page.

This will be a staged reading; i.e. books in hand, to be performed in ¾ round outdoors with a minimal set and period costumes. Rehearsals may be held outdoors or indoors; masks will be required and social distancing will be maintained.

Characters

Abraham Van Valkenburgh – a regent of Amsterdam, age 45-50ish. If interested in the role you must submit the opening monologue on pp. 7-8. Optionally, you may also submit his monologue on p 52.

Saul Levi Mortera – Chief Rabbi of Amsterdam, Spinoza's mentor, age 60 or more. Those auditioning for Mortera must submit the monologue on page 61. The two short speeches on page 39 can be put together into one monologue (just skipping Spinoza's one word response in between)

Gaspar Rodrigues Ben Israel – a parnas of Talmud Torah, 50 or more. If interested in Ben Israel, please submit the monologue on p. 57. You may also submit the Mortera speeches on p. 39, or the Van Valkenburgh monologue on p. 52.

Baruch de Spinoza (Bento) – a merchant of Amsterdam and formerly a rabbinical student of Rabbi Mortera's, 20's. Must submit the monologue on p. 46. Additionally, one of the monologues on p. 38 or 43, or one of the scenes with Clara or Simon.

Simon De Vries – a painter, Spinoza's housemate and friend; also Van Valkenburgh's nephew, 20's. May submit any of Spinoza's short monologues on p. 38, 43, or 46. There is a short scene between Simon and Spinoza on pp. 12 – 15 which may be submitted with a scene partner that is either auditioning or not. Please indicate if scene partner is auditioning for any role.

Clara Van den Enden – a music teacher, late teens or early 20's. Women interested in Clara must submit the short monologue on the bottom of p. 56-57. There is also a short scene between Spinoza and Clara on pp. 16 – 19, which you may submit with a reader who is either auditioning or not. Please indicate if scene partner is auditioning for any role. Or, you may also submit Rebekah's monologue on p. 32-33.

Rebekah de Spinoza – Baruch's half sister, late 20's. Women interested in Rebekah must submit the monologue on p. 32-33. Optionally, you may also submit the short Clara monologue on the bottom of p. 56-57.