

Saint Joan Production Meeting
01/14/02 in Room 2038 at 4:30p.m.

Present: Producer/Resident Technical Director - M. Shanda (MS); Director - L. Ferris (LF); Music Director - Rick Williams (RW); Stage Manager - E. Mayer (EM); Assistant Stage Manager - J. Martin (JM); Production Coordinator/Technical Director - J. Knapp (JK); Costume Designer - M. Bialko (MB); Advisor to Costume Designer - D. Parker (DP); Scenic Designer - B. Steinmetz (BS); Advisor to Scenic Designer - D. Gray (DG); Lighting Designer - D. Ward (DW); Advisor to Stage Manager and Lighting Designer - M. Tarantino (MT); Dramaturg - Lise Evans (LE); and Sound Designer - C. Athanas (CA)

Absent: Assistant Director - Katie Whitlock (KW)

MINUTES

1. Welcome, Introductions and Agenda

2. MS - Distributed Publicity Check List

Mark your calendars for June 1st, 2002 for the Saturday Seminar

Discussed General Auditions Schedule, Thursday Jan. 24 in the New Works Lab,

Friday Jan. 25, Callbacks on Sunday Jan. 27 from 1-5 in Room 0107 with a Piano.

Casting Meeting is at 8:30 AM on Monday January 28th

3. Director's Concept

Read Through

LF - Discussing 'Letter Issue' with BS

Not sure as to the extent that the Stage will be extended to.

MS - Asked if LF prefers an extension of the stage, or a platform in the middle of the audience

LF - Thought more of a ramp as opposed to an 'Island,' but will think more about it.

The extension may possibly be the level of the pit when halfway between stage and ground level, it may only extend over the first three rows, or it may extend all the way to the 'standing room only' (fire lane) area of the house.

MS - For projections, do we want clear lettering?

BS - Looking at hopefully multiple projectors contained in 'stage house' not 'house house'

Yes for clarity of the lettering

LF - Would like the screen/projections to fill the proscenium opening

MS - Is the entire show going to be performed downstage of the Plaster Line?

BS - Nothing as of yet has been planned for more than 4' upstage of the Plaster Line

MT - Will it be possible to 'break' the proscenium for wiring?

MS - Using the doorways, yes.

Where will the musicians be located?

LF - In the caliper area

DP - Are we watching 'Actors playing roles' or characters?

LF - Actors playing roles

The casting size will be based on the Casting Pool, changes have been made to the script so that there are more women's parts, i.e. all the Blackstraw Hats are women, Newsboys could be men or women...

RW had mentioned the idea of the Newsboys singing their text as opposed to speaking, still thinking about that idea...

Curious if we could make up for the cast size by projecting images behind them.

Wants to use the Calipers to add depth

MT - Confirmed that the playing area consists of the pit, house, calipers, and no more than 10' of the actual stage and that the projection surface was to be as large as possible.

Raised the question about the projection surface – should it be a regular screen, or an artistic element. Thurber has a Full Stage Reprojection Screen and two small 10x14 screens, but there is no equipment for these screens.

LF - Answered yes to the playing area and projection surface size, as to the regular vs. artistic question, still thinking...

JK - A meeting has been arranged for Jan. 29, 2002 at either 3:00 or 5:30 with a company that specializes in projectors and various projectors will be available for examples.

4. JK - Distributed Calendar

Budget: Scenery - \$2,200; Costumes - \$2,800; Props - \$2,000; Lighting - \$600; and Sound - \$300.

5. EM - Stage Manager's Notes -

Pianist and String Bass will be on 'stage' at all times – need to plan according for lighting, sound, costumes, and scenic designs. The pianist and string bass will also need adequate lighting for visibility of music.

Callbacks will include a 16 bar singing audition.

Arrangements need to be made to obtain an Upright Piano of decent quality, possibly rented – MS/JK need an estimate, specs, etc., check with the School of Music.

Times will need to be arranged on the Tech Schedule for the space to be absolutely quiet for the Piano Tuning.

**The next meeting will be Tuesday January 29th at 5:00 PM.

Meeting Adjourned

Minutes by EHM (Stage Manager)