

Ordinary Days

Production Meeting Report 11/20

Date: Friday, November 20, 2020

Start Time: 10:03am

End Time: 10:53am

Location: Zoom Meeting

In Attendance: Teegan Schriock, Stephanie Lathrop, Paul Yeates, Chad Gross, Stefan Espinosa, Tara Young, Geoffrey Friedley, Meg Stover, and Tapaynga Hill

Absent: Katelyn Miller

Stefan's Design

- Overall
 - It's a show about connections.
 - Evocative of spring.
 - Ordinary things taking on extraordinary beauty.
 - Beauty comes from reflection.
 - Set somewhere in the 2006 -2010 range.
- Backgrounds
 - Incorporate a painting style.
 - Something more abstract and less literal.
 - Watercolor
 - Pointillism
 - "This painting reminds me of people like us. Thousands of tiny specks... - Warren
 - Rain incorporated
 - Monet is referenced in the script.
 - Joke about Monet and Manet.
 - At the MET
 - The painting after the quote from Claire, as presented in the PowerPoint, might be a nice pairing.
 - Picasso
- Scenic Structures
 - Windows
 - Incorporate with picture frames?
 - Or pick one?
 - New Yorkers in the Pandemic have been connecting through windows.
 - Pods

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- To uphold COVID committee protocols, we are going to need more than dividers.
 - Enclosed
 - Top?
 - Not sure what COVID committee wants, but best for us to come up with a design and then bring it to them.
 - They'll have to be able to see out of it, ideally.
 - Four cameras focused on each of the actors.
 - Ideally have something that changes backgrounds.
 - Using stuff we already have to build them
 - Might not be seen, but if seen, will bring in a reminder of the world we are currently living in.
 - Use some lighting elements
 - Above?
 - Teegan can tape out the dimensions of where the pod would be so actors can get familiar with the space they'll be in while they're rehearsing.
- Green Screen
 - Buying one would be a good investment.
 - Can buy a good one for \$150.
 - Better to get them sooner rather than later.
- Props
 - We will still be utilizing props.
 - Don't need a lot of stuff, but will need a few items.
 - Be able to "pass" items.
 - Can pass a newspaper from one actor to another by having one actor move a newspaper towards the camera and have another actor pull another newspaper away from the camera.
 - Literal paper drop into the pods
 - We can repurpose stuff and keep the build to a minimum.
- Filming
 - Art of controlling what the audience sees.
 - There's a lot we can do since we are controlling what they see.
 - Multiple frames?
 - Teegan running the camera cuts and possibly changing the backgrounds?
- Music
 - Piano only
 - Keep accompaniment and Geoff masked.

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- Score should be coming in today
 - Contract says we can mark them, but we have to send them back.
 - We have the green light to highlight too.
 - Don't have to worry about erasing marking before returning scripts.
 - Geoff will pick them up Monday morning.
 - Dani will be in the office.
- Possible Tech Help
 - The college has hired someone to help with tech stuff.
 - They start on Dec 7th.
 - Tara will give us their name as soon as she has the info.
- Costumes
 - 911
 - Sweater could be used to help tell a story.
 - Only reference to 911 is in one of Claire's songs.
 - Actress's acting will also help tell a story and impact.
 - Could also tie in 911 with papers falling.
 - Stefan is open to having a chat about costumes.
- Character
 - Deb
 - Someone who has been ground down by the city.
 - Always sort of frazzled.
 - Someone who doesn't have it together.
 - Her relationship with Warren should be nonsexual
 - Should be about the connection
 - Already have a couple who's trying to repatch things.
 - She might have a darker side to her.
 - She could be gay, but we don't necessarily have to play into it.
 - She probably doesn't know her own sexuality.
 - Not from the city, but she likes NYC.
 - It appeals to her and thinks she's home.
 - Always at a disadvantage
 - Always under it
 - Insecure
 - She's trying to be something
 - She's in search of something but can't seem to find it.
 - Failed perfectionist

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- Can explore this idea more.
- Warren
 - Artist of the group and the playwright's voice.
 - Trying to give hope to the whole city that he forgets about himself and that's why he needs Deb.
 - Like the idea that Warren may have thought about jumping.
 - Warren could be pan, bi, asexual.
 - Probably doesn't know his sexuality either.
- Jason
 - Midwestern who came out.
 - From Chicago possibly.
- Claire
 - More of the city.

Timeline/Moving Forward

- Timeline
 - Stefan will be looking at auditions during Thanksgiving break.
 - The cast list should hopefully be up by the end of finals week.
 - Will be limited based on who can sing it.
 - Logistically, 24 songs, on camera, nowhere to hide
 - Understudies - swings.
 - One male and one female swing
 - With COVID, we need to cover our bases
- Software
 - Hopefully, Stefan, Paul, and Ron can have a get-together to talk about software systems.
- Scenic
 - Next move is to start ironing out pods.
 - Test them out.
 - See where the pitfalls are.
 - Don't want to wait until tech to start testing things out.
- Next Production Meeting
 - December 4th at 10am.
 - No meeting next week.
- Stefan will share PowerPoint.