

Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike

By Christopher Durang

June 14-23, 2019

From the Director, Mike McGee

Auditions will consist of cold readings from the script. Please come prepared to list ALL conflicts. All conflicts must be provided prior to the cast list being posted.

ALL roles OPEN. Please note that ages listed are relative and flexible. Roles are open to all Races/Ethnicities.

Important Dates

Auditions: Monday April 22 and Tuesday April 23 7 PM
At the Wake Forest Renaissance Center. Registration begins at 6:30

Callbacks (if needed) Saturday April 27 at 9:30 also at the Wake Forest Renaissance Center

First Cast Meeting, Read Thru and Costume Measurements: Monday April 29 7 PM (could be another day that week based upon cast conflicts)

Rehearsals: Rehearsals will be 3-4 days per week based upon Cast conflicts

No Conflicts After June 4

Synopsis:

The Tony Award winner for Best Play of 2013, Durang's hit comedy skewers the classic dramas of Chekhov through an absurdist tale of family dysfunction. But you don't have to be a student of Russian literature to appreciate this hilarious play. Siblings Vanya and Sonia live a quiet life in the Bucks County farmhouse where they grew up. But when their movie-star sister Masha swoops in unannounced with Spike, her 20-something boy toy, an unforgettable weekend ensues. Add a clairvoyant cleaning lady, someone named Hootie Pie, a sweet young aspiring actress, and plans that could devastate the family, and you have a laugh-out-loud stage offering that will be a sure-fire audience favorite.

About the Roles:

Vanya (male, 40s-50s; the elder brother). Wry, retiring, frustrated, resigned fellow.

Lives with his stepsister Sonia at their family home, basically resigned to the way his life has turned out - which was, with Sonia, taking care of their aged parents until they died, dour but highly intelligent, plays peacemaker between his two sisters Sonia and Masha, dry and sardonic; actor must possess strong comedic and language skills as well as excellent timing.

Sonia (female, 40s-50s; the adopted sister). Melancholic, capricious, definitely regretful, possibly desperate.

Vanya's discontented stepsister who longs for a life not lived. Volatile and emotional, she is full of regret for never having left their home like Masha, and for never having had a romantic life. Jealous of Masha's wild and glamorous life. Actress must possess strong comedic and language skills as well as a wide emotional range. Must be able to impersonate Maggie Smith.

Masha (female, 40s-50s; the famous sister). Expansive, glamorous, haughty, frenetic.

Vanya and Sonia's sister who became a glamorous and successful world-traveling movie star. More than a bit of a diva but also charming and funny. Very competitive and very insecure about aging and losing her allure. She has had five failed marriages and shows up at the house with her latest boyfriend, the much, much younger Spike. She has been paying everyone's bills and has plans for the house that impact everyone.

Spike (male, 20s or early 30s; Masha's 'companion'). Chiseled, flippant
Masha's new boyfriend, he is an aspiring actor. Incredibly sexy with a superb body, he strips down to his underwear at the drop of a hat. A self-absorbed boy-toy, he is also friendly, charming, always seductive (with everyone) and totally aware of the effect he has on women and men alike. Seeking a strong comedic actor who is good at physical comedy. Must be comfortable spending extended periods on stage in just underwear.

Nina (female, 20s-30s; aspiring actress). Earnest, bouncy, a guileless admirer.
A lovely, sincere, would-be young actress visiting her aunt and uncle, who live next door to Vanya and Sonia. Tremulous, starstruck and just a bit naïve, she is like a throwback to an earlier age. She delights in being with Vanya and doesn't quite fit in with Spike, who is of her own generation.

Cassandra (female, flexible; soothsayer housekeeper). Obtrusive, kooky, dramatic.
Cleaning lady and soothsayer, she frequently bursts into prophecy, sounding like Greek tragedy, but always with a contemporary edge. Smart, biting wit. Her predictions usually come true but not always in the way she thinks. Actress must possess very strong comedic and verbal skills. Often played by a Person of Color.