Grosse Pointe Theatre’s
Purdon Studio Theatre

AUDITIONS

By Eric Bogosian
Directed by Kevin Fitzhenry

Audition Dates
Saturday, February 8, 1:00 - 4:00 pm
Sunday, February 9, 1:00 - 4:00 pm
Snow Date: Tuesday, February 11 (7:00 pm - 10:00 pm)

Auditions will take place at Grosse Pointe Theatre’s rehearsal studio
315 Fisher Road, Grosse Pointe MI 48230

Performance Dates
May 1-3, 7-9, 2020
Performance Location: Grosse Pointe Woods Presbyterian Church
19950 Mack Ave, Grosse Pointe, MI 48236

About the Show:
Barry Champlain, Cleveland’s controversial radio host, is on the air doing what he does best: insulting the pathetic souls who call in the middle of the night to sound off. Tomorrow, Barry’s show is going into national syndication and his producer is afraid that Barry will say something that will offend the sponsors. This, of course, makes Barry even more outrageous. Funny and moving, off beat, outrageous and totally entrancing, Talk Radio had a long run at New York’s Public Theatre starring the author. Finalist! 1988 Pulitzer Prize in Drama

WARNING: Show contains adult language and situations.

For questions or audition selections, contact director Kevin Fitzhenry at kmfitz03@gmail.com
CHARACTER DESCRIPTIONS

BARRY CHAMPLAIN (LEAD, Male) - Controversial host of "Night Talk" on WTLK Cleveland. Barry is energetic and dark. He is hopefully funny. He is insecure. He is a bully. And more than anything else, he has a soul of a performer, which is to say, his audience means everything to him. Actor must have a total command of both comic and dramatic chops. Finally, there has to be some sense that this guy has the vocal equipment and charisma to be a talk-radio host. The audience must feel as if they would listen to this show on their radio in their home.

STU NOONAN (SUPPORT, Male) - Barry’s operator, best friend, and confidant. A former rock-n-roll DJ who was so enamored with Barry and his style that he left his DJ gig to work for him. Has been with Barry 15 years - longer than any of Barry’s relationships.

LINDA MACARTHUR (SUPPORT, Female) Assistant producer of "Night Talk." Has worked at the station for two years and Barry’s show for the past four months - she is in love with Barry, wants to take care of him and wants him to take their relationship seriously.

DAN WOODRUFF (FEATURED, Male) - Executive producer of WTLK. Somewhat cocky and arrogant, he is good as his job, which is to keep Barry from derailing himself. Always reminds himself to treat this as a job. Makes a deal for Barry’s show to go national and does not want him to screw it up. Will also double as the voice of: RICHARD, a guest on Sidney Greenberg’s "Your Taxes and You" show.

SPIKE (FEATURED, Male) - Sound engineer for WTLK. Will also serve as the sound-board operator for the show.

KENT (FEATURED, Male) Totally unhinged by drugs and media binging, he calls into Barry’s show twice before being invited on to be a special guest. Will also double as the voice of:

   JOSH - A recent college-grad who wants to talk third-world economics.
   JUNIOR - A die-hard Cleveland Indians fan.

The following company members will double as the callers and appear in various cameos in the course of the play as radio-station personnel:

SIDNEY GREENBERG (FEATURED, Male) - Financial talk show host of "Your Taxes and You." Smooth, fast-talking, almost auction announcer-like. Will also double as the voice of:

   CHET - Racist, anti-semetic caller who hates Barry to the extreme and sends him a mysterious package during the show, claiming it to be a bomb.
   JOHN - A black man who tries to sympathize with Barry, but Barry doesn’t go for it.
   VINCENT - Has listened to Barry for five years and thinks he (Barry) is a jerk-off and loser.
   RALPH - A very strange, pathetic, slow-talking, verbose wimp who likes Barry and feels sorry for him. Tries to be a comforting voice in the darkness.

BERNIE (FEATURED, Male) Sid’s operator. Will also double as the voice of:

   GLENN - A long time-listener, first-time caller, nervous, wants to talk about animals.
   HENRY - A caller from Painesville, protesting the use of nuclear power plants.
   BOB - good-natured, optimistic wheelchair bound army veteran who calls each night - he and Barry seem to have a friendly rapport.
   CHRIS - Asks Barry if he believes in God, and breathes him for thinking he is God.
   ALLAN - Thinks Kent is making a jackass of Barry on the air before being cut-off.

DR. SUSAN FLEMING (FEATURED, Female) a Psychologist talk show host whose show is after Barry’s. Will also double as the voice of:

   RHONDA - From Coventry, an afronted women concerned about current government drug policies
   DEBBIE - 16-year-old who is overly-emotional about the baby she is going to have.
   DENISE - She’s scared - of everything - like the garbage disposal in her mother’s kitchen. Extremely paranoid.
   JULIA - Five year listener who loves Barry, but really doesn’t know why.

RACHEL (FEATURED, Female) Susan’s Operator. Will also double as the voice of:

   FRANCINE - A cliche’d transsexual saving up for an operation.
   RUTH - Praises Barry for being a good, kind soul in the midst of today’s terrible society
   CATHLEEN - Loves Barry even though her only close friend thinks she is nutty and psycho for liking Barry’s show.
   JUNE - Loves her dog, can’t figure out why Barry doesn’t have one.
   AGNES - A southern belle who wonders why don’t they make "I Love Lucy" anymore?
   CALLER - Starts to insult Barry and gets cut-off soon after, almost a sexy seductive-type voice.