

## *Death of a Salesman*

By Arthur Miller

### **Director: Robert Lee**

A native of Louisiana, Robert Lee has been living and creating theatre in Duluth for the past 3 years. He now works full-time for the Playhouse in the Education department. Before moving to Duluth, Robert worked as an actor, designer and director in Chicago, Raleigh, and New Orleans. Local directing credits include: *Peter Pan* (Duluth Playhouse), *Rx* (Renegade Theatre Company), *Hedwig and the Angry Inch*, *Clown Bar* and *Cabaret* (The Underground Theatre), *Willy Wonka Jr.* (Playhouse Children's Theatre), *The Cat in the Hat*, *James and the Giant Peach*, and *Fantastic Mr. Fox* (Playhouse Theatre for Young Audiences), *It Runs in the Family* (Duluth Playhouse.)

### **Audition Information**

AUDITIONS: Saturday, September 16 from 3:00 pm – 6:00 pm | Short readings of sides to be provided the day of auditions

CALLBACKS: Sunday, September 17. Time TBA.

- Auditions will be held at the Playhouse Conservatory (230 West Superior St; entrance on 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave. West between Superior and Michigan St) *If you cannot make these auditions contact Robert Lee, rlee@duluthplayhouse.org, 218.733.7559 to arrange another time.*
- Read the Script. Available for checkout at Playhouse office (\$5 deposit, 3 days)
- Bring a picture and resume along with the audition form filled out (attached to the packet). Sample picture resumes are available on our website (*duluthplayhouse.org* under 'auditions' tab).
- The Duluth Playhouse auditions are open to all actors and actresses, including those who may be auditioning for the first time and professional or Equity actors and actresses.

### **Rehearsal and Performance Information:**

**Rehearsals** begin January 22, typically Monday – Friday 6pm-10pm. Times during tech week vary.

**Performance Dates:** February 22 – March 3: Thursdays-Saturdays at 7:30pm. Performances will be in the Underground.

# ***Death of a Salesman: Synopsis and Character Breakdown***

## **Synopsis**

*Death of a Salesman* is a drama that follows 24 hours in the life of Willy Loman, a traveling salesman who has been fired from his job, and is struggling with his failed attempts to find success and happiness. Willy's slipping mental health, strained relationships with his sons and his dark secrets from the past have eroded the delusional world in which he lives. Now he clings to one final desperate act. This tony award and Pulitzer prize winning play remains one of the most profound classic dramas of the American theatre examining reality versus illusion of the American Dream.

## **Character Breakdown:**

**Willy Loman:** (50s – 60s) an aging traveling salesman who is beginning to lose his grip on reality as he struggles with guilt and crumbling family relationships.

**Biff Loman:** (30s – 40s) Willy's grown son who has struggled to find himself ever since high school where he was a football star. Biff also plays his teenage self in Willy's flashbacks.

**Happy Loman:** (20's – 40s) Willy's youngest son who is a woman chaser and unhappy with his work life. Happy also plays his younger self in Willy's flashbacks.

**Charley:** (40s – 60s) Willy's friend and neighbor who is concerned about Willy's fading condition and though he has to endure occasional abuse from Willy he often lends him money.

**Bernard:** (20s-40s) Charley's son who was looked down upon as a kid by Willy and his sons, but has grown up to be a successful lawyer.

**Linda Loman:** (50s – 60s) Willy's patient wife who loves her husband deeply despite his shortcomings.

**Howard Wagner:** (20s – 40s) the son of Willy's boss. He fires Willy.

**Uncle Ben:** (20s – 40s) Willy's older brother who has become rich. He only shows up in Willy's memories.

**The Woman:** (30s – 40s) Willy's mistress while he went on business trips.

**Other Ensemble Roles:** Stanley, Older Waiter, Miss Forsythe, Letta, Jenny

# Playhouse Audition Form

Please bring this completed form with you to the audition along with a **resume** & current **photo or headshot**. The photo/headshot can be in an upper corner of the resume or attached separately.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address (Including Zip) \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Other Phone# \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Age \_\_\_\_\_ Height \_\_\_\_\_ Weight \_\_\_\_\_ Hair Color \_\_\_\_\_

Is there a particular role in the show you are most interested in? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, which one(s)? \_\_\_\_\_

Will you accept another part if not offered any listed above? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

If you do not get a part, would you be interested in working on tech crew or backstage? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Do you sing, dance, play piano or have other special talents? If so, please explain level of skill: *(Please list any musical instruments that you play and skill level)*

Do you have **ANY** conflicts with the rehearsal/performance schedule? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

**Please list ALL conflicts below (be as specific as possible to dates, times). Additional conflicts after being cast may not be accepted.**