

## *The Arsonists*

By Max Frisch

Performed at The Underground Theatre: February 20-29, 2020

**Director:** Mike Pederson

Fires are becoming something of a problem, but Gottlieb Biedermann has it all under control! A respected member of the community with a loving wife and a thriving business, Gottlieb believes nothing can get to him. Being the great philanthrope, he is more than happy to provide shelter to two new houseguests. And when they start filling the attic with drums of petroleum, he'll help them light the fuse! *The Arsonists* is an absurdist dark comedy about the rise of fascism.

**SEEKING:** A diverse cast of actors (18+). Performers of all races, genders, and ethnicities are encouraged to audition. All actors will receive some pay.

### AUDITION INFORMATION

**WHEN:** Sunday, September 22 10:00am-12:00pm  
Sign up for a 5-minute time slot to sing (directions to sign up are below). The sign-up sheet will open 3 weeks prior to auditions: Sept. 3. If you do not know when you can come, feel free to attend without signing up - you will be seen between slots.

**CALLBACKS:** Sunday September 22 1:00pm  
Callbacks will be as needed – sides will be provided at callbacks

\*If you cannot make auditions please contact Underground Artistic Director, Robert Lee: [rlee@duluthplayhouse.org](mailto:rlee@duluthplayhouse.org)

**WHERE:** NorShor Theatre Rehearsal Studios. 211 East Superior Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor (skywalk level)

### FOR THE AUDITION:

- Bring a picture and resume and fill out attached audition form
- Prepare (memorized) one of the provided monologues
- Be familiar and ready to perform all texts provided

## HOW TO SIGN UP:

- 1) Click this link to see our SignUp for *The Arsonists*: <https://signup.com/go/kOZsicY>
- 2) Review the options listed and choose the spot you like.
- 3) Sign up! You will not need to register an account or keep a password on SignUp.com. SignUp.com does not share your email address with anyone.
- 4) Please do not sign up unless you are confident you will audition.

**IF YOU NEED TO CANCEL** – Please eliminate your name from the sign up so others may use the time.

## REHEARSAL & PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

**Rehearsals Begin:** January 13th – Rehearsals will typically be Monday – Friday 7pm-10pm. Times and days are subject to change dependent on cast availability but will be set soon after casting.

**Performance Dates:** February 20–29 @ 7:30pm Thursday - Saturday Performances will be in The Underground

## CHARACTER BREAKDOWN

**Gottlieb Biedermann:** Gottlieb is an exemplary member of society. He knows how the world should work, acts accordingly and makes sure others know it. He is a successful business owner! He is also voluntarily blind to the frightening reality of the situation building around him.

**Babette Biedermann:** Babette is is Gottliebs’ adoring trophy wife. She loves to shop and is very wary of what is happening in her own home. She has a heart condition. Maybe.

**Anna:** Anna is the Biedermans put upon maid. She is annoyed at everything happening in the household.

**Joseph Schmitz:** Joe is a kindly retired wrestler just looking for a place to stay for a bit. He is heavily built and dominates a room. He has one friend in the world. Billy. Joe is an arsonist.

**Wilhelm Eisenring:** A smooth talking ex waiter. He is also an arsonist.

**Policeman:** An oblivious policeman. Just doing his job.

**Mrs. Knechtling:** The recently widowed wife of Biedermanns business associate. She cries and sits on stage. A lot.

**Doctor of Philosophy:** A Nerd who wants to exonerate himself of all the goings on. He pops out of an oil drum!

**The Chorus:** The chorus of 3 firemen guide the audience through the moral conundrums within the show. The chorus is the audiences anchor throughout the absurdity of the show, while indulging in it from time to time.



# Audition Packet

Please bring this **completed form** with you to the audition along with a **resume & current photo or headshot**. Please print clearly!

<b>Name:</b>	
<b>Home Address:</b>	<b>City, State, Zip:</b>
<b>Primary Phone #:</b>	<b>Other Phone #:</b>
<b>Email:</b>	

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 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.**