TO AUDITION, PLEASE PREPARE
ONE (1) SIDE (SEE BELOW)
AND
ONE (1) SONG (SEE BELOW BELOW) (don’t be intimidated – you do not have to consider yourself a singer at all to audition)

SIDES
- Choose ONE of the following 5 sides for the zoom audition.
- Don’t worry about what role it is -- Just choose a text that you’re psyched to spend some time with!
- Get as familiar with the text as possible.
- I do not expect you to memorize it word for word.
- Paraphrasing is fine for this audition.
- Heads up - I will ask you to speak directly to me.

SIDE 1

BEAUTIFUL WHITE FEMALE

I guess…
I feel like…
I really enjoy never having to worry about being seen for auditions, you know? Like whether it be for network television or for film or voiceover or a commercial or theatre or regional theatre, I can be seen at any given moment for an amazing plethora of roles on screen and onstage, no matter the season for whatever the reason oh my god that rhymes and hopefully, I have enough talent that it usually works out (she laughs) and if it doesn’t, I’m able to get by on residuals from the two movies I did with Jennifer Aniston or was it Kate Hudson or was it Kate Beckinsale or was it Kate Bosworth was it Cate Blanchett, there are so many white Kate’s!

SIDE 2

RADICAL THINKER

I wish programs were full of manifestos of what the artists really wanted
Rather than a list of all the schools the rest of America can’t afford.
I wish programs were a coloring book
Instead of a stale book of lies
Full of affirmations that mommy and daddy never gave us
I wish programs were a “fuck you”
I wish programs were a “you can kiss my (insert whatever performer wants to insert) ass”
I wish programs were a: “my work can speak on its own and you can use this book as a bibliography that’s full of books that you didn’t assign me to read because you were busy teaching me the music to Gypsy again”
I wish programs were full of our zodiac signs
I wish programs were full of coping mechanisms
I wish programs were our photos and our names and our Paypal addresses so you can send us money because none of us are making enough.

**SIDE 3**

**MUSICIAN**

When I am asked to present my work, I often run into a classic problem. Of a lack of understanding of what it means
To be a songwriter
A musician
With instruments.
Who sings.
Into microphones.
And so I present to you The Musician’s Manifesto
So that those who are in service of live performance, theatre and the like, can be in line with the needs -- I don’t mean the desires -- but the NEEDS of the performer, so that one does not make the performer feel like a trash-fire for asking for what they NEED to do the work that you are asking of them.

And since there are so many walks of life for musicians: some play the trumpets, some play pianos, I can speak of my needs as a musician who plays the instruments I play.

**SIDE 4**

**PRODUCER WITH NO MONEY:**

Producers don’t have money. Actors don’t have money -- lemme rephrase -- Theatre Actors don’t have money. Directors don’t have money. Designers don’t have money. Artistic Directors don’t have money. No one has any money. And I feel terrible, I really really do, to present this play to you that essentially is throwing the underdog under the bus. Because when it comes down to it: theatre is the artform for the people who are too “ugly” for film. And I love that. I absolutely love that.

And I love how simple it can be. And I love the playground it can feel like. And I hate how there’s always no money.

**SIDE 5**

**HUMAN BEING TRACK 1:**

I wish I didn’t have to be on instagram.
I wish I didn’t have to advocate for myself like Hulk Hogan.
I wish white people and cis-men would do their homework.
And I didn’t have to be another unapologetic Person of Color that provides the cheat sheet.
I didn’t write this play because I wanted to.
I wrote this play because I had to.

I wanna know why you’re asking me to be here. I want you to stop comparing me to Yoko Ono and the next time one of your patrons does, I’m gonna flat out lie to tell them and tell them “oh my God Yoko is my Aunt - I just had lunch with her - we’re doing a show together at the Met next year - you can totally come.” And you know they’re going to believe me. I love Yoko but stop comparing me to her because you’ve run out of shit to say to me. You have never met anyone like me, and you never will.

See, there I go being Hulk Hogan again.

MUSIC

EVERYONE auditioning (whether you think of yourself as a singer or not!) prepare up to 1-minute of a song – it can be a folk song, pop song, musical theater song – your choice. A capella is fine (see note below on instrument playing). Make it fun for you.

OR

You can put either of the lyrics (below) to music and expand/improvise with them however you like. Doesn’t need to be polished. Again, find your fun with it.

If you can accompany yourself with an instrument, go for it! Guitar, piano ... whatever you got!

If you play a musical instrument and can’t sing at the same time, prepare to play 30 seconds in addition to singing. Your choice of music.

Lyrics 1 -
OOH I CAN START TO DREAM THE GIFT I WANNA GIVE YOU
OOH I CAN START TO DREAM THE GIFT I WANNA GIVE YOU.

Lyrics 2 -
Here I am with this super rhymey song
And I sound like this and I sing for super long
Because I can take up space
And say super obvious things
Like I’m growing and I’m going to a different pla-a-a-ace.

QUESTIONS? Don’t hesitate to ask Leslie Danzig at lbdanzig@uchicago.edu.