



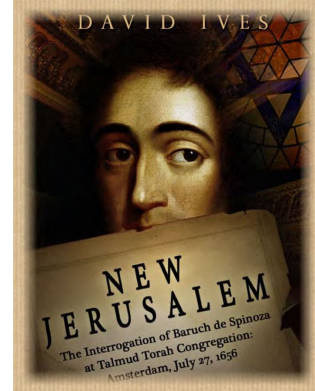
ANNOUNCING OPEN AUDITIONS

for an outdoor summer production
of David Ives' *New Jerusalem*

Directed by Dianne O'Neill

April 18th & 19th from 7:00-9:00

Virtual auditions will be by appointment using
Zoom



Baruch de Spinoza is a young merchant and the heir apparent of Saul Mortera, the chief Rabbi of Amsterdam. When the city accuses Spinoza of atheism, he is summoned to the synagogue to defend himself. Spinoza's best friend, his sister, and the woman he loves are all drawn into the controversy, a historical event that shook up not only the entire Jewish community of Amsterdam, but changed Spinoza's and Mortera's lives—and all of Western thought—irrevocably. The play is a re-imagining of the interrogation and eventual excommunication of the young philosopher on July 27, 1656. In this eloquent and masterful drama, David Ives attempts to open the temple doors and let us listen in on a dispute whose philosophical and political echoes still reverberate today.

Character Breakdown – *All ages are guidelines; roles are open to all ethnicities and gender identities.*

Abraham Van Valkenburgh: A regent of Amsterdam. In his forties. Dignified and obdurate.

Saul Levi Mortera: Chief rabbi of Amsterdam and Spinoza's mentor. Elderly, intelligent, and spirited.

Gaspar Rodrigues Ben Israel: A lay member of the synagogue's board. A carpet salesman. In his fifties. A friend to Spinoza.

Baruch De Spinoza: A merchant of Amsterdam, and a philosopher. In his twenties.

Simon De Vries: A painter and Baruch's friend. In his twenties.

Clara Van Den Enden: Baruch's love interest. A music teacher and a gentile. In her twenties.

The role of Rebekah De Spinoza was auditioned and cast pre-Covid.

Auditions will be from the script • Sides will be provided when you register for your audition

Production Dates: Two performances Sunday, July 25th at Congregation Shaara Tffile (84 Weibel Ave., Saratoga Springs), and two performances on Sunday, August 1st at Congregation Beth Shalom (688 Clifton Park Center Rd., Clifton Park) • Rain date of August 8 for both locations

REHEARSAL SCHEDULE: Rehearsal will begin Sunday, June 13th, and will be Sunday through Thursday evenings.

For further information visit Home Made Theater's website, www.HomeMadeTheater.org, or call (518)-587-4427