

About Us

Functional Soup Productions

Functional Soup Productions is an experimental collective that creates innovative theatrical experiences through structured collaborative processes. Our artistic approach synthesizes three foundational influences: the interdisciplinary integration of the Bauhaus movement, the critical social engagement of Epic Theatre, and the democratic methodologies of contemporary devised practices.

We fundamentally reconfigure traditional theatrical hierarchies by recognizing every participant as both creator and performer. This approach enables diverse artistic disciplines—movement, text, design, and technology—to converge organically into cohesive expressions that challenge conventional performance boundaries.

Our commitment to radical inclusivity manifests through actively removing participation barriers and developing culturally responsive work deeply connected to our local context. We deliberately blur distinctions between artists and audiences, creating immersive experiences that transform passive observation into active participation and shared meaning-making.

Functional Soup Productions implements transparent working methods through documented cycles of proposal, exploration, development, and presentation. We maintain a conscious practice that balances rigorous artistic investigation with sustainable approaches and comprehensive care for all collaborators.

Note on Process

Staying true to **functional soup's** commitment to transparency and non-hierarchical collaboration, this treatment serves as a foundation for the final staged production. The final product will be developed through collaboration, improvisation, and devising exercises in rehearsals. This treatment is a starting point, and the final production may differ significantly.

Character List:

- Young Woman: A young woman trapped in a life devoid of growth or achievable dreams. She feels suffocated by societal expectations and her oppressive environment.
- Mr. Jones/Husband: CEO of J-Tech Industries, born into wealth and privilege. His subconscious pathology is manipulative, misogynistic, and views the Young Woman as a muse and an object generate his progeny.
- Mother: Former Lead Supervisor of a call center for 20 + years let go
 replaced by AI, She determined to stay in the analog world(or simply early
 onset dementia) wears a headset with comically long cord attached that
 has turned the house into a web of phone cord
- Another Man: A charismatic man the Young Woman meets at a bar. He is the antithesis of Jones. He validates her individuality but ultimately betrays her by testifying against her.
- Project Manager: A stressed supervisor who resents the Young Woman's lateness, which disrupts his schedules and angers Mr. Jones.
- Data Scientist: An older data scientist annoyed by the Young Woman's lack of focus, believing her mistakes undermine their work.
 - Software Developer: Jealous of the Young Woman's perceived special treatment from Mr. Jones, viewing her as incompetent.
 - QA Engineer: Irritated by the Young Woman's failure to follow protocols, blaming her for delays in the testing process.
- Machine Learning Engineer: Distrustful of the Young Woman's commitment, believing her lack of focus hinders their work.
 - Additional Ensemble Parts When Called for or Devised

Episode List:

- Episode 1: [Initialize_Workflow(crunch)]
- Episode 2: [File_Corrupt(Local_Host)]
 - Episode 3: [Initiate_simulation)]
- **Episode 4**: [attempt_Override(User_Choice)]
- Episode 5: [unauthorized_access("divergence")]
- Episode 6: [connection_established("unsecure")]
 - **Episode 7**: [trigger_Activate(ForceQuit;jns)]
 - Episode 8: [judicial_systemic_failure(true)]
 - Episode 9: [Algoridigm.int)]

Treatment:

{{CONSIDER DEVISING PRESHOW}}

Episode 1: [Initialize_Workflow(crunch)]

Characters:

Project Manager:

Overwhelmed by constant delays, he resents the Young Woman's lateness, which disrupts schedules and increases pressure from Mr. Jones.

Data Scientist

Frustrated by the Young Woman's lack of focus, believing her mistakes compromise the team's credibility.

• Software Developer:

Irritated by the Young Woman's perceived preferential treatment from Mr. Jones.

QA Engineer:

Annoyed by the Young Woman's inability to adhere to protocols, blaming her for bottlenecks in testing.

Machine Learning Engineer:

Distrustful of the Young Woman's commitment, believing her distractions hinder the algorithm's success.

Mr. Jones:

Oblivious to his employees' struggles, he is frustrated that the Young Woman isn't there yet, as he had planned a public proposal.

Young Woman:

Stressed and apologetic for being late, she is bombarded by her co-workers and horrified by Mr. Jones' public proposal.

Dialogue Treatment:

Location:

The Jones Holodeck Theatre

Time:

Early-Morning.

Atmosphere:

Chaotic, messy, and unorganized.

Scene

The Development Team is busy working pre-production for the Keynote Address and Announcement of J-Ai General Intelligence. The tension is palpable as the team tests the AI Presentation. The Young Woman enters, late again, and is immediately confronted by

her co-workers. Mr. Jones arrives, silencing the room with his presence. He proposes to the Young Woman in front of everyone, trapping her in a spotlight of public scrutiny.

({DEVISE TRANSITION)) Possible breaking of reality or Ai emerges sentient interacting with the space. If feeling bold consider Non-Verbal Through Character... Android? Ai Manifestation? Hologram?

Episode 2: [File_Corrupt(Local_Host)]

Characters:

Young Woman:

An employee of J-Tech Industries, she is unhappy at her job and feels pressured by Mr. Jones' advances.

Mother:

A former supervisor at a call center, now unemployed and obsessed with conspiracy theories. She is emotionally distant from her daughter.

Dialogue Treatment:

Location:

A small messy kitchen with a phone cord, seemingly never ending, wrapped around the apartment kitchen making traversing the space almost an obstacle course.

Time:

Evening

Atmosphere:

Faint burnt cooking smells fill the air. The overhead light flickers slightly, casting uneven shadows.

Scene

The Young Woman returns home, hoping to reconnect with her mother. Instead, her mother dismisses her concerns about Mr. Jones' advances, blaming her for overreacting. The conversation spirals into a heated argument, leaving the Young Woman feeling more isolated than ever.

{{DEVISE TRANSITION}}