



THE THREE GOLDEN RULES

WHENEVER YOU WANT SOMETHING TAKE IT

ALL THAT IS REQUIRED TO TAKE EVERYTHING YOU WANT IS ABSOLUTE WILL AND AN ABILITY TO LIE TO THE DEPTHS OF YOUR HEART.

NEVER THINK OF THE OUTCOME, ASSUME DISCOVERY, EMBRACE EACH SECOND AS IF IT WERE YOUR LAST. NEVER EVER REGRET.

WHAT IT’S ABOUT

A pantheon of 7 unnamed gods, lost in time, recall to the audience the life of Gorge Mastromas.

A dark epic tale chronicling the life of Gorge Mastromas, a Kane-like figure who rises to become one of the richest, most influential and ruthless people in the world.

Born with an innate sense of goodness, even when it is detrimental to him, he is repeatedly let down by life, until a pivotal moment in adulthood, when a chance encounter with a ruthless executive breaks down his good nature.

He then becomes one of the most amoral people in the world, lying, cheating and corrupting his way to the top, constructing a web of lies around himself that affect and destroy all close to him, then the world itself, and finally himself.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Dennis Kelly is an internationally acclaimed author, best known for writing the book to *Matilda the Musical* for the RSC and creating the series *Utopia* for Channel Four.

CREATIVE TEAM

Director: Lorenzo Peter Mason *Julius Caesar* (Network Theatre); *LiveRead: Reservoir Dogs* (Sedos); *On The Rocks* (National Trust/Shaw’s Corner); *How He Lied to Her Husband* (Park Theatre); *The Apple Cart* (KDC Lion & Unicorn)

WHO WE’RE LOOKING FOR

We’re looking to cast 7 roles: 5 male and 2 female. Each of the seven actors will perform the role of both a determinate character from Mastromas’ life and a god, based on Greek mythology, these gods act as the chorus to the play. The performers themselves will create the divinity during the rehearsal process.

What follows is a brief description of the various characters plus the type of god the performers should draw inspiration from.

A more detailed character breakdown is available upon request at [ritualslaughter@sedos.co.uk](mailto:ritualslaughter@sedos.co.uk)

Gorge Mastromas/ Apollo and Dionysius: *Male, mid-twenties to late thirties*

Pronounced “George”, he is the title character of the play, a Citizen Kane like figure who starts off as a good, if unremarkable, man but whose goodness frequently clashes with the savagery of modern society. Constantly battered by life, a chance meeting with a Mephistophelian business lady tips him over the edge, transforming him into an amoral monster who owns loyalty to nothing but his Three Golden Rules.

He rises to the top of the financial world, lying and cheating, committing progressively more despicable acts to get his way, influencing and changing the world around him and leaving a trail of broken lives, until eventually the whole edifice of his corruption comes crashing around him, leaving him a broken man.

- In the pantheon, he would represent the equivalent of Apollo or Dionysius, messianic figures in mythology.

Martin/ Zeus: *Male, early forties to sixties*

Martin is a good but naïve man who owns and operates a family run restaurant chain passed over for generations. He’s facing financial trouble due to a failed expansion which unbeknownst to him has been orchestrated behind his back. Gorge is working for him as a temp and finds himself in a meeting between Martin and “A”. Martin is increasingly on edge and scared, inexplicably relying on Gorge’s advice. When he leaves the room in a sudden fit, Gorge is tempted by “A” to betray him.

- In the pantheon, he would be the equivalent of Zeus, ruler of the gods in Olympus.

A/ Hera*: Female*, *late twenties to late forties*

“A” is an industry magnate with the personality of Mephistopheles. She orchestrates the failure of Martin’s expansion then calls an informal meeting to try and bully him into accepting an unfavourable buyout which she knows will eventually ruin the company.

She exhibits psychopathic tendencies and believes herself to be part of a secret society of people as ruthless as her. She successfully tempts Gorge to barter his soul and convince Martin to sell the company, in exchange for promised riches and power under her mentorship, transforming into the monster he becomes, loyal to nothing but his three golden rules.

- In the pantheon, she is the equivalent of Hera, wife of Zeus and a notorious schemer.

Louisa/ Athena or Diana: *Female, early twenties to early thirties*

Louisa is a smart, driven woman who comes to work for one of Gorge’s companies when he starts his business empire, and for whom he falls madly in love with.

She was a victim of child abuse from her father for many years, which resulted in patterns of self-destructive behaviour and a string of abusive relationships. When she meets Gorge she’s been moving past it thanks to psychiatric help, and, despite being attracted to him, recognises certain red flags, and rebuffs his advances. Gorge, in a final attempt, bribes her psychiatrist to reveal her past, and engineers a scenario to make her believe he was also the victim of abuse.

- In the pantheon, she is the equivalent of Athena or Diana, warrior/hunter deities linked with purity.

Gel/ Ares: *Male, late thirties to fifties*

Gel, hard G, is Mastromas’ older brother. His childhood is described as being happy and he himself says it contained the best version of himself. His adulthood wasn’t, with a string of broken relationships, going from job to job, always living in some dive in the outskirts of a European city.

When Gorge publishes a memoir detailing the (fake) abuse he received at the hands of his father, Gel is contacted by a journalist about it. Enraged by the book, who he perceives is perverting his childhood, he works with the man to unpack the lies within. When in 2013 he’s tracked down by Mastromas, ostensibly so that he can share in his wealth, Gel confronts him about the book, leading Gorge to make a fateful decision.

- In the pantheon he is the equivalent of Ares, the god of war.

Pete/ Hades: *Male, twenties*

Pete is a young man who meets Gorge in his old age, when the latter has become an embittered old man, living in 2 rooms of his enormous mansion. He knows Mastromas by fame, who’s become hated and despised in the world. Pete is an activist with a good friend called Kai, who hates Gorge, who’s thinking of starting an unnamed business. He has a special relation to Mastromas that the latter has learnt of, but doesn’t know the specifics, and has used this leverage to meet him face to face.

- In the pantheon he is the equivalent of Hades, god of the underworld.

Hotel Porter/ Hermes: *Male, any age*

A first aid trained porter who goes to help Gorge in his hotel after he’s injured his head. Gorge uses his beard as an excuse to hurl abuse at him, disguised as a psychotic episode, in his scheme to entrap Louisa.

- In the pantheon he is equivalent to Hermes, the messenger god. He has the most lines in the chorus scenes and acts as the official link between the gods and the audience.

KEY DATES

**Workshop:** Monday 6th June 7pm-9pm **Auditions**: Monday 20th 7pm, Thursday 23rd 7pm, Saturday 25th 12pm **Recalls:** Saturday July 2nd 10 am

The workshop, auditions and recalls will all be held at:

On Monday 6th June, Monday 20th June and Thursday 23rd June:

City Library 1 Brewer Hall Gardens (off 55 Basinghall St) London EC2V 5BX

On Saturday 25th June and Saturday 2nd July - TBC

**Rehearsals:** We will endeavour to schedule rehearsals based around cast availability as much as possible so please indicate on your audition form any dates you are unavailable. This will not necessarily stop you from being cast. **Tech Rehearsal:** Sunday 25th September (all day) **Dress Rehearsal:** Monday 26th September (evening) **Performances:** 27th September-1st October at 7:30pm, 1st October 2:30 matinee

WORKSHOP

6th June 7pm-9pm

City Library 1 Brewer Hall Gardens (off 55 Basinghall St)

EC2V 5BX

The workshop is an opportunity to learn more about the play, production, auditions and roles. It is entirely optional to attend nor is any preparation required beforehand and will not influence the selection process, however it is a good opportunity to familiarise yourself with the structure of the play and pose questions to the creative team.

We’ll illustrate the plot and structure of the play, then lead some group exercises and read a few extracts from the chorus scenes with all the gods.

If you are planning on attending please email [ritualslaughter@sedos.co.uk](mailto:ritualslaughter@sedos.co.uk) to give us an idea of numbers.

AUDITIONS

**Monday 20th 7pm, Thursday 23rd 7pm, Saturday 25th 12pm**

Each audition date will be divided into sessions of half an hour (7:00-7:30-8:00 etc.).

Each half an hour session will be for 2 to 3 people on weekdays and 1 to 2 for the weekend of Saturday 25th.

You will prepare a monologue from a list provided, depending on what character you are auditioning for. These monologues will be sent to you once a session is booked, and will come from either a chorus scene of one of the episodes of Mastromas’ life.

It is not essential to be off book for the audition, however some familiarity with the piece would be beneficial.

During the audition you may be asked to read for another character you may have expressed interest in or would be open to play, if you are only interested in one part please specify this when booking an audition.

We will aim to inform everyone on wherever they’ve been successful by the evening of Sunday 26th.

While we will try to take your preferred method of communication into account, we may have to notify you by another method due to time constraint. In the event that you are unsuccessful, we will be very willing to provide feedback when time permits.

BOOKING AN AUDITION

To book an audition please email the team at [ritualslaughter@sedos.co.uk](mailto:ritualslaughter@sedos.co.uk)with:

* **Audition** in the subject line
* Full name
* Telephone number
* Preferred date and session
* Second preferred date and session in case your first choice is full
* Chosen role plus a second preference, should you have one
* Availability on Saturday 2nd July if you are successful in the first round

There will be a cap per session, and we will notify you if full and refer to your second reference. Should you have to cancel, please let us know ASAP so we may re-allocate your spot.

RECALLS

**Saturday 2nd July from 10am**

If you are successful in the first round we’ll offer you a recall.

You will be asked to perform one or more duologue scenes with either other candidates or a person appointed.

No preparation is required for recalls and you will be given some time to prep the scenes before auditioning.

We will use this an opportunity to judge chemistry between various performers so you may be asked to repeat certain extracts with different people.

**We aim to inform all candidates by the evening of June 3rd.**

FEES

Sedos is one of London’s pre-eminent amateur theatre societies, with the aim of producing quality amateur shows to the best artistic quality possible. Please note that performers are not paid including expenses.

**Auditions are FREE for Sedos members and £5 for non-members.**

**If cast you will be required to become a Sedos member (currently £30 per year) and pay a participation fee of £30.**

We are looking forward to seeing you at the workshop & auditions!

For more information about Sedos, please visit our website sedos.co.uk