

PSYCHO BEACH PARTY

By Charles Busch
Directed by Tom Amen
March 8 – 17, 2024

AUDITION DATES AND TIMES: Tuesday November 28 & Wednesday November 29, 2023 at 7:00 PM in the Mainstage Theater at GWC

AUDITION TYPE: Cold Readings

AUDITION PREPARATION: It is highly recommended that interested actors read the play prior to auditioning. It would also be helpful to watch the 1960s films *Gidget*, *Beach Party*, *Beach Blanket Bingo*, *Ride the Wild Surf*, etc., to get a sense of the campy, cheesy, over-the-top style of this play. A look at *Psycho*, *Marnie*, *The Three Faces of Eve*, and *Mommie Dearest* wouldn't hurt either.

REHEARSALS: Rehearsals begin January 29th, 2024 and run Monday-Thursday, 6:30-10:00 PM

THE CHARACTERS:

Yo Yo - A handsome, young beach bum. (Age 16-20)

Dee Dee - A sexy, young chick in a bikini. (Age 16-20)

Nicky - A handsome, young beach bum. (Age 16-20)

Note: The three roles above come straight out of Central Casting - they represent perfect Hollywood vision of the Malibu Surf Culture of the 1960s.

Note: An asterisk (*) on three of the roles below denotes gender-neutral casting. This designation represents the way in which the play was originally cast according to the playwright's intentions. Though these *roles* will be played as female characters, they may be played by *actors* of any gender.

Provoloney - A scrappy little surfer. The joker of the group. (Age 18-20)

Star Cat - The stereotypically "dreamy" teen idol surfer. He's a rock star among the Malibu surf crowd. (Age 18-22)

* Chicklet - A perky, wannabe surfer girl. (Gender Neutral Casting - Age 15 to 16)

Kanaka - The cool, macho King of the Malibu Surfers. (Age 25-28)

Marvel Ann - A gorgeous blonde high school vamp - she's the one that all the young surfers are chasing.

* Berdine - Chicklet's BFF. She's a hopeless nerd, but a nerd with spunk. (Gender Neutral Casting - Age 15 to 16)

* Mrs. Forrest - Chicklet's Mom. An angry, prude, sexually repressed woman. She is Joan Crawford in *Mommie Dearest* on steroids. (Gender Neutral Casting - Age 35 to 40)

Bettina Barnes - A stereotypically glamorous movie star hiding amongst the Malibu surf crowd. A Mamie Van Doren type. (Age 25-28)

A NOTE ON CASTING:

Actors wishing to audition for this production of *Psycho Beach Party* should not be overly concerned by or discouraged by the character descriptions above. Charles Busch's description of these characters is more indicative of character-type than it is a description of the actor-types required to play them. In other words, Mr. Busch is indicating who these people are rather than who should play them. This is a wild, campy, satirical send-up of the embarrassingly cheesy 1960s Hollywood surf films, not an authentic *docudrama* of the Malibu surf crowd of the 1960s. So...come on in and take some bold risks at auditions!

ABOUT THE PLAY:

By all appearances, Chicklet is a perky, spunky teenaged girl who wants nothing more out of life than to be accepted as an equal by the Malibu surf crowd of 1962. But Chicklet hides a dark secret – she suffers from a rare multiple personality disorder that triggers her to transform into her various other selves at the mere mention of the color red! From a radio talk-show therapist to a preening male model, to an angry supermarket checkout girl, to a deviant dominatrix hellbent on conquering the world, Chicklet Forrest is a force to be reckoned with! A manic mix of 1950's Hitchcockian thriller, cheesy 1960's beach movie, and *Mommie Dearest*, *Psycho Beach Party* is fiendishly funny fun! Catch the wild wacky wave of laughter!

NOTE: This production contains adult language and situations and is intended for mature audiences.