

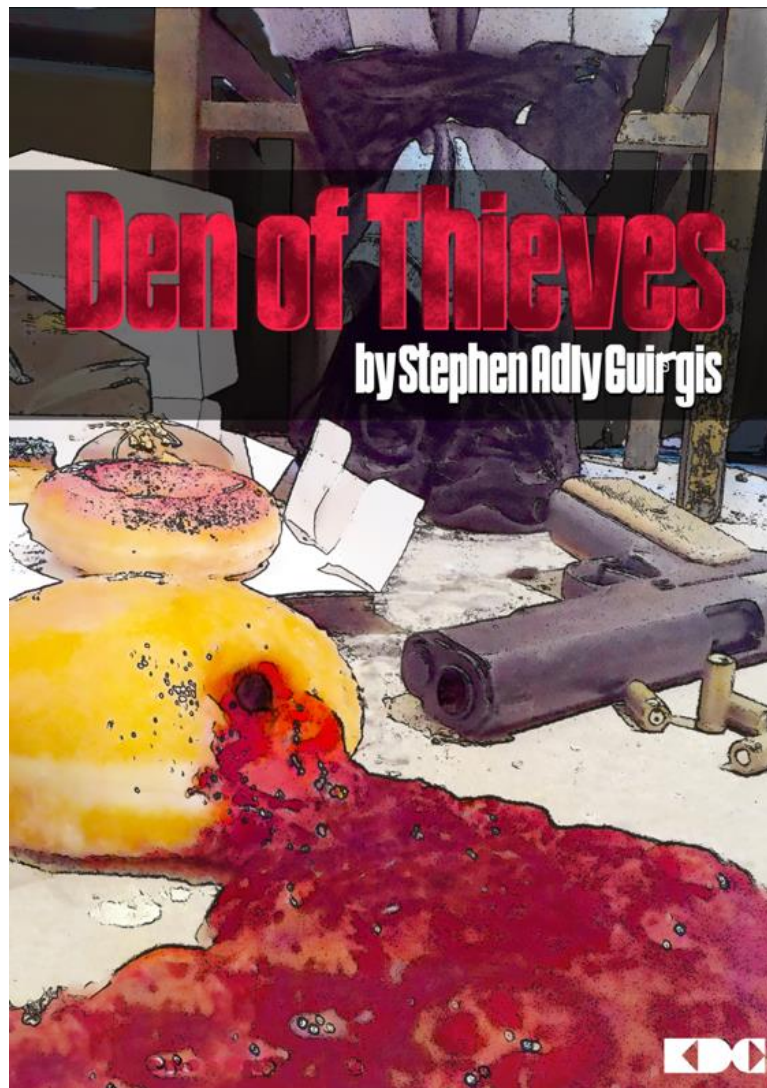
Den of Thieves

Written by Stephen Adly Guirgis

Directed by Duncan Moore

11 – 15 April 2017

Barons Court Theatre



1. Auditions

You do not need to prepare anything for the audition. The audition will be in the form of cold readings of scenes from the play (you will have a short period to work on your scene), group improvisations, and some basic accent work (please do not let this put you off).

On the night you audition, you will be asked to fill in a preference form so that we have your contact details and know if there are any specific parts you'd like to audition for. Recalls will be in the form of group readings.

When: 6:15-6:30pm registration, auditions 6:30pm-9:30pm, Tuesday 17, Wednesday 18 and Thursday 19 January 2017. Choose whichever date suits you best.

Where: Theatre Deli Studios, 30 Marsh Wall, Isle of Dogs, London E14 9TP

Nearest Tube: Canary Wharf or South Quay

Recalls: 10am-4pm, Sunday 22 January 2017

Venue: As Above

You will be called on Friday 20 January if the director would like to see you again.

2. Show Dates

The show will be performed from Tuesday 11 April to Saturday 15 April at the Barons Court Theatre, West Kensington. Each performance will start at 7:30pm and you will be called at least an hour beforehand to warm up. The dress rehearsals will be on Sunday 9 April all day and Monday 10 April. On Monday you will preferably be available from midday onwards but if this is impossible for you, it's not vital.

3. Rehearsals

First rehearsal (depending on cast availability) on Wednesday 25 January. Rehearsals will be mainly on Monday and Wednesday evenings and Sunday afternoons/evenings. You might not be needed for every single rehearsal. All rehearsals will be in central London. A rehearsal schedule will be created as soon as possible, once the cast's availability dates are all accounted for.

4. About the Play

Den of Thieves is by the acclaimed American writer Stephen Adly Guirgis (the writer of *The Last Days of Judas Iscariot* and *The Motherfucker with the Hat*).

Set in New York, this brilliant comedy looks at twelve-step programme support groups (i.e. Overeaters Anonymous), and plays on the stereotypes of New York Mafia and of inept thieves.

Maggie and Paul (recovering thieves who are in a twelve-step programme) get talked into 'one last job' by Maggie's ex-boyfriend Flaco. Flaco spins a persuasive yarn about \$750,000 of unprotected drug money, which is sitting in a safe guarded by an easily distracted crackhead. This dubious and ragtag would-be criminal crew is completed by Flaco's new girlfriend, Boochie.

When things don't quite go to plan, this bickering quartet of hapless thieves finds itself at the mercy of the Big Tuna, the head of a New York Mafia enterprise and the real owner of the money. The penalty for stealing from the Tuna is death. But the Big Tuna's son, Little Tuna, gives them a way out: "I need one body and three thumbs, you can choose the who, whys and wherefores among yourselves." Tied to chairs and able to move only their mouths, they must now fight for their lives.

Den of Thieves is a fast-paced comedy filled with heart, soul-searching, honesty, verbal gymnastics, violence and donuts.

5. Cast Breakdown

Maggie (female)

Maggie is a newly single, junk-food-binging shoplifter who is looking to change her life and her self-hating ways. She hates herself but everyone else seems to love her (though she doesn't see it/can't understand why). Maggie is the heart of this play. A lovely comic role with depth and backstory (that influences a lot of the comedy). Maggie is on stage for the whole play.
Accent: New York/general American. Playing age: 20s-30s

Boochie (female)

Boochie is a malaprop-slinging topless dancer who refuses to let her troubled childhood or her third-grade reading level stand in the way of her inevitable path to fame, fortune and fur. She is filled with fire, lots of dreams and is a plain-speaking New Yorker.
NB: no nudity required
Accent: Latino and New York. Playing age: 20s

Paul (male)

A former thief and safecracker, who is now a passionately convicted sponsor in a twelve-step programme for recovering thieves. As with all addicts, though, there is never a cure and he has to fight to keep on the straight and narrow and out of crime. Both the thief and the sponsor in him have to fight it out. Paul is on stage for the whole play.
Accent: New York/general American. Playing age: 20s-30s

Flaco (male)

Maggie's jealous ex-boyfriend who is now going out with Boochie. Flaco is a small-time thief. He's a white American who wants to be/acts like he is Puerto Rican. He's easily jealous, charismatic, draws a knife quicker than you can breathe and is grammatically challenged. Flaco is also the guy with the plan (that surely can't go wrong).
Accent: poor imitation of Puerto Rican/Latino mixed with New York. Playing age: 20s-30s

Big Tuna (male/female)

The head of the New York Mafia. At times s/he is that stereotypical New York Mafia gangster that you have seen in many films and TV shows, but as with all of Guirgis's characters, there is more going on underneath. This is the smallest part in the play (appears in the final quarter of the script). A fun role, especially for someone who wants to say some great gangster lines.
Accent: New York. Playing age: 40s-50s

Little Tuna (male)

Big Tuna's son. He has been left in charge of the Mafia enterprise while the Big Tuna is out of town. He is a reluctant, donut-ingesting heir to the criminal empire run by the Big Tuna. He can talk the talk but struggles to walk the walk.
Accent: New York. Playing age: 20s

Sal (male)

The Big Tuna's 'heavy' (also his nephew). Sal has a love of gambling and torturing – both of which can get him into (and out of) trouble. If something dirty needs doing then Sal's your man. He can be relied upon to do it and do it in the best, dirtiest and most over-the-top way possible. Another great fun American mafia gangster role.
Accent: New York. Playing age: 20s-30s