



Show Summary

ZASTROZZI

A Play by George F. Walker
Directed by Matt Walsh

Zastrozzi, the master criminal of Europe. The one they whisper about in polite circles.

They say that Zastrozzi once passed through Paris like a plague. Leaving the aristocracy nearly bankrupt, their daughters all defiled and diseased, the police in chaos and the museums ransacked. And all because, it is said, he took a dislike to the popular French taste in art.

But they say that all Europe has no more cause to fear Zastrozzi. They say that for three years he has been single-minded in a search for revenge on one man and all the rest of Europe has been untouched...

Something between a melodrama and a comedy of immoral ideas, Zastrozzi is violent, witty, and pitiless (much like its namesake). This action-packed exploration of the nature and cost of revenge shines with Walker's brilliant dialogue.

This production will be presented en masque, with actors wearing half-masks.

KEY DATES:

Auditions: February 6 - 8, 2023

Dress Rehearsal: April 24 - 25, 2023

Performance dates: April 27 - 29, May 4 - 6, May 11 - 13.

CHARACTERS:

Zastrozzi (Male 30+): Master criminal of Europe. Cold and rational, apparently sane and supremely competent. Has nightmares. Almost never smiles.

Verezzi (Male 25-40): A painter, at the moment; something of a dilettante, as over the past three years he has pursued numerous artistic endeavours. Has a way with women. Pleasantly vague. Always smiles.

Victor (Male 40+): A friend of Verezzi's father who has taken on the task of keeping Verezzi hidden and safe from Zastrozzi. Intelligent, thoughtful, skeptical, cautious.

Mathilda (Female 25-50): Seductress and frequent companion of Zastrozzi. Bold, passionate, not particularly subtle. Scornful. Physical, very much present in her body.

AUDITION NOTICE

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February 6-8, 2023

7pm-10pm

44 Gaukel St.

Kitchener ON



Performances

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Bernardo (Male 20-40): Zastrozzi's henchman. Smarter than he looks, but perhaps not as smart as he thinks. Poor impulse control. Mostly unimaginative.

Julia (Female 18-25): Daughter of a wealthy family in the town. Self-possessed, confident, sure of herself and her position in society. Smart but a bit shallow, taking the world at face-value.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS: This is a combat-heavy show, with all characters involved in violence at one point or another; most roles must be able to engage in [swordplay](#). (Previous experience with stage combat is not necessary.)

AUDITION PROCESS

Auditions will be held on the first floor of 44 Gaukel St. in Kitchener. Entry will be through the door nearer the parking lot.

We ask that actors come prepared with a brief (1 minute or less) monologue; monologues will be available at the auditions if you are unable to prepare something, but bringing your own is strongly recommended. You may be asked to deliver your monologue in a different style.

You will also be given an excerpt from the script from which to read; these sides can be made available in advance by contacting the production team at zastrozzi@kwlt.org.

Additionally, each actor will participate in a physical exercise as part of a group. These will be held at the half-hour (7:30, 8:30, and 9:30) each evening; you can take part in the session either before or after your reading audition, whichever is more convenient.

Your total time at the audition may be 30 minutes. In order to ensure you have time to study the scripts, we ask that actors arrive a bit early. We may request callbacks of actors under consideration for certain roles, which would take place on Friday February 10th.

[SIGN UP FOR AN AUDITION](#)

REHEARSAL INFORMATION

There will be 2-3 rehearsals a week; not every actor will be required at every rehearsal. One practice will be on a weekend afternoon and held at 665 Colby Drive in Waterloo, near Northfield Station on the iON; these rehearsals will focus on the combat scenes. Weeknight rehearsals will be held at 44 Gaukel St. in Kitchener at KWLT's rehearsal studio.

MORE INFORMATION

If you have any questions about the play or the production, you can contact the production team at zastrozzi@kwlt.org.