

## **Writers in Stuttgart Meeting on September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

Chair: Jadi Campbell

Minutes taker: Andrea T. Ariman

Attendees: Barbara (online), Cihan, Cindy, Erica (online), Jadi, Jim (online), Michael Hilton (online), Andrea

### **TODAY'S TOPICS:**

- 1. Rehearsal No. 2: via ZOOM: Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023 at 5:30pm**
- 2. October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023, 8pm reading**
- 3. 2024 Monthly meeting dates**
- 4. January 2024, 8pm reading**
- 5. Prompt "Misunderstanding"**
- 6. Critiques / Rehearsal No. 1**

### **1. Rehearsal via ZOOM: Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023 at 5:30pm**

**Confirmed participants: Barbara, Cindy, Andrea**

**Possible participant: Cihan**

### **2. October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023, 8pm reading:**

Jadi is talking to Florian Eisentraut to ask if he is going to make music for the reading

### **Deadline for sending updated bios to Jadi is Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023.**

Erica informs that her one act play will be performed by two N.E.A.T. actresses at the October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023 public reading at Dreigroschen Theater

1. Michael: excerpt from "Swan Drive" (excerpt of novel)
2. Barbara: "Dragon Fly" plus 1 "Tentative" two poems
3. Erica's piece: "The Down Side of Tele-Therapy" (play)
4. Jadi: "Motley's Crew" (emails)
5. Cindy's rap: "The Glitch" (rap)
6. Cihan (?)
7. Andrea (?)

--> Andrea is willing to MC

### **Line-up wishes:**

potential first piece of the reading: Cindy or one of Barbara's reading

Michael: last piece of first half

Cindy: first piece opening second half

Cihan: last piece

### **3. 2024 Monthly meeting dates**

confirmed by the members present at today's meeting. They are as follows:

13 JAN 2024  
10 FEB 2024  
09 MAR 2024  
13 APR 2024  
04 MAY 2024  
08 JUN 2024  
13 JUL 2024  
- AUGUST BREAK -  
14 SEP 2024  
12 OCT 2024  
09 NOV 2024  
14 DEC 2024

#### **4. January 2024, 8pm reading:**

Erica and Cindy suggest topics for the January 2024 Dark Monday reading:

1. Disarming Reasons
2. Rituals (at breakfast or lunch)
3. Favorite Toys
4. (All kinds of) weather
5. Condescending the stairs
6. Dumbfounded
7. Fleeting thoughts – flying words
8. Live and learn
9. Misunderstandings

#### **5. Prompt: “Misunderstandings” by Cihan (20 mins.)**

Shared:

#1: Erica: Misunderstandings & Mistletoe

#2: Cindy: Dialog: “I just want to live for another day” – “What’s going to be your legacy?”

#3: Jadi: On old family photos – “old lovers’ images” “that love had to last forever”

#4: Harish: “one’s perception for reality isn’t aligned with another’s perception”

#5: Barbara: “Shall we inherit the violence of the day? Or shall we inherit the heavens?”

#6: Jim: The power of misunderstandings

#7: Cihan: Illusion with happiness

#### **6. Critiques / Rehearsal No. 1**

**#1: Michael Hilton: excerpt from the upcoming novel “Swan Drive” to be published in 2024**

small town New Jersey neighborhood: geese move; 10-year-old boy Cal --> has been changed by it;  
third act (leading to end of the story): Cal and Adam are looking for an adventure; God’s Love; at the  
gully; “I’ll never be 10 again”; “the craters of akne”; “fucking bitch”; “send that fucker off”; “your mother’s  
a whore”; “your father was a junky and the world is a better place now **that he’s dead**”; “her nose  
exploded in blood”; “if you’re in here, come out”, “there was a grayness to it all”

**Feedback:**

Andrea: unclear how much time for introduction (1 minute); too long for the reading: action is best

Cindy: very good at building tension

Jim: good at sucking people in

## **#2: Jadi: "Motley's Crew"**

A text consisting of e-mail messages between a college kid and their two parents who are writing about a new neighbor and what the neighbor claims the kid is doing wrong. Getting from role playing to making bombs. "you're involved with bad seeds"; News Flash; misidentified as the criminals.

### **Feedback:**

Barbara: Loves the piece; matches the theme for the reading perfectly

Harish: The voices were clear and distinct

Cindy: some aspects don't seem authentic: people in this age group don't write to their parents in this style --> make the college kid snippier

Harish: It's clear that the dad doesn't trust his son because the father is a conspiracy theorist

Barbara: In her experience people in their mid-twenties do actually write like that

## **#3: Cindy: "The Glitch"**

A 2-minute-rap with music. Cindy will perform dressed up as a rapper.

Grandmaster Flash (\*1958) riff (rhythm) as background music.

### **Feedback:**

Barbara: Finds it suitable to the topic but thinks there have to be more verses. Did not understand the point Cindy is trying to make.

Michael: It's possible that it might be misunderstood as a parody. What exactly is your message or critique? What's your frustration you'd like to express? Right now it feels too much like a parody.

Barbara: "Don't call me Mitch" --> who is Mitch? --> Why don't you say "don't call me a Bitch"; rap is a really hard way of expressing poetry

## **#4: Andrea: "At the laundromat"**

### **ZOOM MEETINGS:**

Cindy is asking Jim to enable screen sharing for our meetings.