

EAST WEST PLAYERS 2024 SEASON AUDITIONS FOR “UNBROKEN BLOSSOMS” by Philip W. Chung

East West Players, the longest running professional theater of color in the US, is seeking Asian American, and BIPOC performers for the World Premiere of UNBROKEN BLOSSOMS by playwright Philip W. Chung.

"UNBROKEN BLOSSOMS":

By Philip W. Chung

Directed by Jeff Liu

TIME AND PLACE: Los Angeles, 1919 and 1961

After accusations of racism dogged the release of his masterpiece THE BIRTH OF A NATION, director D.W. Griffith made BROKEN BLOSSOMS to prove he was no bigot. And to make sure his film about the love between a Chinese man and white woman was “authentic,” he hired two Chinese American consultants. UNBROKEN BLOSSOMS is the story of those two men, the making of a classic film, and how even the best of intentions can go terribly awry.

'Unbroken Blossoms' is the second production of East West Players' 2024 Season.

Production Schedule

Rehearsals begin - May 28th, 2024 (34 hours/week max)

Designer Run - June 9th, 2024

Tech Rehearsals - June 18th - 26th, 2024

First Preview - June 27th, 2024

Opening Night - June 30th, 2024

Performance wk 1 - July 5th - 8th, 2024

Performance Wk 2 - July 12th - 15th, 2024

Performance Wk 3 - July 19th - 21st, 2024 (Closing)

Open to AEA members and Non Union Stage Actors

AEA SPT Cat. 5 Contract (\$587.18 + health and Pension).

NonUnion performers \$18/Hour. (34 hours/rehearsal week Max)

Find out more about East West Players at www.eastwestplayers.org.

Submission Instructions for appointments

Accepting submissions via Actors Access & Breakdown Express. Direct submissions, Please send Headshot and Resume to Casting@eastwestplayers.org

Please List “UNBROKEN BLOSSOMS”, your Name, and Name of desired role(s) in Subject Line

Submission Deadline: Please submit by **Mar 3, 2024**

AEA Open Call: Mar. 11th, 2024: 11am - 3pm (AEA, and Non Union Walk ins may sign in starting at 10:30am)

Scheduled Auditions Appointments (by Invitation Only)

Mar. 11th, 2024: 3:30 - 7pm

Mar. 12th, 2024: 5:30 - 9:30pm

Auditions Location: Evolution Studios - 10816 Burbank Blvd, North Hollywood, CA 91601

Callbacks (by Invitation Only): Mar. 16th, 2024 at 12:30pm

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Character Breakdown

- **JAMES B. LEONG:** Asian American to play Chinese American male, age 25-30. (also at age 60+) Leading man type. One of the two Chinese consultants hired to work on the film *BROKEN BLOSSOMS*. An aspiring film director who's already cynical and jaded by Hollywood.
- **MOON KWAN:** Asian American to play Chinese American male age 30-35. The other Chinese consultant on *BROKEN BLOSSOMS*. A family man with an optimistic outlook on life. This actor will also play the role of CECIL—see below)
 - **CECIL KWAN:** Chinese American male. The grown son of Moon.
- **D.W. GRIFFITH:** Open to all ethnicities to play Caucasian male, at age 40-50. Character actor. The pioneering director of classic silent films including *THE BIRTH OF A NATION* and *BROKEN BLOSSOMS*. His domineering alpha male personality masks a deep insecurity.
- **LILLIAN GISH:** Open to all ethnicities to play Caucasian female, age 20-25. Ability to speak in Trans-Atlantic dialect a plus. One of Hollywood's first movie stars, D.W. GRIFFITH's main leading lady, and the female lead of *BROKEN BLOSSOMS*. Hollywood's biggest female movie star, but she struggles to get out from Griffith's (often abusive) thumb. (This actor will also play the role of GILDA--see below)
 - **GILDA BROWN:** Caucasian female, age 20-25. A nurse who has recently moved to Los Angeles to take care of her brother's family following a tragedy.
- **RICHARD BARTHELMESS:** Open to all ethnicities to play Caucasian male, age 25-30. Leading Man type. The male star of *BROKEN BLOSSOMS* —playing a Chinese character in “yellow face”. Normally a journeyman actor, he becomes obsessed with portraying an “authentic Chinese man”. (This actor will also play the role of SIMMONS--see below)
 - **WILLIAM JOSEPH SIMMONS:** Caucasian male, age 25-30. A preacher and the Imperial Wizard of the Ku Klux Klan.
- **UNDERSTUDIES** Also seeking non union actors to understudy for all roles.

Preparation -

Bring 1 (One) copy of your Headshot/ Resume

Prepare 1 Monologue as prescribed per each character below

JAMES B. LEONG: Prepare One dramatic monologue, no more than 1 minute (60 seconds).

MOON KWAN: Prepare One comedic monologue, no more than 1 minute (60 seconds).

D.W. GRIFFITH: One dramatic monologue, no more than 1 minute (60 seconds).

LILLIAN GISH: One period dramatic monologue, preferably showcasing "Trans-Atlantic" Dialect of the early 1900's. No longer than 1 minute (60 seconds)

RICHARD BARTHELMESS: One comedic monologue, no more than 1 minute (60 seconds).

Please no direct calls or correspondence to Creative Team members. All Correspondence may be directed to Casting@eastwestplayers.org. Thank you!