

The Costa Mesa Playhouse is holding open auditions July 9 & 10, 7-9pm, for the world premiere production of “Vampire Queen of Mars,” a spoof of 1950s science-fiction films written and directed by Michael Dale Brown. Performances are October 19 - November 11, Fridays & Saturdays at 8pm, Sundays at 2pm. Rehearsals start September 17, and will be weekday evenings.

ABOUT THE PLAY: Set in 1952, in response to mysterious distress signals, Earth launches its first manned rocket to the planet Mars -- and encounters a race of Amazon vampires with a thirst for human blood. A campy spoof of 1950s low-budget, sci-fi B-movies like “Cat Women of the Moon,” “Queen of Outer Space,” and “Rocketship X-M”.

Characters:

COMMANDER CLARK GARRISON: Age 35-45 - male - lead - the stalwart hero, leader of the expedition to Mars.

DR. ELLEN CHAMBERS: Age 30-35 - female - lead - the heroine - flight navigator and Garrison’s girlfriend. Attractive, intelligent.

CAPT. RUSS BAXTER: Age 25-35 - male - lead - co-pilot/engineer - a ladies man, he falls for one of the Vampire women.

PROF. MARLON ZANDER: Age 45-60 - male - lead - scientific head of the expedition - brilliant mind, cares only about science.

DR. JOHN ECKMANN: Age 35-70 - male - supporting - scientist in charge on Earth - distinguished. Character appears only in the beginning and end of the play. Actor may also help with onstage special effects.

QUEEN VOLUPTUA: Looks 30-35, actually thousands of years old - female - lead - beautiful, exotic and vicious. Open to transgender actors. (Note: all female Vampire characters have a goth/Wonder Woman appearance).

APHRODISIA: Looks 20-25, actually is 20-25 - female - lead - Voluptua’s unacknowledged daughter - attractive, head warrior of the Vampires, falls in love with Baxter.

HIGH PRIESTESS SALACIA: Looks 40-50, is actually a couple hundred years younger than the queen - female - lead - even more vicious than Voluptua.

DORK: Appears 30-50, actually much older, the last remaining Martian male - lead - he is the queen’s blood slave (she drinks his blood through a spigot in his wrist), but he rebels against her, taking side with the humans. Thin, sickly - small-statured a plus but not required.

ZEMA and PANDA: Look 20-35 - female - supporting - two Vampire warrior women, Aphrodisia’s companions.

3 MARTIAN VAMPIRE WOMEN: Age 20-40 - female - supporting - they perform 2 ceremonial dances - no dialogue. Dance or movement experience a plus.

SQUEAK: any age - supporting - can be played by male or female - a timid reptilian creature, the actor will wear a mask and body suit - no dialogue but shrieks in a squeaky voice - thin or small stature a plus.

Location: Costa Mesa Playhouse, 661 Hamilton St., Costa Mesa 92627. Phone: 949-650-5269. Bring headshots and resumes. No appointments necessary. Audition sides will be provided. Sides and the script will be available on our website: www.costamesaplayhouse.com. Questions can be sent to backofthemind51@gmail.com.