

One Glitz Wish

By Kristin Harrison

In Collaboration with Director Tara Carioso of Waxing Moon Productions

“Life is going to be different for me when my wish comes true. I can’t tell you my wish, but I can tell you that I know I’ll feel something new. I’ll finally belong.”

Welcome to the Marriot Courtyard Hotel and Conference Center in Altoona, Pennsylvania, host of the Sheesh Louise Convenience Store sponsored One Glitz Wish Pageant! Three contestants, who are really, probably, most likely little girls, compete as finalists for the ultimate prize—the Wishing Crown. The winner will have her one heart’s true wish granted, and the other two will learn a valuable lesson about losing. But it won’t be easy. Andi is everyone’s favorite to win, but Madison and her sweet charms might take the day. They both had better watch out though because Destinie, a runner up two years in a row, will stop at nothing to claim the Wishing Crown, and finally get her wish.

One Glitz Wish, a semi-ridiculous comedy with teeth and heart, tries on notions about the performative nature of being a ‘little girl.’ The play’s absurd humor reconsiders the hierarchies of race, gender, and species using characters based on Commedia Dell’Arte stock types. Drawing on over a decade of shared visions for the stage, once again Harrison and Carioso collaborate to now create a brand new comedy form—Popcorn Commedia. This new form begins with characters that carry within them a strongly identifiable kernel from a traditional stock commedia persona. But, in contrast to a traditional improvised performance, Popcorn Commedia uses a script to build heat with the friction from an unexpected high stakes intersection of conflicts. Instead of merely representing an immutable stock type, mask work in Popcorn Commedia serves the evolution of the character, allowing him or her to bloom, transform and ideally inspire the audience.