

***Is This a Room***

Conceived & Originally Directed by Tina Satter | Directed by Michelle Bellaver

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**WHEN AND WHERE ARE THE AUDITIONS?**

**GENERAL AUDITIONS** (FOR BOTH FALL PRODUCTIONS)

Tuesday, August 25, 2026 | 6:00 – 10:00 PM  
John W. Wright Theatre | Speech Arts Building

**CALLBACK AUDITIONS** (INVITATION ONLY)

Wednesday, August 26, 2026 | 4:00 – 7:00 PM  
Dennis and Cheryl Woods Theatre | Speech Arts Building

*Actors will be provided with sides of scenes from the script.*

**WHO MAY AUDITION?**

- Auditions are open to all Fresno State students and to community members.
- Fresno State students may earn two units of credit.

**HOW DO I GET AN AUDITION FORM?**

- They can be found at the Theatre & Dance website ([fresnostate.edu/theatrearts](http://fresnostate.edu/theatrearts)).
- They will also be available at the General Audition, and you can fill out the form when you arrive.

**WHAT SHOULD I PREPARE?**

- Please prepare one (1), two-minute contemporary monologue of your choice.
- Please bring two printed copies of your headshot.

**HOW WILL I KNOW IF I AM CALLED BACK?**

A callback list will be posted no later than the morning of Wednesday, August 26, 2026 on the Theatre and Dance Website.

**HOW WILL I KNOW IF I AM CAST?**

A cast list will be posted no later than Friday, August 28, 2026 on the Theatre and Dance Website.

**WHEN ARE REHEARSALS?**

- Rehearsals will begin Sunday, August 30, 2026 @ 2:00 p.m. in the Woods Theatre.
- Rehearsal times are 2:00 – 5:00 PM on Sundays; 6:00 – 10:00 PM Mondays – Thursdays
- Tech Week Rehearsals: Saturday, September 26, 2026; 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM  
Sunday, September 27, 2026; 1:00 – 10:00 PM  
Dress/Techs, Mon., Sept. 28, 2026 – Thurs. Oct. 1, 2026; 6:00 – 10:00 PM\*  
*\*Start/end times for tech may vary depending on production needs.*
- ***Please be sure to be specific with conflicts on your audition form.***

**WHEN ARE PERFORMANCES:**

October 2 – 3 & 6 – 10, 2026; 6:30 PM Call, 7:30 PM Curtain  
October 4, 2026; 1:00 PM Call, 2:00 PM Curtain

**ONCE I AM CAST, WHAT WILL BE EXPECTED OF ME?**

- Due to the short rehearsal schedule, actors will be asked to be off-book by September 13, 2026 and hold their schedule for a possible additional tech on Saturday, September 26, 2026 from 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM in addition to the regular Sunday Tech in order to accommodate the needs of production.
- Performers must provide their own makeup kits and hair products.
- Some performers may be needed for publicity appearances and/or marketing materials.

**ARE THERE ANY OTHER TIME COMMITMENTS?**

Performers must be available for costume fittings Monday – Friday between 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM. The costume shop staff will work to accommodate your daily schedule.

**DOES *IS THIS A ROOM* CONFLICT WITH ANY OTHER UNIVERSITY THEATRE PRODUCTIONS?**

Due to the short rehearsal schedule for *Is This a Room*, actors will be unable to take on any other show commitments during our rehearsal/tech/performance period. Please note that a student cast in *Is This a Room* cannot act in or crew ETC, or act in *The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane*.

**ABOUT THE PLAY:**

*Is This a Room* is a critically acclaimed verbatim play. Conceived and originally directed by Tina Satter, it is a one-act, 70-minute thriller based entirely on the FBI transcript of the 2017 interrogation of Reality Winner, a former Air Force linguist who leaked classified documents. It played on Broadway at the Lyceum Theatre in 2021.

A true story. June 3, 2017. A 25-year-old former Air Force linguist named Reality Winner is surprised at her home by the FBI, interrogated, and then charged with leaking evidence of Russian interference in U.S. elections. Reality was sentenced to prison with a record-breaking sentence. The FBI transcript of her interrogation is the heart of *Is This a Room* in which an extraordinary human drama unfolds between the complex and witty Reality and the agents who question her. As Reality's autonomy shrinks before her eyes, a simmering real-life thriller emerges, asking what it is to have honor in this American moment, and how the personal can reverberate globally.

**THE ROLES:**

Actors of all genders, races, ethnicities, and abilities are encouraged to participate in auditions for *Is This a Room* and will be considered for all roles. Please note the script's character gender identifications provided in the breakdown below which are based on the real people from the FBI transcripts.

Character Breakdown:

Special Agent Justin C. Garrick (SAG); male identified character

Special Agent R. Wallace Taylor (SAT); male identified character

Reality Leigh Winner (REALITY); female identified character

Unknown Male (UM)/FBI Agent; male identified character

## **INTIMACY & VIOLENCE DOSSIER:**

This information is provided to help auditionees determine whether to consider and accept a role.

Non-negotiables: are noted below for the play. This allows a student to opt to NOT accept a role based on personal boundaries, and it offers a basis for rehearsal discussions if a student actor decides that they no longer want to participate in certain actions (Dismissal from a role and casting a replacement is an option).

For moments that are discovered in the rehearsal process, they can't be non-negotiable. The moments can be included if all involved are willing, but we work through the moments with a Consent Based Practice, an Actor Based Process, and Trauma Informed Practice. Offering the very real option of NO to be a response for actors.

All moments of theatrical intimacy will be choreographed with the principles of TIE intimacy direction.

All moments of theatrical violence will be choreographed with the principles of Society of American Fight Directors (SAFD).

It is expected that all who intend to participate in the production read the entire play to be sure they are willing to participate in a work that includes words or actions that may feel uncomfortable.

## **CONTENT INFORMATION:**

*Is This a Room* includes topics of government surveillance, emotional and psychological manipulation, political whistleblowing, and the 2016 election interference.

There is no violence or intimacy scripted in or planned for in this show. Discovered moments in rehearsal will use the above rehearsal process.

The gender of the characters will remain intact as written to reflect the real-life people that the play represents, and all actors cast will be asked to present and represent the characters as written.

Please note that the following characters carry weapons and FBI tactical gear, and the actors accepting these roles will be required to wear and handle the weapons/gear.

- Special Agent Justin C. Garrick (SAG)
- Special Agent R. Wallace Taylor (SAT)
- Unknown Male (UM)/FBI Agent

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

<https://www.npr.org/2021/10/12/1044602235/is-this-a-room-reality-winner-play>  
<https://vineyardtheatre.org/archive/is-this-a-room/>  
<https://www.nytimes.com/2021/06/14/us/politics/reality-winner-is-released.html>  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NcR5hlnN31I>

## **WHAT IF I HAVE ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS?**

Contact Michelle Bellaver (Director) | Email: [mbellaver@csufresno.edu](mailto:mbellaver@csufresno.edu)