A modern twist on the Scottish Play Macbeth, **Peerless** follows M & L, twin sisters who care about two things in this world: academic ambition, and each other. But when M’s supposed shoo-in slot at a prestigious university is given to someone else, the sisters begin to strategize how to secure their success by any means necessary. Taking a page from a certain Scottish tragedy, the sisters’ sinister scheming leads to bloody extracurricular activities that could take them to the top. Jiehae Park’s new dark comedy is a savage satire on academia, teenagers and race. **Peerless** received its world premiere at Yale Rep in 2015 and made The Kilroys’ 2015 List of the best new plays by female playwrights.

“**Peerless** is neither an over-the-top farce nor a moralistic downer. It’s frothy fun, full of goofy dancing and awkward romantic fumbles in the classic John Hughes style. Yet **Peerless** is as scary as it is silly. It’s about anger and cruelty and danger and life and death. It’s also about coming-of-age and coming to grips with mortality.”

—Hartford Courant—

**Note from the Director:**

This play includes moments of violence as well as graphic and racially charged language. I strongly encourage performers to read the script prior to auditioning. Please feel free to email me for a copy of the play as well as to ask any questions. jijeon2021@u.northwestern.edu

Please note that some of the characters have already been cast from MFA acting program.
Casting Breakdown:

Although currently written with he/him and she/her pronouns, we invite gender non-conforming, genderqueer, transgender and non-binary actors to submit for the roles they most identify with.


Ambitious, driven, extremely smart, and hardworking; a runner; possess a capacity for love and tenderness that is at odds with the ruthlessness and cruelty she feels are required to succeed.


M’s identical twin; ambitious, driven, extremely smart, and hardworking; the more graceful of the two, a dancer; the twin with slightly lesser status, she needs M more than M needs her; can swing from desperate to steely in an instant.

*One of the twin sisters has already been cast. Either M or L will be played by 3rd year MFA actor Mi Kang.

D: Male, 17. White/ European descent.

Presents as white and has just discovered he is 1/16 Native American; Open and kind, but too earnest and insecure and is prone to over-sharing; physically ungainly, he has recently lost a lot of weight, and feels awkward in his body. This role will double with Brother; white; D’s younger, half-brother has cystic fibrosis; when we meet him he’s near death but his desire for vengeance sustains him; fixated on punishing the twins; sick sense of humor.

Dirty Girl aka Caroline: Female, 17. White/ European descent.
Cast: Kate Coumpton, 2nd year MFA actor

Dirty, scrappy, intense; freaky; doesn’t subscribe to high-school social norms; she has an uncanny gift of foresight. This role will double with Preppy Girl; Perky, privileged; from California.
Cast: Elliot Sims, 2nd year MFA actor

M’s boyfriend; a good student, he’s well-liked, well-adjusted; on the surface he seems
to be a typical teenage boy: big appetite, a bit territorial, insensitive at times; he’s
easy to underestimate, but he’s more ambitious than the twins suspect.

Violence and Intimacy:
All violence and intimacy will be professionally choreographed.

Pg 90: L puts a hand on D’s thigh
Pg 100: M kisses D and L kisses D
Pg 104: D goes into anaphylactic shock
Pg 106: M grabs L’s throat
Pg 142: L covers M’s mouth and holds it firmly
Pg 160: Dirty girl brushed M’s cheek
Pg 174: L and M get in a physical brawl

Callback Dates:
Wednesday, November 3rd. 6:30-11pm
Thursday, November 4th. 6:30-11pm
Friday, November 5th. 6:30-11pm
Saturday, November 6th. 10am-2pm

Rehearsal Schedule:
First Rehearsal: Tuesday, January 18th
Tech begins: Saturday, February 12th
Final Dress: Thursday, February 17th
Opening: Friday, February 18th
Closing & Strike: Sunday, February 20th.