

# PLAY PROPOSAL

“THE INSPECTOR GENERAL”

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## GENERAL INFORMATION

I. The officials of a small Russian town in the middle of nowhere are content in their spectacular corruption, which allows them to live the good life without doing any work. There’s just one small problem: there’s an Inspector General coming from the capital, incognito and with secret instructions! Fortunately, the Governor of the town believes he’s found the Inspector General, and begins to ply him with “loans” that aren’t expected to be repaid. Unfortunately, this supposed Inspector General is nothing of the kind. This is Nikolai Gogol’s masterpiece, a classic comedy of government corruption and mistaken identity.

## II. Proposal submitted by

- Mark Kozlowski
  - Graduate student
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- **Rank: 1 of 2 submitted.**

## III. Project description

- The Inspector General, by Nikolai Gogol
- Farcical comedy
- Around 17 total (can be doubled), 3 men, 4 women, 10 either men or women.
- General themes: mistaken identity, corruption, sucking up to authority.

## IV. Director (not required)

- Mark Kozlowski (Same as proposer)

## DETAILED INFORMATION

### I. Reasons for the proposed show

- Lots of characters, low cost (it all involves people talking in rooms), technical aspects are minimal.
- Very funny show.
- There is at least 1 translation that is in the public domain.

### II. Technical Aspects

- Could be set either indoors or outdoors, doesn’t require an extensively constructed scene (this was done as a staged reading with no difficulty).
- Sets: two rooms.
- Costumes: set in 19<sup>th</sup> century Russia, but could be modernized.
- Props: money, letters, bread and salt, plates, bowls, food, though this can be minimized.

- Lighting: Nothing special. Can be pretty “flat” throughout.