



# **THE RECIPE Character Breakdown**

By Claudia Shear

Directed by Lisa Peterson

## **DATES**

**First Rehearsal:** Tue Jan 6, 2026  
**First Tech:** Tues Feb 3, 2026  
**First Preview:** Tue Feb 10, 2026  
**Opening:** Sun Feb 15, 2026  
**Closing:** Sun Mar 15, 2026

## **LOCATION**

La Jolla Playhouse – Sheila and Hughes Potiker Theater  
2910 La Jolla Village Dr.  
La Jolla, CA 92037

## **CONTRACT**

AEA LORT B

Seeking AEA and non-union actors for the available roles in this production. Actors of all ethnicities and disabilities are strongly encouraged to submit.

## **SAN DIEGO AUDITIONS**

**PLEASE SUBMIT FOR CONSIDERATION BY OCT 6, 2025 at 11:59pm THROUGH THIS LINK:**

[https://formspring-xpeow.formstack.com/forms/the\\_recipe\\_actor\\_submission\\_form](https://formspring-xpeow.formstack.com/forms/the_recipe_actor_submission_form)

**Initial auditions will take place via tape**

**In-Person Callback Appointments: October 20 + 21, 2025**

## **ABOUT THE PLAY**

Before Julia Child became the TV personality that we all know, she was a rambunctious rebel against the privileged but bland Pasadena life expected of her. Directionless but driven, careening from Pasadena to New York to Washington D.C. to Ceylon and finally to Paris's famed Cordon Bleu cooking school, she battled long odds, too short sleeves, and her own self doubt before finding both her calling and her true love, her husband, Paul Child. Two-time Tony Award nominee Claudia Shear and two-time Obie Award winner Lisa Peterson return to the Playhouse with a funny, colorful and delicious new play about the early life of an endlessly fascinating character – Julia, a girl from Pasadena – and her path from confusion to discovery, fear to strength, failure to success.



## **CHARACTER BREAKDOWN**

The following tracks play a variety of “as cast” roles alongside their listed characters:

**ACTOR 2:** character presents as male, 30’s-early 40’s, any ethnicity. To play **TOM THORNTON** — Handsome Harvard sportsman, he’s aware of Julia’s crush, but he’s having fun being her ‘pal’. To play **HARRISON CHANDLER** — A prince of Pasadena, a stable scion of the world that John McWilliams both belongs to and approves of. A proper boyfriend (too proper?) a potential fiancé for Julia. Also plays others, as cast.

**ACTOR 4:** character presents as female, early 40’s- 50’s, any ethnicity. Experience with French dialect a plus. To play **MME. BRASSARD** — Head of the Cordon Bleu, tough and tight Parisienne, singularly unimpressed by the giant American lady. Also plays others, as cast.

**ACTOR 5:** character presents as female, late 20’s- early 40’s, any ethnicity. Experience with French dialect a plus. To play **SALLY** — Smith College roommate, she is a voice of reason and perspective for the whirling chaos that is her friend- and sometime foe – Julia. To play **LOUISE BERTHOLLE**— A sublime cook, French haute cuisine bred in the bone. A pretty, romantic woman with all the complications that can bring. Also plays others, as cast.

**MALE UNDERSTUDY:** male identifying, mid 40’s-late 50’s, any ethnicity. To cover **ACTOR 1 + ACTOR 2:**

**ACTOR 1:** character presents as male, 40’s-50’s, any ethnicity. To play **JOHN McWILLIAMS** — Patriarchal and parochial, both fond and fearful for his (to him) wayward unmarried daughter. To play others, as cast.

**ACTOR 2:** character presents as male, 30’s-early 40’s, any ethnicity. To play **TOM THORNTON** — Handsome Harvard sportsman, he’s aware of Julia’s crush, but he’s having fun being her ‘pal’. To play **HARRISON CHANDLER** — A prince of Pasadena, a stable scion of the world that John McWilliams both belongs to and approves of. A proper boyfriend (too proper?) a potential fiancé for Julia. Also plays others, as cast.

**FEMALE UNDERSTUDY:** female identifying, mid 30’s- early 40’s, any ethnicity. Experience with French dialect is a plus. To cover **ACTOR 3, ACTOR 4, & ACTOR 5:**

**ACTOR 3:** character presents as female, 30’s-40’s, any ethnicity. To play **SIMONE SUZANNE RENÉE MADELEINE BECK FISCHBACHER (SIMCA)** — A professional cook, a fervent practitioner, ambitious but resistant to change, also plays others, as cast.

**ACTOR 4:** character presents as female, early 40’s- 50’s, any ethnicity. To play **MME. BRASSARD** — Head of the Cordon Bleu, tough and tight Parisienne, singularly unimpressed by the giant American lady, and also plays others, as cast.

**ACTOR 5:** character presents as female, late 20’s- early 40’s, any ethnicity. To play **SALLY** — Smith College roommate, she is a voice of reason and perspective for the whirling chaos that is her friend, and sometime foe, Julia. To play **LOUISE BERTHOLLE**— A sublime cook, French haute cuisine bred in the bone, a pretty, romantic woman with all the complications that can bring, and also plays others, as cast.