

Mission Statement

When reading *Men on Boats*, I was surprised by how modern the language was and how light-hearted the narrative felt. It deeply contrasts from many other stories told about these expeditions which strive to feel heavy, real, and even old for the sense of historical accuracy. Overall, this play is refreshing. The personalities of its characters give me the essence of little kids playing in the outdoors. This is where I came across the images of summer camp, boy scouts, newsies, and even the high school rowing team— groups that provide the sense of community and camaraderie, especially amongst young boys. I liked the idea of "brotherhood" and strength seen among these characters and the lively spirit they possess throughout their treacherous trip. This story is campy in both definitions of the word. The "men" have an eagerness to explore and deepen their understanding of the land while having an upbeat, youthful, adventurous attitude about it.

These ideas of "man vs. wild" and being one with the earth helped me conceptualize the idea of "1970s cowboy goes camping." In the 1970s, we see the counterculture movement continue as the younger generation begins to rebel against the government and many other societal norms. It was a time of protest and liberation. They wore army jackets, fringe tops, flower crowns, and bell-bottom pants. The fashion reflected the culture of the times. This generation was moving towards a more freeing, progressive, and inclusive era for more people, especially the LGBTQ+ community. This is also one of the reasons that I enjoy this play is because it opens an opportunity for women / LGBT+ people. This play turns a historic, male-dominated expedition on its head and it's only appropriate for its costuming to do the same. So, let's take all these stereotypes and images tied to masculinity, such as athleticism, fraternity, and the outdoors, and give it to the woman, or the trans-identifying, gender-fluid, and/or non-gender-conforming person.

Intersectionality is "the new frontier." Therefore, my mission in pursuing this production is to exemplify the themes of adventure, camaraderie, and enthusiasm through the idea of "moving West," or moving onward, from white, traditional, patriarchal ideals.

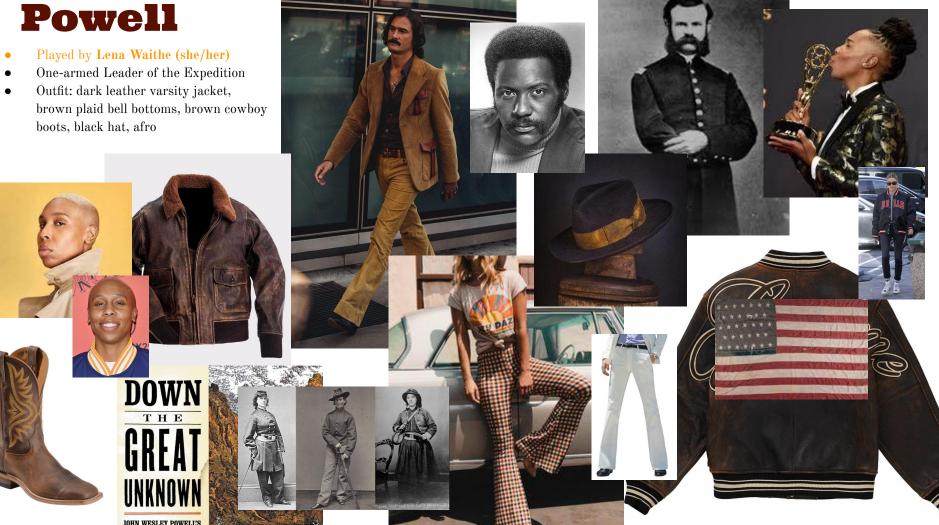














Dunn

- Played by Samira Wiley (she/her)
- Hunter and Trapper
- Outfit: hockey jersey, raccoon hat, olive shorts, striped gym socks, mullet







Sumner

- Played by Rahne Jones (they/them)
- Former soldier, current explorer, rugged

 Outfit: navy fringe cowboy button up, brown chaps, gun holster, bandana, belt, cowboy boots





Old Shady

• Played by Tessa Thompson (she/her)

PRIVATE, INPANTRY, C. S. ARMY.

- Powell's Older Brother, Civil War Vet, quiet
- Outfit: Civil War jacket and hat, denim bell bottoms, camp penny tee or white button up, shaggy hair

PATIGUE MARCHING ORDE





Bradley

- Played by **Angelica Ross** (she/her)
- Lieutenant, mad with youth, chatty, friendly
- Outfit: suede shearling coat, brown bell bottom pants, orange and yellow flowy top, beige hat, headband, braids









O.G.

- Played by Theo Germaine (he/him)
- Printer, hunter, sarcastic, smart
- Outfit: brown suede shearling vest, beige button up, flared evergreen plaid pants, bowtie/ruffles, bangs









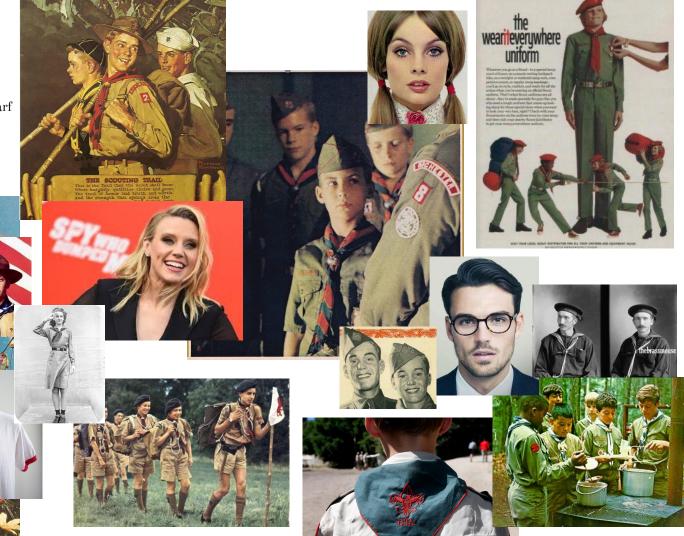




Goodman

- Played by **Kate McKinnon (she/her)**
- British, so excited

• Outfit: olive boy scout uniform, red scarf tie, beret, round glasses, pigtails





Hall

- Played by Sarah Paulson (she/her)
- Mapmaker, old soul

Outfit: brown fringe jacket, denim button up, denim bell bottoms, bolo tie, black cowboy boots, long straight hair









The Bishop

Tsauwiat's Wife

Outfit: colorful dress/skirt, accessories/jewelry, patterns, long straight hair (Designer Loren Aragon)









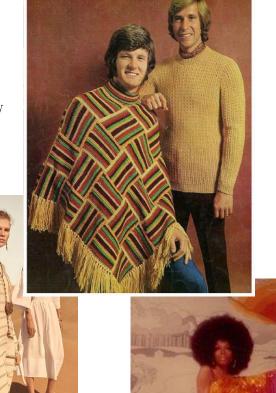






Mr. Asa

- Played by Indya Moore (they/them)
- A desert settler ("Angel of Comfort")
- Outfit: flowy, vibrant dress, heels, shiny jewelry, big curly hair







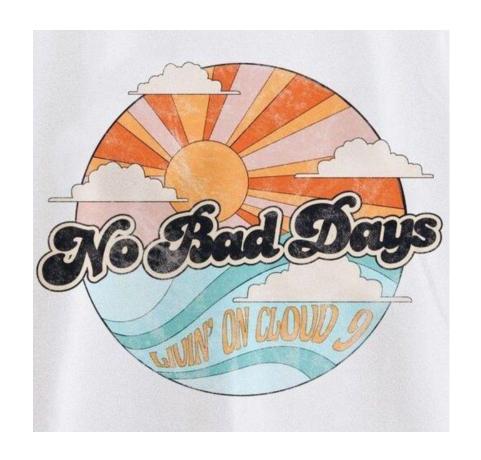


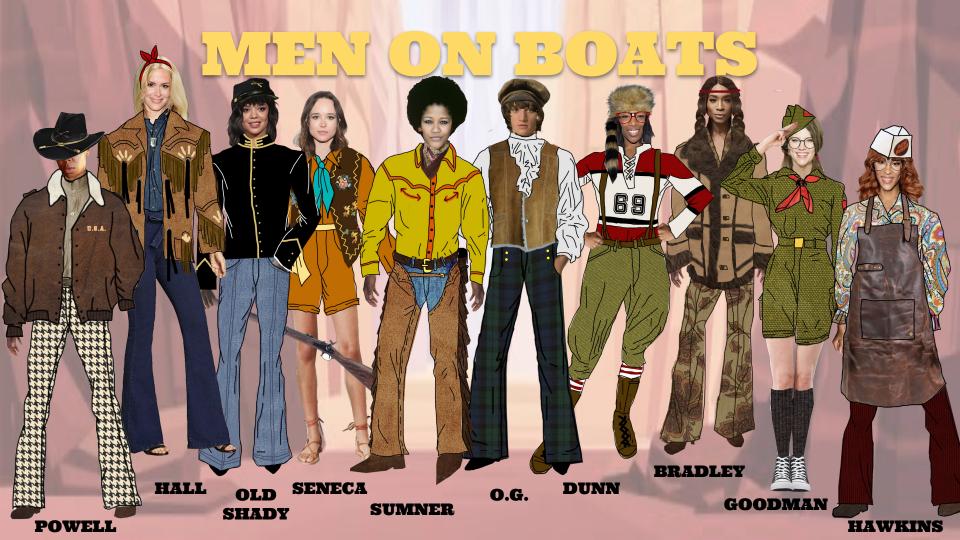
FULL CAST



Cast List

- Lena Waithe (Powell)
- Samira Wiley (Dunn)
- Rahne Jones (Sumner)
- Tessa Thompson (Old Shady)
- Angelica Ross (Bradley)
- Theo Germaine (O.G.)
- Elliot Page (Seneca)
- Kate McKinnon (Goodman)
- Sarah Paulson (Hall)
- MJ Rodriguez (Hawkins)
- Wes Studi (Tsauwiat)
- Irene Bedard (The Bishop)
- Indya Moore (Mr. Asa)





Themes

Editorial:

- Hair
- Sunglasses
- Stilhetto heels

Child-like:

- Oversized
- Shorts (and knee high socks)
- Ruffled clothes

70s:

- Pants
- Hair
- Details