

# GUNS & DOLLS

## MUSIC & LYRICS BY FRANK LOESSER BOOK BY ABE BURROWS & JO SWERLING

BASED ON THE IDYLL OF SARAH BROWN AND CHARACTERS BY DAMON RUNYON

# INFORMATION PACK



# WELCOME

Thank you for your interest in Cambridge Theatre Company's (CTC) Young Company Project 2024.

Even if you have participated in the project before, we politely request that you read this pack very carefully.

Following the continued success of our Young Company and more recently Everybody's Talking About Jamie: Teen Edition which featured 50 young people this was a tremendous success for the company.

CTC are now looking for a cast of enthusiastic, talented, and committed young people to take part in this autumn's production of Guys and Dolls.

Applicants must be at least 13 and no older than 19 years of age on Monday 26 August 2024.

Unfortunately, we are unable to make any exceptions to these age restrictions.



CTC's Everybody's Talking About Jamie: Teen Edition

## YOUNG COMPANY PROJECT

The Young Company Project aims to bring 50 young people together to create a fantastic show. The friendships, experiences and memories that are formed during projects like these are wonderful, unique and can last a lifetime. The project is the product of a lot of time and hard work, and it is only through the commitment of everyone involved that the final result is so spectacular.

# **OFFICIAL OVERVIEW**

Set in Damon Runyon's mythical New York City, Guys & Dolls is an oddball romantic comedy. Gambler Nathan Detroit tries to find the cash to set up the biggest craps game in town while the authorities breathe down his neck; meanwhile, his girlfriend, nightclub performer Adelaide, laments that they've been engaged for 14 years. Nathan turns to fellow gambler Sky Masterson for the dough, but Sky ends up chasing the straight-laced missionary Sarah Brown. Guys & Dolls takes us from the heart of Times Square to the cafes of Havana, Cuba, and even into the sewers of New York City, but eventually everyone ends up right where they belong.

## **DIRECTOR'S VISION**

#### **Justin Murray**

Life is a gamble. Guys & Dolls is obsessed this idea. Characters in this show are constantly taking risky rolls - even those who don't believe in gambling! It's a heady, urgent world where characters live by the seat of their pants and nothing isn't left to chance. So take a gamble, and help us fill this production with a weird and wonderful array of gamblers and chancers!

Life is not the same for men and women. This remains an unfortunate, but important, truth of 21 century society, whatever age you are. It's not hard to see that in Guys & Dolls, too, it's one rule for guys, and one rule for d-, erm, women. But in this show, we see female characters constantly finding ways to and renegotiate their relationships with the men in their lives and redraw the rulebook on gender roles. Guys & Dolls is a very 'classic' musical, but I'm excited about approaching it in a contemporary way and finding what other ways we can mess with the rules and roles of this world.

I'm very much looking forward to meeting you at auditions and discovering more about how to bring this show to life together!

## CREATIVE TEAM

Director Justin Murray

Musical Director Tom Jack

Choreographer Frances Sayer

# **THE AUDITION PROCESS**

## **OVERVIEW**

All applicants should arrive promptly to register and sign in. Anyone wishing to audition after the registration time will not be admitted. The audition form available from our website must be completed. Please also bring this along to your audition with a passport sized photo of the applicant attached to it.

## Sunday 21 April 2024

Workshop 1: 14:00 - 15:30 Workshop 2: 15:30 - 17:00 Workshop 3: 17:00 - 18:30 Workshop 4: 19:00 - 20:30

## **Sunday 28 April**

**Recall Auditions** 

Following your first audition, you will be notified if you are required to attend the recall audition.

13:00 - 16:00 (by invitation only)

## **CLOTHING**

Applicants are required to wear sensible clothing and footwear (no heels) for auditions. Soft soled shoes are essential as you will not be allowed to audition either barefoot or in socks. All applicants will take part in a physical warm up so please come in comfortable, loose clothing.

Please do not wear jewellery or anything that might prohibit your movement or cause an injury to you or others.

## **HOW THE AUDITION DAY** WORKS

Once all the applicants are signed in, the members of the creative team will introduce themselves and explain how the workshop will be run.

Applicants do not need to prepare anything for the audition workshop which is 90 minutes. They will be taught a verse and chorus from the show and a short dance piece on the day. It's important to highlight that we don't expect only the 'best' singers, dancers, and actors; we like to recognise potential and work with individuals throughout the process.

The creative team will select which applicants are required to attend the recall auditions on Sunday 28 April, so it is vital that you are available on that day as well. However, not everyone who is cast will be recalled, so don't worry if you aren't recalled.

CTC will not take any responsibility for personal belongings that may get lost in the building.

Parents/guardians are not permitted to watch the audition workshop but are allowed to stay in the foyer area, please note is does get busy as there are other activities taking place in building.



# **AUDITION DETAILS**

## AUDITION WORKSHOP AND RECALL VENUE

Trumpington Meadows Primary School Kestrel Rise Cambridge CB2 9AY

There is a car parking at the back of the school.



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CTC's Six: School Edition
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## **HOW TO BOOK YOUR AUDITION**

Please request your audition by logging into your membership platform on **www.cambridgeyouththeatre.org.uk** where you can select the audition workshop you would like to attend.

## **NOT A MEMBER YET?**

You will need to be a member of Cambridge Youth Theatre by CTC to apply for an audition. You can read more about joining our youth membership scheme at **www.cambridgeyouththeatre.org.uk**.

# **REHEARSALS AND PERFORMANCES**

Full commitment is expected throughout the rehearsal and production period, including the intensive rehearsal week at the end of August. Regarding the regular rehearsals, if a cast member isn't required on a specific day, they will be informed in advance, but that will be a bonus! The exact breakdown of the rehearsal schedule will be made available to the cast members before the project begins. The production week is during October 2024 half term week (the week beginning 28 October). The performances will take place at The Great Hall at The Leys School. The production week times may vary and are subject to change, but there is a provisional schedule for that week below.

## **MEET AND GREET DAY**

Sunday 30 June, 13:00 - 17:00

## **INTENSIVE REHEARSAL WEEK**

Tuesday 27 August to Sunday 1 September, 10:00 - 18:00

This rehearsal week is compulsory. All participants must be available for the entire week.



## **REGULAR REHEARSAL**

Sunday 8 September, 11:00 - 17:00 Friday 13 September, 19:00 - 22:00 Sunday 15 September, 11:00 - 17:00 Friday 20 September, 19:00 - 22:00 Sunday 22 September, 11:00 - 17:00 Friday 27 September, 19:00 - 22:00 Sunday 29 September, 11:00 - 17:00 Friday 4 October, 19:00 - 22:00 Sunday 6 October, 11:00 - 17:00 Friday 11 October, 19:00 - 22:00 Sunday 13 October, 11:00 - 17:00 Friday 18 October, 19:00 - 22:00 Sunday 20 October, 11:00 - 17:00 Friday 25 October, 19:00 - 22:00

CTC's Beauty and the Beast

# **PRODUCTION AND PERFORMANCES**

## **PRODUCTION WEEK SCHEDULE**

**Monday 28 October** 13:00 - 22:00 Technical Rehearsal

**Tuesday 29 October** 13:00 - 22:00 Technical and Dress Rehearsal

Wednesday 30 October 19:30 (call time 15:00) Performance

### **Thursday 31 October**

14:30 (call time 12:00) - additional performance if required

19:00 (call time 17:00) Performance - Press Night

**Friday 1 November** 19:30 (call time 17:00) Performance

**Saturday 2 November** 14:30 & 19:30 (call time 12:00) Performance



CTC's Everybody's Talking About Jamie: Teen Edition



# **PAYMENT INFORMATION**

## **PARTICIPATION FEE**

£250 per participant.

If a family has more than one sibling participating in the project, each additional sibling will be charged £200.

The participation fee does not include meals or transportation, which remain the responsibility of parents/guardians. CTC endeavour to keep project participation fees as low as possible but, unfortunately, we do have to cover the rise in costs for venue hire, pastoral care and tuition fees during the project period.

The participation fee is per project and will be eligible for the Gift Aid scheme as we are a registered charity. This means that for every £1 paid to us, we will be able to secure 25p to support Cambridge Theatre Company. If you participate in the project we will forward you a Gift Aid declaration, which we very much hope you will complete.

## **BURSARY FUND**

There are a limited number of bursary places on offer for those who genuinely cannot afford the fees. Please contact Louis Ling, **louis@ camtheatrecompany.co.uk** for a subsidised place application form. You may be asked to supply proof of household earnings.

## FEE PAYMENT SCHEDULE

There are two payment schedule options:

Option 1 - Full payment of the participation fee to be made in mid-May 2024 on the applicant accepting a part in Guys and Dolls.

Option 2 - £150 to be paid in mid-May 2024 on the applicant accepting a part in Guys and Dolls. The remaining balance of £100 to be paid by Friday 5 July 2024.

## COSTUMES

CTC will provide costumes; participants will be asked to provide some basic elements of their costume that hopefully can be found easily at home or from a charity shop etc.



CTC's Six: School Edition

# **BREAKDOWN OF CHARACTERS**

Please note that all roles are available, and casting is open. Newcomers to Cambridge Theatre Company are welcome and encouraged and are committed to ensuring the diversity within the community in the story, with regards to the race and ethnicity of the characters as described below, is represented with our casting.

We encourage applications for this project especially from performers who identify as Black, Asian or Mixed Race.

## **GUYS**

#### **SKY MASTERSON:**

#### **Vocal Type: Baritone**

A charming and self-assured gambler. Sky is able to adapt to any situation but ready to reel off prepared anecdotes regarding his view of the world. Despite his failings, Sky is immensely likeable and oozes style. His character goes through a considerable transformation during the show.

#### NATHAN DETROIT:

#### **Vocal Type: Baritone**

A feckless and humorous manipulator, Nathan is the facilitator of illegal gambling in town. He maintains a distance by acting only as a broker, seldom a gambler. A consummate businessman with divided loyalties; he pacifies his fiancé Adelaide with vague promises of a marriage 'some time' in the future. He is always waiting for his big break which never seems to come.

#### **NICELY-NICELY JOHNSON:**

#### **Vocal Type: Tenor**

An eccentric gambler and one of Nathan's closest associates who helps him set up the crap games. Comic timing is a must.

#### **BENNY SOUTHSTREET:**

#### **Vocal Type: Baritone**

Benny Southstreet is a gambler and one of Nathan's primary associates.

#### **ARVIDE ABERNATHY:**

He is the older, wiser leader of the Salvation Army in Times Square. He is a reasoned old man with a warm heart that harbours only the kindest intentions, even if he tends to be a little gullible. Family to Sarah Brown.

#### LT. BRANNIGAN:

He is a tough, by-the-book policeman engaged in what he perceives to be a battle of wits withNathan to stop the craps game. This is primarily an acting role. Comic timing and acting ability are essential.

### CONTINUED...



## **DOLLS**

#### **SARAH BROWN:**

**Vocal Type: Soprano** 

An idealistic but sheltered missionary, Sarah is kindhearted but too categorical in her view of the world. She learns she has an adventurous side and goes through character changes over the course of the show. Must feel comfortable with classic musical theatre singing as well as jazz.

#### MISS ADELAIDE:

#### Vocal Type: Alto Soprano

A strongly comic and classic show girl. A club singer and Nathan's longsuffering fiancée, Adelaide is not always the brightest. Weary of the disruption Nathan's involvement in the craps game causes to their relationship, she longs for quiet family life away from New York. Comic timing a must, good dancing ability is a plus.

#### **GENERAL CARTWRIGHT:**

The regional director of the Save-a-Soul mission, she is authoritative through necessity but motivated by charity. She cuts loose in the song "Sit Down You're Rockin' the Boat."

#### **GUYS AND DOLLS ENSEMBLE**

Gamblers

Hot Box Dancers

**Mission Band members** 



CTC's Beauty and the Beast

# A NOTE TO PARENTS/ GUARDIANS

CTC rely on good communication with parents/guardians to ensure that the project runs smoothly, therefore please ensure that all the forms and contact details are filled out correctly. We will endeavour to email any information to you, as well as to your child, to keep you informed of rehearsal times and schedules. Please do not hesitate to contact us should you need to discuss further any information regarding your child and their involvement in Guys and Dolls.

## CASTING

You will be notified of the result of your audition by email no later than Sunday 5 May 2024. The full cast list will be posted on the CTC website once all the offer emails have gone out and the roles have been accepted. The decision of the production team is final and correspondence regarding casting will not be entered into.

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## **ENQUIRIES**

We look forward to seeing you at the auditions. Please tell your friends about this fantastic opportunity. It is going to be a wonderful experience that we would love to share with you all.

If you have any questions concerning the Young Company Project, please email the Company Manager, Ali Hall, **ali@camtheatrecompany.co.uk**.

