

Auditions for After Magritte and Black Comedy

18th and 19th June 2019 at 7pm to 10pm

Notes for both plays

Information about characters and scenes is in the four tables below.

Please prepare for all the scenes in which your chosen character(s) are involved and please attend promptly to help to speed up the process of the auditions. You do not need to have learnt the lines but the scenes in both plays need to go at some pace so you will need to be very familiar with them to do yourself justice.

Although initial auditions will almost certainly run into part of the second night, I would like to get through as much as possible on the first night so that we have some time for trying different combinations of performers.

Please ignore whatever is said about the ages and accents of the characters in the texts, and some of their genders. I have shown the genders, playing ages and possible accents that I'm looking for in the tables below. Also please note that playing ages are just that - there are people in their 20s who can be convincing 45 year olds and there are 60 year olds who can play 20 years younger etc. So, if this applies to you, feel free to ignore your own age as, within reason, there is room for flexibility - please have a go at whatever parts you fancy.

I am open to having two completely separate casts or to doubling up, so also feel free to go for whatever parts you like.

After Magritte

Notes on the Characters' genders, playing ages and accents.

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Character	Gender	Playing Age	Other
Mother	Female	Old enough to be Reginald's mother	Accent is completely open
Reginald	Male	Mid 30s to 50ish	Accents is completely open
Thelma	Female	Mid 30s to 50ish	Accent is completely open
Holmes	Either	18 to 65	Accent is completely open
Foot	Either	30 to 65	Accent is completely open

Audition Pieces

	Audition Character(s)	Scene
1	Holmes	Opening. (No lines, just Holmes looking in through the window noting the room and the happenings within. I'm not worried about the order of things but would like to see your reactions to the things that are set out in the script.)
2	All	p27 to p33 (from FOOT: Good. While you're looking... to FOOT: ...embark on my exegesis)
3	Mother (mainly), Harris, Foot and Thelma	Bottom of p37 to top of p39 (from FOOT: About your alibi - . to HARRIS: My mother is a bit confused.

Black Comedy

Notes on the Characters' genders, playing ages and accents.

Character	Gender and Playing Age	Other
Brindsley	Male - Early 20s to mid 30s	Any well enunciated accent
Carol	Female - 19 to mid 30s	Upper class accent
Miss Furnival	Female - 50 to 70+	Genteel to her core (until she gets drunk!)
Col Melkett	M or F - Old enough to be Carol's parent	Needs a clipped delivery but the accent itself is not important. (The script would be tweaked slightly if played by a woman.)
Harold	M - Older than Brindsley but could be pretty much any age.	Ideally a north country English accent. Harold is camp as a row of tents.
Schuppanzigh*	M or F - Middle aged	German accent.
Clea	F - 20s to 30s	Is definitely not as posh as Carol. She needs an accent (could be broad Scots, cockney, west country English etc.) for 'Mrs Punnet' but is playing a part so the accent doesn't have to be perfect.
Bamberger*	M or F - Middle aged	German accent.

* While Schuppanzigh and Bamberger's age and gender are not important they will need to be the same sex as each other in order for the confusion to work.

Audition Pieces

	Characters	Scene
1	Brindsley & Carol	Top of p4 to p7 (Immediately before Miss Furnival's speech.
2	Brindsley Harold Miss Furnival Col Melkett	p16 to p19 From <i>Harold appears...</i> BRINDSLEY: Nothing, Harold. to BRINDSLEY: (<i>panicking</i>) You can do that here.
3	Clea Brindsley Off: Carol & Col Melkett	p37 (Last speech only) to foot of p38
4	Schuppanzigh Brindsley Carol Col Melkett Harold	p41 to top of p43 From SCHUPPANZIGH: Oh Gott in Himmel... to SCHUPPANZIGH: Certainly - if I had it.
5	Clea Brindsley Col Melkett Harold	mid p46 to bottom of p48 From: COLONEL: Well, let's just see if it's her, shall we? to CLEA: (<i>in her own voice, quietly</i>) Mrs Yes Colonel. four years...

6	All (except Miss F)	Start of p54 to end of play.
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