

 *Philo Proudly Presents*



CATS

CANBERRA PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY

AUDITION PACK

Artistic Team:

DIRECTOR

Jordan Kelly

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Alexander Unikowski

CHOREOGRAPHER

Caitlin Schilg

CATS will be performed at the Erindale Theatre **2-18 March 2023**

Auditions

Where: The Philo Hut, 18 Collie St Fyshwick
Date: 29 & 30 October 2022 (with callbacks 1 November 2022)

Auditions may be conducted in groups of up to 12 people.

Your audition will take place in 2 parts.

The first section will involve your group learning a small prepared choreographed routine. **Please wear something comfortable that you can move in.**

This is to be followed by you singing your selected song/s for the panel. The panel will evaluate your song selection on what we hear. We know what we are looking for, so don't be concerned if you are not required to sing an entire song.

Please allocate at least 1.5 hours for your audition.

To Book

To book your audition, visit <http://philo.org.au/auditions/> and complete the online form to select your preferred date/time.

Audition Requirements

Lead/Featured Roles:

Please prepare two (2) songs for your audition:

1. One of the supplied show excerpts (found at <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1EUanAYhQGo13hTXbKriLT6Ec0JV7lbb4?usp=sharing>). Anyone can choose any excerpt, regardless of who you are auditioning for, or 'typical' casting. For example, a female-identifying auditionee might choose Skimbleshanks because it fits her vocal range best. **Choose the excerpt that makes you sound the best and that you are the most comfortable with.**
2. One song of your choosing. You are encouraged to find a song *in the style of, but not from* Cats.

Ensemble:

Please prepare one (1) of the show excerpts (found at <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1EUanAYhQGo13hTXbKriLT6Ec0JV7lbb4?usp=sharing>).

Anyone can choose any excerpt - see point 1 above.

Dancing:

Everyone will be required to do a dance audition; this will be done in groups.

As we do not have a lot of time on the day, please **warm up before** coming into the audition.

Those auditioning for 'non-dance specific' roles (such as Old Deuteronomy, Grizabella etc.) will only be expected to show movement.

We are also looking for specialist dancers who don't require singing ability.

If you are a ballet or tap dancer, please bring your dance shoes with you. If you have any special skills such as gymnastic abilities, circus training etc. please be prepared to show these on the day.

Important Notes for all Auditionees

If you use *the in-person accompanist* – please bring sheet music. Your sheet music must be in the correct key, and correctly taped. If you are unsure how to do this, there are 'how to tape your sheet music for auditions' tutorials on YouTube.

If you are using backing tracks – please ensure your track is instrumental only. Backing tracks with vocals will not be accepted.

You are not required to bring sheet music or backing track for your chosen show excerpt (unless you would prefer it).

Please be aware that you may not get to sing an entire song. If the panel feels they have heard enough to determine your vocal quality, you may be stopped mid-note. This should not be taken as an indicator of whether you will or will not be cast!

- Audition time is strictly limited so use your time to show the panel what you can do. No extra time will be available. The panel will be looking for vocal quality, range, and pitch as well as dramatic and movement ability.
- Audition pieces should be well prepared. Remember, it is in your own interests to present yourself well.
- Singing unaccompanied is not advised.
- All auditions are private and may only be attended by the panel and auditionees.
- And most of all, enjoy it! This is your moment to shine!

Please Note: *Canberra Philharmonic Society reserves the right, at its sole and absolute discretion, to not cast any role from these auditions if, in the opinion of the Audition Panel, the right person for the role is not found. In this event, the Society may pursue other means to fill a vacant role.*

TO SAVE TIME ON THE DAY, PLEASE BRING A PHOTOGRAPH OF YOURSELF

Rehearsals

Rehearsals will be held:

- Monday and Thursday evenings, 7pm - 10pm
- All day Sunday, 10am - 5pm

Wednesday evening rehearsals will be added in the New Year.

A full rehearsal schedule will be provided in the first week of rehearsals.

SYNOPSIS

Based on T.S. Eliot's whimsical collection of poems, *Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats*, Andrew Lloyd Webber's popular musical brings together a tribe of Jellicle Cats on a moonlit evening, who must make the "Jellicle choice" to decide which of them will ascend to the mysterious Heaviside Layer to be reborn. Featuring such celebrated standards as the haunting "Memory," *Cats* was an international phenomenon, and its original production is still the fourth-longest-running show on Broadway that was revived in summer 2016. A magical, moving, and often hilarious glimpse into the lives of others, *Cats* takes Eliot's lyrical poetry and puts it into the mouths of a diverse company of singing, dancing felines.

Character Requirements

Grizabella (Female) - Alto, strong acting ability desirable

Old Deuteronomy (Male) - Tenor, strong acting ability desirable

Munkustrap (Male) - Baritone, dance ability desirable

Rum Tum Tugger (Male) - Baritone, strong dance ability required

Mr Mistoffelees (Male) - Baritone, strong dance ability required, ballet training desirable

Asparagus "Gus" (Male) - Baritone, strong character acting required

Bustopher Jones (Male) - Baritone, character actor

Jennyanydots (Female) - Mezzo-Soprano, tap dance skills desirable

Mungojerrie (Male) - Baritone, dance ability required, gymnastic/acrobatics ability desirable

Rumpleteazer (Female) - Mezzo-Soprano, dance ability required, gymnastic/acrobatics ability desirable

Skimbleshanks (Male) - Baritone, character actor, dance ability desired

Demeter (Female) - Mezzo-Soprano, dance ability required

Bombalurina (Female) - Mezzo-Soprano, dance ability required

Victoria (Female) - Spoken role, strong dance ability required, ballet training required

Macavity (Male) - Spoken role, strong dance ability required, contemporary dance training desirable

Rumpus Cat (Male) - Spoken role

Jellylorum (Female) - Soprano

Jemima (Female) - Soprano

Ensemble:

Admetus/Plato (Male)

Alonzo (Male)

Caricopat (Male)

Cassandra (Female)

Electra (Female)

Etcetera (Female)

Pouncival (Male)

Tantomile (Female)

Tumblebrutus/Bill Bailey (Male)