

# Into The Woods

## AUDITION PACK

Thank you for your interest in auditioning for our next production *Into The Woods* which will be performed at *The Bryan Brown Theatre* in NOVEMBER 2023. The following will give you information about this production, audition requirements as well as your rehearsal and performance commitments. A detailed rehearsal schedule will be made available when rehearsals commence. **Please note that this production of Into The Woods will be an adults (18+) cast.**

### Production Team

Director & Designer: DENNIS CLEMENTS

Music Director: DAVID CATTERALL

### AUDITIONS: BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

Bankstown Arts Centre

5 Olympic Parade, Bankstown

**Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> June**

**7pm - 10pm**

**Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> June**

**10am - 5pm**

**Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> June**

**10am - 5pm**

**CALL BACKS** (if required) **Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> June**

### REHEARSALS:

**TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS @ 7.30PM**

Rehearsals will commence **Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> June**

and will be held at

Bankstown Arts Centre

5 Olympic Parade, Bankstown.

### BUMP IN:

The Bryan Brown Theatre

**Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> October 9am - 5pm**

ALL CAST & CREW REQUIRED

### TECHNICAL/DRESS REHEARSALS:

The Bryan Brown Theatre

**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> October from 9am - 8pm**

**Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> October from 6.30pm – 11.30pm**

**Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> November from 6.30pm – 11.30pm**

**Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> November from 6.30pm – 11.30pm**

### PERFORMANCE DATES:

The Bryan Brown Theatre

**Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> November - 2pm & 8pm**

**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> November - 2pm**

**Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November - 8pm**

**Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> November - 2pm & 8pm**

**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November - 2pm**

### BUMP OUT:

The Bryan Brown Theatre

**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November** (after show)

ALL CAST & CREW REQUIRED

**ABOUT BANKSTOWN THEATRE COMPANY:** BTC is a not-for-profit community association, incorporated in NSW. It is operated by a management committee on behalf of members and is not a production company. All members, committee and production teams are volunteers. All cast members MUST be or become a member of *Bankstown Theatre Company*.

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## ABOUT INTO THE WOODS

*Into The Woods* is arguably Stephen Sondheim's most accessible and popular show. Drawing on the rich legacy of Grimm Brothers Fairy Tales, it weaves multiple stories together throwing previously unlinked characters into the same world and following their journey as they try to fulfil their hopes and dreams.

The first act tells the story of how they achieve their goals. The second deals with the consequences of what they did to get there. But, this musical challenges the concept that there is ever a 'happy ever after'.

Set in the woods – the all-purpose symbol of the unconscious, the womb, the dark place where we face our trials and emerge wiser or destroyed. It is a place of self-discovery and learning. A metaphor for life.

The work is both very funny and very challenging. People die in these woods. And they learn that getting what you wish for may not be worth the price you have to pay.

As Red Riding Hood laments, *"Isn't it nice to know a lot – And a little bit not"*.

## THE AUDITION PROCESS

### **WHAT TO PREPARE:**

This is an ensemble piece for 16 -18 talented and versatile adult performers. Every character in the show goes on a personal journey, and we want to see performers who can portray those changes. In the audition room we will be looking for a breadth of range, in essence how they develop from innocence to knowledge. Even the more minor characters go on this journey.

We will be auditioning in 15-minute timeslots. You will be asked to both sing and do scene-work at the audition. We will provide piano accompaniment. Backing tracks are not permitted.

We may invite you to a call-back, but we may not require them for some characters.

We would like you to prepare one full song AND one excerpt from the show.

- This is a show about telling stories. We would like you to prepare a full song that allows you tell a story with your voice and heart. A Sondheim is probably your best choice so we can see how you handle his style of musicality, but not essential. We are looking for performers who are both accomplished singers and actors - there is no hiding in the back row of the chorus for this show.
- You should also be familiar with the show, and we would like to see your viewpoint of the character or characters you are most interested in playing. Prepare one or more excerpts from the show from those listed below in the character descriptions.

We have selected the excerpts we think reveal the character best and you will find sheet music in the drop box link below. You can sing these excerpts with the sheet music; you do not have to learn them unless you want to.

<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/cw6l83y7tvjw887ku3dw5/h?dl=0&rlkey=h68c3cs8iqf14unwcfj93g072>

- We may also ask you to read a segment of text from the script. Example dialogue readings are in the dropbox but you are not required to learn them. The panel may ask you read one or more on the day. These will be printed and supplied for you at the audition.

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## **DIRECTORS NOTES ON CHARACTERS:**

### **The traditional character doubling choices may not be followed in our casting.**

We would like to offer the maximum number of performers an opportunity. We particularly don't want to double the Narrator and Mysterious man. They will be separate roles. The Wolf may or may not be doubled with another character. Those decisions will depend on the applicants.

We are obliged by the performing licence to cast performers according to character gender with which they identify, but we are open and welcoming to performers of all experiences and diversities. The Narrator may be either a male or female identifying performer. Milky White will remain a prop and not a role.

**Please note that this production of Into The Woods will be an adults (18+) cast.**

## **AUDITION BOOKINGS:**

Auditions are strictly by appointment only. Audition bookings can be made by

**Emailing Dennis at [voyeurdesign@live.com.au](mailto:voyeurdesign@live.com.au)**

**or by calling Dennis 0417 652 757 or David 0466 720 866**

When emailing your audition booking, please include your full name, your contact number/email, the role/s you would like to audition for and a first and second preference for audition date and time. Once your request has been received you will receive a confirmation reply.

## **ON THE DAY:**

Please arrive at least 15 minutes before your audition. Auditions at *Bankstown Theatre Company* are closed auditions, with a panel comprising of the Director, Music Director and one member of the committee of *Bankstown Theatre company* in a non-voting capacity.

**Please fill out the audition form in the pack, with all details and signature as requested and bring with you on the day of auditions.**

## **CAST ANNOUNCEMENT:**

Successful auditionees will be contacted as soon as possible after the audition date to be offered a role. Once these parts have been accepted a full cast list will be posted on the *Bankstown Theatre Company's* website and social media pages. Unsuccessful auditionees will be notified by email prior to the published announcement. Please check your junk mail if you are unsure.

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## **INFORMATION FOR SUCCESSFUL AUDITIONEES:**

By Auditioning for this show, you are committing to be able attend every Tuesday and Thursday night rehearsal and selected Sundays as per the announced schedule, however it is unlikely you will be required for every rehearsal. It is expected that cast will attend every rehearsal to which they are called. Please note that the rehearsal schedule may be subject to change within reason, and it is expected that cast to be available upon reasonable request. A Facebook group will be set up for all successful cast and crew members and a rehearsal schedule will be provided in advance of rehearsal commencement.

*NOTE: We are attempting to keep School holidays free from rehearsals.*

Cast members need to understand that frequent absences from rehearsals, unless previously approved by both the Production Team and Management Committee, may result in replacement. Should a cast member not be able to attend because of illness, they must contact a member of the production team as soon as possible.

All cast are expected to assist in fundraising activities, if required, and actively promote the show and the sale of tickets. Cast are also expected to assist in building scenery and creating costumes and other such activities, if required. *Please let us know if you have special skills or contacts who do.*

## **MEMBERSHIP AND PRODUCTION CONTRIBUTION:**

All cast are required to be financial members of the company and pay a show levy fee which assists in paying for rehearsal venues, insurances, costumes and other costs. Membership and Production Contribution is a total of \$100. This fee includes a USB containing photos taken by our official photographer at Dress Rehearsals. *BTC* annual memberships are valid from 1st January to 31st December. Fees are payable within the first two weeks of rehearsals. Please see membership breakdown on audition form.

## **CREW:**

We are actively recruiting technical expertise along with eager novices to bring the vision of these woods to life. There are complex set construction and staging requirements that will be very satisfying to resolve and create the reality of this world. We encourage you to join our crew team and learn how to create the magic of theatre.

We require a Technical Director / Set Construction Team / Backstage Crew.

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## CHARACTER DESCRIPTIONS

**NARRATOR** playing age 30-60. Gender: Any.

Vocal range top: E4 / bottom: G2

**Preferred Show Excerpt: Ever After (Act 1 Finale)**

An engaging stage presence and confident storyteller. Powerful and with a sense of ‘gravitas’. This character leads our story and is always in control – until it is taken away from them.

**THE WITCH** playing age 30-45. Gender: Female Identifying.

Vocal range Mezzo top: G5 / bottom: F3

**Preferred Show Excerpts: *Stay with me / Last Midnight***

A misunderstood figure. Life has led her to dislike and mistrust most people. She is at the same time a mother fiercely protecting her stolen child from the evils of the world, and a villain ruthlessly pursuing her own dreams of beauty and power. She is witty and sarcastic but has a heartfelt honesty and touchingly clear view of the world. This is a demanding vocal and acting role, and the actor’s ability to transform at the end of Act one is crucial.

**THE BAKER** playing age 30-45. Gender: Male Identifying.

Vocal range Baritone top: G4 / bottom: Ab2

**Preferred Show Excerpt: *No More***

A quiet man who lost his parents young and pines for a family of his own. He wants his wife to be happy and is willing to do anything to ensure her happiness. He occasionally has old-fashioned views about the role of a wife but learns what it really means to be a husband and father.

**THE BAKERS WIFE** playing age 30-40. Gender: Female Identifying.

Vocal range Mezzo top: G5 / bottom: F3

**Preferred Show Excerpt: *Moments in the Woods***

Determined and bright woman who wishes to be a mother. She leads a simple, yet satisfying life and is very low-maintenance yet proactive in her endeavours. This is a role for a strong actress who can convey a wide range of emotional states.

**CINDERELLA** playing age 20-30. Gender: Female Identifying.

Vocal range Soprano top: G5 / bottom: G3

**Preferred Show Excerpt: *On The Steps of the Palace***

A warm earnest young woman who is constantly mistreated by her stepmother and stepsisters. She wants to break away and live her own life but discovers maybe being rescued by a prince isn’t all it’s cracked up to be.

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**LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD** playing age 16-20. Gender: Female Identifying.

Vocal range Mezzo top: F5 / bottom: Bb3

**Preferred Show Excerpt: *I know things now***

A young girl who is strong-willed, quick-witted, fearless, yet youthful and naive. She has a love of sweets. This is a role for a strong personality with lots of attitude.

**JACK** playing age 16-20. Gender: Male Identifying.

Vocal range Tenor top: G4 / bottom: B2

**Preferred Show Excerpt: *Giants in the Sky***

The feckless Giant-killer who is 'almost a man.' He is adventurous, naive, energetic, and bright-eyed. He is devastated by the potential loss of his best friend, the family cow.

**CINDERELLA'S PRINCE** playing age 20-35. Gender: Male Identifying.

Vocal range top: Baritone F4 / bottom: B2

**Preferred Show Excerpt: *Agony (note cuts)***

Men and Women all want to either be him or be with him and he knows it. This playboy is used to all the accolades without really deserving any of them. Life for him is deciding which maiden to seduce next.

**RAPUNZEL'S PRINCE** playing age 18-32. Gender: Male Identifying.

Vocal range Bass Baritone top: E4 / bottom: C#3

**Preferred Show Excerpt: *Agony (note cuts)***

After having to live in his brother's shadow for so long, this handsome young lad sets out to seek his own adventures. Upon falling in love with a dreamlike maiden, he is pierced with the realities of life. Will he pursue a family life or try to find happiness elsewhere?

**MYSTERIOUS MAN** playing age 45-70. Gender: Male Identifying.

Vocal range Baritone top: Eb4 / bottom: G2

**Preferred Show Excerpt: *No More***

A mischievous vagrant and father/grandfather figure. He seems to be merely a good-natured observer, but he really has a secret goal that he is actively working to achieve.

**WOLF** playing age 20-40. Gender: Male Identifying.

Vocal range Baritone top: Gb4 / bottom: Bb2

**Preferred Show Excerpt: *Hello Little girl***

A hunter who enjoys the game. He is very sexy, very hungry and very devious, and hard for anyone to resist.

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**JACK'S MOTHER** playing age 40-55. Gender: Female Identifying.

Vocal range Soprano top: Gb5 / bottom: Bb3

**Preferred Show Excerpt: *Prologue***

A single mother left by a deadbeat husband to raise a clueless son whose imaginary friend is a cow. This is a woman who loves her child but wishes he would grow up. She has been beaten down by a life of poverty.

**CINDERELLA'S STEPMOTHER** playing age 35-55. Gender: Female Identifying.

Vocal range top: F#5 / bottom: A3

**Preferred Show Excerpt: *Prologue***

The mean-spirited, demanding stepmother of Cinderella. She is a ruthless social climber.

**FLORINDA AND LUCINDA** playing age 16-30. Gender: Female Identifying.

Vocal range Mezzo top: Ab5 / bottom: C4

**Preferred Show Excerpt: *Prologue (2 separate parts to this)***

These women are always pursuing a glamorous lifestyle to save them from their current situation. They wear the best that they have, to mask their poverty. They find joy feeding off others.

**RAPUNZEL** playing age 16-28. Gender: Female Identifying.

Vocal range Soprano top: A5 / bottom: B3

**Preferred Show Excerpt: *Act 2 Finale (2 separate parts)***

A wistful and deeply unsatisfied young woman who is sheltered by the Witch and terribly lonely. She yearns to experience more of the world.

**STEWARD** playing age 20-50. Gender: Male Identifying.

Vocal Range Baritone

**Preferred Show Excerpt: *Act 1 Finale***

The prince's servant and confidante and always trying to impress his master. He is full of his own importance and has little time for the peasantry. Desperate to be 'one of the boys' with his Princes.

**CINDERELLA'S FATHER** playing age 45+. Gender: Male Identifying.

Vocal Range Baritone

**Preferred Show Excerpt: *Prologue***

A hapless man who doesn't know how to balance both his daughter's happiness and also appease his demanding new wife.

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**The following 3 roles likely played by the same actress:**

**CINDERELLA'S MOTHER** playing age 40-55. Gender: Female Identifying.

Vocal range Soprano top: F4 / bottom: E4

**Preferred Show Excerpt: *Cinderella at the Grave***

A memory of a beloved mother, a ghost guarding and aiding her daughter from a tree.

**GRANNY** playing age 55+. Gender: Female Identifying.

Streetwise and nobody's fool. She protects herself and her grandchild with a vengeance.

**THE GIANTESS (VOICE ONLY)** playing age 35+. Gender: Female Identifying.

Angry and vengeful, particularly because she shows kindness to a child who then kills her husband. She is seeking restitution for her loss. Should have a formidable speaking voice.



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## AUDITION FORM

Please complete this form and bring with you to your audition

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

WWC ID\*: \_\_\_\_\_

\*if successful in your audition, you will need to provide BTC with your up to date Working With Children Check ID

Role(s) auditioning for: \_\_\_\_\_

Will you accept another role: Yes / No

Do you have **ANY OTHER COMMITMENTS** during the rehearsal period? Yes / No  
(eg. other theatrical productions, family commitments, work, study, dance/singing/acting lessons, sport, holidays)

If yes, please provide details, dates and times of absences:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Previous Experience: (please complete or attach details)

YEAR	SHOW	ROLE	COMPANY

# Into The Woods

## **BANKSTOWN THEATRE COMPANY CODE OF ETHICS**

*The Bankstown Theatre Company Code of Ethics* is an important aspect of participating in a *BTC* production. It is an agreement that you participate in an *BTC* show according to agreed standards of behaviour.

I will give my best at all times - offering energy and enthusiasm at rehearsals, bump in/out, working bees, promotional events and throughout performances.

I will be fully committed to each *BTC* production I am involved in, by being on time and attending ALL rehearsals and performances - unless experiencing serious illness, or if I have permission for absence either prior to auditions or with advance notice to the Production Team so my absence does not unfairly disrupt the rehearsal schedule.

I will communicate effectively and support my fellow cast members, crew, production team and committee members - keeping my interactions/comments towards others positive and constructive.

I will accept and follow all instructions and advice given to me by the production team and will express concerns/issues as soon as they arise to these individuals only, in a respectful and appropriate manner.

I will participate in all required rehearsals, while demonstrating flexibility, patience and understanding on necessary schedule changes.

I will be prepared as a cast member - learning all lines and music efficiently, being prompt on cues, as well as bringing all items required eg. script, props, costumes etc

I will never direct or speak disrespectfully to another actor. If you should have some problem with another performer, you should discuss the problem with the Production Team.

I will demonstrate care to the environment which surrounds me - the rehearsal space, theatre, dressing rooms, scenery, props, costumes, scripts and scores.

I will represent and promote *BTC* in a positive way at all times, both inside and outside of rehearsals and performances - in the way I speak, act and throughout all interactions on social media.

I will support the decisions of the Production Team and/or the committee and be supportive of the choices made in the best interests of *BTC*.

All cast members must conduct themselves respectfully whilst participating in a show.

## **BANKSTOWN THEATRE COMPANY COVID PLAN**

*Bankstown Theatre Company* respects and enforces any health orders from the NSW government and from both the *Bankstown Arts Centre* and *The Bryan Brown Theatre*. The current COVID regulations as of 14 October 2022 are:

If you are tested as COVID positive you no longer need to self-isolate but need to let people with whom you have come in contact know, including *Bankstown Theatre Company*. You may still come to rehearsals but are required to wear a mask.

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## BANKSTOWN THEATRE COMPANY'S TERMS OF MEMBERSHIP

I understand that, if successful in my audition, I/my child must become a member of *Bankstown Theatre Company Inc.* and that the applicable membership and show contributions **must be paid within two weeks of the first rehearsal**. I will abide by *Bankstown Theatre Company's Code of Ethics* (see page 7) and am comfortable with their COVID plan (see page 7). I will make myself available for all rehearsal and production dates and understand that my absence from these, unless previously approved by both the Production Team and Management Committee, may result in my replacement in the production.

### I understand the following:

- That I will be required to assist with bump in/out and may need to assist with set construction/painting.
- That production accessories, such as make-up, hosiery, and footwear will be at my expense.
- Membership fee (payable annually 1 January—31 December) is \$25.00 and Production Contribution is \$75.00 (This includes a USB of all photographs taken by our official photographer of the production)  
Total payable \$100.00
- Any information collected by *Bankstown theatre Company* may be used for promotion and advertising of its productions. By signing this audition form you are agreeing to *Bankstown Theatre Company's* Terms of Membership and give permission for *Bankstown Theatre Company* to provide your photograph and details for promotion to our Publicity Team

### I have read and agree to the above terms and conditions

*If the auditionee is under 18, this section is to be signed by their parent/carer.*

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship (if auditionee is under 18) \_\_\_\_\_

### IN CASE OF EMERGENCIES CONTACT

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please note: All information collected by Bankstown Theatre Company Inc. is for use only within the company. Bankstown Theatre Company will only distribute this information with your consent.*

### Photograph Permission

I \_\_\_\_\_ give permission for *Bankstown Theatre Company* to use photographs of myself, taken by the official company photographer, for the exclusive use of publicity for a production and/or for future use in promoting the company in newspapers and/or on the *BTC* website.

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_