

## AUDITION NOTICE

# Pygmalion

by George Bernard Shaw

**Play reading** Tuesday 5 July, 8pm in the Studio  
**Auditions** Wednesday 20 July, 8pm in the Theatre

**Performances** 1 – 10 December 2022, 8pm  
Matinee on Saturday 10 December, 2.30pm

**Director** Suzi Whittle [suzi.whittle@cadogan.co.uk](mailto:suzi.whittle@cadogan.co.uk) 07764 661743  
**PA** Denise Scales [denise.scales4@gmail.com](mailto:denise.scales4@gmail.com) 07986 828234

Scripts available from the PA

### Details:

This is probably Shaw's most famous play, set in the late 19<sup>th</sup>/early 20<sup>th</sup> century. The film, *My Fair Lady*, is based on the play. It is the story of how the arrogant phonetician Henry Higgins teaches the lowly flower girl, Eliza Doolittle to lose her cockney accent and to speak like a lady. It is a witty play which examines the artificiality of social class distinctions.

### Cast Descriptions

#### **ELIZA (Playing age 20)**

A cockney flower seller. An intelligent girl who is keen to improve her status. Spirited. She is prepared to stand up for herself.

#### AUDITION PIECES:

*Page 26 'Don't you be so saucy' to Page 29 'I washed my face and hands afore I come, I did'.*

*Page 60 'The shallow depression' to Page 61 'Have I said anything I oughtn't?'*

#### **HIGGINS (Playing age 40-50)**

Clever. A professor of phonetics. He has no social graces.

#### AUDITION PIECES:

*Page 34 'There. That's all you'll get out of Eliza' to 'Can I put it more plainly and fairly, Mrs Pearce?'*

*Page 103 'It's all you'll get' to 'you'd better get what you can appreciate'.*

**COLONEL PICKERING (Playing age 45-65)**

A true gentleman. Very kind to Eliza. Very enthusiastic about Higgins project - teaching Eliza to be a lady.

AUDITION PIECE: *Page 74 'Well, I feel a bit tired' to Page 75 'Good Night.'*

**DOOLITTLE (Playing age 40-50)**

Eliza's father. A working-class cockney. He has the gift of the gab. A real character part.

AUDITION PIECE: *Page 45 'Well, the truth is' to Page 46 'and I leave it to you.'*

**MRS HIGGINS (Playing age 65+)**

A genteel society lady. Sometimes exasperated by her son's behaviour and lack of social graces.

AUDITION PIECE: *Page 54 'Henry! What are you doing here today?' to Page 55 'How could you be so silly, Henry.'*

**MRS PEARCE (Playing age 40-60)**

Higgins' housekeeper. Very efficient. A sensible woman. She tries to keep Higgins eccentricities in check. Looks after Eliza.

AUDITION PIECE: *Page 38 'I just wish to trouble you' to Page 40 'I hope you're not offended, Mr Higgins.'*

**MRS EYNSFORD HILL (Playing age 45)**

A slightly impoverished lady, trying to launch her children into society.

AUDITION PIECE: *Page 62 'Well, I really can't get used to the new ways.' to Page 63 'Thank you dear, goodbye.'*

**CLARA, her daughter (Playing age 20)**

Keen to join in with all the newest society behaviour.

AUDITION PIECES: *Page 9 'I'm getting chilled to the bone' to Page 10 'you selfish pig.'*

*Page 62 'Oh, it's all right Mama' to Page 63 'such bloody nonsense!'*

**FREDDY, Clara's brother (Playing age 20)**

Not particularly bright. Quickly falls for Eliza.

AUDITION PIECE: *Page 10 'There's not one to be had' to 'I'll go, I'll go.'*

**In addition there is the small part of Mrs Higgins' parlour maid and several bystanders in the opening scene – all of whom have a few lines.**