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*Present*

**Little Shop of Horrors**

**Book & Lyrics by**

**Howard Ashman**

**Music by**

**Alan Menken**

**To be performed at The Witham,**

**Barnard Castle**

***On***

**Thursday 27th October - 7.30pm**

**Friday 28th October - 7.30pm**

**Saturday 29th October - 2pm**

**Saturday 29th October - 7.30pm**

**Information Pack**

~ Welcome ~

A very warm welcome awaits you from everyone here at Teesdale Operatic Society. This pack is all about our October Production, **Little Shop of Horrors** and how to get involved, both on and off stage.

The production will require a large team of performers, as well as an equally large support team in backstage, technical, front of house, costume, choreography, make up and marketing roles. We need your help. If you’ve always fancied helping but never dared, now is the time to speak up!

~ About the Show ~

A deviously delicious Broadway and Hollywood sci-fi smash musical, Little Shop of Horrors has devoured the hearts of theatre goers for over 30 years. Howard Ashman and Alan Menken (*Disney’s The Little Mermaid, beauty & The Beast and Aladdin*) are the creative geniuses behind what has become one of the most popular shows in the world.

The meek floral assistant Seymour Krelborn stumbles across a new breed of plant he names “Audrey II” after his co-worker crush. This foul-mouthed, R&B singing carnivore promises unending fame and fortune to the down and out Krelborn as long as he keeps feeding it BLOOD. Over time though, Seymour discovers Audrey II’s out of this world origins and intent towards global domination!

~ Director’s Note ~

Little Shop of Horrors is a modern musical theatre classic. Great tune, a cracking lib and a brilliant array of characters. I will endeavour to give the production the necessary focus for 2022 whilst maintaining its charm and wonderful quality.

Those that have worked with TOS before will know that the ENSEMBLE is central to all of our shows, our casts have been HUGE! *Little* Shop has a much smaller cast which inevitably means not everyone can be involved. I have added a slightly bigger ensemble to the show to support the story-telling much more and to give as many as we can the opportunity to be in the show.

There are a range of roles available for this production, all require singing, acting and movement ability. More details about each role follows. Whatever role you do go for, please remember the commitment required is the same for each cast member whether you are Seymour, Audrey or in the Ensemble.

*Dawn Trevor*

~ Character Breakdown ~

**The musical is set in 1950s America and as such, characters will be played with an American accent.**

**SEYMOUR KRELBORN: (Male identifying)**

*Tenor, playing age mid 20-30 to match Audrey.*

Our insecure, naïve, put-upon florist’s clerk hero. Above all, he’s a sweet and well-meaning man. He is not a silly nerd, but rather a young man looking to break free from a bad situation. **Strong acting and singing.**

**AUDREY: (Female identifying)**

*Mezzo-soprano, playing age mid 20-30 to match Seymour*

Our leading lady is portrayed as a bleached-blonde bimbo who works alongside Seymour not realising he’s in love with her. She makes bad decisions about men and yearns for a better life. **Strong acting/comedy and singing**

**MR MUSHNIK: (Male identifying)**

*Baritone, playing age: middle aged, old enough to adopt Seymour.*

A failure of an East Side florist. His accent is more that of a middle-class New Yorker than of Eastern Europe. He seldom smiles but often sweats. **Strong character actor and some singing.**

**ORIN: (Male identifying)**

*Baritone, Playing age 30s – early 40s.*

A tall, handsome dentist with a black leather jacket and cruel tendencies. He is not, however, a leftover from the movie Grease. Think instead of an egotistical pretty boy, looks like a greaser but thinks like an insurance salesman, talks like a radio announcer. Makes a couple of brief, yet high impact appearances. **Strong character actor and singer.**

**VOICE OF THE PLANT – AUDREY II** *(Male / Female identifying / Non-Binary – voice range dependent)*

*Baritone*

Provided by an actor on an offstage microphone. His voice is a cross between Otis Reading, Barry White and Wolfman Jack. Think of the voice as that of a street-smart, funky conniving villain. Rhythm and Blues’ answer to Richard The Third. **Strong character singer**

**PLANT PUPPETEER – AUDREY II**

An anthropomorphic cross between a giant Venus fly trap and an avocado. It has a huge, nasty looking pod which gains a shark-like aspect when open and snapping at food. The creature is played by a series of increasing large puppets, manipulated by one non-speaking puppeteer hidden inside the larger pods. This role requires someone who is physically fit and able with good acting skills to portray character and emotion through movement and stamina to operate the large heavy puppet.

**CRYSTAL, RONNETTE and CHIFFON (Female identifying)**

*Mezzo-sopranos, Playing ages of 20-40s*

The embodiment of the 50s singing girls trio groups. They act as a Greek chorus. Hip, smart and incredibly cool, these women are the only ones who have a grip on reality. They must be **strong harmony singers** with **good movement and dance** skills to perform tightly drilled choreographed routines. They have a significant presence within the show and sing A LOT.

**Ensemble x 12**

*Range of vocals, both male, female and non-binary, range of ages (minimum 10yr old)*

A constant Greek Chorus to appear in various scenes and numbers. All ensemble members need to be **strong singers and confident movers**. The minor roles below will stem from the ensemble.

**WINO #1**

**WINO #2**

**ANNOUNCER (cameo)** The opening narrator to the show.

**PATRICK MARTIN (cameo)** Offers Seymour money to take cuttings and produce Audrey II’s all around the world, saying that it will be “Bigger than Hula-Hoops!”

**MR BERNSTEIN (cameo)** An uptown Bigshot from NBC, Bernstein offers Seymour his own gardening show.

**MRS LUCE (cameo)** The wife of the editor of Life Magazine

**SKIP SNIP (cameo)** A character who shows vested interest in Audrey II.

~ Creatives~

Director: Dawn Trevor

Musical Director: Richard Dawson

Choreographer: Scott Edwards

**Before auditioning, please take a moment to consider the necessary level of commitment.**

Take careful note of the rehearsal period and be honest about your availability within it.

Although the rehearsal process takes place over a number of weeks, consistent and punctual attendance is essential as we will be operating within a very tight schedule.

A high level of unavailability, persistent lateness and / or no show will regrettably result in you being asked to leave the production.

~ Auditions & Important Dates ~

The auditions dates are:

**Monday 20th June – The Witham, Barnard Castle**

6.30 – 7.30pm

Dance Workshop – pre-booked slots only, no walk ins.

**Saturday 25th June – Music School, Barnard Castle School, Barnard Castle, DL12 8UN**

1-5pm pre-booked slots only, no walk ins.

**Sunday 26th June – Music School, Barnard Castle School, Barnard Castle, DL12 8UN**

10-1pm pre-booked slots only, no walk ins.

BOOK YOUR DANCE WORKSHOP AND AUDITION SLOT BY CLICKING HERE

Everyone who wishes to be in the production **must** attend the dance workshop as each character / ensemble member needs to be able to move well / dance specific choreography. If you are unable to make this session there will be a video released afterwards with the routine that we cover so you can practice it ready for your audition, but we strongly recommend you do attend!

You will be expected to sing and act the pieces that we ask for (see the separate Audition Slides Pack) as well as performing the short dance routine that we learn in the dance workshop on the 20th June.

**Call backs – Monday 4th July, Barnard Castle School, Barnard Castle, DL12 8UN**

7-9pm

We may ask you to come for a call back and if we do, we will contact you with information about what to prepare for this.

**We hope to have casting completed and announced by Wednesday 6th July. All auditionees being offered a role will be telephoned. If you are unsuccessful, you will receive an email.**

Auditions are nerve-wracking, we appreciate that, and we will do all we can to put you at ease. We want you to do well!

* Please arrive **15mins** before your audition slot and bring with you your completed audition form with a photograph attached. There will be someone to meet you at the Music School entrance to sign you in.
* We will provide actors to read in with you during the audition. We do not expect you to be ‘off book’ for your audition, although it does help!
* You will be auditioning in front of the director (Dawn Trevor) and the Musical Director (Richard Dawson).
* Not being recalled does not necessarily mean you are not being considered for a role.
* **Please note:**  By accepting a role in the show you acknowledge that your photograph will be taken during rehearsals and performances and permit these to be used for any marketing (including on our own website, social media and printed materials). Consent can be withdrawn at anytime by emailing dawn@equusit.co.uk.

If you are auditioning for the role of the Puppeteer of Audrey II, we will ask you to book a slot like everyone else and we would also expect you to attend the dance workshop – movement is key to this role. Within our 15min audition we will ask to see the dance we did in the workshop along with some extra movement.

~ Rehearsal Schedule ~

Sunday 10th July (1-4pm) – full cast read and sing through

Sunday 17th, 24th and 31st July (PM) – rehearsals

Sunday7th, 14th and 21st August (PM) – rehearsals

Sunday 4th, 18th, 25th September (PM)– rehearsals

Monday 26th September (7-10pm) – rehearsal

Sunday 2nd October (PM) – rehearsal

Monday 3rd October (7-10pm) – rehearsal

Sunday 9th October (PM) – rehearsal

Monday 10th October (7-10pm) – rehearsal

Sunday 16th October (PM) – rehearsal

Monday 17th October (7-10pm) – rehearsal

Sunday 23rd October – Band Call / rehearsal / ‘Get In’ at The Witham

Monday 24th October – rehearsal / Sitzprobe / ‘Get In’

Tuesday 25th October – Tech rehearsal

Wednesday 26th October – Dress run

27/28/29th October – Performances.

Sunday 30th October – 10am till finish “Get Out”

**Not everyone will be required for every rehearsal**. Rehearsal schedules will be emailed each month and we will require you to complete unavailability forms on a regular basis. Some rehearsals will be specifically put aside for costume and make up sessions – always great fun!

~ Helping Backstage ~

There are many ways in which to help out backstage. We need lots of help! Here are the people involved and the space where we need help! If you’re keen to be involved in any of the backstage areas, please fill in the Production Recruitment Form at the back of this pack.

~ Checklist ~

* Read the character breakdown carefully.
* Read and listen to the audition pieces carefully.
* Book dance workshop slot
* Book 15min audition slot
* Complete audition form, attach a recent photo, bring to the dance workshop session.
* Be prepared and rehearse!
* **Backstage Help Only** – complete Production Form and email to dawn@equusit.co.uk

Teesdale Operatic Society

*Audition form for*

**LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS (2022)**

To book your audition time please follow the link: <https://tos-lsoh.youcanbook.me>

**Please write clearly and don’t forget to bring this form, complete with photograph, to the dance workshop on Monday 20th June.**

**Please put a current photo of yourself here.**

Name:

Address:

Postcode:

Email address:

Tel.no: Age (if under 18)

ROLE(S) YOU ARE TO AUDITIONING FOR:

1st Choice

2nd Choice

3rd Choice

Would you be prepared to accept other roles including ENSEMBLE? YES / NO

Don’t keep secrets! Please state **any and all commitments** [family/work/holidays/other shows *etc*] that ***may*** clash with the rehearsal period! Continue overleaf if necessary.

PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE [continue overleaf if necessary]

Are you already a member of TOS? Yes / No (*please note that everyone cast must become a TOS member – see our website for more details)*

**PLEASE DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE**

NOTES:

Not cast / recalled / cast ........................................................................acceptance rec’d **YES / NO**

**Production Recruitment Form – LSOH 2022**

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Last Name:­­­­­­­­\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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

Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parents Name (16 & under): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parents Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Please tick all areas that you are interested in helping with.**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Front of House |  | Stage Management |  |
| Marketing |  | Prop Making |  |
| Costume |  | Set Construction /Painting |  |
| Make Up |  | Lighting / Sound |  |
| Hair |  |  |  |

**Please list any specific skills you might have that could be useful!**
(e.g. H&S experience, handy with a sewing machine etc)

Teesdale Operatic Society has a data protection policy, which can be viewed on our website [www.teesdaleoperaticsociety.co.uk](http://www.teesdaleoperaticsociety.co.uk) By giving your contact details on this form, you have consented to TOS holding your details for production purposes only and for the duration of the rehearsals and performances.  After the performance, we would like to keep in contact with you to let you know about future shows.  Please tick this box if you do not wish us to keep your details on file:

Digital still and video photography will be taken during the rehearsals and production.  Some of this material may be used on our website, social media channels and for press releases and individuals may be named.  Please tick this box if you do not want your image named in this way: