



AUDITION INFORMATION

Thank you so much for auditioning for ***Murder at the Music Hall***. It is always fantastic to involve people in live theatre and to help, we have attached some information for you.

Synopsis: An old time Music Hall, with all its verve and sparkle, is in full swing, under the genial eye of the garrulous Chairperson. Suddenly, at one of the tables, an audience member drops dead ! Then – surprise – an amazing number of witnesses, detectives and suspects just happen to be sitting at various tables, disguised as ordinary dinner guests!

Everyone in this show is a suspect – cast and audience alike. A fascinating concept that keeps an audience on its toes from start to finish, when the audience is asked to decide: “Who committed the murder at the Music Hall?” They could die laughing.

The play is really two shows that intertwine. There is the Music Hall and the Murder/Mystery play. The show cuts between the two throughout the script and of course they do intertwine more and more as the show progresses.

Music: The music is Old Time Music Hall songs many of which are sing- along by nature (which is encouraged by the Chairperson) The songs are a mixture of ensemble singing with the opportunity for solos and duets etc. There will be a few specific solo and duet songs as part of the Music Hall acts. The audience will be given song sheets with the words of the most “sing along” songs on them and the Chairperson (and cast) will encourage the audience to join in the singing.

Cast : The show has two distinct groups: –

- **The Murder/Mystery cast** – non singers. We need 6M and 5F although it might be possible to make some parts male or female. A few of this cast may be able to sing in some the Music Hall segments. These actors need to be confident in working in a semi unstructured environment as they interact with the audience and there is some ad -libbing from some of them. Good physical actors required.
- **The Music hall Performers.** This group will sing six medleys of well known music hall songs such as Waiting at the church ; Follow the van; Where did you get that hat?, etc.

There are also some solo and small group songs and skits that this cast will perform throughout the show. The music hall cast requires a minimum of 5-6 males and 8 - 10 females who love singing and will enjoy amazing choreography! The Music Hall Chairperson is a crucial character in getting the audience warmed up and involved in the Music hall – She/he must be confident, garrulous and outgoing and be able to manipulate an audience and encourage and handle banter. The Music Hall performers will be dressed in sumptuous Victorian and Edwardian costumes.

Audition Preparation: Please arrive just before your scheduled audition time, which are set at 15 minute intervals. You will be asked to sing a couple of simple tunes from the show, read an excerpt from the script and do some easy dance steps. You will be taught the music and dance in the audition. Don't worry, everyone is in the same boat!

Rehearsals: Once casting is complete, a rehearsal schedule will be provided to you. Rehearsals are due to begin on Thursday the 5th of September at 6.30pm. Please confirm immediately with the production manager, any rehearsals you will be unavailable for.

The usual rehearsal schedule is Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday evenings.

Show dates run from 19th to the 30th of November and includes a Saturday and Sunday matinee.

There will also be final dress rehearsals leading into this time period which will also require full cast, so it would be advisable to make yourself available for the entirety of November including full Sundays for possible double rehearsals.

Membership: If you are selected to be involved in a production either on stage or as one of the back stage crew, you are required to pay a membership fee. This not only entitles you to be receive newsletters and be involved in members only events, but it also includes you in the public liability cover of the theatre. The schedule of membership costs are as follows:

Single Show Only	\$15.00
Full Single Membership	\$25.00
Family Membership	\$40.00

Media Release: Choosing to be part of our production means that you will be in the public eye. There will be lots of marketing showcasing the theatre, its members and the production in order to get the community involved. This will involve advertising in papers, facebook and website as well as the productions of posters, pamphlets etc. We therefore require your permission to utilise your image or sound in a variety of media mediums. The release form is attached.

Health & Safety: This is an important aspect of our theatre running and it is necessary for all those involved with the show to comply with all aspects of health and safety.

Performances are:

Evenings of 19th, 20, 21, 22, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30th November

Matinees: 23 & 24th November

Rehearsal Crew:

Director:	Glenn Rowsell
Musical Director:	Clare Hitchcock
Production Manager:	Yvonne Walker

Murder at the Music Hall

(Please bring this form with you to the audition)

Name _____

Phone Numbers _____

Email _____

Address _____

I have read and understand that should I be cast in Murder at the Music Hall, I will carry out the following:

- Become a member of the theatre no later than two weeks following the start of the rehearsal period
- Abide by all health and safety requirements as noted by the theatre
- Commit to rehearsal and show period as outlined, unless otherwise agreed with the production manager.

Release Permission:

I the undersigned, hereby authorise Matamata Musical Theatre to photograph me, take motion pictures of me, take video footage of me and/or make electronic sound recordings of me (herein referred to as photographic or electronic reproduction). I authorise the use of any such photographic or electronic reproductions of me for any purpose, including but not limited to educational & other public media as may be deemed appropriate by Matamata Musical Theatre (I understand that I may be identifiable from such photographic or electronic reproduction)

Agreement:

I have read and agree to the requirements as noted above.

Name: _____

Signed: _____

Dated: _____