

# ***Little Shop Of Horrors***

## *Show & Audition Information Pack*

### **About Marie Clark Musical Theatre**

Marie Clark Musical Theatre (MCMT) is a progressive, non-professional theatre company that strives to nurture talent and produce high quality musicals for the community.

We are based in the City of Tea Tree Gully and exist to:

- Promote an appreciation of live theatre within the community;
- Provide entertaining public performances of live theatre involving acting, singing and dancing; and
- Encourage performers of all ages to develop their talents and self-confidence to develop their skills and confidence in musical theatre performance.

### **About *Little Shop Of Horrors***

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 And The Beast, and Aladdin*) are the creative geniuses behind what has become one of the most popular shows in the world.

While working for a struggling florist shop in Downtown's Skid Row under the stern management of Mr. Mushnik, 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. Seymour, after some convincing, is happy to offer up Audrey's abusive dental practitioner boyfriend Orin Scrivello in order to appease the ravenous plant's appetite.

Over time, though, Seymour discovers Audrey II's intent towards global domination, truly realising that they really are a Mean Green Mother... From Outer Space!

Book and Lyrics by  
Howard Ashman

Music by  
Alan Menken

Based on the film by Roger Corman, Screenplay by Charles Griffith

Originally produced by the WPA Theatre (Kyle Renick, Producing Director)  
Originally produced at the Orpheum Theatre, New York City by the WPA Theatre, David Geffen, Cameron Mackintosh and the Shubert Organization

Licensed exclusively by Music Theatre International (Australasia)  
All performance materials supplied by Hal Leonard Australia

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## Production Team

Director: Justine C. Lewis  
Musical Director: Liam Phillips  
Choreographer: Annette Paterson  
Production Manager: Merici Thompson

## Key Production Dates and Venue

### *Production Week*

Bump in: Sunday 29th October

Dress rehearsals: Tuesday 31st October, Wednesday 1st November, Thursday 2nd November

### *Performances*

Friday 3rd, Saturday 4th, Wednesday 8th, Thursday 9th, Friday 10th November at 7:30pm

Saturday 4th November at 2:00pm

Sunday 5th November at 4:00pm

### *Performance Venue*

Star Theatres (Theatre One)

145 Sir Donald Bradman Drive, Hilton SA 5033

## Rehearsals

Rehearsals will begin on Monday 17th July. There will be initial calls to run through music with the cast but there will be minimal time to 'note-bash' music. As such, cast members are expected to be revising and practicing the music (including vocal harmonies) in preparation for rehearsals. A full rehearsal schedule will be available in the week leading up to the first rehearsal.

Rehearsals will be Monday and Thursday nights (7:15pm-10:15pm) as well as alternate Sunday afternoons (1:00pm-4:00pm). All cast are expected to arrive 15 minutes early. Please inform us of any potential clashes for rehearsals on the day of the audition to help us form the full rehearsal schedule. We will endeavour to make this schedule available in the week leading up to the first rehearsal, however, we ask cast to keep rehearsal times free even if you are not called for rehearsal since the schedule may change depending on the show's progress and other circumstances. A rehearsal will likely be held on Monday 2nd October, which is a public holiday.

If you are unexpectedly unable to attend a rehearsal, we ask that you get in touch with your Production Manager as soon as possible.

### *Rehearsal Venue*

Hawthorn Church of Christ

42 Angas Road, Hawthorn SA 5062

*Please note: all rehearsals are closed to people outside the Production Team, Extended Production Team, and MCMT Committee; observers such as partners, family, and friends are not permitted.*

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## Auditions

Auditions will be held Saturday 15th April and Sunday 16th April at Hawthorn Church of Christ (42 Angas Rd, Hawthorn). We will possibly hold call backs/additional auditions on these days. You can book your audition slot via the Marie Clark Musical Theatre website: [mcmmt.net.au](http://mcmmt.net.au)

Auditions will be booked as 15-minute individual slots. If you are intending to audition for multiple characters, please consider booking two adjacent slots, to avoid running overtime or feeling rushed.

Please read the following sub-sections in full for more information, including Audition Requirements. Further details can be obtained by contacting the production team via email: [auditions@marieclark.asn.au](mailto:auditions@marieclark.asn.au)

## Characters

**Genders listed below are the characters as portrayed on stage. Similarly, ages refer to 'stage age' only. We encourage performers to audition for the character(s) they feel they can identify with and portray confidently.**

### **Seymour Krelborn**

**(Male, Stage Age: 25 to 35, Vocal Range: A2 - G4)**

An insecure, put-upon florist's clerk who goes from zero to eventual hero. He is a genuine, well-meaning man (and a self-professed slob) who is taken for granted because of his clumsy ways and poor social skills.

*Director's Note: Seymour is eventually eaten by Audrey II at the end of Act II and will need to be physically comfortable climbing into a puppet. Seymour may also be required to lift the performer portraying Audrey during her death scene. Seymour should have good physical/slapstick comedy ability and also good comedic timing with dialogue.*

### **Audrey**

**(Female, Stage Age: 25 to 35, Vocal Range: G#3 - D5)**

Audrey is the secret love of Seymour's life. She has poor self-worth and a poor education. Audrey feels trapped in her current position and is longing to find a way out to her happily ever after. She is not overtly sexual in nature nor a bimbo, merely a sweet girl with incredibly good looks, and a well-meaning and vulnerable demeanour.

*Director's Note: there is a kiss between Seymour and Audrey. Also please be aware that Audrey's character will have to depict elements of experience with domestic abuse, in line with how the character's history has been written in the script.*

### **Audrey II**

**(Female, Stage Age: 20 to 45, Vocal Range: G2 - G4)**

A conniving, street-smart, sultry 'villain' who comes across as your best friend until they get hangry! Has an appetite for human flesh that is appeased by Seymour. A funky Rhythm and Blues voice is best.

*Director's Note: the gender referenced is the character's gender, only. In the case a female-identifying actor is cast, vocal range may be modified. Our version of the show has a 'surprise' to it in that it will reveal late in Act I a Poison Ivy-esque Audrey II humanoid, emerging from the Audrey II puppet. The performer who takes on this role (whether they are male-identifying or female-identifying) may be asked to wear make-up, corsetry, skirt, a wig and heels to further this portrayal. Further, Audrey II will be required to climb in and out of Puppet Audrey II and may be asked to stand/sit/lie on various pieces of the set as the story dictates.*

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**Crystal, Chiffon & Ronnette - The Urchins**

**(Female, Stage Age: 16 to 25, Vocal Range: Ab3 - F5)**

Crystal, Chiffon and Ronnette are street urchins, acting as the occasional Greek Chorus. Young, hip, smart and have a healthy phone obsession. These girls are the only ones who have a grip on reality (if you don't include Tik-Tok).

*Director's Note: the interpretation of these characters may differ from traditional depictions depending on the outcome of auditions (e.g. a possibility is to portray The Urchins as 'mall rats' with American accents). We welcome performers from all backgrounds to audition for these roles if they can feel they can portray the spirit of these characters - and can and keep up with the costume changes!*

**Orin Scrivello**

**(Male, Stage Age: 30 to 40, Vocal Range: G2 - G4)**

An egotistical, flirtatious dentist with a passion for leather, nitrous oxide and sadistic tendencies, who looks like he has just walked off the set of *Grease*. He is Audrey's abusive boyfriend, who is targeted by Seymour.

*Director's Note: this role is relatively physical and the performer may be required to jump on several props, including the dental chair. Good physical comedy, and comedic timing and delivery will be advantageous.*

**Mr. Mushnik**

**(Male, Stage Age: 55 to 65, Vocal Range: G2 - F4)**

The seasoned owner of a failing East Side flower shop and Seymour's nosy boss. He is profit driven, greedy, cynical and manipulative, and yet, has a few small shreds of compassion for his employees and their wellbeing.

*Director's Note: Mr. Mushnik is eaten by Audrey II during Act II and will therefore need to be physically comfortable climbing into a puppet. Must be good with dry comedy, and also demonstrate good comedic timing and delivery.*

**Ensemble**

**(Male- and female-identifying roles, approximately 6 total, all voice types and ages)**

Ensemble will act as Skid Row occupants as well as a range of other characters in the script, such as: Mr. Bernstein, Mrs. Luce, Skip Snip, Interviewer, Patrick Martin, The First Customer, winos, and more.

Ensemble members may be required to swing for lead roles.

**Accents**

With the exception of Audrey II, all cast will be required to have an American accent when on stage, preferably as if hailing from New York (specifically, from Brooklyn) or Boston, or from the state of New Jersey.

Specifically:

- Seymour and Audrey should sound as if they are locals of a New York borough (e.g. Brooklyn).
- Mr. Mushnik should speak with a New York 'Yiddish' accent.
- Orin should speak with a 'Greaser' New Jersey accent (similar to 'Danny Zuko' from *Grease*).

For Audrey II, a 'neutral' and unspecific accent would be preferred to further highlight Audrey II's alien nature. We will have a Dialect Coach for the show who can assist cast with accents.

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## Audition Requirements

For your audition, you will be asked to perform your chosen song for the panel, and then the short routine you will be taught by the Dance Captain just prior to your audition (for this reason, please arrive at least 15 minutes before your allotted timeslot).

During your audition, you will need to perform the dialogue piece relevant to the role/s you have identified. A reader will be present in the room for this purpose.

Further details provided in the sections below. Queries can be emailed to the Production Team via [auditions@marieclark.asn.au](mailto:auditions@marieclark.asn.au)

### ***Dialogue***

Dialogue material will be made available on MCMT's website a week before auditions, and copies will be provided at the audition. You will also have a chance to familiarise yourself with the material upon arrival and prior to entering your audition. You are not expected to memorise the provided dialogue, but we will be looking for characterisations. You may be asked to perform sections of the dialogue with different characterisations, and also to demonstrate a baseline of the required accent for your chosen character/s. The show's Dialogue Coach will be present in the room for auditions, and they may provide some guidance/coaching to you.

### ***Music***

Vocal ranges are provided based on the score. Refer to the character descriptions for vocal ranges. You will be scaled to hear your vocal range.

You are required to organise your own song for the audition and bring a backing track for it on a USB, or alternatively on your phone to be played via a Bluetooth speaker. You may select a song from the show for your audition (preferred). Alternatively, you may select a song in the style of the show (1960s rock and roll, doo-wop and early Motown) that suits the character you wish to audition for. Please aim to choose a song no more than 3 minutes in length.

Focus on connection with the lyrics and characterisation. You may be asked to perform sections of your song with different directions.

Should you choose to sing a song from the show (preferred), the following are suggested:

- Seymour: *Grow For Me, Suddenly Seymour*
- Audrey: *Somewhere That's Green, Suddenly Seymour*
- Audrey II: *Feed Me (Git It!)*
- Orin Scrivello: *Dentist*
- Mr. Mushnik: *Mushnik and Son*
- Crystal, Chiffon or Ronnette - The Urchins: *Little Shop of Horrors*
- Ensemble: *Don't Feed The Plants, Skid Row (Downtown)*

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## **Choreography**

Please wear appropriate clothing and shoes for performing a short movement piece in which we will be looking at rhythm, musicality, style and characterisation.

You will be taught a short piece of choreography by the Dance Captain on the day of your audition, *before* you enter the audition room. Please ensure you arrive at least 15 minutes prior to your booked audition time so you have time to learn this piece.

Please let us know on your audition form of any ongoing movement limitations and/or health issues that might impede your dance abilities.

## **Important Audition Notes**

- Please make sure you arrive at least 15 minutes prior to your audition to warm up, prepare, and learn the short movement piece from the Dance Captain.
- Please complete the 'Audition Application Form' (this will be made available for download on our website) and bring it along with a headshot of yourself to your audition.
- On your audition form, please make note of any dates to which you are unavailable for rehearsals. We plan the rehearsal schedule around these dates.
- If you are auditioning for other shows, please be honest and make note of this on your audition form.

*Please note: Marie Clark Musical Theatre requires you to be at least 18 years old by bump in Sunday, unless by prior negotiation with the Committee and Production Team.*

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## Additional Information

### Membership

All cast members are required to become members of MCMT. Membership is \$50 for Adult or \$35 for Concession. As a member of MCMT, you will receive:

- One complimentary ticket for each show during the full year of membership.
- Cast price tickets for the season of your production.
- Accident insurance cover whilst performing on stage.
- Full voting and speaking rights at the Annual General Meeting and any Special General meetings held during the period of your membership.

### Show Levy

You will also be required to pay a show levy of \$40 (same for both Adult and Concession) to help with costs of rehearsal venues, resources, costumes, etc.

### MCMT Values

As a community-based theatre company, we recognise the important role we have to play in creating a positive environment and enjoyable experiences for everyone involved in the company. To us, it's not just about creating high quality musicals.

As such, MCMT is committed to the following values:

- *Respect* – MCMT is committed to creating an environment in which individuals are not only respected, but can thrive in.
- *Inclusiveness* – MCMT values diversity and is committed to providing a safe and inclusive environment for everyone.
- *Balance* – MCMT is committed to delivering high quality musicals, whilst acknowledging the important balance between creative pursuits and other priorities among our volunteers and broader community.
- *Community* – MCMT acknowledges that theatre is a collective effort. We recognise the contribution of all who support our endeavours and foster positive relationships with the wider amateur theatre community across Adelaide.

All successful cast members will be expected to act in a manner consistent with our Values.