

AUDITION NOTICE



LITTLE SHOP - OF - HORRORS

**Bridewell Theatre, London
Tuesday 26th – Saturday 30th April 2022**

LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS

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

This amateur production is presented by arrangement with
Music Theatre International (Europe)
All authorised performance materials are also supplied by MTI Europe
www.mtishows.co.uk

*LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS was originally Directed by Howard Ashman with Musical Staging by
Edie Cowan*

Key Information

Performance Dates

Tuesday 26th April 2022 – Saturday 30th April 2022 at 19:30 (including a Saturday matinee at 14:30).

Bridewell Theatre, Bride Lane, London EC4Y 8EQ

Audition Bookings Now Open

First Round Auditions

By Video Recording only, closing for submissions 21st January 2022 at 22:00

Recall Auditions – by invitation

Saturday 29th January 2022 from 12:00 midday.

Rehearsals

Tuesday evenings (19:00-22:00) and Saturday daytimes (14:00-18:00) At Pollyanna Training Theatre, Raine's House, Raine Street, Wapping, London E1W 3AU

First Rehearsal

Saturday 5th February 2022.

Welcome

Geoids Musical Theatre is delighted to announce auditions for our upcoming production of *Little Shop of Horrors*.

We are thrilled to present Alan Menken and Howard Ashman's deliciously funny classic girl-meets-boy, plant-eats-girl musical comedy for the first time! With a wealth of tasty roles on offer, we hope you'll join us for auditions!

This audition notice outlines all you need to know about the show, its characters, the audition process, the rehearsal experience, and our commitments to Covid health and safety, accessibility and diversity.

If you do have any further questions though, please do email us info@geoidsmt.co.uk

About the Production

We're looking forward to creating a high-energy and hilarious production: just what everybody needs right now! Supported by strong production values, the show will be driven by your commitment to deliver the highest quality performance.

We are looking to find a cast of around 16 people. The nature of this show requires a diverse cast of all ages. A great sense of humour and collaboration is key to bring to life the zany world of the show.

This is a show led by strong actors and singers, but there are also some great ensemble dance numbers to tie the story together. Everyone will need to be a strong singer and actor as well as confident with group movement, with some additional opportunities for stronger dancers. Please check the **List of Characters** section of this notice for more details.

We are looking for a strong ensemble of around 8 people to bring the show to life. This is a great opportunity to play a range of fun characters. Please don't be put off if one of the leads doesn't seem right for you – there will be plenty to do for everyone!

Please come prepared to stretch yourself, and support everyone in achieving a fantastic cast experience.

Auditions

All first round auditions are now to be submitted by pre-recorded video tape.

Please book your audition here: www.ticketsource.co.uk/geoids. Once you have registered you will be sent a link to upload your recordings.

The deadline for registration and upload of your audition videos is Friday 21st January at 22:00. We will not accept any video after this time.

We would ask that non-members consider a £5 donation to support the costs of rehearsal venue hire. This is payable online when you book your slot. In the event of being cast in the show, this will be deducted from your membership cost.

Please let us know all the parts you are interested in on your audition form. If you are only interested in being considered for specific role(s), please be honest on your audition form.

You are required to upload 3 videos in total: singing, reading, and movement. We will send you an upload link after registration.

Singing Audition

Please see the **List of Characters** section of this notice for the audition song that we would like you to prepare for each part. We only ask for an excerpt of each audition song. If you are interested in multiple parts, please only select the song for the part you would most like to play.

You do not need to learn either the song or the reading by heart, but please be comfortable enough with the material to give a sense of performance in the audition.

Backing tracks and sheet music have been uploaded [here](#). Please video record yourself singing to the track in a single take. We are not looking for any fancy editing here. We suggest you play the backing track on a separate device and please do not worry about the balance between the track and you, as long as your vocal is clear on the recording.

Reading Audition

Please select one reading from the list [here](#) (for the role you think you are most interested in) and video record yourself doing the piece in one take. Feel free to use a friend (off camera) to fill in other lines or leave a space. We are not looking at movement here so please record this relatively still, 'to camera'.

Movement Audition

In order to prepare for the movement call, please learn the General Audition Routine, which can be found [here](#). Please video record the routine in one full take, try and ensure you are able to get your full body in shot for as much of the recording as possible.

We know that even at the best of times auditions can be stressful let alone after many months away from auditions and performing; we would like you to know that we are here to help and be supportive. Please do not worry about the quality of the recording or the location where it is filmed. We want all our auditionees to shine and to have as much fun as possible while recording their audition session.

If you have any concerns or questions about the auditions process, please email info@geoidsmt.co.uk

Recalls

We still intend to hold recalls in person

Saturday 29th January at Pollyanna Training Theatre, Raine's House, Raine Street, Wapping, London, E1W 3AU from 12 midday.

These will involve singing, movement and script reading, depending on the character.

Specific call times will be notified in advance.

Please be advised that not being recalled DOES NOT necessarily mean you have not been cast in the show.

We will endeavour to let people know of casting decisions as soon as possible. If the decision-making process will take longer than we anticipated, we will keep you updated.

Rehearsals

Full cast rehearsals will then be held on

- Tuesday evenings from 19:00 – 22:00 commencing 8th February,

and

- Saturdays from 14:00 – 18:00 commencing 5th February

All at Pollyanna Training Theatre, Raine House, Raine Street, Wapping, London E1W 3AU.

Required Availability

ALL CAST will be required on the below dates:

Saturday 16th April - 1400-1800 - Final Run
Saturday 23rd April - All day – Sitzprobe and Final Rehearsal
Sunday 24th April - All day - Technical Rehearsal
Monday 25th April from 18:00 - Dress Rehearsal

Call time on performance dates will be 18:00.

Availability for rehearsals is a key factor that will be considered by the audition panel. You will be required to notify us of any unavailability for Tuesday and Saturday rehearsals on your audition form.

We are mindful of the circumstances of the last year and that people may be planning some time away during 2022. The team have created a schedule that affords some flexibility on absence, however, you have too many absences or they cannot be reconciled against the proposed rehearsal schedule, this may preclude us from casting you.

Where unforeseen circumstances develop after we start work on the show, you are required to promptly notify the production team of any changes in your availability. In the event of major changes in availability from what is notified on your audition form and/or persistent lateness for rehearsals your participation in the show may be revisited.

Fees

Show fees for ***Little Shop of Horrors*** will be £120, which helps cover production-related costs including hire of rehearsal space, set, costumes, and performance venue.

The show fee is roughly equivalent to £5 per rehearsal, which, we believe reflects excellent value for money.

We continue to offer our members the ability to pay fees in instalments. Please talk to us in confidence at the audition or by emailing Anna Trofimova geoids.treasurer@gmail.com if you are concerned about the show fee as a barrier to your participation.

Additionally, we require that all performers become full members of Geoids Musical Theatre at a cost of £20 for the year. If you have donated £5 at audition this will be deducted from the cost of membership.

Covid Security

Geoids have been committed to following or exceeding Government guidelines relating to Covid health and safety measures with our rehearsals, shows and events. As we enter a post-vaccination world, we remain committed to this.

Rehearsals are currently planned on the basis of existing restrictions. Any changes to the landscape will be assessed throughout the production process. As a result, it may be possible that Geoids will require the use of face coverings or other measures in order to safely rehearse and perform the show.

Our rehearsal venues are well-ventilated and where possible we will rehearse with open windows to facilitate extra air flow.

We encourage auditionees, production team and cast members to make use of lateral flow testing which is currently freely available at no cost via <https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>

As always, please do not attend a recall or rehearsal if you or anyone in your household has Covid symptoms or a diagnosis.

Accessibility

Pollyanna Training Theatre is located on the 1st floor of Raine's House accessible via stairs or a passenger lift.

The Bridewell Theatre is accessible from the street via a steep ramp direct to the theatre floor, or by stairs / accessibility lift from the main entrance via the box office lobby

If you have any concerns or individual requirements, please contact us and we see how we can address these.

Diversity

Geoids Musical Theatre seeks to build and sustain a membership that is reflective of the diverse communities in London.

We are always open to non-traditional casting except where race/ethnicity is a key component of the story or integral to the relationships between characters in the story. Where this is the case, it will be clearly highlighted in character breakdowns.

In *Little Shop of Horrors*, the roles of Ronnette, Chiffon and Crystal are written to be played by Black performers (Ronnette, Chiffon and Crystal act as a sort of 'Greek chorus girl band', knowingly commenting on the unfolding action with a nod to the style of popular African-American girl groups such as The Supremes). It is our intention to honour this and cast Black performers.

The voice of Audrey II (the plant) is often, but not always, played by a male performer of colour and is written with a vernacular that reflects this. While the score's guidance notes reference a singing style of a cross between Otis Redding, Barry White and Wolfman Jack, recent productions have explored different interpretations and as such we would judge the vocal style to be a reference point rather than it be an integral diversity characteristic of the actor. Taking this into account, the creative team are interested in seeing auditionees of all genders, ethnicities, and voice types for this role.

Finally, we would like to encourage performers of colour to audition for any other part regardless of what may be "typical" professional and amateur castings for these parts.

List of Characters

CHARACTER	DESCRIPTION	PERFORMANCE SKILLS	AUDITION SONG (CHOOSE ONE)
SEYMOUR	An insecure, put-upon shop assistant at Mr Mushnik's Skid Row flower shop. The hero of our story. He is a sweet, genuine well-meaning man who is taken for granted because of his clumsy ways and poor social skills. Any race/ethnicity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A2 – G4 (A4 optional) • American accent • Playing age 25-35 • Strong comedy timing and physical comedy skills • Some coordinated movement required 	<i>Grow for Me</i> - Bar 8 – 32 ('I've given you sunshine' – 'what do you want from me blood?')
AUDREY	Also employed at the shop, she has a damaged sense of self-worth thanks to her abusive boyfriend (Orin). But she has big dreams beyond this grimy street corner. The secret love of Seymour's life. Any race/ethnicity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • G#3 – D5 • American accent • Playing age 25-35 • Strong comedy timing and physical comedy skills • Some coordinated movement required 	<i>Somewhere That's Green</i> – Bar 1 – 49 ('I know Seymour's the greatest' – 'in a tract house that we share somewhere that's green')
MR MUSHNIK	Seymour's boss and father figure; of Eastern European Jewish ancestry, he owns a failure of a run-down East Side florist shop; under a gruff and blustery exterior he cares about Audrey and Seymour; a good man at heart, but temptation will be his downfall...	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • G2 – F4 • American accent • Playing age 40+ • Strong comedy timing and physical comedy skills • Some coordinated movement required 	<i>Mushnik and Son</i> – Bar 30 – 62 ('Seymour how would you like to be my son?' – 'F.T.D')
ORIN SCRIVELLO	Audrey's dentist boyfriend, he is narcissistic, arrogant, and abusive to Audrey. His good looks and bad boy personality mean he gets away with everything. Until one day... Any race/ethnicity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • G2 – G4 • American accent • Playing age 25-40 • Strong comedy timing and physical comedy skills • Some coordinated movement required 	<i>Dentist</i> – Bar 3 – 35 ('When I was younger' – 'You'll be a success')
AUDREY II – VOICE (and ENSEMBLE)	A sweet-talking, streetwise, man-eating, alien plant. Any race/ethnicity. Open to any gender.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • G2 – G4 (A4 optional) • American accent • Depending on the performer's preference, this will be a dual role: the performer can join the ensemble during opening scenes of the show, before performing the voice of Audrey II from offstage • Strong comedy timing • Some coordinated movement required • Please see 'Diversity' note above 	<i>Feed Me (Git It)</i> – Bar 1 – 33 ('Feed me' – 'work up the guts and you'll get it')

CHARACTER	DESCRIPTION	PERFORMANCE SKILLS	AUDITION SONG (CHOOSE ONE)
AUDREY II – PUPPETS (and ENSEMBLE)	A sweet-talking, streetwise, man-eating, alien plant.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No singing/dancing required unless the performer wishes to join the ensemble for the opening scenes of the show • A physical role, the performer will need stamina and strength to manipulate a variety of Audrey II puppets • Strong comedy timing needed – the performer will need to portray the plant's character and emotion through movement while 'lip synching' to the off-stage singer 	None or Ensemble
RONNETTE, CHIFFON, CRYSTAL	<p>Three 'street urchins' function as participants in the action (when they have dialogue) as well as a 'Greek chorus', commenting on and narrating the story as it unfolds. They are young, hip, smart, and the only people in the cast who really know what's going on, with a "we know something you don't" attitude. They remind us of popular girl harmony groups like The Supremes.</p> <p>As discussed in the note above, we are looking to cast Black performers in these roles</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ab3 – F5 (G5 if possible, for Crystal) • American accent • Playing age 18+ • Good movement/dance skills • Strong comedy timing • Please see 'Diversity' note above 	<i>You Never Know – Ronnette's part – Bar 79 – 90 ('One day he pushed' - 'don't it go to show you never know) and Bar 105 – 119 ('All the world used to screw him' – 'Strange little plant over there')</i>
PATRICK MARTIN (and ENSEMBLE)	A sleazy opportunist, he tries to talk Seymour and Mushnik into giving him leaf cuttings of Audrey II. Any race/ethnicity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • American accent • Playing age 25-45 • When not in character, will join the rest of the Ensemble • Good movement/dance skills • Strong comedy timing 	Sop / Alto: The Meek Shall inherit (Mrs Luce) Bar 68 – 92 ('I'd like a word with you' – 'beautiful plant')
MRS LUCE (and ENSEMBLE)	The upmarket wife of the Editor of Life magazine, here to secure a story about Seymour and his unusual plant Any race/ethnicity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • American accent • Playing age 25+ • When not in character, will join the rest of the Ensemble • Good movement/dance skills • Strong comedy timing 	
MR BERNSTEIN (and ENSEMBLE)	A bigshot from a national TV network, Bernstein offers Seymour his own gardening show. Any race/ethnicity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • American accent • Playing age 25+ • When not in character, will join the rest of the Ensemble • Good movement/dance skills • Strong comedy timing 	
ENSEMBLE	This is no ordinary ensemble – they will populate the world of the show with a wide range of characters ranging from the down-and-out citizens of Skid Row to business-people, media moguls, dental nurses, radio hosts, shoppers – and even a variety of plant species... Any race/ethnicity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sop to Bass ranges • American accent – many members of the Ensemble will play a featured character or have lines – roles will be allocated after auditions • Playing age 18+ • Good movement/dance skills • Strong comedy timing 	Tenor / Bass: The Meek Shall inherit (Skip Snip) - Bar 118 – 142 ('Forget the cable we sent you' – 'lucrative too')

Production Team

Chris Adams – Director



Chris is delighted to be directing his first Geoids show, but he is no stranger to the Bridewell, having previously directed *9 to 5 The Musical*, *Pippin* and *Reefer Madness!* (UK premiere) there.

Other shows elsewhere include *Contractions*, *Bat Boy: The Musical*, *A Day in the Death of Joe Egg*, *Secrets Every Smart Traveller Should Know*, *Bash* and *Matilda Liar!* His grown-up job is marketing manager at Disney Theatrical Group. He is also the co-producer and co-host of the podcast *Out for Blood* about the making of the musical *Carrie*, and he is excited to be directing that show in 2022.

Dominic Bull – Musical Director



Dominic is very excited to be musically directing his first full show with Geoids, having previously been musical director for its recent summer concert *Sunday in the Park with Geoids*. Dominic was previously co-musical director for *Centre Stage Proms* with Centre Stage, also at the Bridewell.

A keen pianist and musician, he was previously a music scholar at the University of Warwick where he performed in numerous concerts at Warwick Arts Centre, and he regularly accompanies professional singers in central London bars.

Little Shop of Horrors is one of Dominic's favourite musicals, having previously performed as Seymour in his first school production. He is very excited to take his love of the show, now instead as part of a production team.

Will Emery - Choreographer/Movement Coordinator



Will is thrilled to be choreographing *Little Shop of Horrors* for Geoids, marking his fourth show with the company. He has previously performed in *Kipps: The New Half a Sixpence Musical*, *A Little Night Music* and *The Pajama Game*, as well as *Pippin* (Sedos) and *Godspell* (Centre Stage). Will has a particular passion for character-led choreography, having previously choreographed shows including *The Addams Family* and *Avenue Q*.

Giles Burden – Executive Producer



Giles has worked with Geoids for the last 8 years, mostly in Production or Stage Management roles and has been lucky enough to support the company on previous productions such as *Crazy For You*; *Kipps: The Half a Sixpence Musical*, *The Pajama Game*, *Top Hat*, *My Fair Lady*, *On the Twentieth Century*, *Sunset Boulevard* and *42nd Street*.

About Geoids Musical Theatre

Geoids Musical Theatre is an amateur theatre company based in Central London. Originally established in 1930 by the Gilbert and Sullivan-loving Geology and Geography departments at Kings College, London, the company since lost its connections with the university and broadened our musical output beyond G&S. We became a registered charity in 2009, charity number 112876.

Geoids typically stages two or three full-scale productions a year alongside cabarets, a pantomime (rehearsed and performed within 48 hours). We also organise workshops and social events for our members.

Our members come from a broad range of backgrounds and abilities, but all have a love of, and commitment to, producing great shows. We are committed to developing everyone's potential and having fun.

You can find us in the following places:

www.geoidsmt.co.uk/

www.facebook.com/geoids

Instagram/Twitter: @GeoidsMusicalT