

Death of a Salesman – Audition pack

Performance dates: 15th May 2027 – 22nd May 2027

All auditionees will be seen and heard together as a company. In the room with you will be the director Chris, and the casting committee. We will hear everyone read their desired audition piece/s within the shared space: supported, guided, and warranting applause from everyone in the room together.

Director Notes:

This production's audition process wishes to engage with age- and gender-blind casting; please read for as many or as few of the roles as you wish without consideration of their stated/assumed pronouns or age.

By auditioning using just lines from the Lomans, we will see the range of performances that will speak to the rest of the roles. You will get the chance to state the roles you are interested in playing at the audition as well, including any/all of the supporting characters. The aim is a smaller cast, with performers all getting chances to shine. Note, in the cast information, the important multi-roling of 'The Woman' and Howard in particular.

We want this production to reflect the wonderful diversity of what theatre should be, and so we welcome auditionees of all ages (18+), and all genders, ethnicities, sexualities, disabilities and races, who wish to work on the production.

Character Breakdowns:

- **Willy Loman:** Our tragic central character: insecure, self-deluded, yet profoundly tragic. A major role that anchors the whole production, with a *lot* of lines.
- **Linda Loman:** She anchors the Loman family: a powerful figure caught within a family fraught with tension and confusion, fighting to hold it, and herself, together.
- **Biff Loman:** the eldest of two adult sons: poetic and talented, yet lost and broken by the pressures and behaviours of his father.
- **Happy Loman:** the younger sibling, feeling the need to keep fighting out of a brother's shadow with bravado and much-stated professional and personal ambition.
- **The Woman & Howard Wagner:** Willy Loman's past and present: the person with whom an affair ruined a family, and the condescending boss about whom he holds such resentment. (will also play the single-scene role of Letta)
- **Charley:** The Loman's successful and supportive neighbour: Willy's best, and only, friend.
- **Ben:** Willy's wealthy older brother, who died some time before the play's beginning: his presence lingers across the house and the family, spiritually and physically.

- **Bernard and Stanley:** Bernard is Charley's son and an important, successful lawyer: close to the Loman children, and a simple to Willy of what he wanted his sons to be. Stanley appears as a waiter in the bar/club scene, being chummy with Biff and Happy.
- **Miss Forsythe and Jenny:** Two roles that speak to the sidelining of women in the world of this play: the former is an assumed sex worker, navigating the attentions of the men at the club; the latter is Charley's secretary. Will also perform offstage as Howard's infant son.

Audition Pieces:

- **Biffs and Happy** - Page 13 to page 14 - "Hap, I've had..." to "The Loman Brothers, eh?"
- **Willy and Lindas** - Page 6 to page 7 – "Willy, dear" to "he's yet to make thirty-five dollars a week"
- **Linda** – Page 121 - Final speech