

1984 – Audition Information

Performance Dates 18th October 2025 – 25th October 2025

This audition will be a group audition. In the room will be the director Chris, the casting committee and all auditionees. We will see people read their desired audition piece/s within the shared space: supported, guided, and warranting applause from everyone in the room together.

Character Breakdowns:

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. 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, to enrich the work of the production.

- Winston Smith
- O'Brien
- Julia 1/Julia 2/Ashley
- W2/Thin Man/Parsons (Act 2)
- Guard/Charrington/Doctor/Parsons (Act 1)

Principal Character Information

- **Winston:** an ordinary person thrown, or forced, into the most un-ordinary nightmare: their thoughts of revolution and resistance are grounded in a simple demand for decency. They are quietly defiant and strong until the final breaking in Room 101, and the shell that emerges.
- **O'Brien:** a personification of Hannah Arendt's 'banality of evil': terrifying and powerful, but also charismatic, calm, and happy with their place as just one of many within an all-powerful surveillance state.
- **Julia:** a revolutionary: clear-minded, strong, driven both by political philosophy and personal pride. Their breaking at the hands of Big Brother – alongside, and in part because of, Winston – is a hammer blow.

Audition Pieces:

- Winston Smith – page 32 (“No, not physically” ... “either of them again”)
- O'Brien – pages 57-58 (“Exactly” ... “on a human face – forever”)
- Julia – page 18 (“then listen” ... “Can you remember all that”) **AND** page 66, (“Sometimes” ... “All you care about is yourself”)
- For W2/Thin Man/Parsons and Guard/Charrington/Doctor/Parsons please read O'Brien's lines above

Intimacy and content. The characters of Winston and Julia kiss in the script, although may be cut. We have an in-house Intimacy helper at the Garrick who will support.