



**CTC The Importance of Being Earnest**  
**Audition Pack Info**

Thank you for expressing an interest in auditioning for Centrestage Theatre Company's September 2026 production of *The Importance of Being Earnest*! Please read the following information carefully before attending your audition.

**Director:** Nick Stuart

**Production Manager:** Lane Kennedy

**Auditions & Callbacks**

To book your audition slot, please email Lane Kennedy at [csearnest26@gmail.com](mailto:csearnest26@gmail.com)

Auditions will take place on **Sunday 7 June** 5-8pm in the Rehearsal Room (back door of Centrestage Theatre)

If needed, callbacks will take place on **Tuesday 9 June 6.30pm** in the Rehearsal Room

## **Rehearsals:**

Rehearsals will usually take place at Centrestage Theatre on Monday evenings, Wednesday evenings, and Sundays.

We aim to provide a rehearsal schedule as soon as possible. Please let us know about any prior commitments that you have that could cause a clash with our rehearsal times. Although the entire cast may not be required at every rehearsal, cast members must keep these days free in case changes are made to the rehearsal schedule.

Because of the small cast size for this show, it is integral that all cast members attend all rehearsals they are called for.

## **Important Dates:**

**First Rehearsal:** Sunday 21 June

**Tech Week:** DATES TBC (likely 29 August - 4 September)

**Season:** Saturday 5 September - Saturday 12 September

## **Audition Format:**

Each auditionee will have a solo 10-15 minute slot in front of the panel. The panel will consist of the Director, Production Manager, and a Scene Reader.

This will possibly be the simplest audition of all time; it's just cold reading, baby! (Beat that, musical theatre...)

During your audition, you will be given sections of the script to cold-read with our Scene Reader. Please come prepared with a basic knowledge of the play, and a few ideas about characters you might like to read for! No other preparation is required.

A couple of tips:

- The audition room is a safe space, and we want you to feel comfortable to try new things and take risks with the script. Please feel free to bring your own individual interpretations of these delightful characters.
- Be open to trying new things during your audition. We might get you to read a scene multiple times, workshopping your delivery and characterisation in between. We may also ask you to read for characters other than the roles you are auditioning for, to help us get an idea of your wonderful talents as performers!
- Don't forget about your physicality. Even though this is a cold read, we are still looking at how you bring the character to life through body movements, posture, and energy.

- Brush up on your British accents! More specifically, this play will be performed using Received Pronunciation. Please feel free to give this a go during your audition! Don't worry about being perfect, however - we are far more interested in seeing your characterisation and physicality, and will have time to work on accents in rehearsals if you are cast.
- Have fun! This play is a comedy, after all!

### **Casting & Characters:**

*When two young men invent alter egos to escape social obligations, their tangled lies spark a whirlwind of mistaken identities, sharp humour and sparkling satire.*

Please feel free to audition for any of the following roles, regardless of gender, age, ethnicity, or any other stereotypical features of how these characters have been performed in the past! We are open to seeing anything you have to offer.

#### **John (Jack) Worthing**

The play's protagonist. A seemingly respectable young fellow who secretly lives a double life: in the country, they are Jack, and in town, they are Ernest! Hopelessly in love with Gwendolen, they attempt to navigate the societal expectations of Victorian England while balancing two very different identities.

#### **Algernon Moncrieff**

The heart and soul of the play! A charming bachelor living purely for pleasure, and best friend to Jack (whom they know as Ernest!). Always spouting delightfully witty epigrams, Algernon has created a fictional invalid friend 'Bunbury', whose frequent illnesses allow Algernon to escape dull societal obligations.

#### **Gwendolen Fairfax**

A role model of stunning fashion and proper society, Gwendolen is sophisticated, intellectual, and overwhelmingly pretentious. They are in love with Jack, whom they know as Ernest. Fixated on the name of Ernest, they will not marry anyone with a different name (...chaos ensues).

#### **Cecily Cardew**

Jack's ward who lives in the country. A down-to-earth character equally as obsessed with the name of Ernest as Gwendolen, but even more attracted to the idea of wickedness. As a result,

they have fallen in love with Jack's alter-ego Ernest in their imagination, and have created an elaborate romance story between them.

### **Lady Bracknell**

Gwendolen's uptight, dominating guardian - they married exceptionally well and have the primary goal in life of seeing Gwendolen do the same. Filled to the brim with unintentional hilarity and hypocrisy, Lady Bracknell is a key component of Oscar Wilde's satire of the British aristocracy.

### **Miss Prism**

Cecily's rigid guardian, with a seemingly softer side hiding beneath their endless exaggerated pronouncements. They entertain romantic feelings for Rev. Chasuble.

### **Rev. Canon Chasuble**

The rector on Jack's country estate. Kind and gentle, they entertain secret romantic feelings for Miss Prism (although they are meant to be celibate!).

### **Lane / Merriman**

We can't forget about the butlers! Serving the higher classes at Algenon's city abode and Jack's Manor House respectively, these two roles will be played by the same actor, and will be a great opportunity for bold physical comedy!