



# HEIDELBERG THEATRE COMPANY

## AUDITIONS

### THE HOUSE OF BERNARDA ALBA

by Federico García Lorca, translated by David Hare

Director: Joan Moriarty

AUDITION DATES: Sunday February 18 at 6:30 pm, Monday February 19 at 6:30 pm

Season dates: April 27 to May 12, 2017

#### AUDITION DETAILS:

- Location: 36 Turnham Ave, Rosanna, Vic
- Auditions by appointment. Email the Director at [joan.thespian@live.com.au](mailto:joan.thespian@live.com.au) or call (03) 9459-3495
- Along with seasoned performers, we welcome women with little or no stage work to audition - a chance to gain more stage experience. The play has many small roles that need to be filled.
- Scripts will be available at the theatre prior to auditions.

#### PLAY SUMMARY:

The play is set in rural Spain in the 1930s, in a household where five daughters live; a house dominated by their tyrannical mother, Bernarda. As the play opens the funeral of Bernarda's second husband is taking place nearby. He is father of all but the oldest girl, Angustias, who has inherited a large sum from her father, Bernarda's first husband. Now, a cynical marriage is advanced for Angustias, that will have tragic consequences for the whole family.

*The House of Bernarda Alba* is not only a powerful family drama, but equally a metaphor for political oppression.

#### CHARACTER DETAILS

**Note:** *All characters appearing in the play are female. Ages given are approximate.*

- BERNARDA ALBA: The tyrannical matriarch of the family, sixty. (\* A demanding role.)
- MARIA JOSEFA: Bernarda's mother, eighty. Though seemingly senile, her rants contain much wisdom.
- ANGUSTIAS: Bernarda's oldest daughter, thirty-nine. Has a sad nature, but the only daughter with a dowry.

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- **MAGDALENA:** Bernarda's second daughter, thirty. Can be spiteful and bitter, but perhaps the one with the most realistic sense of the limitations a woman faces in their world.
  - **AMELIA:** Bernarda's third daughter, twenty-seven. Has a frightened and gossipy nature.
  - **MARTIRIO:** Bernarda's fourth daughter, twenty-four. She was once engaged to a man, but Bernarda scotched it.
  - **ADELA:** Bernarda's youngest daughter, twenty. She flaunts Bernarda's strictures and declares her true individuality.
  - **PONCIA:** Bernarda's head maid, sixty. Arguably the woman who knows Bernarda best. A voice of wisdom, albeit a wisdom tinged with class resentment. (*\*A demanding role.*)
  - **SERVANTS:** Women who serve the Alba household. They wilfully gossip with Poncia.
  - **PRUDENCIA:** A friend of Bernarda's, fifty years old. Highly religious, regrets having let her husband banish their daughter.
  - **A BEGGAR WOMAN:** Begg scraps from one of Bernarda's servants.
  - **A LITTLE GIRL:** Child of the Beggar Woman.
  - **MOURNERS:** Women in black who visit the Alba household after the funeral of Bernarda's husband.
  - **Other Female Characters:** First Woman, Second Woman, Third Woman, Fourth Woman, A Girl

#### OTHER INFO

- Performance dates/times: 8.00 pm on Apr 27, 28, May 2, 3, 4, 5, 9, 10, 11, 12. Matinee performances at 2.00 pm on Apr 29, May 6 and May 12. The day of last performance May 12 has 2 shows: 2.00 pm and 8.00 pm
- For further audition information and other queries, email the director at [joan.thespian@live.com.au](mailto:joan.thespian@live.com.au)
- NOTE: Due to level-crossing-removal works at Rosanna Station, parking adjacent to the theatre is limited. Off-street parking behind Rosanna Library can be accessed via Douglas Street.