

LEND ME A TENOR AUDITION PACKET

Lend Me a Tenor is a fast-paced, classic farce filled with physical comedy, romantic entanglements, mistaken identities, and escalating chaos. All roles require a strong commitment to physical comedy, quick pacing, and periods of intense movement onstage. Actors should be prepared for a high-energy rehearsal and performance process.

AUDITION NOTICE

Audition Dates: February 15 & 16

Audition Time: 7:00 PM

Callbacks: February 17, if needed

Performance Dates:

April 23, 24, & 25

April 30

May 1 & 2

CHARACTER BREAKDOWN

MAX

Playable Age Range: 20s–30s

The anxious, overworked assistant to Saunders and the play's central straight man. Timid and unassuming at the beginning, Max harbors a powerful tenor voice and a deep passion for opera. His journey requires a rapid physical and vocal transformation from a nervous office worker into a commanding stage presence.

Special Requirements:

Must be able to carry a tune.

Includes intimate scenes.

HENRY SAUNDERS

Playable Age Range: 40s–60s

The general manager of the Cleveland Grand Opera Company. Brash, high-strung, and perpetually on the verge of financial ruin or a nervous breakdown, Saunders treats every crisis as a matter of life and death. He barks orders like a military general and is constantly fighting to keep his production from falling apart.

TITO MERELLI (“IL STUPENDO”)

Playable Age Range: 40s–50s

A world-renowned Italian tenor whose charisma and larger-than-life personality have made him an international sensation. Beneath his romantic charm and theatrical grandeur, however, Tito is exhausted by the demands of celebrity. The role calls for strong physical comedy, impeccable timing, vocal presence, and a commanding stage presence.

Special Requirements:

Must be able to carry a tune.

Includes intimate scenes.

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MAGGIE

Playable Age Range: 20s–30s

Saunders' daughter and Max's girlfriend. Romantic and idealistic, Maggie longs for grand passion and is easily swept up in the glamour of the operatic world. Her fascination with Tito creates romantic complications, but she gradually begins to assert her own desires and independence.

Special Requirements:

Includes intimate scenes.

MARIA MERELLI

Playable Age Range: 30s–50s

Tito's fiercely protective Italian wife. Volcanic, sharp-witted, and intensely passionate, Maria has little patience for Tito's wandering eye. She commands attention with her explosive temper, strong physical presence, and unwavering determination to protect her marriage.

Special Requirements:

Includes intimate scenes.

DIANA

Playable Age Range: 20s–30s

An ambitious local soprano and member of the opera guild. Confident, flirtatious, and calculating, Diana sees Tito's arrival as her opportunity to launch a major career. She uses her charm and determination to pursue him, adding another layer of romantic chaos to an already disastrous situation.

Special Requirements:

Includes intimate scenes.

THE BELLHOP

Playable Age Range: 20s and up

An energetic, starstruck hotel employee determined to secure Tito Merelli's autograph. Enthusiastic and relentless, the Bellhop barrels through the hotel with youthful excitement, adding to the production's rapid-fire comedy and escalating confusion.

Special Consideration:

The ability to carry a tune is a plus.

A NOTE TO AUDITIONERS

All roles require strong comedic instincts, physical awareness, and a willingness to commit fully to the fast-paced demands of farce. Actors should be prepared to move quickly, respond instinctively, and work collaboratively to create the precise timing and escalating chaos that make this style of comedy successful.