

SWEET CHARITY – Spring 2010
Scarborough Music Theatre – Audition Information

Director: Michael Hiller

Musical Director: Matthew Otto

Choreographer: Trish Adams

Producers: Linda Ramsay, Mike Scott, Dot Routledge

Stage Manager: Jerry Chadwick

Show Synopsis

Based on the film *Nights of Cabiria* by Federico Fellini, *Sweet Charity* is the story of a girl who wants to be loved so much, that she has lost sight of who she is. Charity sings, dances, laughs and cries her way through romances with the "animal magnetism" hero, the "ultra-chic continental" hero, and the "impossible-to believe-but-he's-better than nothing" type hero. Her world is the all too real world of Times Square, and the people who pass through her world are as deceptively charming a group as ever swept across any stage. From her cynical, hard-core trio of girlfriends at the dance hall, to the phony evangelist, the Coney Island "fun people", the Central Park "strollers" and the YMHA "self-improvers," every character is interesting. This is a bright and sophisticated show in every sense. Cy Coleman has captured the rhythms and sounds, and Dorothy Fields the vernacular and fun of New York. It's a comedy in every sense of the word. Neil Simon has a particular talent for looking at the truly amusing side of life. It's a dancing show too, with great opportunity for use of dramatic movement. Wonderful musical numbers include *Big Spender*, *If My Friends Could See Me Now*, *There's Gotta Be Something Better Than This*, *I'm a Brass Band* and *Baby, Dream Your Dream*.

AUDITIONS:	Tuesday, February 16, 2010	7:00 – 10:30 p.m.
	Wednesday, February 17, 2010	7:00 – 10:30 p.m.
	Saturday, February 20, 2010	1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

CALL-BACKS:	Monday, February 22, 2010	7 – 10:30 p.m.
	Tuesday, February 23, 2010	7 – 10:30 p.m.
	Wednesday, February 24, 2010	7 – 10:30 p.m.

Although call-back auditions are scheduled for over 3 days, individuals called back will be given a schedule specific to the characters for whom they are being considered; this schedule will be communicated to each performer by e-mail prior to February 21, 2010. People auditioning should inform the producers, at the time of their first audition, if there is any time on that day during which they are unavailable.

If you are called back for a role (or roles), you may be asked to prepare specific musical and/or reading selections from the show.

Be prepared to dance at the callbacks!

LOCATION: SMT's Unit, "The Estate" — 51 Estate Drive, Scarborough, Ontario

PERFORMANCE DATES: May 6-9, 13-16, 20-22

ADDITIONAL PRIVATE PERFORMANCE ADDED ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 12.

The two Sunday performances (May 9 and 16) and the final Saturday performance (May 22) are matinees at 2:00 pm; all other performances are at 8:00 pm. Additional performances may be scheduled on the Wednesdays of weeks 2 and 3 if there is sufficient demand. Cast must be available for all performances.

To book an audition, contact Producer Linda Ramsay at smt_auditions@theatrescarborough.com. If unable to respond via e-mail you may telephone her at 416-267-9666.

SMT is a NON-PAYING, NON-EQUITY community theatre group.

AUDITION REQUIREMENTS

Please prepare:

- Two contrasting songs (with a suggestion that one be from the show) of which you should be prepared to sing your best 32 bars. Please bring sheet music in the correct key for the accompanist. All people auditioning may be asked to do some basic range and/or musicianship tests.
- A 2 minute contemporary monologue (Neil Simon preferred, but not from Sweet Charity)
- Everyone will be asked to participate in a short group dance break. Because the brevity of the dance break may not give you the opportunity to show your best moves, all are invited (in particular those women interested in Charity, Helene and Nicki) to prepare up to 32 bars of dance to your choice of pre-recorded music to perform during your individual audition. Anyone who has outstanding gymnastic and acrobatic ability will be given an opportunity to show their "best stuff". Please bring comfortable clothing and appropriate footwear.

OTHER INFORMATION

Rehearsals:	Monday & Wednesday Evenings	7:15pm -10:30pm
	Sunday Afternoons	1:00pm - 6:00pm

1st rehearsal Monday, March 1, 2010

Note: Not all cast members are called for all rehearsals, but must be available if called. it is possible that additional rehearsals could be called from time to time. Cast will be given ample notice if this is to happen.

All members of the cast are required to become members of the group and pay membership fees. In addition, all cast members are expected to help out in other areas of the production *from time to time* with activities such as flyer drops, set construction and painting, etc. All cast members assist in strike after the final performance.

SWEET CHARITY – CHARACTER DESCRIPTIONS

WOMEN:

Charity Hope Valentine: She just wants to be loved. Charity is the eternal optimist, which leaves her vulnerable to predators. She tries to play tough on occasion, but can't pull it off. In the end, however, she's a survivor.

We need a triple threat, here. A great actress with excellent comic timing, a kick-ass dancer in multiple disciplines, and a singer with powerful emotional range. She needs to project warmth and love. Quite simply the audience has to adore her. Age Range: Mid Twenties to Forty. Vocal Range Alto/Mezzo Sop; range: E3-Db5

Nikki and Helene: Charity's best friends and confidants at the Fandango Ballroom. Both are jaded and cynical but within each lives a faint glimmer of hope for something better.

Nikki is the oldest of the trio but she and Helene have to be able match Charity in dance and singing.

Nikki Age Range: 30s-40's Vocal Range: Alto/Mezzo Sop; range: F3-C5

Helene:20s-40s. Vocal Range: Alto/Mezzo Sop; range F3-C5

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Ursala March: Vittorio's Stunning Girlfriend.

The Ladies of the Fandango Ballroom: Carmen
Rosie
Suzanne
Frenchy
Betsy
Elaine

MEN:

Vittorio Vidal: The prototypical Italian Movie Star. Think Marcello Mastroianni meets Vittorio Gassman in their prime. Egotistical and demanding, he can also be witty and charming. Charity brings out his humanity, albeit briefly.

Dancer, Actor, Singer. Vittorio does it all.
Age Range: 30's -40's
Vocal Range: (possibly high Baritone) Bb2-G4

Oscar Lundquist: Oscar is what is politely called a nebbish. This is less an appearance thing than an attitude. He's an obsessive compulsive neurotic, with claustrophobia. But he also falls in love with Charity, which may or may not cure him. Like Charity he has to be likable despite all his quirks.

Age Range: Mid 20's-40
Vocal Range: Baritone; range Bb2-Eb4

Daddy Brubeck: Possibly the Hippest, Coolest Preacher you will ever see. Daddy binds his followers to him with the force of his personality, and passion. He is a living Jazz solo. Another Triple Threat needed here

Age Range- Mid 20's- ?
Vocal Range-Baritone: C#3-E4

Herman: Manager of the Fandango Ballroom. Gruff, surly, bad-tempered and a softy when it comes to weddings. He runs the ballroom with an iron fist

Age Range- Mid 30's-50's

ENSEMBLE: We would like as diverse an ensemble as possible in terms of ethnicity, age, shape etc...Basically we need people who can do everything. There are a lot of great character parts with doubling and tripling in some cases, both men and women. But they all have to be able to sing, dance and act. Remember this is a Neil Simon Script, and the ensemble needs to be funny and versatile.

We hope you'll come out, and look forward to seeing you

Mike Hiller
Trish Adams
Matthew Otto

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