

Directors Note,

Phantom of the Music Hall is set in White Chapel, just before the turn of the century. A rostrum of some sort for the chairman to stand on is set to one side, three pantomime stools and a cutout fireplace for the melodrama are possibly all the set that will be required. However the set may be as simple of a lavish as you like to make it.

A phantom who doesn't like Pantomime is residing in the theatre. Mrs Worthington, the new owner is convinced that Pantomime is the way to make money and so the cast are rehearsing Cinderella. The efforts of the cast to convince th phantom that Cinderella is a Melodrama and not a Pantomime are hilarious.... The play sets out to prove that everyone sees things differently, even ghosts and Phantoms.

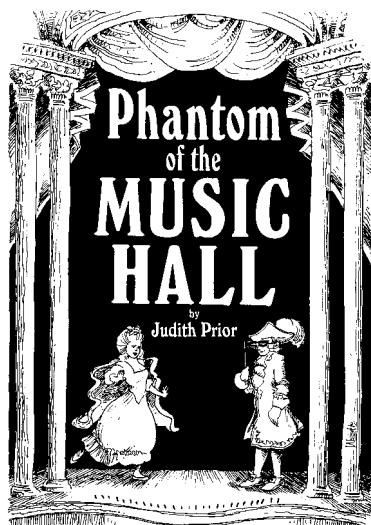
The play is divided into three acts,

Act 1. The Audition. Act 2. The Rehearsal. Act 3. The Performance.

Fore the cue cards in the Melodrama Lilly and Daphne placed one either side of the stage to encourage the audience participation works well. If you have a larger cast you may have two girls just for the cue cards. During the medleys the boys Fred and Charlie could perhaps have large printed song sheets to hold up to the audience.

The script is meant to be flexible and if you have strong singers, by all means put in a few extra songs., if not leave some out. Perhaps a monologue for Eric instead of a song or a song and dance routine with the girls. Alternately you might like to have Charlie or Fred do a solo somewhere.

Above all include the audience at every opportunity. I hope you and your cast enjoy performing Phantom of the Music Hall as much as we did here in Bundaberg.



Phantom of the Music Hall Judith Prior (c) www.judithprior.com

Cast in order of appearance:-

Eric M. C. Suave sophisticated, ladies man.

Martha Cleaning lady, Rough diamond.

Fred Stage Hand, Young, sure of himself.

Charlie Stage hand. Perhaps no as young as Fred.

Mrs Worthington New Owner. Upperclass Stage Mother.

Millie Mrs Worthington's daughter.

Lilly Brassy, loud, worldly, confident.

Daphne Shy, new to theatre.

Guest Soloist Soprano or Tenor

Queen Queen Victoria...Herself!

Arthur Stage manager....Working Class.

Phantom A Gentleman of another era.

Guest artists may be added to the music hall.

Chorus optional.

SUGGESTED MUSIC

ACT ONE

The Audition.

- No 1. The Old Bull and Bush*
- No. 2. Solo Optional
- No 3. With her head tucked
underneath her arm.
- No. 4. Guest Artist. *
- No. 5. Duet for Lilly &
Daphne.
- No. 6. Millie's Solo Audition.
- No 7. Mrs Worthington.
- No. 8. A Tango. *
- No. 9. Boiled Beef and
Carrots.

ACT TWO.

The Rehearsal.

- No. 10. Girls Chorus Dance.
- No. 11. Life on the Stage.
- No. 12. God Save the Queen *
- No. 13. Scottish Song.
- No. 14. God Save the Queen *
- No. 15. Little Bottom
Drawer.
- No. 16. All by yourself
in the moonlight.
- No. 17. The Ballet. *

ACT THREE.

The Performance.

- No. 18. Medley.....*
- No. 19. Right Said Fred.
- No. 20. Oh, Lonesome Me.
- No. 21. Bibbidi-Bobbidi-Boo.
- No. 22. Tango. *
- No. 23. All Shook Up!
- No. 24. Cinderella Rockefeller.
- No. 25. Medley.
With Audience.

N.B

All songs and music are suggestions only as a guide to the type of musical number suitable.

Music is of your own choosing and copyright permission and appropriate licences should be sought where applicable.

Special Directors Note.

As a Music Hall the script has allowed for sixteen songs and six instrumental numbers.

(Three numbers are repeated.)

You may need to add more music, or leave some out to suit your production. The musical content is entirely up to you own interpretation of how much music there should be in a Music Hall.

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ACT ONE

THE AUDITION

THE WHITE CHAPEL MUSIC HALL THEATRE
LONDON 1898.

(THE SET REMAINS THE SAME FOR THE FOR THE
ENTIRE PLAY.)

MUSIC No. 1. .MUSIC HALL MEDLEY.....

**FANFARE AND DRUM ROLL AS ENTER ERIC IN
TUXEDO WHITE GLOVES ETC AS CHAIRMAN OF THE
MUSIC HALL.**

ERIC Good evening Ladies and Gentlemen. Welcome to the White Chapel Music Hall Theatre. My word what a simply, sumptuous, superb, splendid, superior style of audience we have in attendance here tonight. I think you should all give yourselves a big hand just for being here

**.(ENCOURAGE THE AUDIENCE TO APPLAUD PERHAPS
HAVE A GIRL WITH A CUE CARD WHITE ON BLACK
"APPLAUSE" ON ONE SIDE "STOP " AS A STOP SIGN
ON THE REVERSE)**

That's the ticket! And in case any of you didn't know..... it is customary for the audience of any Music Hall to greet the chairman....That's me... with a hearty round of acclamation, that is applause.....**(ENCOURAGE THE AUDIENCE TO**

APPLAUD EVEN LOUDER) Also customary for Music Hall audiences is to say Ooooo! and Ahhh! when they hear the chairman using fancy words.....Oooooo, I can see we're in for a good time tonight. What an audience! Yes, positively packed with particularly pleasant patrons, poised to partake of the preliminary pleasantries.....And now especially for your early entertainment and ecstatic edification I shall eagerly endeavour, to enunciate the opening number of the show.....**(CLEARS HIS AND ASSUMES DRAMATIC SINGING POSE)**

MUSIC No. 2.

(ERIC HAS JUST STARTED SINGING WHEN..... ENTER MARTHA VIGOROUSLY SWEEPING FLOOR...)

ERIC Excuse me! Just what do you think you're doing?

MARTHA Sweeping the floor.

ERIC Yes, I can see that. But why are you sweeping the floor now?

MARTHA I always sweeps it on a Monday night.

ERIC You'll just have to leave it for tonight Martha. Can't you see I'm Rehearsing?

MARTHA But we never rehearse on a Monday night.

ERIC Well we are tonight! I was just practising my opening spiel to the audience and I was about to sing.

MARTHA Go on then.**(CONTINUES SWEEPING)**

ERIC(ERIC SINGS A FEW WARM UP NOTES) Me, me, ...La .la

MARTHA 'ear is that what you were doing just now, when I came in?

ERIC What?

MARTHA Singing?

ERIC Yes! I was trying to sing.

MARTHA Didn't sound like it. I thought you was gargling.

ERIC I'll have you know that I Eric Von Schneider have sung before the Queen.

MARTHA Blimey, I didn't know Queen Victoria sang.

ERIC She doesn't!

MARTHA But you just said she sang after you .

ERIC No I didn't, I said I had sung before.... Oh, it doesn't matter. Will You get off the stage. The rest of the cast should be here any minute and we have a lot of work get through here tonight.

MARTHA Alright . There's no need to get shirty.

ERIC Me,me, me,me, me....La La la....

.MARTHA Just keep your hair on.**(CONTINUES SWEEPING)**

ERIC Me,me, me,me, me....La La la....

MARTHA I was nearly finished here anyway.

(MOVES TO WINGS)

ERIC Will you get off! **(TO THE AUDIENCE)** Ladies and Gentlemen, now as I recall I was about to favour you all with my world famous rendition of...

MARTHA Here, do you mind if I ask you a question before I go?

ERIC (FACING THE AUDIENCE WITH CLENCHED TEETH) What?

MARTHA What did she sing?

ERIC Who?

MARTHA Queen Victoria.

ERIC I just told you she didn't sing anything!

MARTHA Oh, Yair I forgot!..... Oh, and one other thing.

ERIC What? **(STILL POISED TO SING)**

MARTHA How come you're rehearsing on a Monday night? **(ENTER CHARLIE AND FRED FROM OPPOSITE SIDE OF STAGE CARRYING SMALL FIREPLACE)**

FRED Where do you want this Gov?

ERIC (SHOUTING) Just put it anywhere!

(RETURNS TO CHAIRMANS DESK BANGS HEAD ON DESK BURIES HEAD IN FOLDED ARMS)

CHARLIE What's the matter with you? Have a bad day at the track did we? There's no need to take it out on us is there Fred?.... We ain't done nothing wrong!

FRED Yet!

CHARLIE Course we only just got here. 'Eh, Fred. **(THEY PLACE THE FIREPLACE UPSTAGE,)**

(ENTER MRS WORTHINGTON AND HER DAUGHTER MILLICENT PERHAPS THROUGH THE AUDIENCE)

MRS. W You may tell the manager to start now , we're here!

MARTHA(LEANING ON BROOM) Oh, Yeah! And just whom may I say is here?

MRS. W Mrs. Winifred Worthington and her daughter Millicent.....**(SWEEP OF HAND TO INTRODUCE**

MILLICENT, WHO CURTSIES WITH A WOBBLE)

MARTHA(CURTSIES TO MILLICENT) Charmed I'm sure!

MRS. W Well go on then!

MARTHA Well go on what?

MRS. W Run along now there's a good woman. You may go and tell the manager we're here.

MARTHA I don't think I can do that. On account of I don't think we have what you might call a manager.**(GLARING AT ERIC)** As a matter of fact there usually ain't anybody here on a Monday night!

MRS. W Hmph! Then would you please immediately inform whom ever is in charge that we are here for the audition....

MARTHA (SUDDENLY INDIGNANT) What audition? I never heard nothing about no audition.....Here Fred, do you know anything about an audition tonight?

FRED Um...Well now that you mention it..No!

MRS. W (EXTRACTING NEWSPAPER CLIPPING FROM LARGE HANDBAG) The new owner of the White Chapel Theatre has called an audition for a new Musical version of the famous classic Fairy Tale Cinderella..... To be held August 22nd 1898 at the White Chapel Music Hall 8.30