

AUDITIONS NOTICE

Wuthering Heights by Jo Clifford

Please read carefully all the details, in particular rehearsal dates. Please do not audition if you have significant clashes with the rehearsal or performance period. If you are unsure whether unavailability will be an issue please check first by emailing jez.pike@maddermarket.org

Director: Sabrina Poole **Production Dates:** 21st -29th February (10 performances)

Location: Main House

Rehearsal Dates: Read-through and initial character rehearsal before Christmas – dates to be arranged following casting. Main rehearsals commence 6th January.

Audition Dates:

All auditions will be held at The Maddermarket.

1st Round:

Option A: 8th October 2019 (7-10pm)

Option B: 13th October (2.30pm-5.30pm)

Recall date: 27th November (7-10pm)

All auditionees should ideally be available for the recall date.

If you are absolutely not able to make an audition date but want to be seen please still email jez.pike@maddermarket.org

How to sign-up:

Please download the Auditions Submission Form from the website. Complete and return it as an attachment to the Director of Productions at The Maddermarket Theatre, Jez Pike at jez.pike@maddermarket.org. Your information will then be processed, stored and distributed in accordance with General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). The director of the production will then contact you via email to arrange an audition slot.

Scans of the audition extracts can be emailed to you. Alternatively hard copies can be picked up from the theatre office (10.30am-6pm, Mon-Fri). In addition a scan of the script may be requested by email, or alternatively a reading copy is available at the theatre office to read on-site.

Please note that all auditionees must complete an 'Auditions Submission Form' **prior** to auditioning, even if they have had existing contact with or made informal arrangements with the director of that production.

Format of auditions

Extracts provided in advance, they don't need to be learnt. First round auditions will consist of one-to-one readings with the director. Recalls will involve a variety of extracts working with different combinations of actors.

The Maddermarket is committed to making its audition process as accessible as possible. Auditionees may request that reasonable adjustments are made to the audition process in order for them to attend and participate. Please contact the Director of Productions, Jez Pike – jez.pike@maddermarket.org to enquire.

About the Play & Production

Orphan Heathcliff is adopted into the Earnshaw family but finds little love in all but Cathy. The friendship blossoms into a love as wild and passionate as the Yorkshire moors, but Cathy's hunger for advancement will be the spark that ignites a devastating fire in this epic tale of love and revenge.

The script allows for a cast size ranging between 6 (with doubling) and 10 (all single roles). A decision on the doubling of roles will be made during the audition process. Yorkshire accents will be used for all characters apart from possibly the Lintons and Frances. Assistance will be given with accents, more importantly I'm looking for actors with a willingness and ability to express raw and unrefined emotions.

Using the rich language and vivid imagery of the novel, the gothic genre will be brought to the forefront making more of the ghostly hauntings, wild landscapes, and unbridled emotions.

Casting Breakdown

The Maddermarket is committed ensuring its volunteer community – both onstage and off – reflects and celebrates the diversity of the world of which it is a part of. We welcome interest from actors of all backgrounds and identifications and our productions strive to approach casting with a progressive and flexible mind-set at all times.

Female Characters

CATHY (late teens – 20's) – The young female protagonist. Heathcliff's only ally as a child, she is headstrong, wild, and cares nothing for the rules that restrict others. Torn between her passion for Heathcliff and her own ambition, her overriding selfishness set in motion a catalyst motion of events.

NELLY – (20's) – a servant to the Earnshaw's, she grows up alongside Cathy and Hindley. An ever constant presence in the events of the story, her sense, straight talking, and compassion make her a confidant to the protagonists. Has a couple of small songs.

ISABELLA – (teens – 20's) - Edgar's sister. Spoilt and naïve, she's always had everything she has ever wanted, and her youthful vanity settles on Heathcliff, a choice which cuts her off from the few allies she once had. (May be doubled with Frances)

FRANCES – (20's – 30's) – Hindley's wife, she is silly and simpering. She is terrified of Heathcliff, and her sensitive nature struggles to survive against the rugged terrain of the Heights. (May be doubled with Isabella)

Male Characters

HEATHCLIFF – (late teens - 20's) – An orphan brought home by Mr Earnshaw to be raised as part of the family. He is rejected by all but Cathy, whose kindness quickly fosters a passionate love. Powerful and fierce, he is made cruel by the cruelty of others and is consumed by his hurt, anger, and jealousy as Cathy chooses the wealth and refinement of the Linton's over him.

HINDLEY (20's – early 30's) – Cathy's older brother. He is spiteful and angry at the favour shown to Heathcliff over him. His anger and hurt send him on a downward spiral of dangerous behaviour. (Can be doubled with Edgar)

EDGAR – (20's) – rival for Cathy's affections with Heathcliff. He is a well-bred, intelligent and refined gentleman but he is also spoilt and arrogant, showing an open contempt for Heathcliff and a blindness to Cathy's less attractive qualities. (Can be doubled with Hindley)

MR EARNSHAW (40's – 60s) – Cathy and Hindley's father, adopts Heathcliff into the family and serves as his protector against Hindley's attacks. He is brusque but gentle when in the right mood. (can be doubled with Kenneth and Linton)

DR KENNETH – (50+) – the local doctor, though the term is used loosely. Far more interested in drinking than his patients, he is open in his contempt and judgement, and lacking in compassion. (Can be doubled with Earnshaw and Linton)

MR LINTON (40's – 60's) – Father of Isabella and Edgar. The Linton's are proper and prim, they are of a more refined stock than the earthier Earnshaw's. (Can be doubled with Earnshaw and Kenneth)