

# Audition Notice

## Lend Me a Tenor, by Ken Ludwig

Newport Theatre Arts Center, 2501 Cliff Drive, Newport Beach, CA 92663

Production Dates: June 1- July 1, 2018

Director: Gigi Fusco Meese

Audition Dates: Monday and Tuesday, April 16<sup>th</sup> & April 17<sup>th</sup> – 7-9pm

Rehearsals: Mon-Thurs. 7-10pm. Some Saturdays 10-1

All actors are expected to be familiar with the story ahead of time and have a clear idea which roles they would consider. Readings will be from provided sides. Callbacks will be by invitation only. Not all potential cast members will be called back. There is some pay.

Lend Me a Tenor is a classic farce of mistaken identity with an endless stream of slamming doors crafted around the human foibles surrounding romance, lust, and a zest for life. Set in a 1930's Cleveland hotel as a world-class opera star is coming to town to headline the local opera company's social function of the year.

### **Characters:**

**Max:** (Late 20's-30's) Assistant to Saunders - An aspiring singer. His worst enemy is his lack of self-confidence. He spends his time as a doormat to his future father-in-law and trying to convince Maggie that he is marriage material. *NOTE: This role requires the actor to sing Italian Arias and, at times, speak with an Italian accent.*

**Maggie:** (20s) Max's Girlfriend - pretty, quirky; a young woman who doesn't want to settle for the seemingly mundane life she has with Max. She longs for an adventurous fling, one which will allow her to "hear bells."

**Saunders:** (mid-50s) Maggie's father and the General Manager of the Cleveland Grand Opera Company - authoritarian; an uptight man with a short fuse, most of which he takes out on Max. He owns the pressure of the Opera Company.

**Tito:** (30s to 40s) A World Famous Tenor also known to his fans as Il Stupendo - imposing; a womanizing Italian who loves Maria, but finds difficulty resisting the advances of the opposite sex, who seem to advance frequently and with considerable momentum. *NOTE: This role requires the actor to sing Italian Arias and speak with an Italian accent.*

**Maria:** (30s to 40s) Tito's wife - Sophia Loren-type: busty, proud, and excitable; a passionate and temperamental Italian woman who is growing weary of her husband's wandering eye (and body) for the opposite sex. *NOTE: This role requires the actor to speak with an Italian accent.*

Bellhop: (age open) A bellhop - a highly energetic fan of Tito's, who uses his occupation to get close to the international star. *NOTE: This role requires the actor to sing.*

Diana: (mid 30s) a soprano with the Cleveland Grand Opera Company - beautiful, sexy; a member of the opera company who has been "flinging her way through the whole cast." Playing Desdemona opposite Tito, she thinks that he might be her ticket out of Cleveland into the big time.

Julia: (60s) Chairman of the Opera Guild - over the hill, ex-diva, for whom the Cleveland Grand Opera Company is the center of her small pretentious world.

Note: Those auditioning for Tito, Max or the bellhop will be asked to sing an unaccompanied song of their choosing lasting no more than half a minute.

Note: Max, Tito and the Bellhop engage in operatic singing on a couple of occasions. All of these roles will be cast with the best actors, regardless of their singing capabilities. Some vocal coaching may be employed to achieve realistic results.