

MYSTERY *at* Shady Acres



'Mystery at Shady Acres' is an audience-participation mystery comedy in 2 acts.
Will be run as a tabled BYO nibbles event in May 2021.

Genre: Comedy/mystery

Setting: Old English hotel foyer

Casting information:

HOTEL STAFF AND GUESTS

EDWARD FAIRFAX, a wealthy, middle-aged American hotel guest

BLANCHE FAIRFAX, Edward's beautiful but snobbish wife

AUDREY ROCHESTER, attractive American secretary

STANLEY LARSON, charming but penniless British chap

ALBERT BRIGHTHAM, hotel guest

INGRID BRIGHTHAM, Albert's wife

MR. X, mysterious man in black

MR. HENRY CLIFFORD, hotel owner and manager

NIGEL, desk clerk

HEIMLICH, German chef

GRETA WHYTE, maid

BETH MORGAN, another

LAVINIA CRAWFORD, another

ENGLISH TEA GARDEN TOUR GROUP

CATHY, enthusiastic tour guide

FREDERICA FRUMPET, grumpy elderly woman

LOIS BANKS, middle class traveller

POLICE

CHIEF DOVER WICKFIELD, Chief of Police, heads up the investigation

LT. THEODORE DORRIT, member of the police department

SGT FARLEY O'DOYLE, another

DETECTIVE AGENCY

DETECTIVE PHILIP THORNTON, flamboyant and ineffective "private eye"

EMMA REID, Thornton's efficient and intelligent assistant

Plot: The audience's help is needed to solve the baffling theft at Shady Acres, a cozy hotel tucked away in the remote English countryside. The hotel staff is frantically preparing for the arrival of their most prestigious guests ever — the wealthy and famous Fairfaxes from America. Everything seems to be going awry as the hotel is turned topsy-turvy with zany activity. Finally, hotel manager Mr. Clifford manages to usher the English Tea Garden tour group out of the lobby early and to straighten out the confusion between the Fairfaxes and the Brighthams, another pair of wealthy guests. Just when he thinks everything is going smoothly, Mrs. Fairfax's valuable diamond necklace is stolen! Who could it be? And who is the mysterious

man lurking about who signed the hotel register as Mr. X? The police discover that practically everyone at the hotel has a motive. Having a flamboyant but ineffective detective and his assistant arrive on the scene competing to solve the case first only makes matters worse. Good thing the audience is there to help point out the clues and analyse motivations.

Production Team:

Directors: Jo Van Leerdam & Toby McKenzie

Production Manager: Sue Place

Considerations:

We are excited to be once again working towards presenting a production and our aim is to do our best and reconnect our wonderful community. We are committed to doing this in a COVID Safe way to ensure we look after the health and wellbeing of everyone involved.

To facilitate this, there will be procedures that will need to be followed as part of our COVID Safe Plan and in line with current Government restrictions, it is an expectation that any person auditioning and taking part will be compliant with these guidelines.

Please come along and join the fun...but let's do it safely.

Auditions: Dates: Wednesday, February 24 and Thursday, February 25.

TO BOOK: Please email publictyctc@gmail.com with date preference to be given a time.

We will try and be as flexible as possible, so if you have any issues with dates please don't hesitate to contact us. **Auditionees must be 16+ as of March 16.** Auditions will consist of interactive reading in character. We would like to see people attempting English accents. Please fill out the form in this pack and bring it along.

Rehearsals:

Schedule of rehearsal dates is attached. Please be aware that this may be subject to change and that some characters will not be needed at all rehearsals. By committing to this production, you are committing to rehearsals as scheduled. Orange rehearsals are compulsory. Please indicate on your form if you know any dates you cannot attend.

Key Dates:

- Rehearsals start: Tuesday, March 16
- Tech rehearsal: Saturday, 8th May
- 1st dress rehearsal: Tuesday, 11th May
- Final dress rehearsal: Wednesday, 12th May
- 6 (potential) Performances:
 - Friday, 14th May
 - Saturday, 15th May
 - Thursday, 20th May
 - Friday, 21st May
 - Saturday, 22nd May (x2)
- Bump out (and potential extra show): Sunday, 23rd May

Audition Materials:

A script reading to practice can be found in this pack. Choose a character. You may then be asked to read as several characters.

Production Team Contacts:

Jo Van Leerdam 0438 519 965

Toby McKenzie 0409 617 627

Sue Place 0419 138 135

NIGEL: Good day, sir. *(He nods politely.)* Can I help you?

MR. X: Yes, I'd like a modest room just for the weekend, please.

NIGEL: *(Confused.)* A modest room? I don't understand. *(Shakes his head.)*

MR. X: Inexpensive, cheap. I'd like a small, modest room.

NIGEL: *(Nodding, understanding.)* Ah, yes. I understand now. Please sign your name here. *(He points to the guest registry with a pen. MR. X signs the page and then holds out his suitcase for NIGEL to take it to his room.)* Oh no, so sorry, sir. I cannot leave the desk for any reason. My boss said so. You have to carry your things to your room yourself—good exercise. *(MR. X, obviously irritated, mutters something about poor service and EXITS UP CENTER with his suitcase. MR. CLIFFORD ENTERS VP CENTER and when he does, BETH quickly stuffs the newspaper under the cushion of the couch so it sticks out a little. She and the other MAIDS quickly resume their duties.)*

MR. CLIFFORD: Nigel, who was that man that just passed me in the hallway?

NIGEL: He's a new guest, sir—Mr. X.

MR. CLIFFORD: Mr. X? What kind of a name is that? Mr. X? Let me see that. *(He reaches for the registry to look at the latest entry.)*

NIGEL: I told him to sign his name and he just signed "X" So I call him Mr. X.

MR. CLIFFORD: How odd... wait a minute! Nigel, why didn't you show him to his room and help him with his suitcase?

NIGEL: *(Smiling smugly.)* I was following your orders.

MR. CLIFFORD: What orders?

NIGEL: You told me not to leave the desk.

MR. CLIFFORD: I meant... oh, never mind what I meant! Miss

Whyte, Miss Morgan, Miss Crawford, have you not finished cleaning in here yet? Our weekend guests are expected to arrive anytime now, and I don't want you hovering around with feather dusters!

(He EXITS LEFT. The THREE MAIDS finish their dusting and then EXIT UP CENTER. MR. X ENTERS UP CENTER, glances around, notices the newspaper sticking out of the couch and pulls it out to read.)

NIGEL: Hello, Mr. X! *(Waves.)* Did you find your modest room all right? *(EXITS as LOIS ENTERS)*

MR. X: *(Loud.)* Yes! *(Mutters.)* No *(Loud.)* thanks *(Mutters.)* ...to you.

LOIS: *Disgruntled. Taps the bell excessively. NIGEL re-enters. LOIS continues to tap bell as NIGEL looks on reprovngly)* I'm sorry *(stopping)* I'm not quite myself, I just came across an American couple in their limousine a few miles back. I thought they'd broken down but when I offered to help I was told to 'mind my own business' and that if I touched their car again they'd file a lawsuit! The nerve! *(Gathers herself)* I'd like a room please.

SHADY ACRES REHEARSAL SCHEDULE (DRAFT)			
DATE	TIME	VENUE	WHAT WE'RE DOING
Tuesday, 16th March	7.00pm - 9.00pm	Theatre Royal Bath St	Welcome - introduction to Shady Acres Read through show
Thursday, 18th March	7.00pm - 9.00pm	Theatre Royal Bath St	TBC
Tuesday, 23rd March	7.00pm - 9.00pm	Theatre Royal Bath St	TBC
Thursday, 25th March	7.00pm - 9.00pm	Theatre Royal Bath St	TBC
Tuesday, 30th March	7.00pm - 9.00pm	Theatre Royal Bath St	TBC
Thursday, 1st April	7.00pm - 9.00pm	Theatre Royal Bath St	TBC
Easter Weekend			No rehearsal
Tuesday, 6th April	7.00pm - 9.00pm	Theatre Royal Bath St	TBC
Thursday, 8th April	7.00pm - 9.00pm	Theatre Royal Bath St	TBC
Tuesday, 13th April	7.00pm - 9.00pm	Theatre Royal Bath St	TBC
Thursday, 15th April	7.00pm - 9.00pm	Theatre Royal Bath St	TBC
Sunday, 18th April	1.00pm - 5.00pm	Theatre Royal Bath St	Complete run through for continuity and consistency throughout play.
Tuesday, 20th April	7.00pm - 9.00pm	Theatre Royal Bath St	TBC
Thursday, 22nd April	7.00pm - 9.00pm	Theatre Royal Bath St	TBC
Tuesday, 27th April	7.00pm - 9.00pm	Theatre Royal Bath St	TBC
Thursday, 29th April	7.00pm - 9.00pm	Theatre Royal Bath St	TBC
Sunday, 2nd May	1.00pm - 5.00pm	Theatre Royal Bath St	Costume full cast photo. Cast costume photos. TBC
Tuesday, 4th May	7.00pm - 9.00pm	Theatre Royal Bath St	TBC
Thursday, 6th May	7.00pm - 9.00pm	Theatre Royal Bath St	Runthrough
Saturday, 8th May	12.00pm - 5.00pm	Theatre Royal Bath St	TECH REHEARSAL (Start 1.00pm) Costumes, props and tech only
Sunday, 9th May Mother's Day			No rehearsal
Tuesday, 11th May	7.00pm - 10.00pm	Theatre Royal Bath St	DRESS REHEARSAL (Start 7.30pm) Costumes, props and tech only
Wednesday, 12th May	7.00pm - 10.00pm	Theatre Royal Bath St	FULL DRESS REHEARSAL (Start 7.30pm) All costumes, makeup, hair, props and tech
Thursday, 13th May	TBA if needed	Theatre Royal Bath St	REST DAY - BUT KEEP FREE
Friday, 14th May	Cast call 5.30pm TBC Show time TBC	Theatre Royal Bath St	OPENING NIGHT
Saturday, 15th May	Cast call 5.30pm TBC Show time TBC	Theatre Royal Bath St	PERFORMANCE 2
Tuesday, 18th May	7.00pm - 9.00pm	Theatre Royal Bath St	RUNTHROUGH show from start to finish
Thursday, 20th May	Cast call 5.30pm TBC Show time TBC	Theatre Royal Bath St	PERFORMANCE 3
Friday, 21st May	Cast call 5.30pm TBC Show time TBC	Theatre Royal Bath St	PERFORMANCE 4
Saturday, 22nd May	Cast call 11.00am TBC Show time TBC Show time TBC	Theatre Royal Bath St	PERFORMANCES 5 & 6
Sunday, 23rd May	Bump out (Potential show)	Theatre Royal Bath St	Bump Out Compulsory

school holidays

orange = compulsory



Camperdown Theatre Company Inc.

SHADY ACRES Audition Form

Name

Address

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Email D.O.B. / /

Home Phone Mobile

Age Are you on Facebook? Yes No

Preferred method of communication Email Mobile (Text) Facebook

Please note that the above is for during the rehearsal period only. All audition applicants, successful or unsuccessful will be phoned first, then the preferred method used (if needed).

Please
attach
headshot
here

I am 16+ and auditioning for:

(ages calculated as of March 16, 2021)

Role(s) interested in:

Our rehearsals will be Tuesday and Thursday evenings, and some others from mid March 2021 onwards. All cast will be expected to attend all rehearsals they are required for. Please specify if there are any days/dates you cannot attend, bearing in mind that prolonged periods/key dates may affect our ability to cast you:

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Production experience (musicals and plays) (attach separate sheet if needed)

Don't worry if you have limited experience, this is a great place to start.

NAME OF SHOW

YEAR

COMPANY

ROLE



Camperdown Theatre Company Inc.

Code of Conduct

The Camperdown Theatre Company requires all members, performers, production staff and volunteers to conduct themselves in a safe, fair and respectful way. To help build, develop and keep members of the Company safe, members, performers, production staff and volunteers are required to focus on these values and conduct themselves by the following Code of Conduct:

Teamwork

1. Commit to rehearsals, learn lines, songs, dances and be punctual.
2. Co-operate with the production team at all times.
3. Ensure mobile phones are turned off or silenced during rehearsals and only accessed during a break.
Ensure mobile phones are turned off at all times during performances.
4. Inform the Director of the production at your earliest convenience when you are not able to attend a rehearsal.

Personal Growth

5. Engage in all rehearsals, performances, promotions and events in a positive manner that positively represents the Camperdown Theatre Company.
6. Be responsible for their own belongings and not bringing valuables to rehearsals or performances.
7. Look for ways through participation in theatre to grow and mature as a person.

Safety

8. Dress appropriately for rehearsals, wearing safe footwear and comfortable clothing. Limit jewellery.
9. Not consume illegal or prohibited substances.
10. Not consume alcohol under any circumstances during rehearsals or performances of any production.
11. Take responsibility for their own health and safety, ensuring that their actions do not risk the health and safety of themselves or others.

Relationships

12. Act with honesty, integrity, care and diligence.
13. Treat all members with courtesy and dignity being fair and considerate when dealing with others.
14. Refrain from behaviour that is threatening, aggressive, violent, discriminatory, harassing physically, verbally or sexually towards any other member.
15. Refrain from bullying behaviour. Bullying is behaviour that intimidates, degrades, insults or humiliates another person.
16. Ensure membership fees are paid.

Creativity

17. Obtain permission from the Director or Production Manager before reproducing or uploading onto social media any production information, images or video taken during rehearsals or of the production.
18. Be creative in your participation with Camperdown Theatre Company and respect the creativity of others.

Grievances

If you have a grievance or feel that you have been unfairly treated you are encouraged to raise this issue with any member of the Committee of Management or the Theatre Company Secretary for immediate and confidential assistance.

Breach of the Code of Conduct

A breach of the Code of Conduct will be considered by the Committee of Management and may result in a process of mediation or a member being disciplined, suspended or expelled.

I: agree to uphold the Code of Conduct detailed above during the current production of I acknowledge that I have read and understand my rights and responsibilities as part of this production.

Signed: Date: / /

If U18, please have a parent or guardian sign also. The undersigned agrees to support the above signed:

Parent/Guardian: