



Mr. Les Misérables

upstage
theatre
COMPANY

PRODUCTION INFORMATION PACK



ABOUT UPSTAGE THEATRE COMPANY

Upstage Theatre Company

Upstage Theatre Company is a dynamic and creative theatrical organisation situated in South East Melbourne.

Our Mission

Our goal is to produce engaging and diverse performances that inspire, entertain, and provoke thought among our audiences. At Upstage Theatre Company, we understand the transformative power of storytelling to unite people from all backgrounds. Our productions will showcase a mix of classic, contemporary, and Australian works, with a significant focus on fostering local talent and presenting pieces that embody the unique essence of our community.

ABOUT RENAISSANCE REVIVAL ORCHESTRA

A project of The McCaffery Family, celebrating Warragul's arts & cultural revival with top musicians across Gippsland and Melbourne with a focus on community collaboration.

The Renaissance Revival Orchestra was founded in 2024 by Malcolm McCaffery with a clear and joyful mission: to revitalise classical performance and make orchestral music more welcoming, vibrant, and relevant. Based in Warragul, Gippsland, the orchestra brings together musicians from across a broad regional area, creating a dynamic and diverse ensemble united by a shared passion for music. Though grounded in the traditions of Baroque and classical repertoire, the orchestra also embraces film scores, musical theatre, and original works by local composers. Our goal is to break down the sense of formality or exclusivity that can sometimes surround classical music and instead celebrate community, creativity, and accessibility. We provide a unique space for advanced students to gain their first orchestral experience, while also encouraging adults who are returning to music after time away to reconnect with their instrument in a supportive and relaxed environment. Recent performances have featured live orchestral accompaniment for musical theatre and film music concerts, reflecting our strong belief in the richness and immediacy of live performance. These concerts bring warmth, nuance, and emotional depth to every moment. We are especially proud to contribute to *Les Misérables*, where our musicians help bring Victor Hugo's powerful story to life. We are deeply grateful to our concertmaster, Jayne Neilson, whose generosity in offering her music school, Fiddlesticks, as a rehearsal space made our first season possible. With this spirit of collaboration at our core, the Renaissance Revival Orchestra continues to grow. In the coming years, we hope to reach new audiences, support more local talent, and expand into fully staged operas and ballets.

PRODUCTION TEAM

Director	Cody Riker
Vocal Director	Anna Castle
Movement Director	Lana Kleesh
Conductor	Malcolm McCaffery
Production Managers	Tim Warren-Smith & Tori Moore
Set & Costume Design	Scott J Hili
Lighting Design	Samuel Victoria
Sound	TBA
Props	Simone Lim
Technical Director	Jason Lord

LES MISÉRABLES SYNOPSIS

Set in 19th-century France, *Les Misérables* is an epic tale of justice, redemption, and the unbreakable human spirit. The story follows Jean Valjean, a former convict who breaks parole to begin a new life after serving 19 years in prison for stealing a loaf of bread. Despite his efforts to live righteously, Valjean is relentlessly pursued by Inspector Javert, a rigid officer of the law obsessed with upholding justice.

As Valjean's journey unfolds, he becomes the guardian of Cosette, the orphaned daughter of Fantine, a woman driven to destitution and despair. The backdrop of political unrest and the June Rebellion of 1832 in Paris adds urgency and tragedy, as young revolutionaries fight for freedom and a better future. Among them is Marius, who falls deeply in love with Cosette, sparking a story of passion, sacrifice, and hope.

With unforgettable characters, soaring music, and themes of love, mercy, and social justice, *Les Misérables* weaves together personal struggles and historical turmoil into one of the most powerful musicals ever created. It reminds us that even in the darkest times, compassion and courage can transform lives — and that every soul has the right to be redeemed.

IMPORTANT DATES

Children's Auditions	Wednesday 26th November -7:30- 10:20
Adult Auditions	Thursday 27th November -7:30- 10:20
	Friday 28th November -7:30- 10:20
	Saturday 29 th November - 7:30- 10:20
Movement Auditions	
All Children	Sunday 30th November - 11:00 - 12:00
Adult Group A	Sunday 30th November - 12:30 - 1:30
Adult Group B	Sunday 30th November - 2:00 - 3:00
Call backs	Wednesday 3 rd December 7:30 - 10:00
Set Construction Begins	Saturday 29th November 10:00 - 4:00pm (Weekly)
Meet and Greet	Sunday 14th December 1:00 - 4:00pm
Costume Fitting	Saturday 4th January 1:00 - 4:00pm
Rehearsals Commence	Sunday 5th January 1:00 - 5:00pm
All Day Rehearsals	Sunday 18th January 10:00 - 5:00pm
	Sunday 8th February 10:00 - 5:00pm
	Sunday 1 st March 10:00 - 5:00pm
All Day Rehearsals	Monday 26 th Jan Monday 9 th March
Rehearsal Weekend	Saturday 21 th & Sunday 22 th March. 9:00am - 5:00 pm Both Days
Costume Fittings Day	Saturday 14 th February - 1:00 - 5:00pm
Photo Shoot	Saturday 7th March 1:00 - 5:00pm - Location TBA
Costume Parade	Saturday 14th March 1:00 - 5:00pm
Sitzprobe	Wednesday 25 th March 7:00 - 11:00 - Locational Warragal
Bump In	Thursday 1 st April times - TBA
	Friday 2nd April - SET TECH timesTBA

PRODUCTION WEEK

PRODUCTION WEEK	Saturday 3rd April - Tech
	Sunday 4th - AprilTech
	Monday 5 th April Tech - Dress Grenouilles Cast
	Tuesday 4th April - Tech - Dress EscargotsCast
	Wednesday 5 th April - Dress Grenouilles Cast
	Thursday 6th April - Dress Escargots Cast

SHOW SCHEDULE

SHOWS

Friday April 10th @7:30pm - GRENOUILLES CAST

Saturday April 11th @7:30pm - ESCARGOTS CAST

Sunday April 12th @1:30pm - GRENOUILLES CAST

Thursday April 16th @ 7:30pm - ESCARGOTS CAST

Friday April 17th @7:30pm - GRENOUILLES CAST

Saturday April 18th @ 1:30pm - ESCARGOTS CAST

Saturday April 18th @ 7:30pm - GRENOUILLES CAST

Sunday April 19 @ 1:30pm - ESCARGOTS CAST

Bump out

Sunday April 19 - 5:00 - 9:00pm

Please note,

Bump in and production week is over the Easter Holidays.

AUDITION REQUIREMENTS - Please Read Carefully

General Preparation:

All auditionees must prepare **one contemporary musical theatre song** that demonstrates both vocal range and storytelling ability. This should be no longer than 4 minutes in total.

Children

ALL CHILDREN auditioning should prepare one song they know well and can sing confidently and in tune.

Sheet Music Only:

All performers must bring sheet music in the correct key for our accompanist. No transpositions will be done on the day.

Backing tracks are **not permitted** - this is to ensure your performance connects musically and emotionally live in the room.

Specific Roles:

- **Jean Valjean** (male-identifying performers) must also prepare a second, classical musical theatre or opera piece (preferably in English or French).

Movement Audition:

All auditionees are required to attend a movement audition as part of the process.

AUDITION AND REHEARSAL VENUE

Upper Pakenham Hall

285 Bourke's Creek Road, Upper Pakenham

Rehearsals are:

Monday Evening	7:30-10:30pm
Wednesday Evening	7:30-10:30pm
Sunday Afternoon	1:00pm- 5:00pm

See other times listed under important dates.

You may be called outside of these times for costumes, makeup and or extra rehearsals as required.

We will endeavour to give you as much notice as possible for any adjustments.

MEMBERSHIP & FEES

To participate in the production, all cast members and those directly involved must become Upstage Theatre Company members. This involves completing the membership process and paying the required fees during the first rehearsal. It is essential for legal and insurance purposes, and compliance is mandatory for involvement in rehearsals.

Membership Details:

- Single Show Membership Fee: \$45.00 per show (valid for the specific production)

Show Fee:

- Les Misérables show fee Adults: \$220.00
- Les Misérables show fee Under 18: \$120.00

Payment due at the first rehearsal.

Contact the production manager Tim Warren-Smith or Tori Moore for payment arrangement requests.

MAKEUP SHOES AND UNDERWEAR

Health regulations require that makeup cannot be shared. You will need to buy your own makeup, shoes, and hosiery as recommended by the Costume Department.

Additionally, you must supply your own underwear, and standard clothing items like pants or shirts tshirtd etc. Men should have dance belts/ballet support, while women should have supportive underwear and a sports bra. This is crucial for your well-being and physical support.

CODE OF CONDUCT

Respect fellow Cast Members and Production Team members.

Be on time. Be prepared. Be quiet during rehearsals.

If you are running late or experience any problems, please call the

UPSTAGE PHONE NUMBER: **0419 237 711**

You must sign the attendance roll when you arrive at the Upper Pakenham Hall. This is important in the event of an evacuation or emergency.

All cast will be provided with a rehearsal schedule detailing the scenes that will be worked on at each rehearsal. There is an expectation that the cast will have familiarised themselves with the scheduled scenes in the days before the rehearsal. Rehearsals are for workshopping, refining, and perfecting, not learning lines.

Rehearsals are restricted to persons directly involved in the production. Cast are welcome to attend and watch every rehearsal, even if they are not scheduled.

Tea, coffee, etc., are available in the Kitchen.

All participants are asked to pitch in and help at working bees to help get the show on the stage. No matter what your skill level, we can find an appropriate job. Many hands make light work.

A script will be allocated to you at the first rehearsal. These are hired from MTI and must be returned after the performance season. These can only be marked with an HB pencil, which must be erased before returning. Please do not use a pen or highlighter, or a script replacement fee of \$50 will be incurred.

DIVERSE CASTING

There are no specific contracted casting requirements for this show. However, our production team prioritises representation and diversity on stage, aiming for equal opportunity in casting as a core value based on talent rather than appearance. We embrace diversity in all its aspects, believing it fosters a safer and richer environment, elevates the artistic quality of the show, mirrors Australian society more authentically, and enhances the final product's overall quality. By advocating for inclusive and equitable casting practices, we aspire to contribute to normalising these standards in Victorian amateur theatre.

WORKING WITH CHILDREN

UPSTAGE THEATRE COMPANY continues to have a STRICT policy to protect children from potential harm or abuse.

All CAST/CREW/PRODUCTION STAFF/COMMITTEE & VOLUNTEERS 18 years and above will work directly with children under 18. Unless an exemption applies, you must submit a Working with Children check (WWC check). Or if you are a Registered Teacher in Victoria, you must present a valid VIT card. This will be required on your audition form.

WWC checks are carried out by the Department of Justice and Community Safety (the department). Further, all Committee and Production Team volunteers from 1/1/2023 must submit for a Criminal/Police Check. We reserve the right to refuse an audition or disengage you from the Production if a valid WWCC/VIT card is not submitted with your audition form.

If you DO NOT have a valid VIT or WWCC you will not be able to participate in the production.

VOLUNTER AGREEMENT

All Auditionees/Contractors and Volunteers MUST SIGN a volunteer agreement. This agreement will be part of the Audition application Process

SHOW MERCH

We will be ordering Show hoodies or T-shirts. The cost is \$75 dollars each.

All orders must be placed in December with \$40 deposit, the remainder payable prior to collection before receipt of item.

CHARACTER TRACKS

Jean Valjean

Sings to B, high lyrics baritone or tenor, with both strong low notes and a strong falsetto. A poor peasant who rises to affluence, he has great natural nobility and dignity. A powerful figure, with a character of operatic size and passion. The voice needs to have a pop/rock sound or a classical sound of extraordinary textual clarity.

Gender: male Age: 35 to 49

Vocal range top: B4 Vocal range bottom: G#2

Javert

Baritone, sings to G. Must have a natural gravitas with ability to be expressive and dynamic. Policemen who relentlessly hunts Valjean. An imposing character. The ultimate 'law and order' figure. Obsessed, to the point of irrationality, with rigid and merciless moral code.

Gender: male Age: 35 to 49

Vocal range top: F#4 Vocal range bottom: F2

Fantine

Belts up to C, sings to E flat. Poor but beautiful and elegant factory girl, struggling to support her fatherless daughter. Later is a pauper, a prostitute, a consumptive and a ghost. Earthy and poignant. Although she is finally defeated by circumstances, she should appear to be strong and a survivor. She puts up a valiant fight against the horrors of her life.

Gender: female Age: 20 to 30

Vocal range top: Eb5 Vocal range bottom: F3

Eponine

An enormous and beautiful belt voice, with a contemporary edge. Belts to C sharp, sings to E flat. Daughter of the Thénardiens but in no way behaves like them. Fired by an unrequited love for Marius. Gamine. Hasn't learned to disguise her emotions; wears her heart on her sleeve.

Gender: female Age: 18 to 25 Vocal range top: E5

Vocal range bottom: F3

Cosette/Lovely Lady

Soprano to high C but a light, young 'floating' sound, without heavy vibrato. Fantine's daughter (first seen as and played by a child) is delicate, elegant, vulnerable and beautiful. Falls in love with and later marries Marius

Gender: female Age: 18 to 25 Vocal range top: C6

Vocal range bottom: Bb3

Thenardier/Prisoner

Baritone, sings to F sharp. Strong comic character role. A crooked innkeeper, later a petty, amoral thief. Greedy, irreligious, selfish, boorish, vulgar.

Gender: male Age: 35 to 50

Vocal range top: G4 Vocal range bottom: C2

Madame Thenardier/Factory Worker

Belter. Tough, sharp, coarse, boorish, vulgar. Strong character comedienne role. Gender: female

Age: 30 to 50

Vocal range top: D5 Vocal range bottom: G#3

Marius/Prisoner

High baritone, sings to A with a strong bottom A. Member of the revolutionary student movement. Attractive and romantic but in a sensitive, 19th century 'Byronic' way.

Gender: male Age: 18 to 25

Vocal range top: Ab4 Vocal range bottom: A2

Enjolras/Prisoner

High baritone/tenor to G sharp/ B flat. Very strong singer. Handsome, charismatic political figure, leader of the revolutionary movement.

Gender: male Age: 20 to 29

Vocal range top: G4 Vocal range bottom: A2

Gavroche (CASTING 2)

Gavroche is Thénardier's son. He is left to fend for himself and lives by his wits in the streets of Paris. Gavroche is brave, witty, and arrogant, with a fantastic, unchanged voice. Each Will perform 4 of the 8 Shows equally, when not on in this role will be in ensemble for the other shows and on standby

Gender: male Age 9 to 13

Vocal range top: G5 Vocal range bottom: B3

Young Eponine (CASTING 2)

Young Eponine is the pampered daughter of the Thénardiers. She does little except taunt Young Cosette. Each Will perform 4 of the 8 Shows equally, when not on in this role will be in ensemble for the other shows and on standby

Gender: female Age 9 to 13

Little Cosette (CASTING 2)

Young Cosette is Fantine's daughter and the Thénardiers' ward. She has been forced into child labor. She is underfed, beaten by Madame Thénardier, and bullied by Eponine. Each Will perform 4 of the 8 Shows equally, when not on in this role will be in ensemble for the other shows and on standby

Gender: female Age 9 to 13

Vocal range top: C5 - bottom: A3

The Bishop Of Digne/Fauchelevant

Must have a strong, rich lower register to a bottom A. Although capable of playing great age, the actor playing the Bishop is cast in a variety of roles and needs flexibility to play a range of ages. A religious man who, despite Valjean's theft of his valuable possessions, sees past the convict and allows him to move on with his new life.

Fauchelevant is the victim of the cart crash.

Gender: male Age open

Vocal range top: E4 - Vocal range bottom: A2

Foreman/Farmer/Combeferre

To form part of the ensemble, along with the featured ensemble part of Factory Foreman. An overbearing, sleazy man who runs the factory. Sacks Fantine, leaving her destitute.

Gender: male Age 25-45

Vocal range top: D4 Vocal range bottom: D3

Bamatbois/Montparnasse

To form part of the ensemble, along with the featured ensembles part of Bamatabois. A nasty and dangerous upper-class man who lecherously approaches Fantine for the night. When she declines and attacks him, he calls on Javert to arrest her.

Montparnasse - Thenadiers gang

Gender: male Age 18-30

Vocal range top: D5 Vocal range bottom: D3

Claquesous/Guard

A member of Thénardier's gang of thieves. Claquesous is tough, dangerous, and secretive.

Gender: male Age 18-30

Vocal range top: E4 Vocal range bottom: C4

Feuilly/Tooth Seller

Member of the ABC society, a secret society of students and workers. Feuilly is a worker who is a self-educated orphan. He is an affectionate, warm, and poetic believer in "nationality."

Gender: male Age 18-30

Vocal range top: D4 Vocal range bottom: D3

Brulon/Prisoner/Sailor

Member of the ABC society, a secret society of students and workers.

Gender: male Age 18-30

Vocal range top: D5 Vocal range bottom: D3

Babet/Prisoner/Sailor

Thenardiens Gang

Gender: male Age 18-30

Vocal range top: D5 Vocal range bottom: D3

Courfeyrac & Ensemble

Member of the ABC society,

Gender: male Age 18-30

Vocal range top: Eb4 Vocal range bottom: E3

Joly & Ensemble

Member of the ABC society, a secret society of students and workers. Joly is an eccentric and light-hearted (although sometimes morbid) medical student. His name is derived from the English word "jolly."

Gender: male Age 18-30

Vocal range top: G4 Vocal range bottom: D3

Grantaire & Ensemble

To form part of the ensemble, along with the featured ensemble part of Grantaire. A cynical student who has little interest in the revolution but who holds much admiration for Enjolras. Witty and sarcastic.

Gender: male Age 18-30

Lesgles & Ensemble

Member of the ABC society, a secret society of students and workers. Lesgles is a cheerful, laughing-at-life (but unlucky) student. He is a close friend of Joly.

Gender: male Age 18-30

Vocal range top: G4 Vocal range bottom: B3

Jean Prouvaire & Ensemble

Member of the ABC society, a secret society of students and workers. Prouvaire is a kind, soft-spoken, and, at the right moments, strong and masterful poet and student of social studies.

Gender: male Age 18-30

Vocal range top: Eb4 Vocal range bottom: D3

Ensemble Characters Male and Female

The Chain Gang, Warders, Constables, Peasants, Factory Workers, Prostitutes, Pimps, Students, Thénardier's Gang, Wedding Guests, and other various roles.

Men must be able to sing to at least a G.

Women must belt to a D.

Children's Ensemble Male & Female

We are looking for 6 kids between 8 & 14 to participate in the show in some of the scenes in the production. they will form part of the ensemble, Gavroche's gang and used at the directors discretion.

CAST SIZE: 42