



# CHICAGO

**Gosford Musical Society - October/November 2017**

# PRODUCTION TEAM

- Director -Toni Williams
- Choreographer -Karen Snook
- Musical Director -Christopher Hochkins
- Production Manager -Brenda Donnelly
- Stage Manager -Anthea Kearney
- Costume Designer -Jamie McKenzie
- Costume Assistant -Benita Kearney
- Choreographer's Assistant -Jane Hart
- Set Designer - Simon Castle

# Production Team

- Vocal Coach -Dani McIver
- Show stylist -Megan Johnston
- Props -Tala Kaalim
- Assistant Props -Danielle Cross
- Assistant Prod Manager -Louise Swan
- Assistant Stage Manager -Benita Kearney
- Lighting Designer -Damian Rice
- Social Media -Jamie Mackenzie
- Anthea Kearney

# SHOW DESCRIPTION

In roaring twenties Chicago, Roxie Hart murders a faithless lover and convinces her hapless husband Amos to take the rap... until he finds out he's been duped and turns on Roxie. Charged and sent to death row, Roxie and another "Merry Murderess" Velma Kelly, vie for the spotlight and the headlines, ultimately joining forces in search of the "American Dream": fame, fortune, and acquittal.

This sharp edged satire features a dazzling score

# Roxie Hart

- Stage Age 20-30.
- Innocent, sexy, desperate, selfish. Roxie is not very bright and never thinks about the consequences of her actions before she says or does things. Roxie makes bad decisions throughout the show – all in the name of public recognition. Despite being a generally dis-likable character, Roxie remains strangely sympathetic to the audience because we understand that her selfishness isn't totally evil. Roxie Hart's unrelenting search of fame and glory forms the spine of “Chicago”
- Needs to be a strong actress, singer and dancer. (Mezzo)
- Audition song – Funny Honey (bar 1-44 and 64 to end)
- Call back song – Own best friend (bars 1-47) – sung with Velma

# Velma Kelly

- Stage Age 25-35.
- Sarcastic, sexy, tough, funny. Velma is a former vaudeville performer who resides in Cook County Jail after she murdered her cheating husband and sister. Velma often breaks the fourth wall and addresses the audience directly to explain certain events within the show.
- Needs to be a strong actress, singer and dancer. (Alto)
- Audition song - All that Jazz (bar 1-20, 65-67, 142 to end)
- Call back song – Own best friend (bars 1- 47) – sung with Roxie

# Billy Flynn

- Stage Age 35-55.
- Sexy, persuasive, manipulative, masculine. Billy is a suave, educated lawyer who can persuade anyone to do anything. Billy will take any case as long as it is sure to put money in his pocket. Billy is a lot like a Hollywood Agent.
- Needs to be a strong character actor who can sing and dance well. (High Baritone)
- Audition song – All I care About is you (bar 23 to end)
- Callback song – Reached for the Gun (bar 5 - 110) – only billy's parts

# Amos Hart

- Stage Age 30-50.
- Charming, funny, vulnerable, timid man. Amos is an average guy who's not very smart. Manipulated easily, Amos is the only character in Chicago whose motives are entirely pure, never selfish and he's the only character who really loses ultimately.
- Strong character actor who can sing well. (Baritone)
- Audition song – Mr Cellophane (bar 1-53)
- Callback song – Mr Cellophane (82 to end)



# Matron “Mama” Morton

- Stage Age 35-65.
- Sassy, funny, powerful and tough. The matron of the Cook County Jail who believes that all favours she gives should be reciprocated or paid for. If Billy is the Agent, Mama would be considered the Manager.
- Needs to be strong character actor who can sing well and move ok. (Alto)
- Audition song – When you’re good to Mama (bar 1-53)
- Callback song – When you’re good to Mama (bar 1-53 and 88 to end)

# Mary Sunshine

- Any age.
- Looking for a male soprano or counter tenor who can sing legitimately up to a high B flat. Must play a woman with the image of a good natured talk show hostess but is actually a high powered gossip columnist. Strong singer and actor.
- Audition song – Little bit of Good (bars 1 to end)
- Callback song – Little bit of Good (bars 1 to end)

# Cell Block Girls (Merry Murderesses)

- **Girls** – open ages
- Open ages – need to be strong singers, strong actors and can dance
- The Cell block Girls will be doubled up as ensemble or dancers
- The five Cell block Girls each audition their monologue plus sing
- Audition song: Bars 149 to end “Cell block Tango”

- **Hunyak:** Accused of chopping off her husband's head. She is actually innocent (one of the only ones), but because she only speaks Hungarian and refuses to plead guilty, she is found guilty and hanged. This is a challenging role as all her lines are in Hungarian.
- **Liz:** Killed her husband with a shotgun because he "popped" his gum.
- **Annie:** Found out her husband had several wives and killed him with Arsenic.
- **June:** Killed her husband with a carving knife after he found out she cheated on him.
- **Mona:** Killed her boyfriend after she found out he was sleeping around.

## Dancers

- **Dancers - female:** 16 & over – outstanding dancers and can sing
- **Dancers - male:** 16 & over – outstanding dancers and can sing

## Ensemble

- **Ensemble female:** 16 & over – must be strong singers, actors and must be able to dance
- **Ensemble male:** 16 & over – must be strong singers, actors and must be able move well

- **Go-to-Hell Kitty:** Kills her boyfriend in her apartment after coming home and finding him with two girls. She is wealthy and goes crazy telling everyone to "go-to-hell". This female will double as dancer or ensemble - this will be cast after show is cast.
- **Master of Ceremonies:** This person is responsible for introducing all the "Vaudeville Acts." Must have strong speaking ability, lots of energy and presence. This person may double as a male/female dancer or ensemble or may be cast as a cameo role.

This part is to be auditioned with dialogue only.

# Other Characters

Fred Casely, Sergeant Fogarty, Foreman,  
Harrison (District Attorney), Judge,  
Tailor/Bailiff/Court Clerk/Doctor/Reporters, etc.  
These are small roles that will be played by  
members of the ensemble.

# Auditions

## Friday 12<sup>th</sup> May - GMS Shed

- 5pm -7pm: 10 min private auditions for lead roles
- 7.15pm: all female dancers & female ensemble (incl Roxie, Velma & Cell Block Girls). This is a dance & singing audition

## Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> May — Options Theatre Co 4/8 Stockyard Place, West Gosford

- 8.30am-10.00am (arrive at 8.00am): All male dancers and male ensemble (including Billy). This is a dance & singing audition
- 10.30am onwards: 10 min private auditions for lead roles



**Monday 15<sup>th</sup> May** - Options Theatre Co. 4/8 Stockyard Place, West Gosford

- 6pm dancing audition and private auditions for those unable to attend the weekend auditions. After these auditions done, call backs will start

**Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> May** - Options Theatre Co. 4/8 Stockyard Place, West Gosford

- Second Call Backs (ff required)

**Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> May – CAST ANNOUNCEMENT**

To book an audition time please email Brenda Donnelly on [bejamkids@hotmail.com](mailto:bejamkids@hotmail.com) , after which you will receive a confirmation of time and audition info should you not be able to download it from the GMS web page or FB.

Please arrive 30 minutes prior to your booked time

# Rehearsals

- First rehearsal Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> May, 2017 – 7.30pm
- Rehearsals will be Tuesday and Thursday nights 7.30pm from 30<sup>th</sup> May - 27<sup>th</sup> July.  
Venue TBC
- 31<sup>st</sup> July to 11<sup>th</sup> October Rehearsals will change to Monday and Wednesday nights at GMS Shed.

There will be the occasional Sunday rehearsal for the large dance numbers.

There will be plenty of notice given for these.

- **Bump in** is Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> October and the **show opens** Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October for a 4 week season finishing Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> November, 2017.

*Yes we understand this is a long rehearsal period so if anyone is going away YOU MUST let us know on your audition forms so we can work around this during rehearsals. Obviously a large holiday or time off will be taken into consideration at your audition.*

- Note: We will strictly be following a 3 x no show to rehearsals then no show for you policy!!!! It sounds tough but we want this show to be a huge success and we need a very strong commitment from EVERY cast member.



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