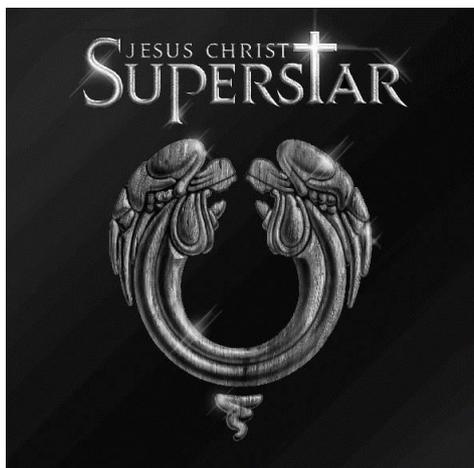


CARDIFF OPEN AIR THEATRE FESTIVAL: EVEYMAN 19

Sophia Gardens
Cathedral Road
Cardiff CF11 9SQ

AUDITION NOTICE



A **Andrew Lloyd Webber &
Tim Rice**

Director : **Richard Tunley**
Musical Director : **Rob Thorne Jnr.**

sung through rock opera – no dialogue.

One of the greatest stories ever told comes to life in the ground-breaking, iconic rock opera that reinvented musical theatre for the modern age. With music by Andrew Lloyd

Webber and lyrics by Tim Rice, this global blockbuster tells the story of the final days in the life of Jesus Christ, from the perspective of Judas Iscariot. As Christ's followers grow more fervent, Judas must make his fateful choice between faith and betrayal. Filled with an exciting mix of musical styles that draw upon 1970s rock, gospel, folk, and funk themes, this contemporary imagining of the biblical tale features high-energy dance and powerful storytelling. Loosely based on the Gospels, Superstar focuses on the personal conflicts between Jesus, his disciples, the people of Israel, and the leadership of Rome. Special attention is played to the relationship between Judas Iscariot and Jesus, as well as Jesus' relationship with Mary Magdalene. The musical is unique among biblical retellings in that it focuses on both Judas' struggle making the decision to betray Jesus and Jesus' human psychology, fear, and anger in understanding and accepting his role as both leader and martyr.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE:

What's the buzz?

I am beyond excited to be directing **JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR** for the 2019. Festival. It has recently had a renaissance across the country with professional revival productions taking place in prestigious venues including Regent's Park. So Cardiff shouldn't miss out! Such a tremendous choice for the 2019 festival. It a wonderful contrast to previous shows and I am very much looking forward to creating a JCS bespoke for the outdoor setting of the Festival. The story of Jesus is well known for its importance to the scriptures and for its religious implications but politics are at the centre of the story of Jesus. His historical life ended with a political execution. Crucifixion was used by Rome for those who systematically rejected imperial authority, including chronically defiant slaves and subversives who were attracting a following. Jesus represented a saviour, the Messiah that would restore order and peace. Jews, in Jesus's time, believed that the Messiah was more likely to be a strong military leader than a gentle, moralizing preacher. Little wonder that the authorities were nervous of his growing popularity.

In **JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR** we join Jesus' story very close to its finale and his subsequent execution. We will give this production a contemporary context. The political fight will be relevant and real. The passion that underpins the plot will be explored thoroughly and we will create a show that speaks to us today.

Rich Tunley

Character Breakdown

ALL CAST MUST BE STRONG SINGERS.

Please note that character ages are PLAYING AGES

Apart from the KEY ROLES, all others will be part of the ENSEMBLE and will play:

Lepers, Cured Lepers, Merchants, Soldiers, Judas' Tormentors, Reporters & Temple Ladies

ALL cast will be expected to move.

JESUS: Rock Tenor

Male 20s-30s. As much a pop culture idol as a religious leader, driven, charismatic, attractive, sincere, has a greater understanding of the dangers and matters at hand than any of his followers; rock tenor-low Bb to high E.

MARY MAGDALENE: Beautiful Belter

Female 20s-30s. Struggles with aligning her worldly past with Jesus' message, hopeful, steadfast, fragile, sweet with an edge; folk mezzo-low G# to B.

APOSTLES:

JUDAS: Rock Tenor

Male 20s-30s. Jesus' strategic confidante, dedicated, passionate, conflicted, unshakably practical, torn between an aggressive sense of self-preservation and the ideals of Jesus' religious movement; rock tenor-low D to high E.

PETER: Tenor

Male – 20s-30s – Close to Jesus (along with James & John) a loyal follower of Jesus. Innocent and soft-spoken. A spokesman of the twelve.

Without question, the apostle Peter was a "duh"-ciple most people can identify with. One minute he was walking on water by faith, and the next he was sinking in doubt. Impulsive and emotional, Peter is best known for denying Jesus when the pressure was on. Even so, as a disciple he was dearly loved by Christ, holding a special place among the twelve.

SIMON: High Baritone

Male 20s-30s. As a zealot, Simon has a fanatical and uncompromising pursuit of his religious and political beliefs. Particularly enthusiastic supporter of the anarchist aspect of Jesus' mission, reckless, extreme, ready for an uprising.

OTHER APOSTLES - All vocal ranges

JAMES & JOHN: Brothers. Jesus called them 'the sons of thunder'. Closest to Jesus (along with Peter). Both devoted to Jesus and his teachings.

Fiery temperaments.

James is enigmatic and a born leader. He is key figure in the apostles.

John is often thought to be Jesus' favourite. He is the only apostle not to abandon Jesus when the others run away.

ANDREW: The first to follow Jesus. A fisherman who dropped his nets to follow the saviour. His mission is to point people towards Jesus. A modern day publicist maybe?

PHILLIP: One of the first to follow Jesus. Reliable. Proactive in calling other followers to join (such as Nathaniel). Strong beliefs.

NATHANIEL: Initially sceptical, he soon became a strong supporter of Jesus. His faith is strong and he is unshakeable.

MATTHEW: was a dishonest tax man hated by the Jews. He recognises Jesus as someone worth fighting for. He longs to be accepted and loved.

THOMAS: Prone to extremes. One minute an ardent follower and the next doubtful. Thomas is practical – he needs to see things for himself he cannot always be confident with blind faith.

JAMES: A keen follower of Jesus. Quieter than some of the others. Thoughtful.

THADDEUS: A sensitive man who displays compassion. Tender-hearted with a tremendous sense of humanity.

THE PRIESTS:

CAIPHAS: Low Bass/Rocky Top

Male 30s-50s. High Priest of the Pharisees, at the top of a crumbling system and violently resistant to conceding his place, cold, severe, strategic; bass-low C to middle F.

ANNAS: High Baritone

Male or Female 20s-40s. The right hand man to Caiphas. Calculating and slithering. High rock tenor.

PRIEST 1—Bass

PRIEST 2—Baritone

PRIEST 3—Tenor

PONTIUS PILATE: Rock Baritone

Male 30s-40s. Roman Governor, calculated, thoughtful, adept at handling pressure, not quick to use the gravity of his power; rock baritone - low A to Bb.

KING HEROD: High Baritone

Male 30s-50s. King of Galilee responsible for determining the fate of its Jewish captives, corrupt, condescending, decadent, charming with a sneer; low B to high B.

FEMALE ENSEMBLE: All should have strong voices & great dance ability.

SOUL GIRL 1—Low Belt

SOUL GIRL 2—Middle Belt

SOUL GIRL 3—High Belt

ENSEMBLE GIRLS x6 – 2 low belt, 2 middle belt, 2 high belt.

PRODUCTION DATES

Tech and Dress – Monday July 22nd, Tuesday July 23rd, Wednesday July 24th.

Evening Performances – Thursday July 25th to Saturday August 3rd (no performance on Sunday July 28th).

Matinees Performances on Saturday July 27th and Saturday August 3rd.

The Director – Rich Tunley

Rich trained at the Royal Welsh College of Music & Drama and is no stranger to outdoor theatre. **JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR** marks his fourteenth production for the Summer Festival. He also directed *Twelfth Night*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Comedy of Errors* and *Tickledom* at Dyffryn Gardens.

Richard has many productions to his credit. Some of his favourites being: *Les Miserables: Student Edition*, having directed its European premiere for Sir Cameron Mackintosh as part of the inaugural Cardiff International Festival of Musical Theatre; and the brand new musical comedy *Come Fly With Me* for its world premiere at the Wales Millennium Centre. Rich was a creative on a new adaptation of Ivor Novello's *The Dancing Years* – a workshop performance produced by the Wales Millennium Centre and he was associate director on *Tiger Bay* for Wales Millennium Centre and Capetown Opera.

In 2007 Richard formed Black RAT Productions. Now in its eleventh year, the company has an impressive body of professional work including *A Zoo Story*, *Oedipus*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *Romeo & Juliet*. The company has also produced successful tours of *Bouncers* with Mike Doyle, *Up 'n' Under: The Welsh Tour* - a collaboration with John Godber, Tim Firth's *Neville's Island*, the classic French farce - *Boeing Boeing*, Ayckbourn's comedy *Bedroom Farce*, the hit West End comedy thriller *The 39 Steps*, the hit comedy *One Man Two Guvnors* and *Loot* to theatres throughout Wales.

Locally, Richard has also directed for Orbit Theatre Company at The New Theatre with shows including the Welsh premieres of *Witches of Eastwick* and *The Producers*.

He has directed panto for Imagine theatres and OMTC and Richard writes and directs pantomime for RCT Theatres, now in its ninth successful year. He also directs for Simply Theatre Productions in Geneva having directed *Oliver*, *Barnum*, *Oh, What a Lovely War!* and *Singing in the Rain*.

The Musical Director – Rob Thorne Jnr.

This is Rob's fourth year as MD on the festival having taken the reigns for *Sweet Charity*, *Into The Woods*, *Spamalot* and last year's *Fiddler on the Roof*. Rob was born in Cardiff and educated at Liverpool Institute of Performing Arts, University of Wales and gained a vocal scholarship to The Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama. Rob has worked in almost every aspect of theatre from design, direction, musical direction and performance and recently played Jake in the UK/Ireland tour of *Showboat* with Capetown Opera Company in partnership with Wales Millennium Centre.

Professional credits include: *York Family Robinson*, *Humpty Dumpty*, *Dick Turpin*, *Sinbad the Sailor*, *Cinderella*, *Aladdin*, *Sleeping Beauty*, *Mother Goose*, *Babes in the Wood* and two productions of *Jack and the Beanstalk*; York Theatre Royal. Some of his work on their legendary pantomimes is now part of the Victoria and Albert museum theatre archive. *Treasure Island*; Glasgow Pavilion [with comedian Brendan O'Carroll]; *Aladdin*, *Jack and the Beanstalk* and *Cinderella* for QDOS Entertainment and two productions of *Cinderella* at Malvern and Sunderland Empire for UK Productions. *Everybody Loves Me*; Criterion Theatre [Mercury Musicals]. *Barnum*; Birmingham Rep. *Return to the Forbidden Planet*; Birmingham Old Rep. *Club Tropicana*, *The Hot Mikado*, *Good News!* and the revival of *Peggy Sue Got Married*; ARTSED London. *Feather Boy* with new songs by Don Black; Brighton Market Hall.

Touring and regional theatre includes: *Joseph*, *Fame*, *Sweeney Todd* and *One Man, Two Guvnors*. Rob is Artistic Director of Orbit Theatre, another of Cardiff's long standing theatrical companies.

Rehearsal days and times – to be confirmed.

A draft rehearsal schedule will be available at auditions but they are likely to be:
Monday evenings, Wednesday evenings & Sunday late afternoon/evenings

The Auditions

Before auditioning, please take a moment to consider the necessary level of commitment.

Take careful note of the rehearsal period and be honest about your availability within it.

Although the rehearsal process takes place over a number of weeks, consistent and punctual attendance is essential as we will be operating within a very tight schedule.

A high level of unavailability, persistent lateness and/or no-show will regrettably result in you being asked to leave the production.

The auditions will be held at ORBIT STUDIOS, Cardiff on the following dates:

Monday, 28th January 2019 18.00 - 22:00
Tuesday, 29th January 2019 18:00 - 22:00
Friday 1st February 2019 18:00 - 22:00

- **If you would like to audition but cannot attend on any of these days, please let us know as soon as possible.**
- Please arrive **15mins before** your audition slot and bring with you your completed audition form with photograph attached. Spare audition forms will be available on the day.
- **When booking an audition slot**, please refer to the character breakdown.
- **Prepare a song** from any musical play of your choice. **Please bring sheet music with you.** You may, of course, choose a song from *JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR* but you should still bring sheet music in case there is a difference in the key you have selected and the score. You will be discouraged from singing unaccompanied. If you wish to use a backing track – please let us know beforehand.
- **Not being recalled** does not necessarily mean you are not being considered for a role.
- **Please note that attendance at the Festival Company Meeting on Sunday 5th May, 2pm is expected for all cast.**

To reserve your place at the audition, contact Amanda Smith.

Email: Nearly50@outlook.com or Telephone: 07540434046

We look forward to seeing you!

CARDIFF OPEN AIR THEATRE FESTIVAL: EVERYMAN 19

Audition Form for

Jesus Christ Superstar

To book your audition time please contact **Amanda Smith**.
Email: Nearly50@outlook.com or Telephone: 07540434046

Please put a
[current] photo
of yourself here!

**Please write clearly and don't forget to bring this form,
complete with photograph, to your audition!**

Name.....

Date of audition.....Time.....

Address.....

Postcode.....Email address.....

Tel.no [home]..... [work/mobile]

Age..... Height.....

ANY SPECIAL SKILLS – e.g., dancing, singing, juggling, musical instrument playing,
etc.....

Don't keep secrets! Please state **any and all commitments** [family/work/holidays/other shows etc] that **may** clash with
the rehearsal period! Continue overleaf if necessary.

PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE [continue overleaf if necessary].....

Role(s) you are to auditioning for.....

Song selected for audition.....

Would you be prepared to accept other roles including ENSEMBLE? – yes/no

Are you auditioning for the other Festival shows? Yes / No (if yes, please state which ones)
Are you already a member of Everyman Theatre? Yes / No (please note that everyone cast must become an Everyman
member)

PLEASE DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE

NOTES:

Not cast / recalled / cast asacceptance rec'd **yes/no**