



Audition Pack

Hi there!

Thank you for your interest in 'The Secret Garden' – we are so excited you're thinking about auditioning!

In this audition pack you'll find the show, rehearsal and audition information. As well as complete character breakdowns and show fee information.

Following reading the following document, if you'd like to audition please contact bsctheatricals@gmail.com to confirm your audition slot.

Show Information

'The Secret Garden' by Frances Hodgson Burnett, centres on Mary Lennox, an orphaned child who moves to England to live with her uncle, Archibald Craven. On his remote country estate, deep in the Yorkshire Moors, Mary discovers mysterious and tragic secrets hidden within 'The Secret Garden'.

To fully appreciate the story, the 1993 film adaptation serves as a perfect reflection of Burnett's tale. I would recommend either reading the novel or watching this adaptation.

The show will be performed at **Burnside Memorial Hall, Plumtree, Nottingham NG12 5ND**. The performance dates are **Saturday 20th August 2pm and 7.30pm**, and **Sunday 21st August at 2pm**.

In addition to these two dates, technical rehearsals on **Thursday 18th August, and Friday 19th August** will take place in the evening. Attendance is compulsory for all these listed dates.

Further performances may be added should the show reach popular demand. The options for extension include a performance on **Friday 19th August at 7.30, or Sunday 21st August at 7.30**. Any additional performances will be discussed with the full company during the rehearsal period. These additional performances will only be added if there is significant demand.

Our vision for the performance is a high energy, reimagining of Burnett's classic tale. This will include plenty of movement sequences similar in style to 'Frantic Assembly'.

Performances such as 'The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time' and 'A Monster Calls' are a good indicator of the performance style.



BSC THEATRICALS

Rehearsals

Rehearsals will be held above at 'The Workshop', Wood Lane, in the grounds of Gedling House.

They will occur every Monday and Wednesday evenings from 7.30 – 10.00 (approx). Rehearsals begin on **Monday 6^h June** and will run continuously until the show dates.

Upon a successful audition, you will be invited to submit a rehearsal availability form, we will then create a rehearsal schedule that best reflects the overall cast availability.

Whilst we appreciate this is everyone's hobby, we do expect high levels of commitment from all our casts. This show does have limited rehearsal time, however, we will work with you to accommodate you as much as possible.

Auditions

Auditions will be held in 15 minute slots, on **Monday 30th May** or **Wednesday 1st June 2022**. Individually you will meet with the director and movement director. We will ask you to perform a piece of script provided in advance and have an informal chat with our production team.

Please ensure you email bsctheatricals@gmail.com to confirm your audition slot. Please do tell us which role(s) you'd like to be considered for. We will send over the script for the largest role you are auditioning for.

Auditions will be held at the Reckless Dance Studio, above, The Workshop, adjacent to Gedling House, Wood Lane, Gedling, Nottingham, NG4 4AD



SatNav will take you to Wood Lane, go under the bridge and up the lane, as the road bends sharp left, and there are two private roads to the right, first one is the School, take the second entrance (signpost Daisies Days child nursery & Meditation Centre) and go straight down the lane into Gedling House grounds, straight on at the mini roundabout, and up towards the car park. The Workshop is just after the house on the right.

To access the building, use the pedestrian door at the rear of the building

Due to the nature of our venue, we ask that you please wait in your car/outside the building until you are called forward by our team. Following your audition, we ask that you leave the venue immediately.

We will contact you via email, within 48 hours with the results of your audition. Unfortunately, due to high levels of demand, it is not always possible to offer a role to everyone who auditions.

If you have auditioned for a particular role, we may ask you to audition for another role during your slot. In these circumstances, we understand you are seeing the script with no time to prepare!

Show Fees and Policy

BSC Theatricals does not charge a membership fee, instead we ask that you pay a one off 'show fee' of **£35**. This is counted as a contribution to the required stage insurance and costume costs.

We work with a variety of costume hire agencies to provide the highest quality costumes for our productions. It may be required for cast to purchase basic costume elements, such as shirts or 'everyday' accessories, these will be discussed throughout the rehearsal process.

Upon a successful audition, we will ask all the cast to sign a 'Code of Conduct' agreement, and confirmation form. Details will be held in accordance to our GDPR policy, which can be viewed on our website, or on request by emailing bsctheatricals@gmail.com.

Failure to comply with our 'Code of Conduct' agreement may result in you being re-cast and dropped from the show.

Character Breakdowns

Roles are identified with a M for male identifying roles and F for female identifying roles.

Mary Lennox (F) – One of the adaptation's two protagonists, Mary is a ten-year-old girl, who, following the death of her parents in India is sent to live with her Uncle in Yorkshire. Mary changes dramatically throughout the play, evolving from a spoiled, unloved and unloving creature to a girl full of spirit and surrounded by friends.

Accent: RP Playing Age: 18-25

Colin Craven (M) – The other protagonist Colin, is Archibald Craven's son and heir. He was born shortly after the death of his mother. His childhood has been almost entirely bedridden, as a result, Colin is extremely imperious and gloomy. Like Mary, he undergoes a transformation, and becomes a vigorous optimist who will eventually win his father's love.

Accent: RP Playing Age: 18-25

Martha / Ayah (F) – Mary's friend and maidservant. Her simplicity and kindness are a great help to Mary. Martha represents the goodness of all the people of Yorkshire.

Ayah is a servant on Mrs Lennox – seen only in the first scene. Ayah requires a neutral accent.

Accent: Strong North Yorkshire and RP Playing Age: 18-25

Dickon (M) - Slightly older than Colin and Mary, Dickon is described as a "common moor boy." He has lived on the moor his entire life, and has a uniquely intimate relationship with

the land. He has the power to tame wildlife, this also works with Colin and Mary, and is one of the central causes of their wondrous transformations.

Accent: Strong North Yorkshire Playing Age: 18-25

Mrs Medlock / Mrs Lennox (F) – The head servant at Misselthwaite Manor. She is distinguished by her punctilious obedience to Master Craven’s odd rules. Beneath her rigid exterior, she like all the people of Yorkshire, is basically kind.

Mrs Lennox is Mary’s mother who wanted to spend all her time attending parties and conversing with other beautiful and happy people. She didn’t want to have a child, so when Mary was born, she was passed to Ayah to look after. Mrs Lennox shows great neglect for Mary and is shown to be evil and abusive to servants. She dies after the first scene.

Accent: Strong North Yorkshire and RP Playing Age: 40 - 70

Archibald Craven / Mr Lennox (M) – The master at Misselthwaite Manor. He has been in a crushing depression since the death of his wife. He spends most of his time abroad, since he wants to see neither his house, nor his son, Colin. He undergoes a change of heart when he sees that Colin has regained perfect health.

Mr Lennox is a very small part who appears in the first scene as Mary’s father.

Accent: RP Playing Age: 40 - 70

Ben Weatherstaff / Inspector 1 (M) – The gruff elderly gardener who is only permitted to stay at Misselthwaite because he was a favourite of the late Mistress Craven. He introduces Mary to the robin and helps the children keep the secret of the garden. Ben also tended to the garden in the ten years it was locked away out of love and loyalty Mistress Craven. Although he is rather rough, Ben’s essential kindness is fundamental to his character.

Inspector 1, is a small part who appears in the first scene.

Accent RP and North Yorkshire Playing Age: 40 - 70

Dr Madeleine Brés / Mrs Phipps (F) – A Swiss doctor, who Mr Craven visits to discuss his own condition. They have a slight chemistry developing throughout their scenes together.

This doubles with Mrs Phipps, a servant who works for Misselthwaite.

Accent: North Yorkshire and Swiss Playing Age: Any

Dr Craven / Mr Pitcher / Inspector 2 (M) – Archibald’s brother and Colin’s uncle, he tends to Colin during his illness. He is stuffy and officious, both Colin and Mary laugh at him at every opportunity. Described as a weak man, it is revealed he hopes for Colin’s death so that he could inherit Misselthwaite.

Mr Pitcher is Archibald’s servant who accompanies him on all his trips.

Inspector 2, is a small part who appears in the first scene.

Accent: RP

Playing Age: Any

Playing ages are not strict, we will consider all ages, these serve as a guide only.

Unfortunately, at this time, auditions are 18+ only.

Should there be a high demand for roles, some parts may not be doubled. Auditions are only required for the role listed first.

Conclusion

Thank you so much for taking the time to read our audition pack, we hope you are as excited as we are. Don't forget to confirm your audition slot by emailing us at bsctheatricals@gmail.com.

Any further questions? Please don't hesitate to contact us at bsctheatricals@gmail.com or via our social media channels.

We look forward to working with you and break a leg at our auditions!

Ben Bradley

Director

Jennifer Reckless

Movement Director