



Birdie Productions

Presents

Disney THE LITTLE  
MERMAID

AUDITION INFORMATION

## About The Little Mermaid

Based on one of Hans Christian Andersen's most beloved stories and the classic animated film, *Disney's The Little Mermaid* is a hauntingly beautiful love story for the ages. With music by eight-time Academy Award winner, Alan Menken, lyrics by Howard Ashman and Glenn Slater and a compelling book by Doug Wright, this fishy fable will capture your heart with its irresistible songs, including "Under the Sea," "Kiss the Girl" and "Part of Your World."

Ariel, King Triton's youngest daughter, wishes to pursue the human Prince Eric in the world above, bargaining with the evil sea witch, Ursula, to trade her tail for legs. But the bargain is not what it seems, and Ariel needs the help of her colourful friends, Flounder the fish, Scuttle the seagull and Sebastian the crab to restore order under the sea.

## Production Team

Producer	Rodney Bertram
Director	Elle Zattera
Musical Director	Joshua Ransom
Choreographer	Craig Nhobbs
Set Design	Jordan Vassallo
Digital Set Design	Adam Ring & Chae Rogan
Costume Design	Rachael Adams

## Rehearsals

Rehearsals will be held on Sundays starting from Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2018 through to 1<sup>st</sup> April 2018, from 10am-5pm.

Please note a full cast read through will take place on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2017.

## Production Schedule

Saturday 7 April: Bump In

Sunday 8 April: Sitz Probe & Technical Rehearsal

Monday 9 April: Dress Rehearsal

Tuesday 10 April: Dress Rehearsal

Wednesday 11 April: Dress Rehearsal

Thursday 12 April: Night off

## Show Dates and Times

13<sup>th</sup> April 2017- Opening Night- 8pm

14<sup>th</sup> April 2017- 2 x shows- 2pm & 8pm

15<sup>th</sup> April 2017- 2 x shows- 11am & 4pm

20<sup>th</sup> April 2017- 1 x show- 8pm

21<sup>st</sup> April 2017 – 2 x shows- 2pm & 8pm

22<sup>nd</sup> April 2017- 2 x shows- 11am & 4pm

## Auditions

Auditions will be held at Dance Theatre Network, Roselands on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November from 9am.

To be eligible to audition for the cast of The Little Mermaid all auditionees must be at least 16 years old at the time of their audition, except for those going for the role of 'Flounder'

Please prepare ONE song from a Disney Show or similar (Excluding The Little Mermaid) to sing at your audition. If there is a lead character you are considering, please characterise your song choice to the characteristics of that role described. Please prepare a song that best shows your vocal ability.

You may not be able to perform your song in its entirety and may be cut off before finishing. Please take this into consideration regarding preparing your song choice and:

- \* Please provide Two (2) separate copies of your sheet music for you audition (One for the audition Pianist & one for the audition panel.
- \* Please provide your Vocal Range (if known) to the Musical Director prior to your singing audition on the audition form
- \* A Vocal Range check may be required after your singing audition. You will be informed by the Musical Director and/or audition panel at the time.
- \* All cast required for a call back will be asked to prepare a section of music from the show provided by the audition panel. If you are not requested for a call-back, this does not mean you have not been considered for a part in the production.
- \* Prepare to do a cold read of an excerpt of the script if required

All auditionees will be required to participate in a group dance audition

Please note, all roles will be performed with a general American accent except for the roles of 'Sebastian' (Caribbean accent) and 'Chef Louie' ("outrageous" French accent)

Call backs will be held on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> November from 10am at Dance Theatre Network, Roselands

# Audition Bookings

Auditions will take place in the following format:

9am-10am:	Vocal and acting- Group 1
10am-10:30am:	Dance- Group 1 & 2
10:30am-11:30pm:	Vocal and acting- Group 2
12pm-1pm:	Vocal and acting- Group 3
1pm-1:30pm:	Dance- Group 3 & 4
1:30pm-2:30pm:	Vocal and acting- Group 4
2:30pm-3:30pm:	Vocal and acting-Group 5
3:30pm-4pm:	Dance- Group 5 & 6
4pm-5pm:	Vocal and acting- Group 6

To book your audition simply send an email to [thelittlemermaid@birdieproductions.com.au](mailto:thelittlemermaid@birdieproductions.com.au) with the following information:

1. Your name, age, email address and contact number
2. Copy of your CV
3. Headshot
4. Role/s you wish to audition for

You will receive an email within 48 hours confirming your time slot. Please arrive 20 minutes prior to your allotted time.

## Roles

- All roles cast through the audition process will be unpaid
- **Please note that some roles may be cast prior to auditions by professionals.** Some of these roles will have understudies cast from the audition process who will also form part of the ensemble. The understudies will not be guaranteed a performance in the lead role.

Character	Vocal Range	Description
Ariel <i>* This role has been cast. We will be casting an understudy only</i>	Mezzo soprano Ab4 – E5	Ariel is a strong-willed teenaged mermaid who longs to be human. She possesses a keen curiosity for the world both under and above the sea- much to the chagrin of her father, King Triton. Big-hearted, she's more accepting of and delighted by others' differences than most of her fellow merfolk, but she also has a rebellious streak that can get her into trouble. A Mezzo-Soprano with strong dynamic contrast within all required ranges. Strong Ability to belt across entire vocal range.
Prince Eric	Tenor B3 - F#4	Prince Eric is the adventurous prince who captures Ariel's heart. Charming and sensitive in nature, he has a warm voice and demeanour that evoke his flair for romance. There is also a stubborn side to the Prince, who is determined to do whatever it takes to get

		<p>what he wants- including the girl with the mysterious voice.</p> <p>A warm Tenor voice with ability to belt and manipulate timbres to convey both a charming and stubborn side to his character.</p>
Sebastian	Tenor Bb3 – C5	<p>Sebastian is the choirmaster of King Triton’s court who has a flair for the dramatic. A meticulous and uptight crab, Sebastian is ever-anxious, whether he’s conducting a concert premiere or protecting Ariel from Ursula. When he’s performing- which is almost always- he’s undeniably charismatic.</p> <p>Sebastian is a Tenor with incredible belt and power. Out of all male roles in the cast, Sebastian has the most diverse range required for the show. Must be able to sing and maintain a broad send-up of a Caribbean accent.</p>
Ursula <i>* This role has been cast.</i>	Contralto Eb3 – C5	<p>Ursula is the tentacled and manipulative Sea Witch who is sister to King Triton. Cunning and calculating, she will stop at nothing to get what she wants- and what she wants is Triton’s throne. To gain the upper-hand, she utilises her slick sense of humour, a flash of glamour, and larger-than-life confidence.</p>
Flounder	Tenor A3-G4	<p>Flounder is Ariel’s sincere and sensitive best friend who rarely leaves his side. A spunky fish with a sweet sense of humour, he can be awkward and anxious around his unrequited crush. <b>Stage age between 8 and 16.</b></p> <p>Whilst musically Flounder is considered a Tenor, the role of Flounder is semi flexible. Whilst the role of Flounder is male, we will be looking at casting either a male child actor or young teenage sounding actor.</p>
King Triton	Baritone Ab3 – F4	<p>King Triton, King of the Sea and a harried single father to seven girls, struggles to balance his political and paternal powers. A widower, Triton is as fond of his daughter has his frustrated with their teenage angst. Even when unsure of his parenting technique, he is a tender patriarch who becomes a royal force to be reckoned with when Ariel’s safety and happiness is threatened by his sister, the Sea Witch Ursula</p> <p>Must have a commanding tone and strong Baritone colour. King Triton must be able to convey both a commanding and threatening tone with a complete contrast to a loving, gentle father.</p>
Scuttle	Tenor C3-G4	<p>Scuttle is the know-it-all seagull who serves as Ariel’s expert on all things human. Garrulous and off-beat, Scuttle’s eccentricities are more endearing than aggravating. Even as he makes up ridiculous names and functions for common human objects, his intension are friendly and his enthusiasm is infectious.</p>
Grimsby	Baritone/Tenor C3-C4	<p>Grimsby is Prince Eric’s prim and proper valet. Rigid in bearing and personality, he is constantly trying to guide Prince Eric toward the throne and a suitable bride fit for a royal marriage. Under his stern demeanour, Grimsby truly is fond of Eric, who he worries about and attends to as though his own son.</p> <p>Baritone/Tenor, the character of Grimsby is highly character driven and may be required to speak-sing majority of vocal lines. The role of Grimsby will however be required to sing in other moments of the show as required and as such will be requested to sing in larger scale musical numbers where Grimsby does not appear.</p>
Flotsam and Jetsam	Altos/ tenors B3 – C5	<p>Ursula’s sinister lackeys. With devious charm, these electric eels convince Ariel to visit the Sea Witch. Tricky and menacing, they are</p>

		<p>always lurking about, ready to take advantage of sea inhabitants at their most vulnerable moments.</p> <p>The roles of Flotsam and Jetsam can be cast in a number of ways. Both Flotsam and Jetsam are Ursula's "side-kicks. Both are always lurking in the shadows and are tricky, menacing and slimy. Both roles require a seamless transition between head voice and chest voice. Strong control of falsetto range and dynamic contrast.</p>
Chef Louis	Tenor Bb3 – A4	<p>The melodramatic head chef in the palace. Wild and frenetic, he becomes physically and vocally flustered by Sebastian who always manages to escape his grasp.</p> <p>Chef Louis is a highly melodramatic chef who is both wild and frenetic. Both Highly comedic with exaggerated vocal colours, Chef Louis must sing with a strong French Accent.</p>
Mersisters		Aquata, Andrina, Arista, Atina, Adella and Allana are the daughter of King Triton and sisters to Ariel. Full of personality and sass.
<b>Ensemble Roles</b>		
<p>Pilot &amp; Sailors, Sea Creatures, Winward &amp; Leeward, Gulls, Maids, Chefs, Princesses</p> <p>Throughout the production, there are a vast number of supporting roles each with solo and small vocal group moments.</p> <p>To appoint the sometimes-demanding supporting roles, we will be looking for performers of all vocal types across both Male and Female roles in the company. Performers with diverse vocal ranges and technique will be highly regarded as many cast will be required to perform many different characters.</p>		

We look forward to seeing you at auditions!

*Team Birdie*

