

THE NORTHERN LIGHT THEATRE COMPANY
PRODUCTION OF

THE HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE DAME

© Disney

A NEW MUSICAL
BASED ON THE VICTOR HUGO NOVEL
AND SONGS FROM THE DISNEY FILM

DIRECTOR
**GORDON
COMBES**

MUSIC DIRECTOR
**MATTHEW
RUMLEY**

CHOREOGRAPHER
**SUE
POLE**

Based on the Victor Hugo novel and songs from the Disney animated feature, *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* showcases the film's Academy Award-nominated score, as well as new songs by Menken and Schwartz. Peter Parnell's new book embraces story theatre and features verbatim passages from Hugo's gothic novel.

The musical begins as the bells of Notre Dame sound through the famed cathedral in fifteenth-century Paris. Quasimodo, the deformed bell-ringer who longs to be "Out There" observes all of Paris revelling in the Feast of Fools. Held captive by his devious caretaker, the archdeacon Dom Claude Frollo, he escapes for the day and joins the boisterous crowd, only to be treated cruelly by all but the beautiful gypsy, Esmeralda. Quasimodo isn't the only one captivated by her free spirit, though – the handsome Captain Phoebus and Frollo are equally enthralled. As the three vie for her attention, Frollo embarks on a mission to destroy the gypsies – and it's up to Quasimodo to save them all.

A sweeping score and powerful story make *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* an instant classic.

IMPORTANT DATES

AUDITIONS

18, 19 & 20 May

FIRST REHEARSAL

Sunday 30th June

PRODUCTION WEEK REHEARSALS

Monday 30 Sept to Thursday 3 Oct

SEASON DATES

Friday 4 October 8pm
Saturday 5 October, 8pm

Friday 11 October 8pm
Saturday 12 October 2pm & 8pm
Sunday 13 October 4pm

Friday 18 October 8pm
Saturday 19 October 2pm & 8pm

GENERAL INFORMATION

SHOW FEE

All cast are required to pay a show fee of \$70 which helps to cover the cost of rehearsal venues, costumes, resources etc. This fee includes two complimentary tickets for the **opening weekend**, cast price tickets for all performances for family and friends who book online, and a CD of professional photos from the final dress rehearsal.

MERCHANDISE

A range of T-shirts and other clothing items with the Hunchback logo will be available for purchase by those directly involved in the production. Items range from approx. \$35 to \$65. ***This is an optional purchase but is an excellent way to promote the show!***

COSTUMES

Whilst every endeavour will be made to supply you with your costumes, you will most likely be asked to supply some items yourself, particularly shoes and socks or stockings.

APPEARANCE

Please speak to the Director before making any major changes to your appearance.

PUBLICITY

As a cast member, it is expected that you will be available to take part in any publicity events we may arrange.

WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECKS

If the cast includes members under 18 years of age NLTC will require all personnel involved with the production to obtain a Working with Children Check certification. This is a legal requirement. No photos are to be taken with minors in them, without permission from Parent/Guardian.

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AUDITION INFORMATION

Auditions for the cast will be held at the Parks Theatres, Cowan Street, Angle Park on Saturday 18th and Sunday 19th May from 8:30am. Auditions for the choir will be held at The Parks Theatre on Monday 20th May from 7:30pm. You will need to have already completed your registration form online at <https://forms.gle/xoc6XZiVh2MEzVM48> before audition day. Please bring a water bottle, your audition materials, and a pencil. Cast should wear comfortable, loose clothing and shoes suitable for moving in. Please note all auditions are closed to the public.

AUDITION MATERIALS

Audition music/dialogue will be available at a link which will pop up on your screen once your registration application has been submitted. If you inadvertently lose the link, please contact Jan at janpowell51@gmail.com

GROUP AUDITION

All auditionees will be required to participate in a group audition involving harmony singing and group choreography. After registration at 8:30am, group auditions will begin at 9:00am on Saturday and Sunday. After the group audition you may be invited back for an individual audition.

INDIVIDUAL AUDITIONS

Individual audition times will occur at various times over the weekend. In your audition you can expect to sing your song/s and have your vocal range tested, read your dialogue, and possibly do some more movement. If you are interested in another role, please be prepared to sing something for them all, though we may not need to hear everything. If you are auditioning for an ensemble role you will be asked to firstly sing some of the ensemble audition music from the group call, and secondly to pick one of the available ensemble solos and audition with this music.

All choir auditionees will be required to participate in a group audition from 7:30pm until 10pm on Monday 20th May involving harmony singing. You will be asked to prepare/be familiar with some music beforehand and taught some new music on the day. Your vocal range, sight-singing, ability to respond to direction and style, and blend within a group will be tested. Chorus members will finally be asked to sing their part in small groups.

A pianist will be used for all vocal auditions. Backing tracks will not be accepted. The sections of music you will be asked to sing are marked in the materials sent to you. Please be aware that your audition may be recorded to aid the production team in casting.

NOTIFICATION OF AUDITION OUTCOME

We will try where possible to notify you by phone, however, if there are large numbers of auditionees we may inform those who are unsuccessful by email. Every attempt will be made to finalise the cast as soon as possible but please be aware this can sometimes take a while.

FURTHER QUESTIONS

If you need any further information leading up to the auditions please call Jan on 0434 202 521 re administrative matters, or email Gordon at gordiec42@gmail.com re audition requirements. If you need to contact anyone on audition day please call Jan.



REHEARSAL INFORMATION

REHEARSALS

Cast rehearsals will be held each Tuesday and Thursday from 7:30pm until 10:30pm and Sundays from 10:00am until usually 1:00pm, although some Sundays will run longer. First rehearsal will be Sunday 30th June.

Generally, rehearsals on Tuesday and Thursday nights will be held at The Parks Theatre, and Sunday rehearsals will be held at the TIDC Performing Arts Studio (Unit 4, 183 Phillip Highway, Elizabeth).

Choir rehearsals will be held each Sunday from 2pm to 5pm at TIDC Performing Arts Studio, Elizabeth. The first rehearsal will be Sunday 30th June 2024.

All rehearsals are closed to the public. Friends and family are not permitted to attend rehearsal. Cast members are expected to arrive promptly, with required materials, and in appropriate clothing to move in. In the event of illness or emergency please contact the person whose rehearsal it is (Director, MD, Choreographer) or the Production Manager. Contact details will be available on the rehearsal schedule.

REHEARSAL SCHEDULE

A full schedule will be available as soon as possible. On your audition form, please make note of any dates on which you are not available. We are usually able to work around any planned absences if we know in advance. Please keep all rehearsal times free, even if you are not scheduled for rehearsal, as the schedule can sometimes be changed, and **you will be expected to be available.**

PROBATIONARY PERIOD

All cast are subject to a six-week probationary period from the commencement of rehearsals. However, the company reserves the right to remove a cast member from the production at any time, at its discretion, but not unreasonably.



MUSICAL NUMBERS

Act 1

Olim
The Bells of Notre Dame
Sanctuary
Out There
Topsy Turvy (Part 1)
Rest and Recreation
Rhythm of the Tambourine
Topsy Turvy (Part 2)
Sanctuary II
The Bells of Notre Dame (Reprise)
God Help the Outcasts
Top of the World
Tavern Song (Thai Mol Piyas)
Heaven's Light
Hellfire
Esmeralda

Act 2

Entr'acte
Agnus Dei
Flight Into Egypt
Esmeralda (Reprise)
Rest and Recreation (Reprise)
The Court of Miracles
In A Place of Miracles
The Bells of Notre Dame (Reprise II)
Someday
While the City Slumbered
Made of Stone
Judex Crideris
Kyrie Eleison
Top of the World (Reprise)
Esmeralda (Frollo's Reprise)
Finale Ultimo



SYNOPSIS

Act I

In Paris, in the year 1482, a company of actors emerges, intoning a Latin chant with the onstage Choir (Olim). The Congregation begins to recount a story (The Bells of Notre Dame): Dom Claude Frollo and his beloved brother Jehan were taken in as orphans by the priests of Notre Dame Cathedral. While Frollo thrived under the rules of the Church, fun-loving Jehan took up with Gypsies (Roma) and was expelled. Many years passed until one day now-Archdeacon Frollo was summoned to his estranged brother's deathbed. Jehan's dying wish was for his brother to care for his Romani baby. Grief-stricken, Frollo agreed and kept the child, whom he named "Quasimodo" for his non-normative features, secluded in the cathedral bell tower for many years...

Now grown, Quasimodo is the lonely bell-ringer at Notre Dame, physically strong but partially deaf from the bells, and staunchly obedient to Frollo, his uncle and master. Frollo continues to offer him safety within the cathedral (Sanctuary), but Quasimodo longs to be part of the world (Out There). Encouraged by his inner voices – his "friends," Notre Dame's stone Statues and Gargoyles – Quasimodo sneaks out of the tower to attend the Feast of Fools, a day when all of Paris indulges in debauched celebration. In the square, Clopin, King of the Gypsies, leads the festivities (Topsy Turvy – Part 1). Captain Phoebus de Martin arrives from the battlefield to take command of the Cathedral Guard – after a little holiday (Rest and Recreation) – but he runs into Frollo and finds himself assuming his new position earlier than expected. Both men are instantly captivated by the dancing Esmeralda, a young Romani woman, as is Quasimodo, peering at her from the shadows (Rhythm of the Tambourine). The crowd then gathers to select and crown the King of Fools, the ugliest person in Paris. After her initial shock at his appearance, Esmeralda warmly encourages Quasimodo to step up for the honor (Topsy Turvy – Part 2). But the drunken crowd brutally abuses Quasimodo while Frollo looks on in cold silence. Esmeralda alone shows kindness to the bell-ringer and rescues him before she disappears from the enraged mob in a flash of smoke. Frollo then steps forward to chasten Quasimodo, who promises he will never again leave the bell tower (Sanctuary II).

Concerned for Quasimodo, Esmeralda ventures into the cathedral (The Bells of Notre Dame – Reprise), offering a different prayer from the other Parishioners (God Help the Outcasts). Phoebus happens upon her, and there is a palpable spark between them. Then, Esmeralda sees Quasimodo and follows him to the bell tower (Transition to the Bell Tower). Quasimodo shows Esmeralda his view of Paris (Top of the World) while his "friends" attempt to deal with her presence. Frollo arrives and discovers them. Taken with Esmeralda, he offers her sanctuary in the cathedral under his tutelage and protection, but she refuses.

As his obsession with Esmeralda grows, Frollo begins prowling the streets at night, until he comes upon a tavern where the Gypsies spiritedly sing and dance (Tavern Song – Thai Mol Piyas). He sees Phoebus with Esmeralda, and watches in turmoil as their flirtation escalates to a kiss. Back in the bell tower, Quasimodo remains infatuated by Esmeralda's kindness (Heaven's Light). Meanwhile, Frollo convinces himself that Esmeralda is a demon sent to tempt his very soul (Hellfire).

The next morning, Frollo convinces King Louis XI to put out a warrant for Esmeralda's arrest, and a search commences. Frollo targets a brothel known to harbor Gypsies (Esmeralda – Act 1 Finale). When Phoebus refuses a direct order to burn it down, Frollo has him arrested. Esmeralda appears to try to save Phoebus, and in the ensuing confusion, Frollo stabs Phoebus and blames her. Esmeralda and Phoebus escape, and Frollo continues the hunt while an increasingly distraught Quasimodo watches the burning chaos from above.

Act II

The Choir opens with a Latin Entr'acte. In the bell tower, Esmeralda implores Quasimodo to hide the wounded Phoebus until he regains his strength (Agnus Dei). Quasimodo agrees, and she offers him an amulet that will lead him to where she hides – the Gypsies' mysterious Court of Miracles. Prompted by an encounter with a statue of Saint Aphrodisius, Quasimodo envisions himself as Esmeralda's protector (Flight into Egypt). But Frollo arrives to tell Quasimodo that he knows the location of the Roma's hideaway and that his soldiers will attack at dawn (Esmeralda – Reprise). Quasimodo and the injured Phoebus use the amulet to find Esmeralda before Frollo does (Rest and Recreation – Reprise).

Arriving at the secret lair, Phoebus and Quasimodo are captured by Clopin and the Gypsies, who sentence them to death (The Court of Miracles). Esmeralda intervenes, and the two men warn of Frollo's impending attack. As the Gypsies prepare to flee, Phoebus decides to go with Esmeralda. She consents and matches his commitment to a life together while Quasimodo watches, heartbroken (In a Place of Miracles). Having tricked Quasimodo into leading him to Esmeralda, Frollo storms in with his soldiers, arrests Esmeralda and Phoebus, and sends his ward back to the bell tower (The Bells of Notre Dame – Reprise II).

In the prison, Frollo confesses his love to Esmeralda and forces himself on her (The Assault). When Esmeralda fights him off, Frollo threatens Phoebus's life unless she yields to him, and he has Phoebus brought into her cell as an inducement. Esmeralda and Phoebus spend their final doomed night together hoping for a better world (Someday).

Meanwhile, a devastated Quasimodo, now bound in the bell tower (While the City Slumbered), refuses the entreaties of his "friends" to save Esmeralda (Made of Stone).

In the square the next morning, a captive Phoebus watches as Esmeralda is tied to a wooden stake (Judex Crederis, Kyrie Eleison). Frollo again offers to save her if she will be his. Esmeralda spits in his face, and enraged, Frollo lights the pyre himself. Witnessing the horror from above, Quasimodo is galvanized into action; breaking free of his bonds, he swoops down to free Esmeralda, claiming "Sanctuary!" for her. He bars the doors of Notre Dame and returns her to safety in his tower. Violence breaks out in the square as Clopin frees Phoebus and together they rally the crowd against Frollo. When the soldiers break down the doors and are about to enter, Quasimodo pours molten lead down on them. Quasimodo returns to Esmeralda, thinking he has saved her, but she dies in his arms (Top of the World – Reprise). Frollo enters and tries to persuade the grieving bell ringer that they can now return to the way they were, but Quasimodo finally sees the archdeacon for the monster he has become and throws him from the tower to his death (Esmeralda – Frollo Reprise). Phoebus arrives and collapses on Esmeralda's body in grief. Quasimodo comforts him then picks up Esmeralda and carries her into the square, where the crowd, gathered to mourn, sees the bell-ringer in a new light (Finale Ultimo).

ROLES TO BE AUDITIONED

QUASIMODO

Stage Age: 20-30

Vocal Range: B \flat 2-B \flat 4

QUASIMODO, the bell-ringer of Notre Dame Cathedral, has a curved spine which affects his posture and gait. A life ringing the enormous bells has given him great physical strength but has also caused a partial deafness. Quasimodo's non-normative face frightens people. Curious and intelligent, Quasimodo speaks freely and confidently with his gargoyle and statue "friends" in the bell tower, but he becomes unsure and withdrawn in the presence of his master and uncle, Frollo. A lack of social interaction due to his lifelong seclusion in the bell tower can cause nervousness and shyness around other humans – including Esmeralda, who captivates him. Quasimodo's uneasiness around his uncle can manifest, at times, in a halting speech pattern; this should not be seen as a sign of a lack of intelligence, but merely a result of his severe isolation.

Audition Excerpts:

- Out There
- Heaven's Light
- Made of Stone

ESMERALDA

Stage Age: 20-30

Vocal Range: D \flat 3-E \flat 5

ESMERALDA, a free-spirited shey (a young, unmarried Romani woman), uses her talent as a dancer to support herself. Independent and strong-willed, she speaks her mind and stands up for what she believes in, including fair treatment of Roma and the sequestered Quasimodo. Esmeralda falls for the charming Phoebus despite her better judgment and staunchly refuses to give herself up to Frollo though doing so would save her life.

Audition Excerpts:

- God Help the Outcasts
- Rhythm of the Tambourine
- Someday

DOM CLAUDE FROLLO

Stage Age: 40-50

Vocal Range: E2-D4

DOM CLAUDE FROLLO, archdeacon of Notre Dame, is a righteous man with a strong sense of obligation to his brother Jehan and nephew Quasimodo – but his strict devotion to the Church supersedes all. Frollo possesses a strong, imposing presence and commands attention and obedience whenever he is present. Deeply ashamed of his intense physical attraction to Esmeralda, he attempts to control his desire by persecuting her and the Romani people (“Gypsies”), whom he deems thieving, unclean, and unworthy of the Church’s protection.

Audition Excerpts:

- Hellfire
- Sanctuary
- Esmeralda (Frollo’s Reprise)

PHOEBUS DE MARTIN

Stage Age: 25-40

Vocal Range: A_b2-A_b4

PHOEBUS DE MARTIN is the dashing new captain of the Cathedral Guard. Conflicted between following his duty – including Frollo’s prejudiced instructions – and doing what’s right, he struggles with the trauma he experienced in four years of intense battle on the war front. Charming and arrogant, Phoebus focuses on enjoying life’s pleasures before quickly falling for Esmeralda and ultimately defying Frollo. Bari-tenor comfortable hitting Gs and As with control.

Audition Excerpts:

- In a Place of Miracles
- Rest and Recreation

CLOPIN TROUILLEFOU

Stage Age: 30-40

Vocal Range: C3-G4

CLOPIN TROUILLEFOU, King of the Gypsies, is a clever and agile entertainer and sherutno (Romani leader) who knows how to work the crowd on “Topsy Turvy” day. Acutely aware of the prejudice against Roma and their resulting precarious position in Paris, Clopin is fiercely protective of Esmeralda and the other Roma, and so shrewdly runs the Court of Miracles as a tight ship.

Audition Excerpts:

- The Court of Miracles
- Topsy Turvy, Pt. 1

JEHAN FROLLO

Stage Age: 20-30

Vocal Range: G#2-E♭4

JEHAN FROLLO is Dom Claude Frollo's wild and charming younger brother and the father of Quasimodo. Though he is much less faithful to the Church than Claude, the brothers are devoted to each other until Jehan's rebellious streak finally causes a fatal rift in their relationship.

FLORIKA

Stage Age: 20-30

Vocal Range: C#4-F5

FLORIKA is Jehan's Romani girlfriend and Quasimodo's mother.

FATHER DUPIN

Stage Age: 40-60

Vocal Range: C4-A4

FATHER DUPIN is a devout priest of Notre Dame Cathedral and stern guardian of Claude and Jehan.

FREDERIC CHARLUS

Stage Age: 20-30

Vocal Range: N/A

FREDERIC CHARLUS, lieutenant of the Cathedral Guard, is a loyal friend to Phoebus.

KING LOUIS XI

Stage Age: 40-50

Vocal Range: N/A

KING LOUIS XI, though nicknamed "The Prudent," would rather act quickly than appear weak.

OFFICIAL

Stage Age: 20-50

Vocal Range: G2-E4

OFFICIAL, an officer of the court of King Louis XI, declares the arrest warrant for Esmeralda to the people of Paris.

MADAM

Stage Age: 35-50

Vocal Range: N/A

MADAM is the stalwart owner of a brothel and safe haven for Roma.

SAINT APHRODISIUS

Stage Age: 30-50

Vocal Range: B2-E4

SAINT APHRODISIUS, a statue that comes to life, encourages Quasimodo to take action to help Esmeralda.

CONGREGATION

Stage Age: Any

Vocal Ranges: All types

A CONGREGATION of gender-flexible storytellers narrates *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*. In story theatre style, each performer in the show begins as a Congregant before taking on the characteristics of their assigned character(s), which can include principal characters, Gargoyles, Statues, Revellers, Soldiers, Gypsies (Roma), etc.

Audition Excerpts:

- Top of the World
- In a Place of Miracles
- The Bells of Notre Dame, Pt. 6

NOTRE DAME SINGERS (CHOIR)

Stage Age: Any

Vocal Ranges: All types

The CHOIR is a separate ensemble from the Congregation. They present as a “choir” that remains outside the dramatic action, standing onstage and singing out from choir books (rather than the traditional musical ensemble – in this case, the Congregation – that actively tells the story through movement and character work). This particular group should be comfortable with a variety of musical styles, ranging from Gregorian chant to contemporary pop.

A traditional 32-piece, 8-part, SSAATTBB chorus of highly-skilled singers singing in a variety of styles from Gregorian chant to contemporary pop in English, Latin, and Romani. They remain outside of the action.

The choir parts push the extremes for all voice types. The ranges are given below. Please use these ranges to indicate your voice type in the audition form.

- Soprano 1: A3-D6
- Soprano 2: A3-B5
- Alto 1: F#3-G5
- Alto 2: F#3-G5
- Tenor 1: A2-B4
- Tenor 2: A2-A4
- Baritone: G#2-A4
- Bass: F#2-G4

Audition Excerpts:

- In a Place of Miracles
- The Bells of Notre Dame, Pt. 6
- Hellfire
- + music to be given on audition day



ABOUT NORTHERN LIGHT THEATRE COMPANY

Northern Light Theatre Company is the resident musical theatre company at the Shedley Theatre in Elizabeth. Since its formation in 1965, NLTC has produced many memorable and award-winning productions, including the Adelaide Critics Circle Coopers Award for Excellence for its productions of Copacabana and Jesus Christ Superstar and the ATG “Best Technical” and “Most Popular Show” awards for Singin’ in the Rain.

The committee of NLTC consists of nine positions – five office bearers and four ordinary members. The committee meets about once a month and is responsible for the overall management of NLTC. The current committee members are:

President & Treasurer – Sue Pole
Business Manager – Jo Herring
Secretary – Jan Powell
Publicity Officer – Kim Abbott
General Members – Cheryl Ford (Vice President), Del Watts and Eloise Atterton

