

odyssey

THEATRE

Inving
Berlin's

WHITE

CHRISTMAS

THE MUSICAL

6-9 November 2024

Information Pack

For more information visit
www.odysseytheatre.co.uk or contact
admin@odysseytheatre.co.uk



Odyssey Theatrical Productions was formed in 2010 by a small group of like-minded individuals whose sole purpose was to stage high quality musical theatre productions. Over the past fourteen years, we have produced over thirty shows for children, young people and adults.

The cast for this show will be mostly drawn from our adult membership (for which we will include any students who be entering year 11 or higher in September 2024). There will also be a chorus for children (and a principal role for a child). This will be for children who are entering years 5-7 in September 2024, as this will match the appropriate age needed for the show.

Our group is open to all, without requiring a membership fee or audition to be part of Odyssey. However, we do ask all participants to contribute towards the costs of the show. The production and admin team are all unpaid volunteers, but the costs of mounting a full scale musical are still considerable. To help offset this we ask for a £75 participation fee for all cast members which covers scripts, costumes, rehearsal costs etc.

To be part of the team please complete the online application form on www.odysseytheatre.co.uk

and make payment of £75 via bank transfer to:

Account number: 53412385, Sort-code: 20-03-84

Account name: Odyssey Theatrical Productions Limited

All applications and payments must be made before auditioning

Important Dates

Auditions will be held on **Sunday 19th May** from 2pm-6pm at St Mary's Primary School in Banbury. We will also have an optional audition preparation workshop on **Thursday 16th May** from 7.30pm-10pm at St Mary's Primary School. This workshop will be a chance to discuss characters, practice songs and learn the dance audition.

Rehearsals will be held on Thursday evenings, starting **Thursday 13 June**. We will run weekly rehearsals before a summer break. Our last Thursday rehearsal before this break will be on **Thursday 25 July**. All Thursday rehearsals will run from 7.30pm to 10pm and will be held at St Mary's Primary School in Banbury.

We will also hold some rehearsals on Sunday afternoons. The first of these will be on **Sunday 23 June** from 2pm-6pm at St Mary's Primary School in Banbury.

We will return from the summer break on **Thursday 5 September**. During September and October we will hold additional Sunday afternoon rehearsals. Details of these will be confirmed before we break for the summer.

Shows will be from **Wednesday 6 November** to **Saturday 9 November**, and will be held at the Mill Arts Centre in Banbury. We will be getting into the theatre from **Saturday 2 November**, and we will need all cast to be available through that week for evening rehearsals and performances (as well as to help with the get in over the weekend).

We may also ask principal characters to attend additional rehearsals. We will liaise with the principals after auditions to agree these.

The children's chorus and part of Susan will be cast at our children's audition workshop, which will be held on **Sunday 23 June** from 11am-1pm at St Mary's Primary School. Details of audition pieces and how the children's chorus will work will be shared nearer this time.

For more details on key dates, please do keep an eye on our website. We will also share a cast OneDrive link once the rehearsals are underway, where we can share further information and files.

Synopsis

Soldiers Bob Wallace and Phil Davis served under General Henry Waverley in World War Two and, ten years later, they are still working together in a popular song and dance duo, Wallace and Davis. When they meet the singing sisters, Betty and Judy Haynes, Phil becomes enamoured with the beautiful Judy, while Bob is more reserved about his feelings for Betty. The two men follow the sisters up to their seasonal engagement at The Columbia Inn in Vermont. They discover the inn is owned by General Waverley but, unbeknownst to him, the inn is struggling to survive. With the help of Martha, the concierge, and the General's young granddaughter Susan, Bob, Phil, Betty and Judy decide to put on a big show to draw in business.

Bob arranges for his old friend Ralph Sheldrake to bring the General's former troops up to Vermont to support the show. Betty overhears Bob's plans and misinterprets his intentions, believing that he wants to buy the inn instead. Confusion ensues as Betty leaves to go back to New York alone. Bob follows her to attempt to reconcile but, believing he has lost her, he goes on the Ed Sullivan Show to reach out to his former comrades. Back in Vermont, the rehearsals are coming to an end and the General is convinced to wear his uniform to watch the show. He is moved to see his former men return to support him and decides to put his efforts into making the inn a success. Betty returns to apologize to Bob and the couple finally declare their love for each other. With the show a huge success, Bob leads the whole theatre in a rendition of "White Christmas".

Act One

Happy Holidays - Bob, Phil, Ralph Sheldrake and Ensemble

Happy Holidays / Let Yourself Go - Bob, Phil and Ensemble

Love and the Weather - Bob and Betty Haynes

Sisters - Betty and Judy Haynes

The Best Things Happen While You're Dancing - Phil, Judy and Ensemble

Snow - Bob, Phil, Betty, Judy, Snoring Man, Mrs Snoring Man and Ensemble

What Can You Do With a General? - Martha Watson, Bob and Phil

Let Me Sing and I'm Happy - Martha and Ensemble

Count Your Blessings - Bob and Betty

Blue Skies - Bob and Ensemble

Act Two

I Love a Piano - Phil, Judy and Ensemble

Falling Out of Love Can Be Fun - Martha, Betty and Judy

Sisters (Reprise) - Bob and Phil

Love, You Didn't Do Right By Me - Betty

How Deep Is the Ocean - Bob

Let Me Sing and I'm Happy (Reprise) - Susan Waverly

How Deep Is the Ocean (Reprise) - Bob and Betty

We'll Follow the Old Man - Bob, Phil, Ralph and Male Ensemble

White Christmas - Bob and Company

I've Got My Love to Keep Me Warm - Full Company

The characters

- Bob Wallace - late 20s to mid 30s, a superb singer with a crooning style who moves well
- Phil Davis - late 20s to mid 30s, strong jazz and tap-dancing needed - a song-and-dance comic performer
- Betty Haynes - mid to late 20s, a female singer of quiet beauty and charm who must move well
- Judy Haynes - early 20s, strong jazz and tap-dancing needed - a major song-and-dance performer
- General Henry Waverly - in his 50s or 60s, with the exception of one line, a non-singing role
- Martha Watson – in her 40s to 60s, a winning, appealing character-comedienne
- Susan Waverly – playing age of 9 years old, she must have an excellent singing voice and be able to move
- Ralph Sheldrake - mid to late 30s – a solid character part
Rita and Rhoda – dancing girls in their 20s working with good comic timing
- Ezekiel Foster - local of Vermont. Needs to be a strong character, able to show a lot in few words.
- Mike – in his 30s or 40s. Although he doesn't sing or dance, this is a significant character part, important to the story.

There are a number of other named roles with a few spoken and/or sung lines, as well as a large singing-dancing ensemble consisting of 'Jimmy's Back Room' Clubgoers, Train Passengers, Inn Guests, Chorus Kids, Patrons of the Regency Room

Auditions

The table below sets out the auditions for the main adult characters in the show, which we will be auditioning on Sunday 19th May 2024.

Character	Song(s)	Scenes	Dance audition required
Bob	1 – Happy Holiday 2 – Love and the Weather	1, 4	Yes
Phil	1 – Happy Holiday 4 – The Best Things Happen While You're Dancing	1, 2	Yes
Betty	3 – Sisters 7 – Love you didn't do right by me	1, 4	Yes
Judy	3 – Sisters 6 – I Love a Piano	1, 2	Yes
General Waverly	-	5	No
Martha	5 – Let Me Sing and I'm Happy	3, 5	No
Ralph Shendrake	-	3	No
Rita and Rhoda	-	2	Yes
Ezekiel	-	2, 5	No
Mike	-	2	No
Other smaller parts	6 – I Love a Piano (if not auditioning for another part)	Read in one of above	No
Dancing Troupe	-	-	Yes

Song 1

Happy Holiday Bob and Phil

Swing 4

BOB:

Hap - py

PHIL:

Hap - py

5

hol - i - day! Hap - py hol - i - day! While the
hol - i - day! Hap - py hol - i - day! While the

mer - ry bells keep ring - in', May your ev - 'ry wish come true,
mer - ry bells keep ring - in', May your ev - 'ry wish come true, Hap - py

13

Hap - py hol - i - day! Hap - py hol - i - day! May the
hol - i - day Hap - Hap - py hol - i - day! May the

cal - en - dar keep bring - in' Hap - py hol - i - days, Hap - py hol - i - days to you...
cal - en - dar keep bring - in' Hap - py hol - i - days, Hap - py hol - i - days to you...

Song 2

Love and the Weather Bob

17 Love and the weath - er, 18 Al - ways to - geth - er,

19 Plan - ning an - oth - er sur - prise. 20 21 Bring - ing the rain - drops

22 Just like the tears. 23 to your eyes. 24

25 An - y guy. 26 with love close by. 27 Is co - zy and warm,

28 Love walks out. 29 and kicks a guy. 30 Right

31 out of the warm. 32 In - to a storm. 33 Moon - light ro - manc - es

34 Have to take chanc - es 35 That's what you learn. 36 with the dawn.

37 Love and the weath - er 38 can't be de - pend - ed up - on. 39 40

Song 3

Sisters

Betty and Judy

1 **BETTY & JUDY:**

Sis - ters, Sis - ters, There were nev - er such de - vot - ed sis - ters.

JUDY: (solo)

BETTY: (solo)

Nev - er had to have a chap - er - one "No sir", I'm there to keep my eye on her.

9 **BOTH:**

Car - ing, shar - ing Ev - 'ry lit - tle thing that we are wear - ing.

JUDY:

BETTY:

When a cer - tain gen - tle - man ar - rived from Rome, She wore the dress and I stayed home.

17

All kinds of weath - er, we stick to - geth - er, The same in the rain or sun. Two dif - frent fac - es, but in tight pla - ces, We

think and we act as one. Uh - huh!

25

JUDY:

Those who've seen us Know that not a thing could come be - tween us,

BETTY:

Man - y men have tried to split us up, but no one can.

33 *Swing 8ths: ry = pq e*

BOTH:

Lord help the Mis - ter who comes be - tween me and my sis - ter, And

Lord help the sis - ter who comes be - tween me and my man.

Song 4

The Best Things Happen While You're Dancing Phil

Moderate Foxtrot tempo

PHIL:



The



best things hap-pen while you're danc-ing, Things that you would



not do at home come nat-ur-'ly on the floor. For



danc-ing soon be-comes ro-manc-ing, When you hold a



girl in your arms that you've nev-er held be-fore.



Ev-en guys with two left feet come out al-right if the girl is sweet,



If by chance their cheeks should meet while danc-ing, Prov-ing that the



best things hap-pen while you dance.

Song 5

Let me sing and I'm Happy Martha

65



Let me croon — a low down blues — To lift you out — of your seat.



If my song — can reach your shoes — and start you tap - ping your feet, I'm hap-py.

Heavier

73



Let me sing — of Dix-ie's charms, — the Swa-nee shore — and moth-er's arms — and

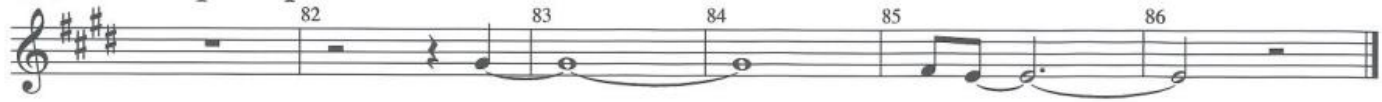
Rubato



if my song — can make you home - sick, Can start you laugh - ing, Can start you cry - ing —

81

Strip tempo



I'm ————— hap-py. —————

Song 6

I love a piano Judy (or for other singing parts)

35
I love a

pian-o, I love a pian-o. I love to hear some-bod-y play up-on a

40 pian-o, A grand pi - an-o, It simp-ly car-ries me a - way.

44 **JUDY:**
I know a fine way to treat a Stein - way,

48 I love to run my fin-gers o'er the keys, the i - vor-ies, And with the

53 ped-al I love to med-dle. Not on-ly mus-ic from Broad-way. I'm so de-

- light-ed, If I'm in - vit-ed To hear a long haired genius play. So you can

61 keep your fid-dle and your bow, Give me a P - I - A - N - O, oh, oh, I love to

64 stop right be-side an Up-right, Or a high-toned Ba-by Grand.

Song 7

Love you didn't do right by me

Betty

Love, you did - n't do right by me, You

planned a ro-mance that just had-n't a chance and I'm through.

Love, you did - n't do right by me, I'm

back on the shelf and I'm blam-ing my - self, but it's you. My

one love af - fair did - n't get an - y - where from the start. To

send me a Joe who had win-ter and snow in his heart was-n't smart.

Love, you did - n't do right by me,

as they say in the song, "You done me wrong!"

Scene 1

Bob, Phil, Betty, Judy

- Phil They'll be here in a second. I invited them for a drink.
- Bob You what!?
- Phil You think I'm sitting here so I can see some more of you?
- Bob What am I supposed to do?
- Phil I won't say be yourself, so why don't you try to be relaxed. Be natural.
- Betty *(entering with Judy)* Am I lopsided?
- Judy You're gorgeous. Now relax. Talk to them Betty. Be natural.
- Betty Natural...
- Judy *(To the men)* Hello.
- Bob That was a great number.
- Phil A fantastic number.
- Betty *(Stiff and formal)* How do you do.
- Judy I'm Judy Haynes – and this is my sister, Betty.
- Phil Wallace. David. David. Wallace.
- Judy Oh, we know who you are.
- Phil Sit down, have some champagne. Come on, Bob, don't be shy.
- Bob Are you married, Miss Haynes? *(Betty chokes on her champagne)*
- Phil You know, Bob and I are doing a new Revue. You two would fit right in if you could make a Wednesday rehearsal in Miami.
- Betty Actually, I happen to be single, without any children, which is to say, I don't have any children to speak of.
- Bob Well, we've got a train to Florida tonight...
- Betty *(At the same time as Bob)* It was very nice of you two to find the time...
- Bob *(At the same time as Betty)* Maybe we'd better get going...
- Judy&Phil Sit down...
- Phil So – rehearsal in Miami?
- Judy Too bad we've got a train of our own tonight
- Betty We've booked for holidays in Pinetree, Vermont.
- Phil Vermont? Where is that? And what's there – besides good-lookin' girls?
- Judy A lot of snow.

Scene 2

Phil, Judy, Rita and Rhoda (R&R), Ezekiel, Mike

Mike Can we lift this drop! Can we please lift this drop!
People! People!
Ezekiel! Ezekiel Foster?

Ezekiel Ay-yuh.

Mike Do you realise we are in a crisis?

Ezekiel Ay-huh.

Phil Morning, Mike. Did you say something about a crisis?

Mike Put up a show in five days? Why not. They say God took a week.

Phil Everything's faster now.

Mike *(shooing some kids away)* People! People!

Phil *(As Judy enters)* Morning, sweetheart! Are we friends again?

Judy I didn't know we ever stopped...

R&R *(entering)* Oh, Philly-Dilly!

Judy But don't press your luck

Rita Hey Philly, we come up with some new costumes for the show.

Rhoda Whaddya think?

Phil Girls, this is a family show, we've got to try to keep it clean.

Rita We already thought of that.

Rhoda How's this for the kids?

R&R *(Swaying back and forth like bells)* We're bells! Ding-dong! Ding-dong!
(They exit)

Phil *(Following them)* I'll go talk to wardrobe.

Judy *(Pointing the other way)* Wardrobe's that way.
(Phil does a one-eighty and exits to other side)

Scene 3

Martha, Sheldrake

- Martha *(Answering the telephone)* Good morning, Columbia Inn. Weather? Yes we have plenty of weather, come on up and see it.
- (Answering another call)* Good morning, Columbia Inn. Do we have entertainment? *(she bursts into song)* “And if my song can make you --”
- (She’s been cut off)* Hello? Hello?
- (Answering yet again)* Good morning, Columbia Inn.
- Sheldrake Morning, Captain Wallace!
- Martha This is not Captain Wallace, this is Martha Watson.
- Sheldrake Martha Washington?
- Martha Watson. Watson.
- Sheldrake Oh, Martha Watson. I didn’t think I was that old
- Martha Neither did I.
- Sheldrake Martha, this is Ralph Sheldrake in New York.
- Martha Oh!
- Sheldrake Would you pass on a message to Bob Wallace for me? Just tell him our secret scheme is going great.
- Martha Secret scheme...?
- Sheldrake About this inn up there. The Columbia Inn. Here’s the deal: the company is ready to come up and take it over – Christmas Eve.
- Martha A company is taking over the Inn...?
- Sheldrake The whole division’s been alerted. The old man’ll never know what hit him. Say this to Bob, quote: this is a million-dollar proposition.
- Martha A million dollars? But Mr Sheldrake, I don’t understand...
- Sheldrake Don’t worry, Bob’ll know what I mean. And say, Martha, keep this on the q.t., will you?
- Martha Yes, but Mr Sheldrake...
- Sheldrake Great! You’re a peach!
- Martha *(Hanging up, as she makes sense of the conversation)*
Bob’s got a company...? Oh my gosh! He’s trying to buy up the Inn!

Scene 4

Bob, Betty

- Betty Another insomniac.
- Bob Yeah, seems to be a whole club of us out here.
- Betty That was very beautiful, what you told her.
- Bob It's just common sense, is all...
- Betty You can't take a compliment, can you?
- Bob Nope. Never could.
- Betty Bob, I think you're staying here and trying to help out the General – I think it's one of the most decent and unselfish things I've ever seen.
- Bob You talk about decent, try the old Man. I once saw him lift a guy out of a burning Jeep and run fifty yards with him under fire. I'm just a piker, compared to that.
- Betty You don't really believe all that about angles and percentages, do you? "A little bit of larceny." You put up a good show, though.
- Bob Old habits, I guess. See the neighborhood I grew up in, larceny was the only thing going around. Then I went into the army and found out different. I met people like the General, guys who'd put their lives on the line for you, no questions asked.
- Betty I found that in show business. Those kids who came up here today...?
- Bob A bunch of big hearts, all right. Well, I should get some shut eye. If I can.
- Betty Good night, Bob.
- Bob See you 'round the mess hall.

Scene 5

General Waverly, Martha, Ezekiel

- Waverly This whole place seems to have gone insane... Martha, where are all my suits?
- Martha I sent them to the cleaners.
- Waverly All of them? On Christmas Eve?
- Martha Oh don't worry about the show, you can wear your uniform tonight.
- Waverly No, I will not wear my uniform.
- Martha Then you'll wear your undershorts. And you'll make quite a picture. Folks won't be able to tell you from the Christmas tree stand.
- Waverly I got along very well in the army without you.
- Martha Yeah, but it took 17,000 men to take my place! And you are wearing your uniform tonight!
- Waverly You know what you're acting like right now? You're acting like a wife.
- Martha Well, I've had enough practice. We fight all the time and we never have sex – people think we are married!
- Ezekiel *(Entering)* Afternoon, General.
- Waverly Ezekiel.
- Ezekiel Martha.
- Martha Zeke.
- Ezekiel Merry Christmas.
- Martha And God bless us blah blah blah.
- Ezekiel I been hearing that all day. Got a package for Mr Wallace ... And a special delivery for you, sire – from Washington D.C.
- Waverly From Washington...?
- Ezekiel Ay-yup. The White House. Says so right there in the corner. Don't see too many of those... *(Waverly grabs the letter)* Wind's comin' up, better light a fire tonight. Happy holidays!
- Martha Bah, humbug.
- Ezekiel Been hearin' a lot of that too.