

Audition Information

Package

for

Short and Sweet Festival

Jan / Feb 2010

Short & Sweet - Vital Statistics

Director: Carol Dicker

Performance Venue: Newtown Theatre and the Seymour Centre are the venues that Short and Sweet entries are performed at.

Performance Dates: Each play is scheduled to run during ONE week of the Short and Sweet Festival Season. The Season runs from January 5 to February 21.

The scheduled rehearsal/performance for each play is:

Newtown Theatre: Tech / Dress Run Tuesday 8.15pm, Performances Wednesday to Saturday 8.15pm and Sunday 5.15pm

Seymour Centre: Tech / Dress Run Monday 8pm, Performances Wednesday to Saturday 8pm.

The exact performance dates for NTT's entry will be advised in December.

About Short & Sweet:

Short+Sweet Theatre is the largest ten minute theatre Festival in the world, which currently runs in Sydney, Melbourne, Central Coast, Singapore and Malaysia and is launching in Brisbane and Canberra in September 2009.

Each year Short+Sweet Theatre produces hundreds of the best ten minute plays from across the globe produced by some of the most talented local actors and directors.

Short+Sweet Theatre Sydney 2010 will be held from January to February in two venues in Sydney - the Newtown Theatre and Seymour Centre (Downstairs).

Actors, directors and writers in Short+Sweet Theatre Sydney 2010 have a chance to be selected for Shorter+Sweeter Theatre, the professional touring arm of Short+Sweet Theatre, where you could act, direct or write a play that tours Australia and overseas.

Short+Sweet Theatre has helped to launch the careers of many artists including Nicole da Silva, Renee Lim, Tom O'Sullivan, Matt Holmes, Wayne Tunks, Tom Taylor, Jane Miller, Cerise de Gelder, Lachlan Philpott, Brendan Cowell, Rose Byrne, Alex Broun, Tom Holloway, Ross Mueller, Trilby Glover, Christopher Johnson and John Sheedy.

The play NTT is mounting is *Apology Accepted*.

Apology Accepted – Audition Information

- Date:** Thursday November 12, 2009
7pm – 9pm: All auditionees need to be at the auditions at 7pm
- Venue:** 15 Lang Rd
South Windsor
- How to audition:**
1. Call Carol Dicker on 0414 714447 to confirm your attendance
 2. Print and complete the Audition form at the back of this Information Pack and bring it with you to the audition.
 3. Review the Audition Pieces for the role/s you are interested in auditioning for. You do not need to print these, as they will be provided on the day.
- Fees Information:** The \$10 annual fee (*for current members of NTT*) applies but there is no production fee

Apology Accepted – Cast details

- Male roles**
- | | |
|-------|--------------------------------|
| JAMES | male lawyer. |
| JOSH | young man in ill-fitting suit. |
- Female roles**
- | | |
|----------|---|
| MEG | female client with neck brace and crutches. |
| CINDY | female lawyer. |
| MEDIATOR | doesn't pull any punches. |
- Casting notice:** Auditionees will be notified of casting by phone or email.
- Rehearsal schedule:** Yet to be confirmed

Apology Accepted

Scene: a meeting room with several chairs in a semi-circle. The present.

JAMES: No need to be nervous – this is only an informal meeting.

MEG: I don't want much.

JAMES: You say that now, but it's not for you to want, it's for me to get you all the compensation I can for all you're entitled to after all you've been through.

(CINDY and JOSH ENTER.)

JAMES: Oh no.

MEG: He looks a nice young man.

JAMES: Don't be fooled. That woman would do anything to make a client look good - I mean, just look at the fit of that suit. She left any ethics she might have been born with back in her mother's womb. It's all or nothing with her. But not to worry, let me do the talking - I can handle her.

CINDY: Oh dear, it's him. I wouldn't trust him as far as I could throw him. He's going to manipulate this meeting so we have to go to court. But don't worry, let me do all the talking.

JOSH: Why?

CINDY: Because you might say the wrong thing. Remember, we can't even hint it might have been your fault.

JOSH: She looks crook.

CINDY: The neck brace is only for show and the crutches are for sympathy.

MEG: I thought we were here to negotiate a settlement.

JAMES: In theory. In practise we ask for compensation to cover all your medical expenses, past present and future, plus your pain, anguish and suffering and any perceived loss of quality of life.

MEG: But it doesn't really hurt that much any more, and I am getting better.

JAMES: Don't let them hear you say that. Whatever we ask for, she'll say is far too much and then we'll be forced to take him to court. But not to worry, that might actually get you more.

(MEDIATOR ENTERS.)

CINDY: Stand up straight and take your hands out of your pockets.

JOSH: You sound like my olds.

MEDIATOR: Good morning all and welcome. As you are aware, this is a mediatory conference between the aggrieved parties to hear both sides in a convivial atmosphere of cordiality, with the aim of reaching an agreement to hopefully settle the matter without having to go to court. Any questions? Good, then the aggrieved party may speak first.

MEG: Thank you-

JAMES: It's all right, I'll take it from here. Ma'm, my client has instructed me to speak on her behalf. As you can see, she has been badly injured and all she wants is just recompense for the pain and suffering she has endured.

CINDY: Pain and suffering?

JAMES: Pain and suffering. Have you even glanced at the doctor's reports?

CINDY: Yes. And how much did you have to pay for them?

MEDIATOR: *(To Cindy.)* Please refrain from interjecting, you'll get your turn.

JAMES: What are you insinuating?

CINDY: Have you heard of the term perjury?

JAMES: And may I remind you about the laws for defamation.

MEDIATOR: Excuse me! ... Thank you. Please stick to the facts and not go off on legal tangents which have no business in this meeting.

JAMES: Certainly, Ma'm, but she-

CINDY: 'She'? Ma'm, he was making a pathetic attempt to justify a folio of lies.

JAMES: 'A folio of lies'?! You, good woman-

CINDY: Don't you 'good woman' me.

JAMES: Your blonde brain is obviously incapable of detecting sarcasm.

CINDY: How dare you!

JAMES: Notice, Ma'm, how she has dressed up her client in a suit that doesn't fit him. You are probably looking at the first suit the young hooligan-

CINDY: Hooligan?

JAMES: -has ever owned. She most likely purchased it from the nearest Vinnies in order to gain some sympathy.

CINDY: Sympathy?

MEDIATOR: Can we please- *(NOTE: During the following dialogue, until the MEDIATOR shouts to obtain their attention, the MEDIATOR attempts to stop the tirade between Cindy and James with appropriate interjections such as "Will you two please-" and "Just a minute-".)*

CINDY: You talk about sympathy? What about the neck brace and crutches she's wearing for show? I could justify *me* wearing a neck brace because *you* are a pain in *my* legal neck.

JAMES: And then I suppose *you'd* rabbit on about needing crutches to support *your* feeble legal arguments to justify representing a young yobbo like him.

CINDY: He is not a yobbo. He is on the cusp of being an adult.

JAMES: God help us if we have adult thugs like him.

CINDY: What do you mean? He's completely innocent of anything he's accused of.

JAMES: My client wants compensation for what he has done to her.

CINDY: She'll get nothing because he's done nothing!

JAMES: We're wasting our time in this 'conference'. We'll go to court and ask for at least five million.

CINDY: You're welcome to try it. Those injuries aren't worth a hundred.

JAMES: You want my client to accept a pittance for all she's been through and is still to suffer?

CINDY: You want to put mine into debt for the rest of his life?

JAMES: It might set an example for his brother louts. Punks like him, that do things to people like her, should learn how to fit into society. If you don't agree to our demands we'll screw him for everything he has.

CINDY: Would you ruin *his* life for *your* professional ego?

JAMES: He was drunk.

CINDY: He was not!

JAMES: We have him over a legal barrel!

CINDY: The blood sample was tainted, the witnesses were too far away, she's old and doesn't see well in the dark!

JAMES: Then I'll see you in court!

CINDY: That's fine by me!

MEDIATOR: WILL! YOU! TWO! SHUT! UP!

CINDY: You didn't have to shout.

MEDIATOR: Oh yes I did. ... Well? ... An apology would be nice.

JAMES: Sorry.

CINDY: Sorry Ma'm.

JAMES: Ma'm.

MEDIATOR: The word sorry isn't that hard to say is it? ... Is it?

JAMES: No.

CINDY: No Ma'm.

JAMES: Ma'm.

MEDIATOR: Right. Apology accepted. Now I'm calling a short break to give you time to cool down. When I return, we will have a calm discussion with civilised behaviour, understand? ... Understand?

CINDY: Yes Ma'm.

JAMES: Yes ... Ma'm.

MEDIATOR: This conference is suspended until my return. *(EXITS.)*

JOSH: You said you'd get me off.

CINDY: I said I'd do what I could.

MEG: *(To JAMES.)* What's going on?

JAMES: Who knows what she's up to?

JOSH: It's not going good.

CINDY: It would be better if it wasn't for him.

JAMES: Stay here - I'm going to have a word with her. *(Moves away from MEG and signals to CINDY.)*

CINDY: Oh, he wants a word. You stay here. *(Moves towards JAMES.)*

JAMES: It's going well.

CINDY: Yes, James, we make a good team.

JAMES: At work and play.

CINDY: I can see the court fees accumulating.

JAMES: Swelling nicely. Cindy, dear, have you considered my question?

CINDY: Which one would that be?

JAMES: Says she acting all innocent. The one I asked you last night.

CINDY: Oh, *that* one! Yes, James, I have.

JAMES: ... And?

CINDY: ... and ... yes, I can't wait to spend a wickedly naughty weekend with you. (*CINDY goes to hug James.*)

JAMES: Better not.

CINDY: They might suspect we're collaborating.

JAMES: Colluding.

CINDY: Plotting.

JAMES: Scheming.

CINDY: Conspiring.

JAMES: Planning intrigues.

CINDY: Being deviously calculating.

JAMES: In cahoots with each other.

CINDY: But James darling, we are.

JAMES: I knew that. (*James goes to kiss Cindy.*)

CINDY: Better not.

JAMES: No, it wouldn't look good.

CINDY: James, darling, I'd let you take me right here and right now - except that would look even worse.

JAMES: I find it very difficult to maintain my self control when I'm around you.

CINDY: Come over tonight and I'll cook you dinner - and afterwards we'll celebrate your loss of self control.

JAMES: Did you say consummate my loss of control?

CINDY: No, but we can do that too - I love it when you're naughty.

MEDIATOR: (*ENTERS.*)

CINDY: He's back.

JAMES: Round two begins.

CINDY: Bring it on.

MEDIATOR: Are we prepared to continue with civility and decorum?

JAMES: Yes.

CINDY: Of course.

MEDIATOR: And we won't have any more displays of disgustingly childish behaviour, will we?

CINDY: No Ma'm.

MEDIATOR: ... Will we?

JAMES: No ... Ma'm.

MEDIATOR: Good. Then this conference is now recommencing.

JOSH: (Stands.) Excuse me.

MEDIATOR: Yes?

CINDY: Sit down.

JOSH: No. I want to say something.

CINDY: Shut up. You don't want to say anything. He doesn't want to say anything right now.

JOSH: Yes I do.

MEDIATOR: Let him speak.

CINDY: Let me do the talking.

JOSH: But there's something I want to say before-

CINDY: Not now.

MEDIATOR: Let him continue! Go ahead young man.

JOSH: (To MEG.) Look lady, I'd like to say-

CINDY: You came to me for advice and I'm giving it to you. Don't say anything or you'll-

JOSH: JUST SHUT THE FUCK UP! ... Sorry, M'am.

MEDIATOR: Go ahead.

JOSH: (To MEG.) See lady, it wasn't supposed to happen. I'd had a bad day. Everything went wrong. I'd just been retrenched, see, and I went and got meself pissed, and you just happened to be in the wrong place, at the wrong time, and I took it out on you. I'm responsible. I wish it had never happened, but it did, and I'm sorry. I'm very sorry. It won't happen again. I promise. (Sits.)

(Brief silence.)

MEG: (Stands.) Now it's my turn.

JAMES: Sit down – you don't have to. (To Mediator.) She doesn't want to.

MEG: Yes I do.

JAMES: I told you to let me do the talking.

MEDIATOR: Let her speak.

MEG: Thank you, Ma'm. (To JOSH.) Thank you. (MEG prepares to leave.)

JAMES: What? 'Thank you'? Is that it?

MEG: That's it. All I wanted was to hear his admission and regret. He apologised and I've accepted his apology. (To Josh.) Just make sure you keep your promise. (To James.) Oh yes, one more thing - I won't need you any more. (EXITS.)

THE END

Apology Accepted – Audition Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ (Home) _____ (Work) _____ (Mobile)

Email Address: _____

Please list the roles in the show you would like to audition for

Are you prepared to accept the Director’s judgment of the most suitable part for you? **YES / NO**

If you are successful in obtaining a place in the production, do you give permission for your contact details to be published on a cast list? **YES / NO**

PRODUCTION COMMITMENTS

Are you at present, or will you be during the rehearsal period for this production, committed to any other productions? **YES / NO**

Please specify ANY dates in January and February you are DEFINITELY not available to perform.

PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE

Please list previous productions and roles played, as well as any relevant training or other experience:

Please complete this form and bring it with you to your audition.