

**ALTRINCHAM GARRICK PLAYHOUSE - AUDITION INFORMATION:**

"The only way to get rid of temptation is to yield to it"

Oscar Wilde



# A MAN OF NO IMPORTANCE

A musical based upon the film "A Man Of No Importance"

Music by Stephen Flaherty

Lyrics by Lynn Ahrens

Book by Terrence McNally



**Tuesday 25 –  
Sunday 30  
March 2025**

Evenings at 7:30pm

**altrincham  
garrick  
studio**

Box Office: 0161-928 1677  
[www.altrinchamgarrick.co.uk](http://www.altrinchamgarrick.co.uk)

Thank you for expressing your interest in auditioning for “**A MAN OF NO IMPORTANCE**”. This production will be the first in our Series of Irish Drama Season in the Altrincham Garrick Studio at Altrincham Garrick Playhouse.

**The Audition Date** for this production is  
**The Rehearsal Start Date** for this production is  
**The Production Dates** for this production are

**Tuesday 26th November**  
**Sunday 9th February**  
**Tuesday 25th -**  
**Sunday 30th March**

### **Rehearsals**

Rehearsals will be every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 7.30pm - 10pm, and every Sunday from 2pm - 5.30pm.

We do ask that all those auditioning are able to make every rehearsal. We do, of course, understand that sometimes you may have other commitments and special occasions during the rehearsal process, and we therefore ask that you inform us of any dates you are not available in advance (at the audition) and we will try and make this work. If you have a date that you're unable to rehearse within ten days of the opening night (25th March) we may have to ask you to withdraw from the production.

You may not be called to every rehearsal, and the Director will produce a rehearsal schedule as far in advance as possible, but we do still ask that those successful in being cast in the production remain flexible, as rehearsal schedules can often change during the process.

### **A MAN OF NO IMPORTANCE**

Tuesday 25th - Sunday 30th March 2025  
Altrincham Garrick Studio

Book by Terrance McNally  
Music by Stephen Flaherty  
Lyrics by Lynn Ahrens

Directed by Barry Purves  
Musical Direction by Ceri Graves

In Dublin in 1964, bus conductor and Oscar Wilde fan Alfie has ambitions to stage *Salome*, despite the objections of the church hierarchy at St Imelda's, where his amateur theatre group is based. When a newcomer to town, Adele, joins his passengers, he realises he has found the right person for the title role and starts to assemble his cast.

Meanwhile Alfie's sister Lily mistakes her brother's interest in Adele as romantic - she longs to have him off her hands so she can be free to marry. Little does Lily realise that Alfie's love "dare not speak its name" and the object of his affections is in fact bus driver Robbie.

As opening night draws near, secrets come spilling out which threaten to shake this little community to its core. But camaraderie and the redeeming power of theatre offer a thread of hope in this story of friendship, forbidden love and finding our place in the world.

Winner of the 2003 Outer Critics Circle Award for Best Musical, ***A Man Of No Importance*** is the second successful collaboration by the team of Terrence McNally, Lynn Ahrens and Stephen Flaherty, all of whom won Tony Awards for ***Ragtime***.

## **Characters**

Please see below information about the characters from the Director.

The following ages are only a suggestion.

### **Adele**

Female 18 - 25

A girl new to Alfie's bus route who he thinks will be perfect for his play, for the part of 'Salome'. She is a young, sweet, "small-town" girl who is wise beyond her years.

Vocal range top: F5 Vocal range bottom: C4

### **Alfie**

Male 35 - 45

Average looks and build, he is a dreamer who idolises Oscar Wilde. He is in love with Robbie but wrestles with his sexuality throughout the story.

Vocal range top: E4 Vocal range bottom: A2

### **Baldy**

Male 50 - 70

Also known as James Michael O'Shea, he is the resident stage manager at St. Imelda's. He lost his wife early in life.

Vocal range top: G4 Vocal range bottom: B2

### **Breton Beret**

Male 20 - 35

Seduces Alfie in order to beat him up for being gay.

Vocal range top: C4 Vocal range bottom: A2

### **Carney**

Male 45 - 60

The local butcher who is the usual star of Alfie's productions and boasts an ego about it. The most socially and morally conservative member of the community.

Vocal range top: G4 Vocal range bottom: A2

### **Ernie Lally**

Male 25 - 40

The company set and props designer.

Vocal range top: G4 Vocal range bottom: B2

### **Father Kenny**

Male

### **Lily Byrne**

Female 40 - 50

Alfie's sister who cares deeply for him, but finds him odd. She is socially and morally

conservative.

Vocal range top: C5 Vocal range bottom: E3

**Miss Crowe**

Female 40 - 60

The company costume designer.

Vocal range top: A5 Vocal range bottom: B3

**Mrs. Curtin**

Female 40 - 50

An actor in the company and the choreographer.

Vocal range top: D5 Vocal range bottom: A3

**Mrs. Grace**

Female 40- 50

The St Imelda's poster designer also hoping to play 'Herodious'

(Mrs Crowe, Curtin, Grace are a bit of a comedy act for three eccentric women)

**Mrs. Patrick**

Female 35 - 45

Robbie's married lover and the mother of three children.

Vocal range top: E5 Vocal range bottom: G3

**Oscar Wilde**

Male

**Peter**

Male

Part of the St Imelda's players

**Rasher Flynn**

Male 25 - 35

The company technician. Was a gymnast.

Vocal range top: E4 Vocal range bottom: A2

**Robbie**

Male 20 - 35

Alfie's coworker and closest friend. He is charming, honest and likeable. 'Bosie' to Alfie's 'Oscar'.

Vocal range top: A4 Vocal range bottom: C3

**Sully O'hara**

Male

In the script he plays the guitar. Making his debut with St Imelda's.

**Notes from the Director:**

This is a very intimate, very warm, witty and moving musical, almost conversational, and, of course, in an intimate space. We are not looking for any belting it out voices, but more about colourful character and eccentric charm. Everyone, save the actor playing Alfie, will perform several characters, and as it is a play within a play performed by the dubiously talented, but undoubtedly enthusiastic, members of the St Imelda's Players, some larger than life playfulness and uninhibited physicality will be required. Also any observations about the amateur dramatic world will strike a chord. There's a strong gay storyline, some violence, and a surprise appearance by Oscar Wilde.

Then there's the essential Dublin accent.....

And a big knees up in the second act.

We are hoping for a piano, a fiddle and a bodrum player, but if anyone can play an appropriate instrument (an accordion, flute, spoons?) on occasion we will incorporate that. The more of an Irish flavour we can imbue the better. I don't envisage us using microphones, and the audience will be addressed directly.

I am hoping to cast a hardworking ensemble of ten performers alongside 'Alfie', and I'll make sure everyone has their moment, as well as the big ensemble scenes.

The staging will be sparse but inventive, with the action taking place in St Imelda's church hall, on a bus, the streets, various houses, a pub and a gay bar.

This is how I have broken it down so far – a bit loose but it's a start. It could be flexible.....

<b>Male 1</b>	Alfie	<b>Female 1</b>	Lily Mrs Patrick Bus pub
<b>Male 2</b>	Robbie Sully?	<b>Female 2</b>	Adele Bus Pub
<b>Male 3</b>	Carney Oscar wilde Bus Pub	<b>Female 3</b>	Miss crowe Bus Pub
<b>Male 4</b>	Baldy Breton Beret Bus pub	<b>Female 4</b>	Mrs Grace Carson Pub
<b>Male 5</b>	Rasher Monsignor Bus	<b>Female 5</b>	Miss Curtin Butcher customer Bus Pub
<b>Male 6</b>	Ernie Father Kenny pub		

## **What to Prepare**

Please prepare a short piece of text from anything that's warm and characterful, that tells us a story, and prepared in a Dublin accent. The show depends on us loving these crazy folk. Think Father Ted meets Noises Off with a nod to Oscar Wilde.

In addition to the above, please prepare one of the below songs:

**All Audition PDF's - AMONI - AUDITION MATERIAL**

**Entire Soundtrack - A Man of No Importance - YouTube**

**ALFIE – ‘Love Who You Love’ – beginning to 1 minute 38**

ALFIE - Love Who You Love.pdf

Love Who You Love - YouTube

**BALDY – ‘The Cuddles Mary Gave’ – beginning to 1 minute 8 seconds**

BALDY - The Cuddles Mary Gave.pdf

The Cuddles Mary Gave - YouTube

**CARNEY – ‘Confusing Times’ – 0 minutes 40 seconds to 1 minute 25 seconds**

CARNEY - Confusing Times.pdf

A Man of No Importance (Reprise) / Confusing Times - YouTube

**LILY – ‘Burden of Life’ – 0 minutes 50 seconds to 1 minute 55 seconds**

LILY - Burden Of Life.pdf

The Burden of Life - YouTube

**ROBBIE – ‘The Streets of Dublin’ – beginning to 1 minute 14 seconds**

ROBBIE - Streets Of Dublin.pdf

The Streets of Dublin - YouTube

**ADELE – ‘Princess’ – 10 seconds to 1 minute 28 seconds**

ADELE - Princess.pdf

Princess - YouTube

## **The Audition Evening**

Auditionees will need to sign in and complete a contact sheet in the Theatre Bar at Altrincham Garrick Playhouse from 6.30pm on Tuesday 26th November. We will then see each auditionee in the Annexe in front of the audition panel from about 7pm.

There will be Garrick personnel to show you around and help you through the process. Please be aware that these audition evenings often include quite a bit of waiting around and can be long, but we will try to move as quickly as we can.

The audition panel will consist of the Director, Musical Director and members of the Altrincham Garrick's Artistic and Casting Team (ACT).

We are a diverse theatre and we welcome auditionees of all ages (above the age of 18) and all genders, ethnicities, sexualities, disabilities and races, to enrich the work of the production.

### **What Next?**

If you've read all the information in this pack, and wish to audition, then please email [casting@altrinchamgarrick.co.uk](mailto:casting@altrinchamgarrick.co.uk) stating "**A MAN OF NO IMPORTANCE**" in the subject heading and detailing your name and contact number. By emailing, you will have registered for an audition on Tuesday 26th November.

We'd like to wish you the very best of luck, and we look forward to welcoming you, or seeing you again! Thank you for taking the time and interest to prepare for this audition and Break-A-Leg!

Best wishes,

**Joseph Meighan** (Artistic Director/ Artistic and Casting Team)

**Carole Carr** (Artistic and Casting Team)

**Mike Shaw** (Artistic and Casting Team)

**Val Watkinson** (Artistic and Casting Team)

**Fiona Primrose** (Artistic and Casting Team)

**Gemma Sales** (Artistic and Casting Team)