



## ST. AUGUSTINE' S MUSICAL THEATRE COMPANY

### ***FIDDLER ON THE ROOF***

### CHARACTER BREAKDOWN

#### **MALE ROLES**

##### **TEVYE:**

The likeable, hard-working, religious dairyman who always tries to see the positive side of life. He is the heart and conscience of the show, around which the narrative revolves. He is a proud family head and father of five daughters, closely raised according to the old scriptures. Tevye's emotional range runs from strong patriarch to gentle father. He is robust but knows his place as his wife's husband! His monologues to God require an ability to comfortably speak directly to an audience. A compelling actor with vocal strength and good comic timing. Requires a convincing Jewish accent.

Vocal Range: Baritone (Ab2 to F5)

Age: 40 plus

Audition Song: *If I Were a Rich Man* AND *Do You Love Me?*

##### **MOTEL:**

The poor and meek tailor who shares a deep love with Tzeitel. Sensitive and nervous, but sincere and friendly. Needs to show a vulnerable side, but also makes a courageous stand and offers himself as a match for Tzeitel, against family wishes. A strong singer with dancing ability.

Vocal Range: Tenor (E3 to F#4)

Age: 18 plus

Audition Song: *Miracle of Miracles*

**PERCHIK:**

The outspoken student and visitor to Anatevka. An outsider who constantly challenges the traditions of the town. He is taken into Tevye's home in order to teach the daughters, but gets a cold reception from many of the villagers for his radical views and new ways of thinking. He eventually falls in love with Hodel and sings a love song to her. A strong, able singer and dancer is required.

Vocal Range: Tenor (B2 to E4)

Age: 18 plus

Audition Song: *Now I Have Everything*

**FYEDKA:**

A strong, confident young Russian soldier with a commanding stage presence. Tevye and the men of the village do not trust him but, despite being a non-Jewish Russian soldier, he sees past his military obligations and falls in love with Chava. He challenges Tevye's imposed silence, but underneath is a kind and charming man.

Vocal Range: Speaking role, but needs to sing well in ensemble.

Age: 18 plus

Audition Song: *Tradition* (Opening section, and 'Sons' section)

**LAZAR WOLF:**

The feisty butcher and the village's wealthiest resident who wishes to marry Tzeitel, and has an agreement with Tevye to do so. However, Tzeitel decides she won't marry Lazar and he takes the rejection badly. A strong singing voice is required, along with the ability to move well.

Vocal Range: Baritone (C3 to F#4)

Age: 40 plus

Audition Song: *To Life* (sing all lines down to "Drink, L'chaim, to life!" - bar 63)

**MENDEL:**

The Rabbi's Son. A small amount of solo singing is required, but also a good voice in ensembles, along with dance ability.

Vocal Range: Baritone (Bb2 to E4)

Age: 20 plus

Audition Song: *The Rumour* (Mendel's solo lines only)

**RABBI:**

The Rabbi of the village. A speaking role, but has a some solo singing lines in the dream sequence, and will need a good voice for other ensembles.

Vocal Range: Baritone (G3 to C4)

Age: 40 plus

Audition Song: *The Dream* (opening section only)

**AVRAM:**

The Bookseller. A good voice for ensemble singing is required, along with dance ability.

Vocal Range: Tenor or Baritone

Age: 25 plus

Audition Song: *Tradition* (Opening section, and 'Sons' section)

**MORDCHA:**

The Innkeeper. A good voice for ensemble singing is required, along with dance ability.

Vocal Range: Tenor or Baritone

Age: 25 plus

Audition Song: *Tradition* (Opening section, and 'Sons' section)

**NACHUM:**

The Innkeeper. A good voice for ensemble singing is required, along with dance ability.

Vocal Range: Tenor or Baritone

Age: 25 plus

Audition Song: *Tradition* (Opening section, and 'Sons' section)

**CONSTABLE:**

Russian military official stationed near Anatevka who knows the villagers well, but has only superficial relationships with them.

Vocal Range: Speaking Role, but will be in ensemble singing.

Age: 30 plus

Audition Song: *Tradition* (Opening section, and 'Sons' section)

**FEMALE ROLES****GOLDE:**

Tevye's strong-willed wife who wishes for her daughters to have good husbands and live easier than she and Tevye. She is the backbone of the family, the maternal heart, generally with a rather gruff exterior. Golde spars well with Tevye, but also needs to show both a softer and wickedly humorous side at times. A strong actress with versatility in emotional range.

Vocal Range: Mezzo Soprano (A3 to E5)

Age: 40 plus

Audition Song: *Do You Love Me?*

**TZEITEL:**

Tevye's oldest daughter, who is madly in love with Motel the Tailor, contrary to the efforts of the Matchmaker and the wishes of her family. She is loyal, but typically challenges the village's traditions. A fun, confident young woman, who can also be commanding and dignified in performance.

Vocal Range: Mezzo Soprano (B3 to D5)

Age: 18 plus

Audition Song: *Matchmaker* (whole song - sing all lines)

**HODEL:**

Tevye's second oldest daughter, strong and independent, who becomes involved with radical student Perchik. An energetic stage presence with good emotional range. She is outspoken but respectful, and her true love for Perchik means she eventually leaves Anatevka to join him in Siberia.

Vocal Range: Mezzo Soprano (B3 to E5)

Age: 18 plus

Audition Song: *Matchmaker* (whole song - sing all lines) AND *Far From the Home I Love*.

**CHAVA:**

Tevye's middle daughter who loves to read. A rather shy, introverted young woman who favours books over other pursuits. However, she falls in love and runs off with Fydeka, a Russian soldier. This creates one of the largest conflicts in the story and results in family rejection. A tragic story requiring an actress with strong emotional range.

Vocal Range: Mezzo Soprano (B3 to E5)

Age: 16 plus

Audition Song: *Matchmaker* (whole song - sing all lines)

**SHPRINTZE:**

Tevye's fourth daughter who takes lessons at home from Perchik the student. On stage a lot with some spoken lines and ensemble singing. We are looking for a confident young actress with good vocal projection.

Vocal Range: Mezzo Soprano (B3 to E5)

Age: 12 plus

Audition Song: *Matchmaker* (first part down to "so find me a match of my own" - sing all lines)

**BIELKE:**

Tevye's youngest daughter who takes lessons at home from Perchik the student. On stage a lot with some spoken lines and ensemble singing. We are looking for a confident young actress with good vocal projection.

Vocal Range: Mezzo Soprano (B3 to E5)

Age: 12 plus

Audition Song: *Matchmaker* (first part down to “so find me a match of my own” - sing all lines)

**YENTE:**

The meddling matchmaker who holds a pivotal role in the life of the village. She is a widow, a busybody who knows all of the town gossip, and thoroughly enjoys her status! A strong actress with character is required. A small amount of solo singing is required, but also a good voice in ensembles.

Vocal Range: Alto (F3 to F5)

Age: 40 plus

Audition Song: *The Rumour* (opening section)

**FRUMA-SARAH:**

Lazar Wolf’s dead wife who appears in the dream sequence as a ghost. She berates her husband for wanting to marry someone else. A strong character voice is required for the dream sequence, but the actress will also be in other ensemble scenes.

Vocal Range: Mezzo Soprano (C4 to Eb5 - but needs also to be able to wail and laugh loudly)

Age: 30 plus

Audition Song: *The Dream* (Fruma-Sarah’s solo lines only)

**GRANDMA TZEITEL:**

Golde’s mother who appears in the dream sequence. She sings with the Rabbi and Tevye to construct the reason why Tevye breaks his promise of his daughter’s hand in marriage to Lazar Wolf. A strong character voice is required for the dream sequence, but the actress will also be in other ensemble scenes.

Vocal Range: Mezzo Soprano (D4 to D5)

Age: 50 plus

Audition Song: *The Dream* (Grandma’s solo lines only, down to “..Tevye, that’s your headache too”)

**SCHAINDEL:**

Motel’s Mother. A speaking role, but singing is required as the actress will also be in other ensemble scenes.

Vocal Range: Speaking Role, but will be in ensemble singing.

Age: 40 plus

Audition Song: *Tradition* (‘Mamas’ section, and ‘Daughters’ section)

## **THE FIDDLER:**

There will also be a Fiddler, male or female, for the required scenes. The violin may be played live by the actor, but only if the playing is strong and convincing (and in tune!). Otherwise the playing will be mimed. The actor playing The Fiddler will also be part of the main Ensemble.

## **ENSEMBLE/CHORUS:**

There will be an ENSEMBLE of male and female Villagers with a wide age-range who appear on stage throughout much of the show. There are a few individual solo singing lines that will be allocated after general audition, but each ensemble member must sing well and have good dance ability - this particularly applies to the men who will be in the main dance sequences, including the famous bottle dance.

Vocal Range: Various, for strong ensemble singing and a few solo singing lines.

Age: Various

Audition Song: *Tradition* (**WOMEN:** 'Mamas' section, and 'Daughters' section.

**MEN:** Opening section, and 'Sons' section)

A downloadable PDF of the audition dates and information is also available on the [Current Productions](#) page of the website.

Production performances run from 21 to 25 November 2017 at The Core Theatre, Solihull. There will also be two orchestra rehearsals (dates to be confirmed, but likely to be Sunday 12 and Sunday 19 November), plus dress rehearsals on Sunday 19 and Monday 20 November.

Rehearsals are held on Wednesday and Thursday evenings at Mill Lodge School in Shirley from 7.30pm to 10.30pm. Further details about the production and cast involvement will be given at audition. If you are successful at audition and invited to join the company for this production, please note that you are accepting a commitment to regular Wednesday and Thursday evening rehearsals.

St. Augustine's Musical Theatre Company

[www.stagsmtc.co.uk](http://www.stagsmtc.co.uk)