

## **AUDITION NOTICE**

We are delighted to announce that our 2025 autumn production will be CYRANO DE BERGERAC, adapted by Glyn Maxwell from the play by Edmond Rostand. The production is directed by Carolina Cabral, who can be contacted at [carolinalcabral@yahoo.com](mailto:carolinalcabral@yahoo.com).

Auditions will take place on **Tuesday 29 July & Tuesday 5 August** at 7.30pm in the church (enter by the door up the steps on the South side, and ring the bell if the door is locked). There may be a callback for those auditioning to play **Cyrano, Christian** and **Roxane** - this will take place on **Sunday 10 August** at 3pm in the Gregory Room under the church (enter by the door down the steps on the South Side and follow the signs).

All are warmly welcome, from experienced members to new recruits. You don't need to be a member to audition, but if successful you do need to have joined or renewed before the first rehearsal, and you will be required to pay a cast fee of £15.

### **ABOUT THE PLAY**

Cyrano de Bergerac is a brilliant poet and swordsman, known for his sharp wit, bravery, and oversized nose. Despite his numerous talents and valiant heart, Cyrano is plagued by insecurities about his appearance, preventing him from revealing his love for the beautiful Roxane.

When Roxane falls in love with Christian de Neuville, a handsome but inarticulate young man, Cyrano agrees to help Christian win Roxane's heart by writing passionate letters to her on his behalf.

The play begins in a convent, where six nuns gather to hear Cyrano - by this point an old man - tell his story. He does not appear, and so the nuns begin to transform themselves into multiple characters and tell Cyrano's story. As the play progresses they are joined by six central characters: **Cyrano, Christian, Roxane, Count Antoine De Guiche, Le Bret** and **Ragueneau**. These six central characters do not play any other roles; the six nuns each play between four and six characters, for a total cast of 12.

### **CHARACTERS**

**Cyrano de Bergerac.** Male, late 20s - early 40s. A witty and eloquent soldier and poet plagued by his insecurities over his large nose, deeply in love with Roxane. Requires a confident performer who can learn a significant number of lines and ideally sing/play an instrument, although this is not fundamental.

**Roxane.** Female, 20s - 30s. A beautiful and intelligent woman who falls in love with Christian but is unknowingly wooed by Cyrano through his letters. Please note that this character has several stage kisses with Christian.

**Christian de Neuville.** Male, 20s - 30s. A handsome and brave but inarticulate soldier who falls in love with Roxane and is ashamed of his inadequacies as a writer. Please note that this character has several stage kisses with Roxane.

*NB: There may be a callback for those auditioning for the above three roles.*

**Comte de Guiche.** Male, any age. A powerful and manipulative nobleman who seeks Roxane's love and plays a significant role in the war. A commanding figure who is initially despised but redeems himself.

**Le Bret.** Male, any age. Cyrano's wise and loyal friend, who is aware of Cyrano's deep feelings for Roxane.

**Ragueneau.** Male, any age. Pastry chef and poet, Cyrano's loyal friend. A larger than life character, joyful and kind.

**Nuns / Ensemble:** these six actors will play multiple roles. The ability to do different accents is a plus, but not essential. Their age ranges are flexible but should be in the general ranges set out below. Unless otherwise specified, all roles have some lines.

For reference:

**The cadets** are a rowdy, brave, and fiercely loyal band of Gascon soldiers, known for their camaraderie, swagger, and deep respect for Cyrano. For all characters who play a cadet, the ability to sing/play an instrument is desirable but not fundamental.

**The poets** are a spirited and rather pretentious group of wordsmiths who like to hang around Ragueneau's bakery for the free pastry.

**Mother Margaret.** Any age. Also plays:

- **Duenna** - Roxane's nurse. A somewhat uptight and snooty character, who loves Roxane and is vexed by Cyrano.
- **Cuigy** - a fashionable nobleman and gossip.
- **Carbonne** - a loyal and courageous captain of the Gascony Guards, respected by his men and devoted to Cyrano.

**Sister Claire.** 20s - 40s. Also plays:

- **Ligniere** - a boisterous, hard-drinking poet and friend of Cyrano
- **Montfluery** - a vain, bombastic actor known more for his ego and melodrama than his talent, and loathed by Cyrano.
- **1st Cadet**
- **Muskateer** (brief, a single line)
- **Guardsmen** (no lines)

**Sister Teresa.** 20s - 40s. Also plays:

- **Valvert** - a pompous and arrogant nobleman, used by De Guiche as a pawn, and humiliated by Cyrano in a duel.
- **Lise** - Ragueneau's gently exasperated wife
- **3rd Cadet**
- **Clomire** - Roxane's friend (no lines)
- **Thief** (no lines)

**Sister Martha. 20s - 40s. Also plays:**

- **Busybody** - a meddlesome, self-important theatre-goer who confronts Cyrano and regrets it
- **2nd cadet**
- **1st poet**
- **Gremione** - Roxane's friend (no lines)
- **Guardsmen** (no lines)

**Sister Agnes. 20's - 40's. Also plays:**

- **Brisaille** - a fashionable nobleman and gossip
- **Priest** - a bumbling and easily fooled priest who unwittingly marries Christian and Roxane
- **Sentinel** - a Gascon soldier, somewhat simple-minded but as brave and loyal as the other Gascon soldiers
- **2nd poet**

**Sister Rosa. Late teens - 30s. Also plays:**

- **Orange girl** - a cheerful and lively street vendor who sells oranges at the theatre
- **3rd poet**
- **4th cadet**