

The Shifting Heart

Audition Pack



Source: Italian Historical Society - COASIT

Auditions

All auditions will be held at the **Casula Powerhouse Arts Centre** on **Saturday the 17th and Sunday the 18th of June** from 10 am to 3pm.

Please email the director Amy Nelson to request a perusal copy of the script and to book an audition. Remember to attach your current headshot and CV!

Contact: amy.nelson.f@gmail.com

NB// All roles are unpaid.

About the piece

It's Christmas eve in Collingwood 1956, the Bianchi family prepare for their celebrations. Written by Richard Beyon, *The Shifting Heart* explores the racism that permeated Australia during the post-war immigration period. The heart wrenching struggles and triumphs of the Bianchi family in the face of it all not only act as a force of nostalgia but also as a mirror for Australian society and identity today.

Roles:

Poppa Bianchi

Male identifying actor. Age range: 40 and upwards.

A proud first gen Italian immigrant with an affinity for the harmonica (and his family.)

Gino Bianchi

Male identifying actor. Age range : 18-25.

Poppas Son, also a first gen Italian immigrant with a big heart and fierce understanding of the racism surrounding him and his family.

Momma Bianchi

Female identifying actor. Age range: 40 and upwards.

Poppa's wife and mother of Maria and Gino. Momma holds the family together through thick and thin.

Maria Fowler/Bianchi

Female identifying actor. Age range: late twenties to mid thirties.

Poppa's daughter. Heavily pregnant and a force to be reckoned with. Desperately coping with the expectations of her family, husband and soon to be expected bambino.

Clarry Fowler

Male identifying actor. Age range: late twenties to mid thirties.

Poppa's son-in-law and Maria's husband. Clarry struggles with being indoctrinated into Maria's Italian family whilst also contemplating his own masculinity and the prospect of fatherhood.

Leila Pratt

Female identifying actor. Age range: thirties and upwards.

Neighbor to the Bianchi family.

Donny Pratt

Male identifying actor. Age range: thirties and upwards.

Leila's Husband and neighbor to the Bianchi family.

Detective Sergeant Lukie

Male identifying actor. Age range: thirties and upwards.

Local police officer.

Key dates

PLEASE NOTE:

Do not apply for an audition if you are unable to make these dates and times.

Auditions

17th and 18th of June

10pm-3pm

Rehearsals

Bonnyrigg South Rehearsal Venue every Tuesday and Thursday from:

- Tuesday 20 June 2023 to Thursday 14 September 2023.

Rehearsals in the space at Casula Powerhouse on the following sundays:

- Sunday the 27th of August.
- Sunday the 3rd and 10th of September .

Bump In

Monday 18th of September.

Tech and dress rehearsal TBC.

Performances

Wednesday the 20th of September. 11AM

Thursday the 21st of September 11 AM

Friday the 22nd of September 11 AM and 7:30pm

Successful auditionees will need to become a member of The Liverpool Performing Arts Ensemble. Details will be forwarded.

AUDITION INFORMATION

The director will work with each actor on a few improvisation and movement exercises during the audition. The aim is to see how much *play and game* you can bring to the piece, this will be a heavy focus in the process. We will then go into a cold read of selected scenes on the day. All we ask is for you to wear comfortable clothing and familiarize yourself with the play.

Thank you for your time ! We hope to hear from you soon.

