

DIRECTION – Doug Kamo

MUSICAL DIRECTION – Sam van Betuw

CHOREOGRAPHY – Anna Stuart

**AUDITIONS - 7 to 10 JULY 2017** 

# **AUDITION PACK**

## WELCOME to the world's most loved musical - EVER!...

After recent sell out successes we are delighted to back it up with what will be Queenstown's biggest theatrical event ever - **MAMMA MIA!**.

Over 50 million people all around the world have fallen in love with the characters, the story and the music that make **MAMMA MIA!** the ultimate feel-good show.

Writer Catherine Johnson's sunny, funny tale unfolds on a Greek island paradise. On the eve of her wedding, a daughter's quest to discover the identity of her father brings 3 men from her mother's past back to the island they last visited 20 years ago.

The story-telling magic of ABBA's timeless songs propels this enchanting tale of love, laughter and friendship, and every night everyone's having the time of their lives!

The original West End production of MAMMA MIA! is celebrating 17 years and over 6,000 performances in London, an international tour has visited more than 80 foreign cities, and the blockbuster feature film adaptation is the most successful movie musical of all time grossing over \$600 million worldwide

And now Queenstown, it's your turn!

Showbiz Queenstown is delighted to welcome Doug Kamo back to Queenstown as director of Mamma Mia! which will be staged at the Queenstown Events Centre, 8 to 11 November 2017.

Enclosed within this document is all you need to know to book your audition time and ensure you are ready to put your best foot forward.

READ THIS INFORMATION CAREFULLY AND THEN GET ONLINE AT www.mamma-mia-queenstown.com TO MAKE AN AUDITION TIME.

All the best!

Ben Roberts, President Showbiz Queenstown PO Box 496 Queenstown

#### IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- All roles available in Mamma Mia! are limited to age 16 and above.
- Diversity is encouraged and all ethnic groups are welcome to audition.
- While talent is the primary consideration when casting, level of commitment will also be a consideration and final choices for principal and ensemble roles will be made with this in mind.
- All roles that are auditioned for on the audition dates are on an unpaid basis
- The season will be for 5 performances commencing on 8 November 2017 with the final performance on Saturday 11 November 2017.
- The producers reserve the right to add two additional performances

#### REHEARSAL INFORMATION

- Rehearsals will commence for the show as outlined below
- Your participation in this production requires a huge commitment in both time and professionalism
  in order to ensure a production of the highest possible quality, therefore please do not audition if
  you are not in a position to commit fully to the rehearsal schedule
- If for any reason you may not be able to attend any of the rehearsals, you must detail this on your audition form which must be handed in prior to auditioning and this will be considered in the audition process
- Rehearsals will generally be Monday to Thursday evenings from 7.00pm until 10.00pm and Sundays from approximately 11.00am until 6.00pm.
- There are two workshop weekends which you <u>MUST</u> be available for no exceptions. You must advise on your audition form if you can't attend part or all of these workshops.
- You cannot be involved in any other production during the rehearsal period.
- Rehearsal venue TBA.

Rehearsal	Commence	Required
Music & Choreography Rehearsals	Saturday 5 August 2017	Full Company & BV's as required (BV's not required for choreography rehearsals)
Show Rehearsals	Sunday – Thursday from Saturday 16 September to 7 November 2017	As required
Workshop Weekend 1	Sat & Sun 16 and 17 September	Full Company & BV's as required
Workshop Weekend 2	Sat, Sun & Mon 21-23 October (Labour Weekend)	Full Company
Season Dates	Wed 8 – Sat 11 November 2017	Full Company

#### **AUDITION DETAILS & REGISTRATION**

All auditionees must register and receive confirmation of an audition time. Details are on the website mamma-mia-queenstown.com

Action	Venue	Date	Time
Audition Dance Workshops***	Queenstown School	Sunday 25 June	2.00pm-3.00pm
	of Dance, Gorge	Friday 30 June	7.00pm-8.00pm
	Road	Sunday 02 July	2.00pm-3.00pm
Principal Auditions & Featured Roles	Remarkables School	Friday 7 July 2017	6.00pm - 10.00pm
Ensemble & Backing Vocalists	Remarkables School	Saturday 8 July	10.00am – 6.00pm
Auditions	Remarkables School	Saturday o July	
Additional Auditions if required	Remarkables School	Sunday 9 July	10.00am - 12.00pm
Dance Auditions - Featured Roles &	Remarkables School	Sunday 9 July	1.00pm – 3.00pm
Ensemble			
Recalls, all roles	Remarkables School	Sunday 9 July	4.00pm - Finish

\*\*\*MANDATORY FOR ALL ENSEMBLE AND FEATURED ROLES TO ATTEND AT LEAST 2 OF THE DANCE WORKSHOPS PRIOR TO YOUR AUDITION.

### **PRINCIPAL AUDITIONS**

- Principal auditionees should prepare <u>ONE</u> of the following; an up-tempo or ballad modern musical theatre or contemporary pop song in the style of Mamma Mia. <u>THESE SHOULD NOT BE ABBA</u>
   SONGS.
- Principals will also be required to sing the compulsory song outlined in the 'Audition Song Requirements'
- DO NOT BE OFFENDED IF WE DON'T GET YOU TO SING BOTH OF YOUR SONGS IT DOESN'T MEAN YOU ARE NOT BEING CONSIDERED
- Sophie and Sky auditionees will also need to attend the ensemble dance auditions on Sunday 9 July 1.00pm to 3.00pm. They must attend at least two of the Audition Dance Workshops prior to the auditions
- All other principal auditionees should be aware of their character's songs from the show and have done their homework on them

## **ENSEMBLE & FEATURED ROLES AUDITIONS**

- Ensemble and featured auditionees should prepare <u>ONE</u> of the following; an up-tempo or ballad modern musical theatre or contemporary pop song in the style of Mamma Mia. <u>THESE SHOULD</u> NOT BE ABBA SONGS.
- All auditionees for ensemble and feature roles will be required to attend the dance audition on Sunday 9 July.
- The dance combination required for this audition will be taught in open workshops on \*\*\*\* June and it is mandatory that you attend two of these sessions so you have the 'MOVES' you require for the audition
- Featured roles will be doubled back into company as well

## **BACKING VOCALISTS AUDITIONS**

• BV auditionees should prepare one up-tempo modern musical theatre or contemporary pop song in the style of Mamma Mia. THIS SHOULD NOT BE AN ABBA SONG.

## **GENERAL AUDITION INFORMATION**

- A pianist will be available for the set songs for Principal auditions
- A sound system will be available for backing tracks either on CD or MP3/IPod for other songs
- Be prepared for movement if you are asked
- Prepare thoroughly as it shows you are serious about being involved and that you have given considerable thought to your audition. Nothing will frustrate the creative team more than those people who come unprepared
- While the ensemble is a mix of ages we are also seeking young (early 20s) who are quirky and vibrant performers.
- While musical theatre experience is a bonus we are not just seeking musical theatre performers but actors who can sing and move well and contemporary pop/rock artists who can act
- The ensemble is comprised of contemporary dancers and singers. Some ensemble men have dance specialties for which any acrobatics are a plus
- Be on time and be patient as we may be running behind schedule
- Bring water...
- For dance auditions please wear street clothes and dance shoes or dance sneakers
- The dance work will include floor work and turns/spins so no skirts
- Sandals or bare feet are not recommended at the workshops or auditions
- If recalled for a principal role you will be sent away with script to learn prior to your recall
- All auditionees must bring their completed audition form to their audition. This will be provided to registered auditionees approximately one week prior to auditions.

## **CHARACTER BREAKDOWN**

## PLEASE NOTE THAT AGE LIMITS ARE INDICATIVE

Principal Roles	Character Description	Age	Ability Required
Donna Sheridan	The mother of a 20-year-old girl, attractive and free-spirited, a former lead singer in a group called "Donna and the Dynamos" who now owns and runs a hotel/casino on a Greek island, a strong feminist who also has a zany and vulnerable side  Musical Numbers: Money Money Money, Mamma Mia, Chiquitita, Dancing Queen, Super Trouper, One Of Us, SOS, Our Last Summer, Slipping Through My Fingers, The Winner Takes It All, I Do I Do I Do,	30's – 50's	Exceptional vocal ability     Very Good actor     Good mover     Soprano
Sophie Sheridan	Waterloo  A very special young woman who is determined to find the romance and happiness she feels eluded her mother, has a wild, zany spirit even though she pursues a conventional marriage.	18 - 25	<ul> <li>Exceptional vocal ability</li> <li>Very Good actor</li> <li>Good dancer/mover/groover</li> <li>Pop Soprano</li> </ul>
	Musical Numbers: I Have A Dream, Honey Honey, Thank You for the Music, Lay All Your Love, Name Of The Game, Under Attack, Slipping Through my Fingers		
Tanya	A former singer in the "Dynamos," rich, sophisticated, acerbic, funny, and witty.  Musical Number: Money Money Money, Chiquitita, Dancing Queen, Super Trouper, Does Your Mother Know, Waterloo	30 – to early 40's	Excellent vocal ability     Very Good actor     Good mover     Alto
Rosie	Also a former singer in the "Dynamos" who now writes for and runs a feminist press, confident, strong, and funny on the outside but shy underneath, kooky and fun, good comic actress, bit of a clown  Musical Numbers: Money Money Money, Chiquitita, Dancing Queen, Super Trouper, Take a Chance on Me, Waterloo	30's – 50's	<ul> <li>Needs a great belt voice</li> <li>An actress who sings well</li> <li>Good mover</li> </ul>
Sam Carmichael	May be Sophie's father, left Donna 20 years ago because he was engaged to another woman, charming, and successful architect.  Musical Numbers: Thank You for the Music, Mamma Mia, SOS, Knowing Me Knowing You, I Do I Do I Do	35's – 50's	<ul> <li>A very good actor who can sing</li> <li>Can move</li> <li>Barritone</li> </ul>

Harry Bright	May be Sophie's father, British financier, wealthy, buttoned-up, and conservative but trying to reconnect with his freer, youthful self. Requires an actor who does a very convincing English accent.  Musical Numbers: Thank You For The Music, Mamma Mia, Our Last Summer	35's – 50's	<ul> <li>An very good actor who can sing</li> <li>Can move</li> <li>High Barritone/Tenor</li> </ul>
Bill Austin	May be Sophie's father, a travel writer with no possessions or strings, goodnatured, always ready for adventure, funny, preferably a big or imposing man  Musical Numbers: Thank You For The Music, Mamma Mia, Name Of The Game, Take a Chance	35's – 50's	<ul> <li>A very good actor who sings fairly well.</li> <li>Can move</li> <li>Bass/Barritone</li> </ul>
Sky	Sophie's fiancé, athletic, attractive, has given up his life as a successful young businessman in order to makeover Donna's taverna and marry Sophie.  Musical Number: Lay All Your Love	20's	<ul><li>A very good actor who sings well.</li><li>A good mover</li><li>Barritone</li></ul>

Featured Roles	Character Description	Age	Ability Required
Lisa	Sophie's friend who arrives to be a bridesmaid, very energetic and kooky.	18 - 25	Should sing & dance well     Mezzo
Ali	Sophie's friend, impulsive and fun, should contrast to Lisa and Sophie.	18 - 25	Should sing & dance well     Mezzo
Pepper	Sky's friend, helps run the hotel, charming, loves women, always flirting,	20's	<ul> <li>Must be a good mover/dancer, acrobatic skills or ability to do Russian split jumps a plus.</li> <li>Barritone/Tenor</li> </ul>
Eddie	Another friend of Sky and hotel worker, laid-back, easygoing.	20's	A mover/dancer role     Barritone/Tenor
Father Alexandrios	The minister of the island	30 - 60	Good actor     Any vocal range
Ensemble	Men and women with a contemporary, hip look who sing and move well	20's – 40's	<ul> <li>A great rock sound is a bonus but not essential to audition - Tenors, Baritones, Bass, Alto, Mezzo, Soprano's</li> <li>Good movers</li> <li>Some featured male ensemble roles have dance specialties for which Russian split jumps and acrobatics are a plus</li> </ul>

Backing Vocalists	We are looking for a vocally strong group of up to 12 people to be backing vocalists and support the on stage cast for the show every night.	Any	
	We will need a mix of Soprano, Alto, Tenor and Bass. A great rock sound is a bonus but not essential to audition.		

## **Audition Song Requirements**

Those auditioning for any of the roles below must also prepare the song listed as part of their audition preparation

Role	Songs
Donna Sheridan	The Winner Takes it All
Sophie Sheridan	Under Attack
Sky	Lay All Your Love on Me
Tanya	Does Your Mother Know
Rosie	Take a Chance On Me
Sam Carmichael	Knowing Me, Knowing You
Harry Bright	Our Last Summer

## MAMMA MIA – THE STORY

#### ACT ONE

On the Greek island of Kalokairi, Sophie, a 20-year-old young woman, is preparing to marry her fiancé, Sky. She wants her father to walk her down the aisle, ("Prologue: I Have a Dream") but doesn't know who he is. Sophie discovers her mother's old diary and finds entries which describe intimate dates with three men (Sam Carmichael, Bill Austin (Andersson in the film version), and Harry Bright) ("Honey, Honey"). Sophie believes that one of these men is her father and, three months prior to the wedding, sends each an invitation to her wedding writing in the name of her mother, Donna, without letting the unsuspecting mother know.

The day before the wedding, Donna begins receiving guests at her taverna. The first to arrive are her old best friends, Tanya, a rich woman who has been married and divorced three times, and Rosie, an unmarried, carefree woman. The trio used to be a girl group called Donna and the Dynamos. The three women catch up and talk about how their lives have been ("Money, Money, Money").

Later that day, Sophie's three possible fathers arrive: Sam (an American architect), Harry (a British banker), and Bill (a Swedish writer and adventurer). Sophie convinces them not to tell Donna that she invited them ("Thank You for the Music"). Donna is surprised to see her exlovers ("Mamma Mia") and leaves in tears. Donna, crying, explains to Tanya and Rosie the situation, and they cheer her up ("Chiquitita"). Tanya and Rosie try to convince Donna that she can still be the girl that she once was ("Dancing Queen").

Sophie had hoped that she would know her father the moment she saw him, but is now only confused. She tries to tell her fiancé, Sky, how she feels without confessing what she has done. Sky tells her that he will be the only man she ever needs ("Lay All Your Love on Me").

At Sophie's hen night, Donna and the Dynamos don their old costumes and perform a song, "Super Trouper". Sam, Bill and Harry accidentally walk in on the party, but the guests persuade them to stay ("Gimme! Gimme! Gimme! (A Man After Midnight)"). Sophie first pulls Sam out of the room to talk to him. After he asks why he is here, she is overcome with guilt, and goes to talk to Harry instead. But Harry asks if Sophie's father is at the party, and she tells him the whole truth. Lastly, she draws Bill aside to talk with him. She learns that Bill has an aunt Sophia who left all her money to Donna's family. Bill learns that Donna built the taverna with money she inherited from a friend she lived with when Sophie was a baby; that friend was Bill's aunt. They both think that this means he is her father.

Sophie asks Bill to walk her down the aisle, but Bill wants to discuss it first with Donna. This has been her secret, after all. But no one knows yet that even Donna does not know who the father is, because she slept with the three men in such swift succession. Sophie insists that they must not tell Donna anything ("The Name of the Game") and finally, Bill agrees.

Afterward, everybody crashes the hen party (including the boys from the stag party). During the dance, Sam pulls Sophie aside and tells her that he has figured out why she invited him. He knows that he is her father, and promises to walk her down the aisle the next day. Then, Harry approaches Sophie, apologizing for being so slow on the uptake, and he is also convinced that she is his daughter and promises to walk her down the aisle. Sophie leaves the party, hopelessly confused; she doesn't want to turn any of them down ("Voulez-Vous").

## **ACT TWO**

(Entr'acte) Sophie is having a nightmare, involving her three possible fathers all fighting for the right to walk her down the aisle and wakes up despairing ("Under Attack").

Sophie is upset, and Donna assumes that Sophie wants to cancel the wedding and offers to handle all the details. Sophie is offended and vows that her children will not grow up not knowing who their father is. As Sophie storms out of the room, Sam enters and tries to tell Donna that Sophie may not be all she seems, but Donna will not listen ("One of Us"). She hates Sam; at the end of their affair, she said she never wanted to see him again. But it seems that Sam was the man Donna cared about the most, and both of them wish they could go back to the start ("SOS").

At the beach, Harry asks Tanya what the father of the bride ought to be doing for Sophie's wedding. Tanya explains that for her part, her father gave her his advice and then paid. Pepper, one of the guys who works at Donna's taverna, makes advances to Tanya, but she rebuffs him ("Does Your Mother Know").

Sky finds out what Sophie has done in inviting Sam, Harry and Bill to the wedding. He accuses her of wanting a big white wedding only so that she can find out who her father is. He is very hurt that she kept this plan a secret from him. He storms off just as Sam walks in. Sam tries to give Sophie some fatherly advice by describing his failed marriage ("Knowing Me, Knowing You"), but Sophie is not consoled.

Harry offers to Donna to pay for the wedding, and they reminisce about their fling ("Our Last Summer"). Sophie arrives and Donna helps her get dressed. She cannot believe her daughter is going to be a bride ("Slipping Through My Fingers"). Donna admits that her own mother disowned her when she learned that she was pregnant. They reconcile and Sophie asks her mother if she will walk her down the aisle. Sam arrives and tries to speak to Donna again, but she does not want to see him, and asks him to leave. He refuses, and a bitter confrontation ensues. Donna tells Sam that he broke her heart, presumably when she found out he was engaged ("The Winner Takes It All"). It emerges that the two still love each other dearly, albeit against Donna's better judgment.

Rosie is making final preparations in the taverna when Bill arrives. He's upset because he has received a note that Donna will be walking Sophie down the aisle. Bill reaffirms his commitment to the single life, but Rosie has become attracted to him, and urges him to reconsider ("Take a Chance on Me"). They are about to have sex in the taverna, but the guests arrive, leaving Rosie quite stunned.

The wedding begins, with Donna walking Sophie down the aisle. Before the priest has a chance to begin the ceremonies, Donna acknowledges to everyone that Sophie's father is present. Sophie tells her mother that she knows about her father. Donna realizes that Sophie invited them to the wedding for that very reason. The issue of Sophie's parentage is left unsettled, as none of them have any idea whether they are actually her father. Everyone involved agrees that it does not matter which one of them her biological parent is, as Sophie loves all three and they are all happy to be "one-third of a father" and a part of her life at last. Finally, Harry, who has made frequent references to his "other half" throughout the show, is revealed to be in a committed gay relationship with a man named Laurence (Nigel or George in some productions, Peter in the Russian version, José Francisco in the Mexican version and Adamastor Costa e Silva in the Brazilian Production).

Suddenly, Sophie calls a halt to the proceedings. She is not ready to get married and Sky agrees with Sophie about not getting married. Sam seizes his chance and proposes to Donna in order to prevent the wedding preparations from going to waste. He explains that he loved her, even when he left to get married. It is revealed that he called off the wedding with his fiancée and came back to the island, only to be told that Donna was going out with another man (Bill). He went back, married his fiancée and had children but he got divorced. Surprisingly, Donna accepts, ("I Do, I Do, I Do, I Do, I Do"). In the end, Sam and Donna are married, and at the end of the night, Sophie and Sky depart on a round-the-world tour ("I Have A Dream").

After the usual performers' bows to the audience, the cast performs the following songs together: "Dancing Queen", "Mamma Mia", and "Waterloo", featuring Donna, Tanya, Rosie, Sam, Bill, and Harry in ABBA-inspired costumes; they often invite the audience to sing along.

## **SONGS - ACT 1**

Overture

Prologue - I Have A Dream

Honey, Honey

Money, Money, Money Thank You For The Music

Mamma Mia Chiquitita Dancing Queen

Lay All Your Love On Me

Super Trouper

Gimme, Gimme (A Man After Midnight)

Voulez-Vous

## **SONGS - ACT 2**

**Entr'acte Under Attack** 

One Of Us

S.O.S

Does Your Mother Know Knowing Me, Knowing You

Our Last Summer

Slipping Through My Fingers

The Winner Takes It All Take A Chance On Me Take A Chance On Me I Do, I Do, I Do, I Do

I Have a Dream

Encore Mamma Mia (Reprise) - Dancing Queen (Reprise) - Waterloo

## **Production Crew Required**

Showbiz Queenstown would love to hear from anybody keen to be part of the Production Crew. We're looking for general pack-in and run of show crew, wardrobe assistants, lighting and sound assistants, hair and make up artists, props helpers, bar and ushers ...

If you or somebody you know would be keen to help, please ask them to email showbizqt@gmail.com