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In association with  
NEW YORK THEATRE WORKSHOP  
&  
MELBOURNE THEATRE COMPANY

are pleased to announce auditions for



**ONLINE SUBMISSIONS**

OPEN: 17<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2013  
CLOSE : 18<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2013

**1<sup>st</sup> Round LIVE AUDITIONS**

SYDNEY: 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2013  
MELBOURNE: 7<sup>th</sup> December 2013

**2nd Round LIVE AUDITIONS**

SYDNEY: 31<sup>st</sup> January 2014  
MELBOURNE: 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2014

- Rehearsals scheduled to commence 18<sup>th</sup> August 2014
- First Performance: Friday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2014
- Dates are subject to change at the producer's discretion

## **About *Once*:**

Book : Enda Walsh

Music : Glen Hansard & Marketa Irglova

Winner of 8 Tony Awards in 2012 including Best New Musical.

## **The Story:**

His music needed one thing. Her.

Based on the much-loved Oscar-winning film, ***Once*** is an extraordinary, original and irresistibly joyous celebration of love, friendship and music. When an Irish busker and a young Czech mother meet through a shared love of music, their song writing sparks a deep connection and a tender, longing romance that neither of them could have expected.

An old -fashioned love story that dares to be different, ***Once*** takes you right to the heart of the action in a rapturous production that dazzles with invention.

This unique adaptation is brought to life by a supremely talented cast of actor-musicians who unleash all the giddy exhilaration of an Irish ceilidh live on stage. Featuring all of the magical songs from the original film, including the Oscar-winning "***Falling Slowly***", this is an achingly beautiful, thrillingly inspirational show that strikes a truly unforgettable chord.

2012 Tony Award Show Clip:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8RebiKimp4>

***Once*** on the Graham Norton Show:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a0ccj-9ynbs>

## **Notes from the Creative Team for *Once*:**

1. There is no orchestra in ***Once***, the cast play all instruments. This is NOT THE SHOW to become a musician....you must already be one, however if you played the violin (for example) when you were a teenager and haven't played for years but have a natural talent, this has sometimes worked with previous productions.
2. You must be available for the entire rehearsal process commencing 18<sup>th</sup> August. If you are unable to commit to the entire rehearsal process, please do not submit an application.
3. During the online audition round we would suggest you do not submit a piece from ***Once*** unless that is considered your party piece. We would prefer to see you perform an item that you are comfortable with and shows you at your peak. This will assist us to identify the role we would like to see you audition for.

## **The Audition Process:**

Please read the following information carefully.

**All applicants will be required to submit an online application.  
There are no exceptions.**

**<http://oncemusical.com.au/auditions>**

### **Round 1:**

- Commences Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> September 2013
- All candidates will submit an online audition consisting of 2 **separate** video links
  1. **45 second of their 'party piece' song.**
    - a) Applicants should consider the style of music featured in ***Once***. We **do not** recommend you submit a song from ***Once***.
    - b) Please be mindful of the quality of the video and sound quality.
  2. **30 second monologue or reading**
    - a) Please **do not** submit text from ***Once***.

### **Round 2:**

- Having viewed the Round 1 applications the Creative Team will nominate the applicants they wish to see in Round 2.
- Successful applicants will be notified and will be invited to prepare and upload material from the show:
  - a) The auditionee will be notified of their successful completion of Round 1.
  - b) Material from the show for a specific role will be emailed to the auditionee.
  - c) The auditionee will have 2 weeks to learn and upload a video link.

### **Live Auditions:**

- Having viewed the Round 2 applications the Creative Team will nominate the applicants they wish to see in the Live Auditions held in Melbourne and Sydney in December 2013.
- Auditionees will be notified by 20<sup>th</sup> November if they have been successful in this process.

## **Characters:**

### **General Notes**

- There is not a lot of “dancing” in ***Once***, it is perhaps best described as “movement”. In the following character breakdown Level 1 identifies that an accomplished level of movement and co-ordination is required while level 3 requires the most advanced movement skills.
- In all cases, the capacity to create movement that does not look like dance is essential. The entire company should always look like people first and foremost.
- The capacity to sit inside movement rather than being presentational is also essential for all castings.
- Vocally all characters need to be able to harmonise
- The tonal ‘world’ of this music is a pop/folk, contemporary sound. (some a little rockier)
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**We are looking for the following roles for the 2014 Australian production of *ONCE*.**

### **GIRL**

GENDER: Female

AGE: Mid to Late 20’s – Early 30’s

MUSICALITY: Must **Sing** and play the **Piano** extremely well

VOCAL QUALITY: Warm alto belt and floated tone, with some low notes a fifth below middle C and up to an octave above middle C

ACCENT: Strong Czech (Eastern European).

MOVEMENT: Level 1.

Needs to have good rhythmic qualities, solid grounding and physical articulation

- Direct, intelligent, no nonsense and witty. Should have something ‘other’ about her. Has had to work hard at life but doesn’t think she deserves any sympathy.

### **GUY**

GENDER: MALE

AGE: Mid 20’s – Early 30’s

MUSICALITY: Must **Sing** and play the **Guitar** extremely well

VOCAL QUALITY: Warm contemporary baritone; strong mid-range and top B, with falsetto up to the top C#

ACCENT: Strong Irish

MOVEMENT: Level 2

Strong rhythmic qualities and also strong articulation needed. Requires strong elegant, understated gestural skills and an physical expressive style.

- A struggling Irish musician. Lost and a bit sad but extremely appealing. Works with his Da in a vacuum repair shop.

### **BILLY**

GENDER: MALE

AGE: Mid 30’s to 40’s

MUSICALITY: Must **Sing** and play the **Guitar** well

VOCAL QUALITY: Baritone with a strong mid-range, and high G#

ACCENT: Strong Irish

MOVEMENT: Level 3

Dynamic Ballistic, energized movement skills coupled with elegant understated, emotive gestural skills.

- A large Irish man. Owner of the music store where GIRL plays piano. Loud, funny and protective of GIRL but also has a vulnerability.

## **REZA**

GENDER: FEMALE  
AGE: Late 20's  
MUSICALITY: Must **Sing** and play the **Violin/Fiddle** extremely well  
VOCAL QUALITY: Soprano with floated top notes up to top A, and a strong alto belt range in the octave above middle C  
ACCENT: Strong Czech (Eastern European).  
MOVEMENT: Level 3  
Sexy pole dancer type. Strong dynamic partnering work. Excellent coordination. Elegant.  
Hardest physical role of the show

- A sexy, funny, smart Czech girl. Often a bit larger than life.

## **BARUSKA**

GENDER: FEMALE  
AGE: 50+  
MUSICALITY: Must **Sing** and play the **Accordion/Piano** well  
VOCAL QUALITY: Warm folk contralto, with low notes around a fifth below middle C to the octave above middle C  
ACCENT: Strong Czech (Eastern European).  
MOVEMENT: Level 2  
Strong rhythmic and co-ordination skills. Good flexibility. Powerful expressive physicality

- A cool but caring Czech mother who likes a full house and full stomachs. Not many inhibitions.

## **BANK MANAGER**

GENDER: MALE  
AGE: 30s/40s  
MUSICALITY: Must **Sing** and play the **Guitar** and **Cello** well  
VOCAL QUALITY: Character, folk tone as well as warm baritone/tenor range up stretched up to a high B (just)  
ACCENT: Strong Irish (Cork)  
MOVEMENT: Level 2  
High level of physical co-ordination.

- Seems quite prim and proper but has a secret passion for music.

## **DA**

GENDER: MALE  
AGE: 50+  
MUSICALITY: Must **Sing** and play the **Guitar, Ukulele** and **Mandolin** well  
VOCAL QUALITY: Older character actor, baritone up to around high F#  
ACCENT: Strong Irish  
MOVEMENT: Level 2  
Strong rhythmic skills and co-ordination. Dynamic, Energised, Precise.

- A man of few words, but a lovely and caring father.

## SVEJC

GENDER: MALE  
AGE: 20s/30s  
MUSICALITY: Must **Sing** and play the **Guitar** and **Drum kit** extremely well  
VOCAL QUALITY: Baritone from just below mid C to high F#  
ACCENT: Strong Czech (Eastern European).  
MOVEMENT: Level 3  
Extremely strong rhythmic co-ordination and skill. Partner work. Dynamic.

- A real odd ball. Loves television and coffee.

## ANDREJ

GENDER: MALE  
AGE: 20's  
MUSICALITY: Must **Sing** and play the **Guitar** and **Bass Guitar** extremely well  
VOCAL QUALITY: Baritone from around mid C to high G#  
ACCENT: Strong Czech (Eastern European).  
MOVEMENT: Level 3  
Strong co-ordination and a bit of a physical comedian. Flexible, dynamic and gentle. Real

- Earnest and kind. An employee at a fast food chain but has big dreams.

## EAMON

GENDER: MALE  
AGE: 20s/30s/40s  
MUSICALITY: Must **Sing** and play the **Guitar** well. Also potentially **Piano**.  
VOCAL QUALITY: Warm baritone with a strong mid-range, up to high G#  
ACCENT: Strong Irish  
MOVEMENT: Level 2  
Strong co-ordination skills and physical flexibility. Strongly expressive gestural skills. Good balance.

- The music studio manager where GUY and GIRL record their album. A tough nut to crack but eventually gives into the musician's talents.
- (Please note: only of EAMON or EMCEE needs to play the piano)

## EMCEE

GENDER: MALE  
AGE: Late 20s to 30s  
MUSICALITY: Must **Sing** and play **guitar** extremely well. Also potentially **piano**.  
VOCAL QUALITY: Warm baritone, with a strong mid-range and high G#  
ACCENT: Strong Irish

- The emcee at a bar. A good natured ball buster.
- (Please note: only of EAMON or EMCEE needs to play the piano)

## **EX GIRLFRIEND**

GENDER: FEMALE  
AGE: 20's – Early 30's  
MUSICALITY: Must **Sing** and play the **VIOLIN** extremely well  
VOCAL QUALITY: Warm alto belt and floated tone, with some low notes a fifth below middle C, up to an octave above middle C  
ACCENT: Strong Irish  
MOVEMENT: Level 2  
Good co-ordination skills. Elegant, strong, energized dynamic physicality.

- GUY'S ex-girlfriend who now lives in New York. Kind, lovely and likeable.

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### **LIVE AUDITIONS ARE STRICTLY BY APPOINTMENT ONLY.**

Casting requirements for these roles are very specific. Please read the brief carefully when submitting performers – there is no scope for exceptions.

## **PLEASE NOTE:**

**To be considered for this production, all performers are required to participate in the online audition process.**

**AUDITIONS ARE AT THE RISK AND THE SOLE FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY OF THE AUDITIONEE.**

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**Online applications close  
5pm Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2013**

If you have any questions please email:

**Suzanne Jones**  
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