



AUDITION NOTICE

I Love You,	Books and lyrics by Joe DiPietro Music by Jimmy Roberts
You're Perfect,	Originally Produced in New York by James Hammerstein, Bernie Kukoff and Jonathan Pollard Original Direction by Joel Bishoff <small>Originally produced by the American Stage Company James N. Vagias, Executive Producer An amateur production by arrangement with R&H Theatricals Europe</small>
Now Change	8-12 March 2016 Bridewell Theatre <small>sedos.co.uk</small> sedos

Key dates and venues

- workshop: Tuesday 24th November 7pm
- auditions: Tuesday 8th and Friday 11th December
- recalls: Thursday 17th December
- first rehearsal: Tuesday 12th January
- performances: 8th-12th March 2016
- workshop, audition, recall and rehearsal venue: 1 Brewers' Hall Garden, London EC2V 5DX
- performance venue: Bridewell Theatre, Bride Lane, London EC4Y 8EQ

To book an audition, please read the full audition notice, then email LovePerfectChange@sedos.co.uk with your first, second and third choice of sessions, as explained on page three.

ABOUT THE SHOW

I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change premiered in Teaneck, New Jersey, the hometown of the book and lyrics writer Joe DiPietro. It was directed by Joel Bishoff, who went on to direct the Off-Broadway run and the first London production.

The show opened at the Westside Theatre Off Broadway on 1 August 1996 and played for over 5,000 performances. It was first staged in the UK at the Churchill Theatre, Bromley, in 1999, followed by a short season in the West End's Comedy Theatre (now the Harold Pinter Theatre).

I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change has been translated into at least 17 languages and was nominated for the Outer Critics Circle Award as Outstanding Off-Broadway musical in 1997.

The show is a cabaret-style musical in which a series of songs about love and relationships are presented in a roughly chronological order, so dating is followed by marriage, children and old age. The characters do not run throughout the show, rather there are opportunities to create small scenes and realistic personalities in each individual song or mini scene.

By turns touching and funny, *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change* celebrates and reflects on the beauty and comedy of love in all its guises.

You can listen to the original soundtrack at this link:

<https://open.spotify.com/album/01Eu1gkif3muXVlvdJnrDx>

OUR PRODUCTION AND WHAT WE ARE LOOKING FOR

Love, Perfect, Change - as we like to call it - was originally written for four actors, two male and two female. We intend to expand that to a cast of eight to 16, with equal numbers of men and women - the exact number will depend on what the team feel will work at the audition stage.

The show offers numerous opportunities for actors to take different parts and plenty of chances for individuals to shine - this will be a true ensemble piece with no lead actors.

It is quite a "bitty" show, so while the rehearsal schedule will be arranged to use the cast as sensibly as possible, auditionees should be aware that there will be some waiting around at rehearsals. We therefore want to see people who can be team players and act as good audience members for their fellow cast members when they are not being used in rehearsals.

We are not looking for people to fit particular parts or vocal ranges, so there are no limits on age or vocal range. We will move the show from its original New York setting to London, so as far as accents are concerned, anything goes.

The intention is to stick to the original Off Broadway feel of the show, with a simple static set and costumes. The band (piano and probably two other instruments) will be on stage and the players will interact with the cast. An ability to move well and perform simple movement choreography (not dance) is needed; we won't be having any dance auditions but we will assess confidence, stage presence and ease in performance.

We hope to present the show acoustically so the cast will not wear microphones. The director and musical director will work with a sound designer on aspects such as positioning on stage to ensure the cast can be heard, but successful auditionees will need to show they can project.

ABOUT THE TEAM

Emma J Leaver, director: Emma has been involved on and offstage in amateur theatre for 15 years, in Melbourne and London. While at University she founded the University of Melbourne Music Theatre Association in 2002 (the longest-running student theatre group on campus) and performed in, produced, stage managed and directed for various companies before moving to London; her final Melbourne production was as producer and director of *The Musical of Musicals: The Musical* for the 2012 Melbourne International Comedy Festival.

Emma's most recent London work has been with Sedos; as stage manager for *Autobahn* and *Macbeth* in 2013, director of *In Cahoots* in 2014 and a supernumerary for *Legally Blonde* in 2015. She is currently co-producing, assistant directing and stage managing Centre Stage's *Rent*.

Emma believes in a collaborative directing style and is really looking to put together a strong ensemble for this show. By day she is an event manager and coffee snob.

Michael Cannon, musical director: This is Michael's first time as a musical director for Sedos, but he has been involved in a number of productions since he was first asked to MD *Little Shop of Horrors* at the University of Warwick. Since then he has worked on shows including *Cabaret*, *Spring Awakening*, *Company*, *Beauty and the Beast*, and the world premiere of *Riptide! – a slasher musical*, at the Rosemary Branch Theatre.

Pippa Kyle, co-producer: Pippa has produced four Sedos shows, including the recent production of *Noises Off* and the musicals *A Little Night Music* and *A Man of No Importance*. She is also chair of the society's marketing group and a former committee member. She will be leading on the "outside theatre" areas of the show such as auditions and marketing.

Ruth Luckins, co-producer: Currently working as Technical Manager at the Pleasance Theatre, this is Ruth's first adventure in producing with Sedos, although in the six months she has been in London she has helped to build/light quite a few Sedos shows, including *Legally Blonde*, *Noises Off* and the Summer Season. She has plenty of experience and ideas from production/tech/stage management roles in the Edinburgh Student Theatre scene and a particular love for musicals having written about them for her music dissertation last year, so can't wait to get started on *Love, Perfect, Change*. Ruth will be leading in the "in theatre" areas of the show such as set, get-in and lighting.

AUDITION FORMAT

Workshop

Date: Tuesday 24th November, 7pm

Where: 1 Brewers' Hall Garden, London EC2V 5DX

Sign up: email Pippa on LovePerfectChange@sedos.co.uk to give us an idea of numbers

The workshop is a chance to get to know the team and the show, as well as to ask questions. It is entirely optional, no preparation is needed and attendance will not affect your chances of being cast.

Auditions

Dates: Tuesday 8th and Friday 11th December - sessions at 7pm, 7.30pm, 8pm, 8.30pm and 9pm each night

Where: 1 Brewers' Hall Garden, London EC2V 5DX

Sign up: email Pippa on LovePerfectChange@sedos.co.uk stating your first, second and third choice of session (date and time)

Each half an hour session will be for four to six people. You should prepare a song (see advice on song choice below) - we will call auditionees in individually to perform their songs for the audition panel.

After everyone has sung, we will bring you in as a group to work on some short acting scenes together. There is no need to prepare these in advance, but you will have a chance to look over them while auditionees are doing their individual songs.

We have compiled a list of suggested songs, which we have chosen because they are in a similar musical style to the show – we are looking for people who can tell stories and/or make us laugh through characterisation and really performing the lyrics, rather than just singing nicely. You will be given access to the sheet music for the suggested songs once you sign up to audition.

We'd also be delighted to hear different songs, so if you want to go off-list that's fine – please choose a musical theatre song and keep the points above in mind in your selection. If you are singing a song which is not from this list, please bring sheet music so the pianist can accompany you at the auditions.

We may stop you part of the way through the song - this is no reflection on your ability, simply a case of keeping to the audition timetable. We may also ask you to do the song or an extract from it a second time, perhaps with some changes, so we can get a feel for how you respond to direction and your adaptability.

Suggested songs - men

I'm not that Smart - 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee
Love, I Hear - A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum
High Flying Adored - Evita
This is the Moment - Jekyll and Hyde
Mr Cellophane - Chicago

Suggested songs - women

I Cain't Say No - Oklahoma
Wherever He Ain't - Mack and Mabel
Here I am - Dirty Rotten Scoundrels
Stars and Moon - Songs for a New World
By the Sea - Sweeney Todd

Recalls

Date: Thursday 17th December evening
Where: 1 Brewers' Hall Garden, London EC2V 5DX

More information on the recalls and what to prepare, if anything, will be provided to those who are recalled.

REHEARSALS

The first rehearsal will be on the evening of Tuesday 12th January. Rehearsals will generally be on Tuesday and Thursday evenings and all day on Saturdays, with a few weekends when there will also be Sunday rehearsals - these are likely to be on 24th January and 21st February. All rehearsals will be at 1 Brewers' Hall Garden or if they move, they will be at another central London venue.

The show gets into the Bridewell Theatre (Bride Lane, EC4Y 8EQ) on Sunday 6th March and the technical rehearsal is that evening. The dress rehearsal is on the evening of Monday 7th March. Performances are every evening 8th-11th March, plus there will be a Saturday matinee.

CASTING RESTRICTIONS

Because of overlapping rehearsal periods, it will not be possible to be in *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change* if you are in either *P*rnography* or *Such Stuff As Dreams Are Made On*.

SEDOS: MEMBERSHIP, AUDITION AND PARTICIPATION FEES

Sedos is one of London's pre-eminent amateur theatre societies, with the aim of producing quality amateur shows to the best artistic standards possible. Please note that performers are not paid — not even expenses. To perform in *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change* you must be a member of Sedos (membership is currently £30 per year) and pay a participation fee of £40. There is a £5

audition fee for non-Sedos members. If you are cast in the show, your audition fee will be deducted from your participation fee.

Read more about Sedos at sedos.co.uk

BACKSTAGE HELP

If you are not interested in auditioning, but would like to help out backstage, in any capacity (from operating lights, to building scenery to sewing costumes to providing front of house assistance) then please let us know by e-mailing LovePerfectChange@sedos.co.uk. We would be delighted to hear from you!

ANY QUESTIONS?

Please email Pippa on LovePerfectChange@sedos.co.uk if you have any questions. We look forward to seeing you at the workshop and auditions.

Emma, Michael, Pippa and Ruth