



Director: [Chris Adams](#)  
Musical Director: [Sophie Wright](#)  
Choreographer: [Paul Brookland Williams](#)  
Producers: [Lizzie Drapper](#) and [Pippa Kyle](#)  
You can read about the creative team on page 3 of this notice

## Audition Notice

### Key Dates

#### Workshop:

Wed 20 December 7.30pm-9.30pm

#### Auditions:

Wed 10 January, 7pm-10pm

Fri 12 January, 7pm-10pm

Sun 14 January, 10am-5pm

#### Recalls:

Weds 17 Jan, 7.30pm-10.30pm

Fri 19 Jan, 7pm-10pm

**Rehearsals:** starting on Thursday 8 February – then usually on Saturday (daytime) and Tuesday and Thursday evenings

**Tech and dress rehearsals:** 7 and 8 May (please note 7 May is a Bank Holiday)

**Performances:** 7.30pm every evening 9-19 May, except 13 and 14 May, and 2.30pm matinees on 12 and 19 May. Performances at the Bridewell Theatre, Bride Lane, EC4Y 8EQ

**Book your workshop place and audition slot:** <https://membership.sedos.co.uk>

## ABOUT THE SHOW

### What is *Pippin* about?

*Pippin* is a unique, beloved show which means many things to many different people, from the multi award-winning creator of *Wicked* and *Godspell*, Stephen Schwartz.

A mysterious and charismatic 'Leading Player' leads us through the dream-like tale of Pippin, son of King Charlemagne, as he sets out in search of true happiness and fulfilment. Guided through a series of challenging situations, Pippin must decide what he is willing to sacrifice to truly achieve 'glory'. It is a funny, entertaining and sometimes disturbing coming-of-age story about the modern world which uses a comedic faux-historic story to tell a surreal and dark tale about the pressures of modern life. If you like your musicals funny, dark, clever and a little bit twisted, you'll love being a part of Pippin.

*Pippin* is rarely performed but loved by many. We are excited by the opportunity to stage this Broadway classic, bringing it to a new generation of fans and giving a talented company the opportunity to explore this beautiful, funny and challenging piece, which we'll be giving a thoroughly modern, urban, maybe even *post-apocalyptic* twist...

There are plenty of roles for talented lead performers, ensemble members and musicians, particularly those with sharp comic timing. Dance-wise, a combination of Fosse-inspired choreography will blend seamlessly with nods to contemporary street dance and ballet styles, and there are roles for both strong dancers and actors/singers who can move. There's more information below.

You can read more about *Pippin*, its storyline and intriguing history, at

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pippin\\_\(musical\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pippin_(musical))

You may also wish to listen to the original or recent Broadway cast recordings to get a sense of the show's style and sound.

### What is the music like?

*Pippin* has an infectious, unforgettable score from the four-time Grammy winner, three-time Oscar winner and all-round musical theatre giant, Stephen Schwartz (*Wicked*, *Godspell*, *Children of Eden*). It's wonderfully characterful songs contain a bit of everything. Catchy 'theatrical-pop/rock' numbers have guitar solos and melodic piano riffs, leading parts deliver belty, emotional outpourings or gorgeous love songs, while the chorus produce goosebump-inducing harmonies in moving finales. There are nods to jazz, ragtime, waltz and cakewalk and even dramatic, classically influenced segments.

### And the dancing?

The Original Broadway production is well known and well-loved for Bob Fosse's iconic choreography – his influence essentially shaped the show into what it is today. Many productions since have replicated this or adapted it. With our intention of setting the show in a more contemporary modern environment, we will open up the choreography to a slightly more modern style. Fosse's choreography is iconic and we feel to completely remove it from our production would be wrong, so our intention is to mix Fosse's classic style with contemporary ballet and street dance.

Everyone in the show will be required to dance at certain points, however, we will be catering for differing dance abilities throughout. We're interested in singers who can move well, but also looking for a core group of strong jazz dancers: tap and street dance are an advantage but not a necessity.

### What are we looking for?

We're looking for an energetic, creative, talented company who are ready to dive in, tear up the *Pippin* rulebook and create a truly memorable version of this darkly comic musical. We want to redefine these characters and the surreal world they inhabit through a truly collaborative rehearsal process which will be challenging, inventive and ultimately a lot of fun!

If you have skills such as magic, gymnastics, juggling, tumbling or anything else that will look dazzling on stage – we want to know about them!

Full character breakdown on pages 4 and 5.

## ABOUT THE CREATIVE TEAM

### Director: **Chris Adams**

Chris most recently directed *9 to 5* at the Bridewell Theatre with Sophie and Paul.

His previous directing credits include *Contractions* (Theatre Delicatessen), *Reefer Madness!* (Bridewell) and *Bat Boy: The Musical* (Edinburgh Fringe) as well as various plays and musicals while at university.

His 'real job' is Marketing Manager at Disney Theatrical Productions.

### Musical Director: **Sophie Wright**

Sophie most recently MD-ed *9 to 5* at the Bridewell Theatre with Chris and Paul. Her other credits as MD include *Jekyll and Hyde*, *Aladdin*, a pantomime, *West End to Broadway* and *Little Shop of Horrors*.

Sophie plays piano, clarinet and saxophone and has performed and sung in countless choirs, bands and orchestras over the years.

### Choreographer: **Paul Brookland Williams**

Paul started dancing at the age of twelve and studied professionally at Merseyside Dance and Drama Centre.

Upon graduation Paul worked for Dougie Squires Next Generation and performed in Andrew Lloyd Webber's *Starlight Express* for seven years.

Paul has performed at the Bridewell many times: *Legally Blonde* (Sedos), *Rent* (Centre Stage), *On the Twentieth Century* and *A Chorus Line* (Geoids).

Choreography credits: *Little Shop of Horrors* (Liverpool Light Opera Society), *9 to 5* and *Fame The Musical* (Centre Stage).

### Co-Producer: **Lizzie Drapper**

Lizzie has produced *Legally Blonde*, *Candide* and *Priscilla Queen of the Desert – the Musical* for Sedos, as well as stage managing and helping backstage on numerous shows since joining the society in 2013.

Lizzie is the secretary of the Sedos committee.

### Co-Producer: **Pippa Kyle**

Since joining Sedos in 2009, Pippa has produced *Taking Steps*, *A Little Night Music*, *A Man of No Importance*, *Noises Off* and *Frankenstein* and co-produced *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change*. Her other roles include stage managing *Into the Woods* and the *Garden* portion of *House/Garden*.

Pippa is a former Sedos committee member and currently chair of the Sedos marketing group.

## Backstage Help

If you are not interested in auditioning, but would like to help out backstage in any capacity (from crewing to building scenery, sewing costumes and front of house) please contact [pippin@sedos.co.uk](mailto:pippin@sedos.co.uk) - we'd love to hear from you!

## CHARACTER BREAKDOWN

Here's a short description of each character and what we'd like you to perform in the audition room:

### **The Leading Player** – female

*'Think about the sun, Pippin. Think about her golden glance. How she lights the world up! Well... now it's your chance...'*

The ring-leader and master of ceremonies – charming and manipulative, she guides Pippin and the audience through the story to its shocking conclusion.

Vocal range: Db3 to Ab4

Dance level: advanced

Audition song: MAGIC TO DO

Recall song: GLORY

### **Pippin** – male, playing age 18-25

*'Cats sit on the window sill, children play in the snow.  
Why do I feel I don't fit in anywhere I go...?'*

Our confused hero, desperate to find a purpose in life. Naïve, innocent and unhappy, he eventually finds happiness in the simple things in life. But there's a twist to Pippin's tale.

Vocal range: G3 to Ab4

Dance level: beginner or advanced

Audition song: CORNER OF THE SKY

Recall song: EXTRAORDINARY

### **Charles (Charlemagne)** – male, playing age 40-60

*'Sometimes I wonder if the fornicating I'm getting is worth the fornicating I'm getting'*

Pippin's demanding father and King of the Roman empire. Old and wise (though not as wise as he thinks) and pretty bonkers.

Vocal range: G2 to E4

Dance level: beginner

Audition song: MAGIC TO DO

Recall song: WAR IS A SCIENCE

### **Lewis** – male, playing age 18-30

*'Lewis is strong. Lewis loves fighting. Lewis loves wrestling. But most of all, Lewis loves Lewis.'*

Pippin's step-brother. A soldier. Strong and stupid. Please note that Lewis does not have a solo song, and he needs exceptional comic timing.

Dance level: beginner or advanced

Audition song: MAGIC TO DO

Recall song: will be confirmed

**Fastrada** – female, playing age 35-50

*'I'm just an ordinary housewife and mother, just like all you housewives and mothers out there!'*

Pippin's sneaky stepmother. Outwardly, a loving mother, but secretly she wants to rob Pippin of the throne. Evil and fabulous.

Vocal range: A3 to F5  
Dance level: advanced

Audition song: SPREAD A LITTLE SUNSHINE  
Recall song: will be confirmed

**Berthe** – female, playing age 50-70

*'Oh, it's time to start living! Time to take a little from this world we're given.  
Time to take time, cause spring will turn to fall, in just no time at all....'*

Pippin's grandmother – brassy and full of sassy wisdom. Encourages him to live life to the fullest.

Vocal range: E3 to C5  
Dance level: beginner

Audition song: NO TIME AT ALL  
Recall song: will be confirmed

**Catherine** – female, playing age 25-35

*'Pippin, let me tell you something about despair...'*

A widow and mother – kind, beautiful and romantic, and perhaps a little dippy, she eventually falls in love with Pippin. Towards the end of the show, she becomes the unofficial narrator of Pippin's story.

Vocal range: F#3 to Db5  
Dance level: beginner or advanced

Audition song: KIND OF WOMAN  
Recall song: I GUESS I'LL MISS THE MAN

**Theo** – male, playing age 8-12

Catherine's son, taken under Pippin's wing. He appears for a short time in Act 2 and has a short solo song, and a key role in the final moments. *We are hoping that Theo will be played by someone under 16, ideally between 8-12, so we will be holding separate auditions for this role. If you know any young performers who may be interested, please contact [pippin@sedos.co.uk](mailto:pippin@sedos.co.uk) and we will send them the relevant information.*

**Ensemble** – mixed, 10-15 people

*'Join us...'*

Includes soldiers, monks, nobility, peasants, performers, players, jugglers, musicians, magicians, cult members... and more!

Audition song: MAGIC TO DO  
Recall song: will be confirmed

## WORKSHOP, AUDITIONS, RECALLS, REHEARSALS, FEES AND MORE

### Workshop

**Date:** Wed 20 December

**Time:** 7.30pm-9.30pm

**Location:** 1 Brewers' Hall Garden, off Basinghall Street, London, EC2V 5DX

**Sign up:** please sign up at <https://membership.sedos.co.uk> to give us an idea of numbers

This will be the perfect opportunity to come along, meet the team and hear all about the exciting vision for the show. If you've got any questions, the team will be on hand to ask them. It's your chance to audition us to see if you want to be involved!

We'll run through a couple of short dance sequences from the show to give you a taster of what to expect, one more challenging than the other. You will be able to choose which routine you perform at the audition. These routines will also be available to watch online if you can't make the workshop.

We'll also sing through a couple of the audition songs. Don't worry about preparing anything – this is not an audition!

Then it'll be off to the pub for a well-earned drink and an opportunity to get to know everyone.

The workshop is free to attend and open to Sedos members and non-members. It is not compulsory and whether you attend will not affect your chance of being cast in the show.

### Auditions

**Dates:**

Wed 10 January, 7pm-10pm

Fri 12 January, 7pm-10pm

Sun 14 January, 10am-6pm

**Location:** 1 Brewers' Hall Garden, off Basinghall Street, London, EC2V 5DX

**Sign up:** please sign up at <https://membership.sedos.co.uk>. You will then be sent a link by email to confirm the booking – your slot is not booked until you have confirmed via this link (and paid your £5 audition fee if you are a non-member). Please check your junk mail if the email does not arrive. If you can no longer make your audition, please use the cancellation link in the email so we can free up the spot for someone else. If you have any problems, please email [pippin@sedos.co.uk](mailto:pippin@sedos.co.uk)

**Times:** We would like each auditionee to sign up for a 10min slot. This slot will be for the singing and acting part of the audition. The dancing part of the audition will take place as a group as described below. On Wednesday 10 January and Friday 12 January, the evenings will look like this:

7.00 – auditionee #1

7.10 – auditionee #2

7.20 – auditionee #3

7.30 – auditionee #4

7.40 – auditionee #5

7.50-8.10 – 20 min for group dance audition for auditionees #1 – #10

8.10 – auditionee #6

8.20 – auditionee #7

8.30 – auditionee #8

8.40 – auditionee #9

8.50 – auditionee #10

9-9.10 – 10 min for group dance audition for auditionees #11 – #15

9.10 – auditionee #11

9.20 – auditionee #12

9.30 – auditionee #13

9.40 – auditionee #14

9.50 – auditionee #15



On Sunday, we will run auditions in sets of two hours (10 people) starting at the following times: 10am, 12:30pm, 3pm. For example:

10:00 – auditionee #1

10:10 – auditionee #2

10:20 – auditionee #3

10:30 – auditionee #4

10:40 – auditionee #5

10:50-11:10 – 20 min for group dance audition for auditionees #1 – #10

11:10 – auditionee #6

11:20 – auditionee #7

11:30 – auditionee #8

11:40 – auditionee #9

11:50 – auditionee #10

### ***Preparation:***

All audition materials will be made available to you once you've signed up to an audition slot.

Please prepare the song assigned to the character you feel you'd most like to audition for. We will provide sheet music. A pianist will accompany you at the audition.

We will also provide a short extract from the script for each part (a member of the audition team will read in if the script is part of a conversation). If you are auditioning for the ensemble, there is no need to prepare a script extract.

A video showing the dance audition sequences (taught at the workshop) will be made available in advance. You can choose one of the two routines to perform at the audition.

We don't expect you to have learned everything off by heart! Just familiarise yourself with the material.

We are keen to stress that we are looking for a company of both new and old Sedos members – we want to meet you whether this is your first show or you're a veteran, so if you like the sound of the show, please come and audition.

## **Recalls**

### ***Dates and times:***

Wed 17 Jan, 7.30pm-10.30pm

Fri 19 Jan, 7pm-10pm

***Location:*** 1 Brewers' Hall Garden, off Basinghall Street, London, EC2V 5DX

Given the short amount of time between auditions and recalls, we are providing recall songs for some characters in advance to give you extra time to prepare – see the list of characters above. Where no recall song is provided, we may ask you to repeat the audition song: we will confirm this with you individually. Because of time limitations, we won't necessarily recall every part – we will only do so where we think it is necessary and it will be more about character work and seeing how the whole cast fits together. For some dance-heavy roles we may also teach you an extended choreography sequence to see how you are able to pick this up. If you're auditioning primarily for a dance-heavy ensemble role you may not be asked to come to a recall.

## **Rehearsals**

Rehearsals will generally be held at the usual Sedos rehearsal location (1 Brewers' Hall Garden, off Basinghall Street, London, EC2V 5DX).

Rehearsals are due to start with a full company call on Thursday 8 February. Rehearsals will generally be on Tuesday evenings, Thursday evenings and Saturday daytimes, with some Sundays (instead of or in addition to a Saturday) to be announced in due course, depending on need and availabilities. It's likely that, nearer the start of the show, we may add some additional rehearsals if required. We would like weekday

rehearsals to be 7.00-9.30pm and weekend rehearsals to run 12.00-5:30pm (we expect people to have had lunch before but will have a short half time break).

All cast will be required for the tech rehearsal is on Monday 7 May and the dress rehearsal on Tuesday 8 May. Please note our tech day is on a Bank Holiday – so if availability allows there may be a full company call in the afternoon to allow us to rehearse some scenes in the theatre before the tech starts.

Please indicate on your audition form any days you know you will not be available, or if any of the times are difficult, and we ask that you keep us up to date on any changes to this. Once the rehearsal schedule has been issued it becomes quite tricky to change it, so we do ask that you try not to schedule anything on dates you have told us you are available on your audition form.

### Audition, Participation and Membership Fees

Sedos is one of London's pre-eminent amateur theatre societies with the aim of producing quality amateur theatre to the best artistic quality possible. In the nature of amateur theatre performers are not paid – not even expenses. To perform in *Pippin* you must be a member of Sedos (membership is currently £35 per year, £30 if paid by Direct Debit) and pay a participation fee of £40. There is a non-refundable £5 audition fee for non-Sedos members.

### Casting restrictions

Because of overlapping rehearsal periods, it will not be possible to be in *Pippin* and either of these Sedos shows: *Dogfight* and *You Can't Take It With You*. We are aware that we are auditioning at the same time as *You Can't Take It With You* and you are welcome to audition for both shows, although you can only be cast in one — the production teams will discuss casting if they both want to shortlist/cast the same person. Auditionee preferences will be taken into account.

### Questions

We're looking forward to seeing as many of you as possible at workshop and/or auditions. If you have any further questions, please don't hesitate to contact us at [pippin@sedos.co.uk](mailto:pippin@sedos.co.uk)