

tick, tick... BOOM!

Book, Music and Lyrics by Jonathan Larson 15-19 September 2015, Bridewell Theatre

Creative team

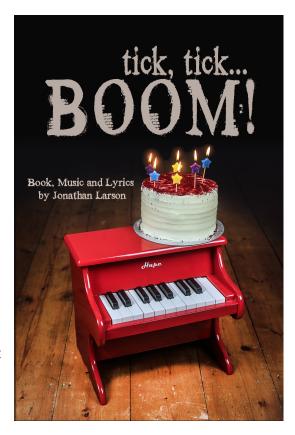
PRODUCER and SET DESIGN Becky Chisholm
DIRECTOR Fran Rafferty
MUSICAL DIRECTOR Ryan Macaulay
COSTUME SUPERVISOR Deborah Lean
MARKETING OFFICER Kaytie Lee
STAGE MANAGER Tracie Laurinaitis

Optional Potluck Workshop: 31 May, 17:00 The Potluck (workshop) is being held at the Sedos rehearsal space in Brewers' Hall Gardens.

Audition Dates : 9 & 10 June, 18:00 & 20:00

Call Backs: 16 & 17 June

To book an audition slot, please email Becky at ticktickproduction@gmail.com with your preferred date and start time.



Synopsis of the show:

Originally performed by Jonathan Larson as a monologue, the story may pre-date RENT (Larson's eponymous rock musical) but the production in its current incarnation post dates both RENT and tragically, Jonathan himself.

Following Jonathan Larson's untimely death tick, tick... BOOM! Was reworked by David Auburn (PROOF) and Stephen Oremus (WICKED, AVENUE Q and BOOK OF MORMON) to expand beyond the single voice and create a world of characters around the central protagonist, Jon.

Jon is joined by Susan, his long term girlfriend, and Michael, his best friend since childhood as well a host of other characters including Karessa, the personification of temptation; Rosa, his agent; his doting parents; and familiars from the New York backdrop that sets the scene for his day to day life.

On the eve of his 30th birthday Jon faces his concerns about aging, and his lack of achievement, Michael has a great job in marketing, earning a steady salary but is ultimately unfulfilled, and Susan is ready to settle down but demands for this not to be seen as just 'settling'.

As 'Happy Birthday' dawns, Jon relives the recent events that have led to this night, the decisions he has made, the wrong(?) turns and the people who have played their part; everybody's view is different, but who is right?

Workshop:

The <u>Potluck</u> (workshop) is being held at 17:00 on Sunday May 31st at the Sedos rehearsal space in <u>Brewers' Hall Gardens</u>.

This workshop is optional and will be an opportunity to discuss the show with the production team, to run through some scenes and have a bit of a sing. Bring a plate, if you'd like to join in the potluck - just a bit of fun to set the USA vibe.

Audition Dates:

Initial Auditions will be on June 9th and 10th in two groups on each evening - 18:00 & 20:00. Within those slots positions will be allocated on arrival. When you email for a space, please indicate which date and start time.

Call backs, if necessary, will be the following week; named roles on June 16th and ensemble on June 17th.

Performance Dates: September 15-19

Rehearsal days

Tuesday, Thursday and alternating weekend days. Rehearsals will commence with all cast to read through the script on Saturday July 4th.

Cast will be expected to be available for the whole weekend prior to the performance and from mid-afternoon on Monday 14th September.

Production crossover

You are welcome to audition for any of the productions in the season but if you are cast in Noises Off it won't be possible to be considered for tick, tick... BOOM!

Setting:

tick, tick... BOOM! is set in New York City in a time familiar to the 30-something RENT generation but not restricted to a particular year.

Audition Information:

For the audition we would like you to prepare a piece of dialogue, that we will provide, and a song. Your choice of song should be right for both the style of tick, tick... BOOM! and the character you would like to be considered for. Unless there is a strong narrative motivation, we would recommend a modern musical theatre song. You must bring sheet music for a pianist, as there will not be facilities to play backing tracks.

Your choice of song should be <u>maximum</u> 2 minutes in length. And please be assured that we're not looking for perfection but are looking for skillful engagement through song and character. Please avoid choosing a song from ttB at the first-round stage.

Scenes will be made available within Google Drive upon allocation of audition slots.

During the audition we may give you some direction and ask you to sing part of the song or perform a section of the dialogue again.

Characters:

We're looking for a cast of 8.

We have intentionally left out the age ranges of the characters because we would like to encourage performers of any age (18 plus) to audition. We would encourage you to read the character descriptions carefully; these will guide you regarding the possible playing ages and our openness to what you can bring to the character.

JON (M)

Creative, live wire, nerd who is blinkered to much of the wider world around him. To Jon the world spins on its axis around him. Despite this tunnel vision, he is likeably shambolic. Women, and men, are attracted to him. While determined to succeed, he doesn't yet know how. He is the man who hasn't yet learned how to grow up. We first meet Jon on the eve of his 30th birthday.

Vocal: Strong singer, able to tell a story through song, engaging and honest. Great stamina. Range A2-A4

Songs include: 30/90, Green Green Dress, Johnny Can't Decide, Sunday, No More, Therapy, Real Life, Sugar, See Her Smile, Why, Louder Than Words.

SUSAN (F)

The girl next door who could have been a successful Broadway dancer but would much rather be in love, and be loved in return. To marry, have a home and a steady job of teaching dance to the next generation of budding stars — she is a great teacher, the kind who gets flowers from her young students just because it is Saturday!

None of the above makes Susan boring or lacking in ambition, quit the opposite. She is more than a match for Jon; she is grounded and fair, whip smart and nobody's fool.

Vocal: Warm, emotive and lively. Good at patter.

Songs include: 30/90, Green Green Dress, Johnny Can't Decide, Sunday, Therapy, Real Life, See Her Smile, Louder Than Words.

MICHAEL (M)

Michael is like a brother to Jon, an older brother, which creates a sibling like rivalry between them. He could turn his hand to pretty much anything; the presence everyone remembers in a room. Something has changed recently. We see his journey from joyful, dangerous, frivolity to serious career man and, ultimately, to tragedy. He is playful, headstrong and a born leader but instead of the uncertainty of 'fame,' Michael opted for a hugely successful career in marketing.

Vocal: Characterful with the ability to switch to heart breaking in a split second. Range Bb2 - Gb4

Songs include: 30/90, Johnny Can't Decide, Sunday, No More, Real Life, Sugar, See Her Smile, Louder Than Words.

KARESSA (F)

Karessa could easily be written off as stupid and naïve, but her sense of fun and 'seize the moment' ambition are born out of a lack of experience, not lack of intelligence. She is fresh out of graduate college and ready to take on the world.

Vocal: Power ballad belt.

Songs include: Sunday, Sugar, See Her Smile, Louder Than Words.

ENSEMBLE (MIX)

Women and men who play multiple roles throughout including inhabitants of NYC, Jon's parents, Jon's agent, Michael's boss and 'Stephen Sondheim'. These roles are the backbone to creating this world in which Jon, Susan, Michael and Karessa exist.

Vocal: Strong harmony, good blend but able to stand out as an individual when needed. Songs include: 30/90, Sunday, Sugar, See Her Smile, Louder Than Words.

Accents: All characters are American. Jon and Michael are New Yorkers.