



Know a little more – Not just about ‘song & dance’

26th November – 6th December, Bridewell Theatre

Director: Angus Jacobs
Musical Director: Matt Gould
Producer: Clare Harding
Assistant Director: Alex Magliaro
Stage Manager: Laura Graham - Matheson
Choreographers: Angus Jacobs & Gayle Bryans

Victor/Victoria is a musical comedy based on the 1982 film of the same name, which starred Julie Andrews in the lead role and features the iconic song “Le jazz hot”. The film was nominated for seven Academy Awards and won the Oscar for best Original Music Score. It was adapted in 1995 as a Broadway musical, where Julie Andrews reprised the lead role receiving a Tony nomination.

Set in Paris in 1934, a penniless singer (Victoria Grant) colludes with a struggling nightclub singer to disguise herself as a man “Victor”, to entertain as a female impersonator "Victoria" - and as a result becomes the toast of Paris. Complications arise when a macho Chicago gangster sees the act and finds himself attracted to the star. Much hilarity ensues until “Victor” confesses ‘he’ is not a man and they fall in love.

For a more detailed synopsis and history of the sage show the [Wikipedia page](#) gives a good overview.

Not just about ‘song & dance’

This is a character driven show with many different and varied parts. We are looking for actors who sing, singers who act and dancers (who can do a bit of everything) of all ages – there literally is something for everyone in this show. Read on for character parts:

Named vocal parts:

Victor/Victoria Grant- playing age: *Open*

A struggling British singer desperate for success. She meets Toddy when she is down at heel and there is an instant bond. Having got the better of Toddy’s young wayward (closeted lover), Toddy convinces her to become Victor (A Polish aristocrat female impersonator). A strong actress required, who can pass off both characters of Victor and Victoria. She needs to be strong but also needs to show her vulnerability. The ability to dance would be an advantage but not essential.

Key song(s): “If I were a man”, “Le Jazz Hot”, “Louis Says”, “Crazy World” & “Living in the shadows” amongst others.

Toddy (Carroll Todd) - playing age: *Open but preferably older and worldly*

The warm & generous cabaret singer at the club Chez Lui. It's his bright idea to turn Victoria into Victor. Proudly gay, and willing to flaunt it and provoke outrage. Has great wit and comic timing. Dancing not essential, but the ability to 'tap/soft shoe shuffle' would be an advantage.

Key song(s): "Paris by night", "Trust me", "You and Me"

King Marchan - playing age: *Open*

Classic leading man role. Strong, macho nightclub owner/gangster from Chicago, maybe slightly homophobic who eventually faces the questioning of his sexuality.

Key song(s): "King's dilemma", "Almost a love song"

Norma Cassidy- playing age: *Open*

King's ditzy blonde cabaret performer/girlfriend. Great comedic/character part who must be able to sing and dance (tap skills a benefit).

Key song(s): "Paris makes me horny" & "Chicago Illinois"

Squash Bernstein - playing age:

King's Bodyguard – the strong silent type (with a hidden 'softer' side). Sings one very high note in Victor/Victoria to be able to hit this would be an advantage!

Key song(s): "Victor/Victoria"

Plus:

- **Flower seller** - sings 'Paris by night' in Act 2, and will feature in the opening sequence, preferably female
- **Jazz singer at Cassell's** – sings the opening to 'Le Jazz Hot'. Could be male or female.

Named Acting Parts:

Richard Di Nardo - playing age: *Late 20's/early 30's but must appear younger than Toddy*

Toddy's young handsome former lover. An arrogant, shallow, narcissistic user – still in the closet.

Henri Labisse- playing age: *Mid to late 30's+*

Proprietor of 'backstreet club' Chez Lui – slightly shabby and unsophisticated. Hard done by and bitterly jealous of other's success. Ability to deliver in a 'comedy' French accent would be an advantage but not essential.

Andre Cassell - playing age: *Mid 30's+*

Agent/producer & successful nightclub owner. Having a successful club is all that matters to him. Oblivious to Miss Selmer (or is he?).

Simone Kallisto - playing age: *Mid 30's +*

'Faded' actress – bitter & twisted. Was extremely successful in her day, but whose style is slightly dated though still glamorous. 'Friend' or cougar of Richard Di Nardo.... a comedy French accent would be an advantage but not essential.

Miss Selmer - playing age: *Open*

Cassell's overly protective, direct and extremely officious personal secretary. No one gets passed her. She controls everything at Cassell's, secretly in love with him but totally overlooked.

Madame Roget – preferred age 40+

Tired and ‘crotchety’ comedy cleaner. No lines but needs to be a ‘physical’ actress, due to the moments in the script.

Ensemble & character parts include:

- Sal – King Marchan’s businessman/gangster partner
- Juke & Clam – Sal’s ‘heavies’
- Cosmetics president
- Gregor - Waiter
- Choreographer

Plus various other smaller acting parts (male and female with wide age ranges required), plus 4 male/4 female dancers (could be more) for the big production numbers. These can cross over but not necessarily – there is great scope to have a wider and varied cast.

Dancers (potentially 8-10):

We are looking for enthusiastic dancers, and a 50:50 split male/female. Performing in the following numbers:

1. Paris by night - opening scene setting, which sets the tone of the show, some partner work
2. Le jazz hot – large production number, featuring ‘Victor’
3. The Tango – opportunity for a featured ‘pas de deux’ tango
4. Louis Says – large ‘over the top’ production number with ‘Victor’ as Marie-Antoinette
5. Apache – character dance
6. Paris by night - reprise
7. Chicago Illinois – girls only set in a Chicago speakeasy (potentially tap) and a kick line
8. Finale – ‘Victor/Victoria’

Key dates

Workshop: July 22nd, 7-9pm

Auditions: August 13th, 14th, from 6:30pm. August 16th, from 10:30am

Recalls: August 17th, from 10:30am

Rehearsals will take place on Tuesday and Thursday evenings and Saturday daytimes three times in the month, the alternate being held on the Sunday. Our intention is not to run double weekend rehearsals. Rehearsals are scheduled to commence on Saturday 6th September and will be held in central London.

Show dates: November 26th to December 6th

The performances take place at the Bridewell Theatre (Bride Lane, Fleet St, London EC4Y 8EQ), where Sedos is the resident theatre company, at 7.30pm every night (excluding November 30th and December 1st), plus 2.30pm Saturday matinees.

The full audition notice will be released in the Sedos newsletter on June 20th after which it will be available on the Sedos website.

Book by Blake Edwards
Music by Henry Mancini & Lyrics by Leslie Bricusse
Additional Music by Frank Wildhorn

Originally produced on Broadway by
Blake Edwards, Tony Adams, John Scher,
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Polygram Broadway Ventures, Inc.

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