

from the composers of  
**DEAR EVAN HANSEN**

# **dogfight**

music & lyrics  
**BENJ PASEK & JUSTIN PAUL**

book  
**PETER DUCHAN**

## **AUDITION NOTICE**

directors  
**ZOË DOBELL & PETER SHIMMIN**

musical director  
**EMMA MORGAN**

producer  
**REBECCA CHISHOLM**

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**SAN FRANCISCO**

**FIRST IN THE FIGHT-  
BE A U.S. MARINE!**

**ALWAYS FAITHFUL**



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**6<sup>TH</sup>-10<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2018**  
**BRIDEWELL THEATRE**

directors  
**ZOË DOBELL & PETER SHIMMIN**

musical director  
**EMMA MORGAN**

producer  
**REBECCA CHISHOLM**

## ***Dogfight's* background**

Before creating the Tony-winning sensation *Dear Evan Hansen*, writers Benj Pasek and Justin Paul delivered the heartbreaking and beautiful musical, *Dogfight*. This emotional journey depicts the blissful ignorance of youth, compassion in the face of cruelty and the ability to find true inner strength and acceptance despite the brutality of life and war.

*Dogfight* is set in San Francisco on November 21, 1963, on the eve of the Kennedy assassination. The majority of the show takes place in the final hours of an age of American innocence that will quickly dissipate. This innocence is depicted by a group of young Marines who set out for one final boys' night of debauchery: booze, tattoos and the dogfight. The rules of the dogfight are simple and cruel: each marine pays in \$50, and the marine with the ugliest date wins. But, when one of these Marines, Eddie Birdlace, meets Rose, an awkward and idealistic waitress whom he invites to join him that night, she rewrites the rules of the game and teaches him the power of love and kindness.

# Dates for the diary

## Workshop

If you would like to find out more about the show vision and character breakdowns, we will be holding a workshop on **Tuesday 24th October** at [Brewers' Hall Garden](#) from 7pm. This will be an opportunity to meet the team, act and sing through part of the show, experience our rehearsal process and ask any questions you may have. The workshop is free and open to all, members and non-members.

Please sign up here: <https://membership.sedos.co.uk/signup/12>.

## Auditions

Auditions will be held on:

- **Tuesday 7th November**, from 6:30pm
- **Friday 10th November**, from 6:30pm
- **Saturday 11th November**, from 9:30am

With the opportunity for recalls on **Sunday 12th November**, from 11am, all at [BHG](#).

The audition panel will consist of the Directors, Musical Director, Producer and a member of the Sedos committee to ensure fairness is maintained. A pianist and reader will be present to assist.

Each person will be allocated a 10 minute slot upon application, to:

- Sing one of the highlighted audition songs
- Read one of the highlighted dialogue extracts

You will receive a link to all audition pieces via your audition slot confirmation email. There will be no dance or movement audition, but the show does require some movement, so please note any experience on the audition form. You do not need to have learnt the pieces but you should be confident and familiar enough with them to perform with conviction and character.

Request an audition here: <https://membership.sedos.co.uk/signup/13>.

## Rehearsals

The first rehearsal will be **Saturday 9th December** and will consist of a readthrough (and fun sing-through). There is the potential to start character work from **Tuesday 21st November**, depending on availability.

Rehearsals will be called from 6:30pm – 9:30pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays and 11:00am - 5:00pm on Saturdays at [BHG](#). We will also be holding additional rehearsals on Sundays - 25th February and 4th March.

Rehearsals will break for the holidays on Thursday 21st December 2017 until Thursday 4th January 2018.

## Show week

The following dates require mandatory attendance:

- **Sunday 4th March 2018**: Sitzprobe and technical rehearsal
- **Monday 5th March 2018 (evening)**: Dress rehearsal

Performances take place from **Tuesday 6th to Saturday 10th March 2018** at 7:30pm, with a 2:30pm Saturday matinee, at [Bridewell Theatre](#).

# Characters

## **Eddie Birdlace** U.S. Marine, Private, careless & lost

Well respected and a natural leader amongst his comrades. Initially a hothead; a cocky smooth talker; eventually sheds his brash exterior when he falls for Rose.

**Playing Age: 18 to 25**  
**Range, A2-A4**  
**Tenor**

## **Rose Fenny** diner waitress, dreamer

A naturally shy girl, naïve of the world around her; becomes smitten with Birdlace and discovers a lot about her self-respect and confidence along the way. She plays the guitar. Though it is desirable to have Rose play some guitar herself, it is not essential to have prior experience.

**Playing Age: 18 to 25**  
**Range, G3-E5**  
**Folk-style mezzo**  
**soprano / alto**

## **Bernstein** U.S. Marine, Private, inexperienced

Birdlace's good friend; a bit nerdy and very inexperienced with the opposite sex.

**Playing Age: 18 to 25**  
**Range, B2-B4**  
**High tenor**

## **Boland** U.S. Marine, Private, cocky and crude

Birdlace's good friend; he is the most vocal supporter of the dogfight and fairly crude in his behavior and language; an alpha type.

**Playing Age: 18 to 25**  
**Range, B2-B4**  
**High tenor**

## **Marcy** brash and crass, nearly toothless prostitute

Marcy is Boland's date for the dogfight. Tells Rose her cynical view of the world through "It's a dogfight". Marcy is required to wear prosthetic teeth for some of her time of stage.

**Playing Age: 20 to 35**  
**Range F#3-Eb5**  
**Mezzo-soprano / alto**  
**with powerful belt**

## **Fector / Stevens / Gibbs** U.S. Marines

Predominantly featured as fellow marines, these actors must be comfortable singing in close harmony.

**Playing Age: 18 to 25**  
**Tenors**

## **Mama** Rose's mother, diner owner

Mama is the owner of the local diner; unamused by Eddie's antics and protective of her daughter, Rose.

**Playing Age: 35 to 50**  
**Speaking role, plus potential to be added to singing ensemble**

## **Lounge Singer**

The Lounge Singer has a crooner's voice singing 1960s dance songs at the dogfight. He is the judge of the contest.

**Playing Age: 25 to 50**  
**High baritone**

## **Male Ensemble**

The male ensemble will play smaller roles including; extra marines, sergeant, Pete, diner patrons, the tattoo artist, waiter as well as some ensemble singing. The ensemble will consist of up to 4 males.

**Playing Age: 25 to 50**  
**Tenors and high baritones,**  
**plus potential for**  
**speaking-only ensemble**

## **Female Ensemble**

The female ensemble will play smaller roles including; diner patrons, dogfight dates, prostitutes, hippies and ensemble singing. The ensemble will consist of up to 4 females.

**Playing Age: 18 to 35**  
**Largely**  
**mezzo soprano**

# Casting notes

It is Sedos' policy that casting is based on suitability for the role (regardless of Sedos membership).

**Age:** the majority of the male cast will be playing fresh-out-of-training Marines. Though the playing age we are looking for is 18-25 the important thing will be that the group look of similar age. Please don't let the stated playing age put you off.

**Ethnicity:** regardless of the historical context we actively encourage actors of all ethnicities to audition for all and any roles. In particular, there is a small female speaking role (Ruth Two Bears) who is Native American. It is a desire to cast a person of colour in this role to best support the story.

## **Physical appearance:**

- **Males:** anyone who is cast as a Marine will be required to be clean shaven and have either a buzzcut or a short-back-and-sides haircut for show week.
- **Females:** the concept of the dogfight is to invite the ugliest girl they can find to be their date. However, we (and the authors) are passionate that these girls aren't made into caricatures and definitely do not intend to make anyone look 'ugly'. Girls will be cast based on talent, the rest will be done with makeup and costume.

**Accents:** all accents should be American Standard.

## **Availability:**

- Unfortunately due to crossover in rehearsal times, members who have been cast in *A Doll's House* will not be able to audition for *Dogfight*.
- Due to the significance of Eddie Birdlace in the majority of scenes and the amount of stage time he occupies, the actor cast as Eddie must have excellent availability during the rehearsal period.

# Fees and Subscriptions

There is an audition charge of £5 for non-members which is payable when booking your audition slot. Each performer must be a member of Sedos to perform in a show. Membership fees are £30 a year if paid by direct debit, £35 otherwise. There is also a participation fee of £40.

# Links & contact

Sign up to the workshop: <https://membership.sedos.co.uk/signup/12>

Request an audition: <https://membership.sedos.co.uk/signup/13>

Sedos FAQs: <https://sedos.co.uk/aboutus/faq.htm>

Anything else: [dogfight@sedos.co.uk](mailto:dogfight@sedos.co.uk)

# Good luck!