

IPSWICH MUSICAL THEATRE COMPANY

PRODUCTION OF



AUDITION PACK

**Season: Friday 14 to Sunday 23 September 2018
IPSWICH CIVIC CENTRE**

AUDITIONS
13, 14, 15 April 2018

METRO HOTEL IPSWICH INTERNATIONAL
43 SOUTH STREET
IPSWICH

Audition Sessions: Friday 13th – 6.00 pm to 9.00 pm;
Saturday 14th – 9.00 am to 12 Noon
1.00 pm to 4.00 pm
Sunday 15th - Callbacks

**IMPORTANT – PLEASE READ THIS ENTIRE AUDITION PACK BEFORE
BOOKING AN AUDITION TIME**

**DON'T MISS YOUR CHANCE TO EXPERIENCE THE
STORY THAT INSPIRED THE WORLD TO DANCE**

AUDITION PACK

This is a fantastic opportunity to be a participant in a great new presentation of one of Australia's iconic musical theatre productions.

Created by Baz Luhrmann

Book by Craig Pearce

Adapted by Terry Johnson

Featuring songs from the 1992 Hit Film including "Love is in the Air", "Perhaps, Perhaps, Perhaps" and "Time After Time", as well as new songs from internationally-acclaimed artists and composers such as Sia, David Foster and Eddie Perfect, with orchestrations by Simon Hale.

This production also provides the opportunity to work with outstanding professional theatre practitioners and is a wonderful opportunity for personal development.

"Strictly Ballroom" is produced by the Ipswich Musical Theatre Company and follows highly acclaimed sell-out seasons of ***The Phantom of the Opera (2014); Mary Poppins (2015); WICKED (2016); Les Misérables (2017).***

SYNOPSIS

From the award-winning visionary, Baz Luhrmann, creator of *Moulin Rouge*, *Romeo & Juliet* and *The Great Gatsby*, comes *Strictly Ballroom*, a brand-new musical for the stage inspired by the celebrated movie, starring Paul Mercurio and Tara Morice.

The phenomenally successful movie, *Strictly Ballroom*, premiered at Cannes Film Festival (1992) and was awarded Prix de la Jeunesse and went on to win eight AFI Awards. Luhrmann also directed the stage musical of *Strictly Ballroom*, which opened in Sydney in 2014.

Now Ipswich Musical Theatre Company (IMTC) is presenting the Queensland Community Theatre Premiere of *Strictly Ballroom*, the Musical, telling the inspiring story of Scott, a championship ballroom dancer, who defies all the rules and follows his heart, not only to find his true calling but also his true love.

SHORT LIST OF CREATIVES

Production Manager	<i>Ken Mundt</i>
Artistic Director	<i>Brenda Ryan</i>
Casting Director	<i>Paul Mercurio</i>
Director	<i>Cienda McNamara</i>
Choreographer	<i>Simon Lind</i>
Musical Director	<i>Robert Clark</i>
Sound Designer	<i>Murray Keidge</i>

AUDITIONS

Please bring a HEADSHOT with you when you come to AUDITION.

SINGING:

Please prepare and bring a song you feel best portrays your vocal ability, style, and interpretation of lyrics, and in the correct key for your voice. Please prepare a second song, however, you may only be asked to sing one or part thereof.

Following are songs from the show, which you may like to choose.

Ladies: No. 13a "**Perhaps, Perhaps, Perhaps**", or No.16 "**Magnifico**" (first 3 pages to bar 28)

Men: No. 32 "**Love is in the Air**", or No. 9 "**Time After Time**" (Letter G to the end)

Callbacks

If you are required for any of the roles, please prepare No. 9 "**Time After Time**" (Letter G to the end)

If you are called back for Barry, Shirley, Les, Doug or Ken, please prepare No. 8 "**What Was It All For?**"

If you are called back for Scott, Liz, Vanessa, Wayne or Tina, please prepare "**Life After Dance**"

If you are called back for Fran or Scott please prepare No. 24 "**You Can't Have Everything**"

If you are called back for Luke or Kylie please prepare No. 25 "**Let's Dance**"

CD backing will NOT be permitted

Please email Ken at ipswichmusicaltheatrecompany@gmail.com for music

DANCING:

All will be required to participate in a dance audition. Those auditioning for ensemble will learn and perform a short choreographed routine as a group. Those auditioning for particular principal roles will be taught an extended sequence. Please wear clothes that you feel comfortable dancing and moving in.

ACTING:

Those auditioning for a principal role, will be required to read a small excerpt from the script. This may be at a callback.

REHEARSALS

Rehearsals will be held Monday and Thursday evenings: 7pm to 10pm & **some** Sundays 10am to 4pm

Rehearsal venue: Old Courthouse, East & Roderick Streets, Ipswich

Rehearsals will begin in June. Full cast will come together Sunday 3rd June.

A ballroom dancing 'boot camp' will be held in May, prior to rehearsals commencing in June.

CHARACTER DESCRIPTIONS

SKILLS listed in Character Descriptions are those required **AT THE TIME OF PRODUCTION**.

AUDITION PANEL will look for **POTENTIAL** in people to acquire those skills during rehearsals.

Singers, please note:

There will be a ballroom dancing 'boot camp' in May, before rehearsals begin in June.

Dancers, please note:

Musical Director, Robert Clark, will teach you to sing the songs.

Singers/Dancers, please note: If Director, Cienda McNamara, can see the potential, she may see a principal character in you.

Singers/Actors: If choreographer, Simon Lind, can see some potential for rhythm, he can teach you dance skills and routines.

TRIVIA: Tara Morice was an actress. For STRICTLY BALLROOM, Tara Morice got only 6 weeks intensive training (Latin + Ballroom) before she played 'Fran' in the movie and danced with Paul Mercurio.

Characters

Scott Hastings	Romantic male lead
Fran	Romantic female lead
Shirley Hastings	Scott's mother
Doug Hastings	Scott's father (non-dancing)
Les Kendall	Scott's coach
Liz Holt	Scott's long time dance partner
Barry Fife	Adjudicator/Federation President
Ken Railings	Reigning Champion
Pam Short	Reigning Champion
Rico	Fran's Father
Abuela	Fran's Grandmother
JJ Silvers	Host
Tina Sparkle	Alternate dance partner for Scott
Nathan Starkey	Tina's Retiring Dance Partner
Wayne Burns	Samba dancer
Vanessa Cronin	Samba Dancer
Clarry Wrench	Beginner dancer/Sometime partner of Natalie
Charm Leachman	Federation District Coordinator and Barry's Partner-in-Crime
Natalie	Fran's Best friend and dance partner
Terry Best	Tina Sparkle's coach
Merv	Middle-Aged Federation Official
Kylie & Luke	Children (9 - 14 years old)

Dancers

Singers Ensemble Members (non-dancing)

CHARACTER Descriptions

SCOTT HASTINGS – Romantic male lead

Age range: 18 to 28 (playing 19 – 21)

Description: Scott has Aussie good looks, is charming, the star of the dance studio with the world at his feet. However, Scott is also rebellious and can be obsessive and angry as he discovers there is more to dancing when he begins to dance his own steps, which amaze the crowds, but break all the accepted rules of dance that he has been taught. He is a young man learning to stand up for himself and not be fearful. He is also experiencing love for the first time.

Skills: Strong, trained dancer, ballroom training a plus, acting and singing required.

Vocal range: No vocal range specified.

FRAN – Romantic female lead

Age range: 18 to 28 (playing 19 – 21)

Description: Fran is a girl who blossoms from the ugly awkward duckling of the dance studio into a beautiful and passionate dancer (and Scott's dance partner) as they display their breathtaking, rule-breaking new dance routine in the finale of the show. A character who undergoes a real transformation, as Fran and Scott become dance partners, fall in love and stand up for what they believe in. She is truthful, can be very direct and is strong and proud.

Skills: Strong actor/singer with dance training, ballroom training a bonus but not essential.

Vocal range: No vocal range specified.

SHIRLEY HASTINGS - Principal role

Age range: 45 to 60 years old

Description: Scott's mother, iron-willed matriarch of the Kendall Dance Studio. Audience should believe she was a champion dancer in her youth. She is wiry and brittle in an overly-groomed way. She's a fierce harriidan whose tears are shocking, and her motto is "I've got my happy face on." She's a manipulator and bully especially to her husband and self-deceiving slave to her Ballroom Family and the Studio. *"The sacrifices we've made for you, the money, the time and effort....."* An Aussie battler.

Skills: Strong acting role.

Vocal range: No vocal range specified.

DOUG HASTINGS - Principal role

Age range: 50 – 65 years old

Description: Scott's father and Shirley's husband, Great actor who carries the emotional heart of the piece. Character is mute for much of the time and appears intensely nervous, and socially inept. Dances only in Flashback Studio comic scene, one poignant solo dance scene and when he asks Shirley to dance in the finale. May not sing solo. Appears in all the Studio and Festival scenes. Able to sustain the mystery of whether his strange behaviour is that of a goodie or a baddie: keeper of the dark secret. Comically obsessive but finally heroic – 'The Mouse that Roared', the tragic clown.

Skills: Strong acting role – a good mover a bonus. Must sing.

Vocal range: No vocal range specified.

LES KENDALL – Principal role

Age range: 45 – 60 years

Description: Proprietor of Kendall's Studio, Scott's coach who toes the Federation line. Dignified and sincere in his own way. Camp "theatrical" quality. Fruity voice and flowery delivery. He is vain about his appearance but ultimately self-deluding as to his attractiveness. Old song and dance man.

Skills: Good character actor. Good mover/dancer. Must sing.

Vocal range: No vocal range specified.

BARRY FIFE - Principal role

Age range: 45 – 65

Description: President of the Dance Federation. The most powerful man in Ballroom Dancing. A fleshy sweaty man. A buffoon and manipulator.

Skills: Role for a huge Falstaffian character, comic-with-a-bite actor. Must sing.

Vocal range: No vocal range specified.

J.J. SILVERS – Principal role

Age range: 25 – 55 years old

Description: Master of Ceremonies at Festivals. Federation Man.

Skills: Good comic skills, must be able to interact with the audience and ad lib if required. Must sing.

Vocal range: No vocal range specified.

LIZ HOLT – Supporting role

Age range: 18 – 25 years old

Description: Scott's partner of fifteen years, immaculately over-groomed yet has a screeching vocal quality and howls like a banshee with a nasal voice and hysterically screaming if she doesn't get her own way. She is ruthlessly ambitious and determined to win the Pan Pacific Championships yet underneath she is quite brittle. A young Shirley Hastings.

Vocal range: No vocal range specified.

VANESSA CRONIN – Supporting role

Age range: 18 – 25 years

Description: Liz's best friend and Wayne's partner. Warm, very attractive but not very bright.

Skills: Good ballroom dancer; strong actor. Must sing.

Vocal range: No vocal range specified.

WAYNE BURNS – Supporting role

Age range: 19 to 25 years old

Description: Scott's best mate. Vanessa's dancing partner & fiancé. Loyal Kendall Studio member and he carries much of the plot. Boy-next-door or quirky looks with comic naivete. Aggressively ambitious drive. He dances to win. Sporty rather than arty by day – a car mechanic – and is bewildered with Scott's search for real dance!

Skills: Strong actor & dancer. Must sing.

Vocal range: No vocal range specified.

RICO – Supporting role

Age range: 40's to 50's

Description: Fran's father. Strict 'Spanish' despot. Intense, fiery, excitable.

Skills: Flamenco Dancer who inspires Scott with the 'real Spanish rhythm'.

Strong actor who speaks Spanish or is willing to learn Spanish. Ability to sing a bonus.

Vocal range: No vocal range specified.

ABUELA – Supporting role

Age range: 60's

Description: Fran's Spanish grandmother. She is kind and supportive of her granddaughter. Excellent sense of rhythm. Strong actor, who speaks Spanish, or is willing to learn Spanish. Ability to sing a bonus.

Vocal range: No vocal range specified.

KEN RAILINGS - Minor role

Description: A waning ballroom star, desperate to make a comeback.

Skills: Strong dancer, actor, singer.

Vocal range: No vocal range specified.

TINA SPARKLE - Minor role

Age range: 25 - early 30's

Description: Stunningly tall gazelle-like dancer, current Pan Pacific champion. She has a beautiful body, however, is not very bright.

Skills: Very good ballroom dancer, strong actor, must sing.

Vocal range: No vocal range specified.

CLARRY WRENCH - Minor role

Age range: 30 – 40 years old

Description: Beginner dance member of Kendall's Studio. Sometime partner of Natalie.

Vocal range: No Vocal range specified.

CHARM LEACHMAN - Ensemble

Age range: 40 – 50 years old

Description: The Federation District Co-ordinator. Barry's partner in crime - tall, taut and sinewy. Authoritarian, steely and ruthlessly loyal to Barry and the Federation. We should believe she was a champion dancer in her day.

Skills: Strong dancer. Good actor. Must sing.

Vocal range: No vocal range specified.

PAM SHORT – Ensemble

Age range: 20 – 30 years

Description: Ballroom dancer. Acting and singing skills required.

Vocal range: No vocal range specified.

NATALIE - Ensemble

Age range: 18 to early 20's

Description: Fran's best friend and dance partner.

Skills: Ballroom dancer. Acting & singing skills required.

Vocal range: No vocal range specified.

NATHAN STARKEY – Ensemble

Age range: 25 – 35 years old

Description: "Golden Boy" good looks and physique who is about to retire as Tina Sparkle's partner and Pan Pacific Champion to concentrate on his landscape gardening business.

Skills: Very strong 'Federation' Ballroom Dancer. Acting and singing skills required.

Vocal range: No vocal range specified.

TERRY BEST – Ensemble

Age range: 35 – 60 years old

Description: Tina's coach

MERV - Ensemble

Age range: 35 – 50 years

Description: A middle-aged Federation official.

MALE Ensemble of Singers & Dancers 18 to 30's

FEMALE Ensemble of Singers & Dancers 18 to 30's

CHILDREN'S ROLES:

KYLIE – Minor supporting role

Age range: 10 – 12 years old

Description: Scott's sister

Skills: Must be a strong dancer, ballroom training a bonus. Acting and singing skills required.

Vocal range: No vocal range specified.

LUKE – Minor supporting role

Age range: 10 – 12 years old

Description: Kylie's ballroom dance partner

Skills: Must be a strong dancer, ballroom training a bonus. Acting and singing skills required.

Vocal range: No vocal range specified.

Please note that Ipswich Musical Theatre Company (IMTC) reserves the right, at its sole and absolute discretion, to not cast any role from these auditions if, in the opinion of the Audition Panel, the right person for the role is not found. In this event, the company may pursue other means to fill a vacant role.

Production Manager: Ken Mundt

Artistic Director: Brenda Ryan

AUDITION PACK

All questions must be answered

AUDITION INFORMATION FORM

My audition date and time is: _____

Please complete these documents **IN FULL** and present them to the Audition Officer. If you are under 18 years old, the form **MUST** be signed by your parent or guardian.

PERSONAL INFORMATION (This information will be used only by Ipswich Musical Theatre Company and will not be shared with anyone else).

Name: _____

Address: _____ **P/Code:** _____

Mobile Phone No: _____ **Email:** _____

I acknowledge that if I am cast in this show, I will be photographed and filmed as part of the promotional activities of the production and give consent for my image and voice to be used in any Ipswich Musical Theatre Company media items.

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

(Signature of Parent/Guardian if auditionee is under 18 years old)

I wish to be considered for the role of: _____ (please provide character name)

Ensemble Only? YES/NO (please circle)

ALL AUDITIONEES: Are you willing to be cast in another role? YES/NO (please circle)

REHEARSALS

The company expects a high level of commitment from all cast members.

If you have any concerns, please speak with the Audition Officer about this, before you audition.

Rehearsals: Monday and Thursday evenings and some Sundays. (Not everyone required for all rehearsals.)

Rehearsal Venue: Old Courthouse, Corner East & Roderick Streets, Ipswich

AUDITION PACK

PERFORMANCE HISTORY (beginning with most recent performance)

Production	Role Played	Company

RELEVANT TRAINING: *(please detail)*

Singing

Dance

Speech & Drama

Thank You

AUDITION PACK

HAVE YOU...?

1. read this information pack thoroughly;
2. registered for an audition time; (phone Ken on 0419 786 407)
3. completed this registration form **and answered all questions**;
4. supplied a 200 mm X 250 mm photo as part of your registration (this will not be returned).

PLEASE BRING ALL REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION TO YOUR AUDITION

If you are cast in this production, the payment of 2018 membership fees of \$33.00, incl. GST, is required immediately.