



Audition Notice

August 25th 2017

Dear Parents,

We would like to invite your child to audition for a role in Faust International Youth Theatre's productions of:

The Secret Garden, November 30th – December 3rd, 2017 Directed by Jonquil Claughan and performed at the McAulay Studio, Hong Kong Arts Centre.

A Midsummer Night's Dream, February 8th - 11th 2018. Directed by Matthew Baker and performed at the Shouson Theatre, Hong Kong Arts Centre.

We are auditioning members of Faust International Youth Theatre (registered for Season 19, Term 1 & 2) aged between 8 and 18 for both performances. Casting will be based on best suitability for role.

ABOUT THE PLAYS

The Secret Garden: Skillfully adapted from Frances Hodgson Burnett's famous novel, *The Secret Garden* is the story of the young, spoiled Mary Lennox, who spends her days luxuriating in the Indian Sunshine. But when a twist of fate leaves Mary orphaned, she finds herself on her way to England to live with her Uncle in Misselthwaite Manor in Yorkshire. Full of dark corners and strange night time noises, Mary is certain there is more to Misselthwaite than meets the eye.

A Midsummer Night's Dream: William Shakespeare's most popular comedy portrays the adventures of four young lovers and a group of amateur actors and their interactions with woodland fairies. Taking place in a mythical Athens and an enchanted forest, there is a handsome fairy king, a misguided parent, star-crossed lovers, a weaver who's transformed into a donkey, wood sprites and elves. This work is widely performed around the world, and no wonder - it's about the world's most popular pastime, falling in love. But as Puck knows, falling in love can make fools of us all.

AUDITION INFORMATION

Audition Details

- 6.00pm to 8.00pm, Thursday 21st September, Faust Studio, Sheung Wan
- 6.00pm to 8.00pm, Friday 22nd September, Faust Studio, Sheung Wan
- 2.00pm to 6.00pm, Saturday 23rd September, Faust Studio, Sheung Wan
- 6.00pm to 8.00pm, Monday 25th September, Faust Studio, Sheung Wan

Auditions are for all Faust members aged 8 to 18 years of age. Please note that to audition and perform in either show, you need to be a **paid member of any term time FIYT programme during the period of rehearsals and production. You must** be available between September 30th and December 3rd (Term 1) for *The Secret Garden* or between October 9th and February 10th (Term 1 and 2) for *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

To apply, please complete the audition notice form and send to us **by Wednesday September 20th** by fax to 2547 9799 or by email to Auditions@FaustWorld.com.

A specific audition time will be given to you **by email within 3 working days after receipt of the audition request form**. Audition times will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.

PREPERATION FOR THE AUDITION

- Auditions are in groups of 10 - 12 children and will take 45-60 minutes per group.
- The children will be asked to perform their prepared audition pieces (enclosed).
- We recommend children **learn all lines** as best they can, although of course we will prompt and support as needed.
- We encourage members to develop their own interpretation of the role through voice, characterisation and movement.
- Every child who auditions will be welcomed warmly and encouraged to do their best.
- The audition will comprise of two sections. A movement workshop followed by a delivered speech.

Please note that it will not be possible to give a part to everyone who auditions.

Parents will be notified via email **by Wednesday 27th September of the audition result**. **The first rehearsal (Parents briefing and script read through) will be on Friday 29th October for *The Secret Garden* or Monday 9th October (Parents briefing and Script Read through) for *A Midsummer Night's Dream***

PRODUCTION COMMITMENT

Please have a look over the details below and discuss the project with your child. Both shows will have up to three rehearsals a week and it is essential that every effort is made to ensure children attend all rehearsals called. During production week children will also be called to rehearsals and performances in theatre during the day. All actors must be able to attend all rehearsals and productions during production week.

Performances

The Secret Garden

- Dress and Technical rehearsals - Tuesday 28th November and Wednesday 29th November.
- Performances - Thursday 30th November (10.30am and 7.30pm), Friday 1st December (10.30am and 7.30pm), Saturday 2nd December (2.30pm and 7.30pm) Sunday 3rd December (11.00am and 2.30pm)
- Performances take place at McAulay Studio, Hong Kong Arts Centre, 2 Harbour Road, Wan Chai

A Midsummer Night's Dream

- Dress and Technical rehearsals – Tuesday 6th February and Wednesday 7th February
- Performances – Thursday 8th February (10.30am and 7.30pm), Friday 9th February (10.30am and 7.30pm), Saturday 10th February (2.30pm and 7.30pm) Sunday 11th February (11.00am and 2.30pm)
- Performances take place at the Shouson Theatre, Hong Kong Arts Centre, 2 Harbour Road, Wan Chai

You will be auditioned in consideration for both productions, but will be chosen for one production. You must be able to attend all shows for your chosen production.

Rehearsals

The Secret Garden

- Rehearsals begin with a read through and parent's briefing on Friday 29th September with rehearsals from then on taking place on Tuesday, Thursday and additional Friday evenings, with Saturday afternoons for the full company. There may be additional rehearsals for the principal cast.
- Nearer the performance time additional Sunday rehearsals may be added.

A Midsummer Night's Dream

- Rehearsals will begin with a read through and parent's briefing on Monday 9th October with rehearsals from then on taking place on Monday, Wednesday and additional Friday evenings, with occasional Saturday or Sunday afternoons for the full company. There may be additional rehearsals for the principal cast.
- Nearer the performance time additional Sunday rehearsals may be added.

Please note:

- Children **MUST** attend every rehearsal they are called for.
- A Rehearsal Schedule will be issued on a fortnightly basis.
- Regular rehearsals will take place at the Faust Studio in Sheung Wan or at other Central venues.
- If your regular Faust Group clashes with the rehearsal call time then an alternative Faust Group will be offered.

Please check your availability for the above dates **BEFORE** auditioning to avoid disappointment. **It is essential that cast members attend all rehearsals and performances.**

Participants are expected to approach this project in a serious and professional manner. Large amounts of energy, enthusiasm, patience and commitment will be needed from children and parents alike. Please check your other commitments before agreeing to audition.

ABOUT THE CASTING

At the audition we want everyone to achieve their very best and while we won't be able to give everyone who auditions a part, we believe that the process of taking part is what is most important. The auditions will be relaxed, workshop based and most importantly fun – just think of it as another Faust workshop.

To help you out, what we are looking for are young actors who have strong:

- Vocal projection and clear diction
- Dramatic and comic timing
- Text interpretation (don't just read the words, think of how you can best bring them to life)
- Movement skills (particularly animal movement)

We want to bring together a cast of talented, energetic people who are passionate about drama, work well in a team and are willing to push themselves to achieve the best they can.

If you think that you fit the bill and are ready for a challenge then we look forward to receiving your completed audition form by **Wednesday 20th September.**

On behalf of everyone at Faust and the production team of *The Secret Garden* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* may I wish you all the very best for your audition and I look forward to seeing your prepared pieces.

Best wishes,



Sarah Dyson
Producer

The Secret Garden

A Midsummer Night's Dream

AUDITION REQUEST FORM



Before completing this form, please be certain you have read and understood all the above information and that you are available for all rehearsals and performance dates and have discussed and understood with your child the commitment being part of a production involves.

Child's name	Age*	Group	Auditions last 45 - 60 minutes and will be arranged on a first come first served basis only. Please select the day and preferred time below. Timings will be allocated according to preferred time if possible.
Email Address (REQUIRED)			
Telephone Number		Thursday 21 st September Preferred time between 6.00pm - 8.00pm	
You will be auditioned in consideration for both productions and if successful, an offer will be made for one of the productions. If you would only like to be considered for one production then please list your reason below.		Friday 22 nd September Preferred time between 6.00pm - 8.00pm	
		Saturday 23 rd September Preferred time between 2.00pm – 6.00pm	
		Monday 25 th September Preferred time between 6.00pm - 8.00pm	
Please give a brief description of your performing experience			
Please give a brief description of any dance or movement experience you may have		Please list any musical instruments you may play	
Please list any commitments that you would be unable to reschedule during the performance period			
Please provide the dates of your school's Mid Term, Christmas and Chinese New Year School Break			
Parent's Name	Parent's Signature	Date	

* Applicants must be aged 8 or above on the day of auditioning.

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Oberon is plotting to put magic dust in the eyes of his wife Titania to get her back for annoying him.

Oberon:

Having once this juice,
I'll watch Titania when she is asleep,
And drop the liquor of it in her eyes.
The next thing then she waking looks upon,
Be it on lion, bear, or wolf, or bull,
On meddling monkey, or on busy ape,
She shall pursue it with the soul of love:
And ere I take this charm from off her sight,
As I can take it with another herb,
I'll make her render up her page to me.
But who comes here? I am invisible;
And I will overhear their conference.

Hermia is in love with Demetrius but he loves Hermia. Hermia and her boyfriend Lysander are about to run away together. Hermia has just found this out and is making a plan to tell Demetrius.

Hermia:

How happy some o'er other some can be!
Through Athens I am thought as fair as she.
But what of that? Demetrius thinks not so;
He will not know what all but he do know:
I will go tell him of fair Hermia's flight:
Then to the wood will he to-morrow night
Pursue her; and for this intelligence
If I have thanks, it is a dear expense:
But herein mean I to enrich my pain,
To have his sight thither and back again.

The Fairy is cheeky and sassy. She is one of the servants of the Queen of the fairies, Titania. She is showing off about all the places she has been to Puck. She knows Puck is naughty and is talking down to him. Show off your ability to bring life to the lines and have fun.

Fairy:

Over hill, over dale,
Thorough bush, thorough brier,
Over park, over pale,
Thorough flood, thorough fire,
I do wander everywhere,
Swifter than the moon's sphere;
And I serve the fairy queen,

Characters: Dickon & Mary

Dickon and Mary are out in the gardens of Misselthwaite Manor. It is the first time they have met. Dickon has been singing to the animals and Mary was hiding and listening. Dickon is very down to earth and gentle whereas Mary is a bit more standoffish and she is also quite nervous as she does not really know how to talk to children her own age as she has never had friends before.

DICKON. Were you spying on me?

MARY. No. I was watching the animals.

(He whistles again and the robin appears and flies down to sit on his shoulder.)

DICKON. Look. Magic.

MARY. You're Dickon?!

DICKON. And you're Miss Mary.

MARY. How do you know?

DICKON. I know all about you.

MARY. What have they told you? That I don't like to speak and I haven't any friends, I suppose?

DICKON. You do have a friend, look. *(He indicates the robin)*

MARY. He doesn't like me.

DICKON. He does! He told me.

MARY. I don't believe you.

DICKON. Don't then. **(MARY moves and DICKON puts his arm out to stop her.)** Don't move! Look.

(MARY slowly turns back round, and sees there is a squirrel, standing cautiously nearby. DICKON begins to play on his pipe and the squirrel stands, watching him and might take a couple of steps towards DICKON. MARY takes a step towards it, which spooks it. The squirrel runs off.)

MARY. None of them like me!

DICKON. Hey, you gotta move slow, that's all. You must be gentle and speak low when wild things are about. It's only cos you don't know 'em yet. Do you like it, playing out here? Better than being inside.

MARY. I'm not playing.

DICKON. You are.

MARY. I'm not. Good children don't play. Especially outside. Especially with boys.

DICKON. "What's wrong with boys?"

MARY. They're dirty. Mother said.

Characters: Martha & Mary

It's a rainy evening at Misselthwaite Manor. Mary is stuck inside as it is raining and has been for the last few days. When she first arrived she was very uptight and rude to her maid Martha but now she is thawing and has become friends with Martha.

MARY. Will the rain ever stop?

MARTHA. We're in Yorkshire. So probably not.

MARY. It's boring when it rains. You can't go outside.

MARTHA. I thought you hated the outside.

(MARTHA smiles to herself. MARY finishes her supper.)

MARY. Finished.

MARTHA. Well I never, clean as a sink! You'll be asking for seconds soon.

MARY. There's nothing to do when it rains.

MARTHA. Can you knit?

MARY. No.

MARTHA. Can you sew?

MARY. No.

MARTHA. Can you read?

MARY. Everyone can read.

MARTHA. I Can't.

MARY. Can't you? *(Pause)* Maybe I could read to you?

MARTHA. Would you?

MARY. You shouldn't be stupid all your life.

MARTHA. Thanks very much! *(Kindly)* I should like that.

MARY. We haven't any books.

MARTHA. There's hundreds here. If Mrs Medlock would unlock the library.

MARY. Everything's locked. Why did Mr Craven lock up the garden?

MARTHA. I told you, you mustn't talk of it.

MARY. But it was her garden and he loved her, why would he shut it up?

Characters: Mary & Colin

MARY is in **COLIN CRAVEN**'s bedroom. He looks very ill. He is wearing odd dark glasses and various mechanical accoutrements to keep him from moving. He is weak, and more sour than a crab apple **MARY** has snuck into his bedroom as she heard crying and wants to find where the crying is coming from.

COLIN. Who are you? Are you a ghost?

MARY. No. Are you?

COLIN. No. I'm Colin Craven.

MARY. And I'm Mary Lennox. What are you doing here?

COLIN. What do you mean, what am I doing here? What are you doing here? I've always been here.

MARY. What are all those metal things? Are you a prisoner? Or a criminal?

COLIN. Don't be stupid.

MARY. And why are you wearing sunglasses? Are you on holiday?

COLIN. Don't laugh at me!

MARY. I'm not.

COLIN. They're smoked glass. I have to wear them so the sunlight doesn't hurt my eyes. And these are my calipers. They keep me still because I'm sick. Really sick. And if I move, I might die. So don't touch me.

MARY. Why would I want to touch you?

COLIN. What are you doing here?

MARY. I live here. Mr Craven is my Uncle.

COLIN. Your Uncle? He's my father.

MARY. Your father? But...so you're my cousin. And you're here. Why did no-one say?

COLIN. The servants are forbidden from mentioning me. Father can't look at me. He only visits when I'm asleep. I don't think he likes me. I think maybe he hates me.