



## SPORT FOR JOVE THEATRE CO.

### AUDITION

#### One Flew Over The Cuckoo's Nest

Sport for Jove is looking for passionate, experienced, versatile and generous actors to join our production.

In *One Flew Over the Cuckoos Nest* by Dale Wasserman, Randle McMurphy is a charming rogue who contrives to serve a short sentence in a mental institution rather in a prison as he believes this will be the easier option. This, he learns, was a mistake. He clashes with the head nurse, a fierce disciplinarian. Quickly, he takes over the yard and accomplishes what the medical profession has been unable to do for twelve years; he makes a presumed deaf and dumb man talk, he leads others out of introversion, stages a revolt so that they can see the world series on television, and arranges a rollicking midnight party with liquor and women. For this offence, the head nurse has him submit to shock treatment and then a final correction...a frontal lobotomy.

#### **Desirable skills / interest:**

- Strong instinct / experience / dedication to theatre of language, verse, ensemble
- Physical theatre skills useful
- Generosity, teamwork, and an ego-less environment are very important to us in all of our work

#### **Auditions details:**

- **Where:**
  - **8 Marlborough St, Surry Hills**
- **When:**

○ **Monday May 1<sup>st</sup> and Tuesday May 2<sup>nd</sup>**

**What to prepare:**

- Please prepare 2 contrasting pieces of no more than 2 minutes each

**Payment:**

This production will be similar to previous Sport For Jove performances, guaranteeing a minimum amount and then a profit share of all profits. We will be using the MEAA Co-operative Contract, and you will be supplied with the show budget before agreeing to the production. We currently receive no Government funding and our small staff are paid by philanthropic donation, never from box office share which is entirely devoted to the show.

**Important Dates:**

This production will play at the Seymour Centre from Aug 3<sup>rd</sup> to the 19<sup>th</sup>. Performances primarily starting at 7.30pm, with an 11am matinee on Aug 9 and 16, and a 2pm matinee on Aug 12 and 19. Rehearsals will be in July, and schedules will be made around availability, ideally during the day time.

**Roles:**

Characters to be cast ( in random order)

NOTE: Actors of diverse cultural backgrounds are encouraged to audition for all roles.

Chief Bromden, age 25-40: Chief is the son of the chief of the Columbia Indians and a white woman. He suffers from paranoia and hallucinations, has received multiple electroshock treatments, and has been in the hospital for ten years, longer than any other patient in the ward. He is perceived by other inmates and the staff as mute. The actor should be no less than 183 cm (6 feet) tall and be physically large.

NOTE: Actors of Indigenous or Islander heritage are encouraged to audition.

Dale Harding, age 40-55: An acerbic, college-educated, well read man and president of the Patients' Council. Harding helps McMurphy understand the realities of the hospital. He has difficulty dealing with the overwhelming social prejudice against homosexuals, so he hides in the hospital voluntarily. He is married.

Billy Bibbit, age 20-30: Billy is shy and has a bad stutter. He should appear younger than his actual age of 31. He is dominated by his mother and is voluntarily in the hospital, as he is afraid of the outside world. NOTE: Can be played by male or female.

Scanlon, age 45-55: Balding. The only Acute besides McMurphy who was involuntarily committed to the hospital. Scanlon has fantasies of blowing things up.

Charles Cheswick, age 35-45: A big man in a little mans body. Cheswick is a man of much talk and little action. His manner is alternatively truculent and cringing.

Martini, age 40-50: Martini is of Italian descent. He lives in a world of delusional hallucinations. He possibly has invented an imaginary 'friend'.

Ruckly, age 25-50: A Chronic patient who was once physically powerful. Now a botched lobotomy has left him blank faced and empty eyed.

Turkle, elderly: The night time orderly for Nurse Ratched's ward. Turkle is kind and is easily bribed by alcohol. He smokes marijuana on the job and is comfortable in the shadows and silence of his night shifts. NOTE: Actors of Indigenous or Islander heritage are encouraged to audition.

Dr Spivey, age 30-40: A mild-mannered doctor who may be addicted to opiates. Can be easily cowed and dominated by both patients and Nurse Ratched. Appears disinterested. With McMurphy's arrival, he, like the patients, begins to assert himself. NOTE: Can be played by male or female.

Nurse Ratched, age 35-55: Nurse Ratched is the head of the hospital ward, a former army nurse. She rules her ward with an iron hand and masks her humanity and femininity behind a stiff, patronising facade.

Candy Starr, age 30-40: Candy is a carefree prostitute that comes to the ward for a late-night party that McMurphy arranges. She's vivacious and nonjudgemental.

Sandra, age 35-45: Slightly older than Candy, Sandra is earthy and playful with a sense of the romantic.

Nurse Flinn, age 20-30: Young nurse who shadows Nurse Ratched and administers the patients' medications. A strict Catholic. Nurse Flinn is afraid of the patients' sexuality and is easily intimidated.

## **To apply:**

Please Email your CV and headshot to

[auditions@sportforjove.com.au](mailto:auditions@sportforjove.com.au)

In the subject line, please put your name and the character you are submitting for.

Please specify which date/s and times are suitable for you for your 15 minute audition from the dates listed.

**Actors shortlisted for an audition will be notified via email, along with details of timeslots. Once the scheduled days are full, we may not be able to offer further space at this time.**

**Thank you,**

Kim Hardwick and Sport for Jove Theatre  
**[www.sportforjove.com.au](http://www.sportforjove.com.au)**