



## AUDITION PACK – The Great Gatsby

F. Scott Fitzgerald's

# THE GREAT GATSBY

Adapted by Simon Levy

Directed by Vivien Broadbent

**Performance dates** – 7<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> March 2025

**Rehearsals** – start Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2025, Sunday afternoons and 2 nights per week.

**Audition/Information Session**

**The Ron Hurley Theatre**

**10:00am Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2024**

Please fill out an [Expression of Interest Form](#) even if unable to attend the Audition in person.

### Production Notes

The Classic American novel by F. Scott Fitzgerald, "*The Great Gatsby*" is celebrating it's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary. This play adapted by Simon Levy is set in New York City and Long Island during the Roaring 20's, the Summer of 1922. A time of Flapper parties of Broadway starlets, Gangsters, Bootleggers & Jazz players. The parties are hosted by a mysterious Jay Gatsby claiming to be a war hero, an Oxford scholar, and heir.

This is a memory play told by the character Nick Carraway which contrasts the lifestyles of rich & famous with their NYC entertainments to the working class people from The Valley of the Ashes; all the while the eyes of Dr T J Eckleburg look on.

What happens when a love story built on lies goes horribly wrong, when careless people smash up other's lives then retreat back into their money?

## About the Director

Vivien is a relatively new director for Villanova Players, her debut being the successful absurdist comedy *"Hidden In this Picture"* in 2022. Blue Curtains complimented her direction "Indeed, the silly single-scene satire is right up there as one of the best Villanova Players shows I have reviewed, thanks to Vivien Broadbent's well-timed first direction and the on-point everything..." She is looking forward to bringing this classic tale of Gatsby to life with the same enthusiasm.

## Main Roles

Ages are the suggested playing ages, and genders are the playing genders.

Role	Description	Gender	Playing ages
<b>Nick Carraway</b>	Narrator, Midwestern accent, Daisy's Cousin, works in the Bond Market	male	30
<b>Daisy Buchanan</b>	Southern, Manic Depressive, voice of money	female	23
<b>Jay Gatsby</b>	Midwest, A romantic idealist, self-made millionaire	male	30
<b>Tom Buchanan</b>	Midwest, Old Money, Polo Player, cruel and powerful	male	30-45
<b>Jordan Baker</b>	Southern, Athletic, professional Golfer, self assured	female	20s
<b>Myrtle Wilson</b>	NY (Queens), Tom's Mistress, working class, common	female	30-40
<b>George Wilson</b>	NY (Queens), Myrtle's Husband, operates Gas Station	male	30-50

## Supporting Roles

Role	Description	Gender	Playing ages
<b>Chester McKee</b>	NYC, Photographer	Male	30-45
<b>Mrs McKee</b>	NYC, Socialite	Female	30-45
<b>Myer Wolfsheim</b>	Foreign (Yiddish) American accent, Gambler	Male	55+
<b>Mrs Michaelis</b>	NY (Queens) Dinner owner	Female	35-65
<b>Police</b>	NYC	Male	30-65
<b>Jazz Singer</b>		Male or Female	18+
<b>Jazz musicians</b>		Male or Female	18+

<b>Chorus</b>	Party Guests, Broadway entertainers and gangsters will double for House staff, reporter, forensics etc	Male or Female	18+
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## Production team

Also needed are a range of people interested in the staging of this production.

**Stage Manager** - A Great Communicator and Organiser

**Costumer** - A love of 1920's costume and jewellery

**Prop Master** - 1920's, Art Deco

**Set Designer & Builders** - A creative eye for set pieces and handy on the tools if required

**Lighting Design** - creative projections and stage lighting

**Lighting Operation** - timing is a must

**Sound Design & Operation** - Create the mood of Gatsby with Sound and music.

## Audition Notes

All actors should fill in an [expression of interest form](#) and also email a recent headshot (selfie ok) to [info@villanovaplayers.com](mailto:info@villanovaplayers.com) and be at Ron Hurley Theatre, 28 Tallowood Street, Seven Hills, on Sunday 10am, 8 December 2024.

Call backs, if needed, will be the following Monday night at 7:30pm at the Villanova Players rehearsal Hut, off Jean Howie Drive, Balmoral Park, Morningside.

For the role of **Nick Caraway** please prepare a one minute monologue in the style of a narrator (own material or using material from the script link mentioned for video auditions below)..

All other roles will be cast from a script reading.

Any Jazz musicians or singers auditioning please prepare 32 bars of appropriate music.

It is desirable for all cast members except musicians to have some dance experience. Chorus roles are mostly non-speaking with some dancing required.

Recommended stage age guidelines are in parenthesis in character descriptions.

## Dates

Auditions	Sunday, December 8 <sup>th</sup> , 2024	10:00am-12:30pm at Ron Hurley Theatre
Further Auditions (if needed)	Monday, 9 <sup>th</sup> December, 2024	7:00pm - 9:00pm
Call backs – if needed	Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> December	7:30pm - 9:00pm at The Hut, Jean Howie Driver, Balmoral Park

Rehearsals	Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup> January 2025 – Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> March 2025	Tues, Thurs – 7:30 – 9:30pm Sundays - 1:00 -5:00pm
Season	7 <sup>th</sup> - 16 <sup>th</sup> March 2025	at Ron Hurley Theatre

## Season

Dates: 7<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> March 2025

## Eight Performances

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2025 7:30 PM

Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2025 2:00 PM

Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2025 7:30 PM

Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2025 2:00 PM

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2025 7:30 PM

Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2025 2:00 PM

Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2025 7:30 PM

Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2025 2:00 PM

Possible extra performances the following weekend but will depend on bookings

**NICK.**

In my younger and more vulnerable years,  
my father gave me some advice  
that I've been turning over in my mind ever since.

"Whenever you feel like criticizing anyone," he told me,  
"just remember that all the people in this world  
haven't had the advantages that you've had."

He didn't say any more, but we've always been  
unusually communicative in a reserved way,  
and I understood that he meant a great deal more than that.

Gatsby, the man who gives his name to this story,  
represented everything for which I had an unaffected scorn  
But if personality is an unbroken series of successful gestures,  
then there was something ... gorgeous... about him ...  
some heightened sensitivity to the promises of life.

He had an extraordinary gift for hope,  
a romantic readiness  
such as I have never found in any other person ...  
and which it is not likely I shall ever find again.