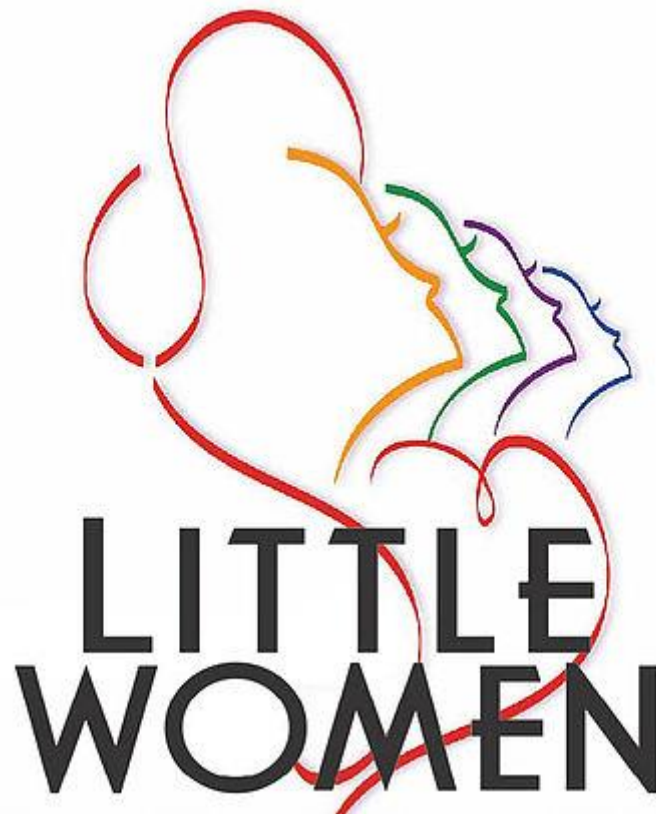


Information Pack



The Show

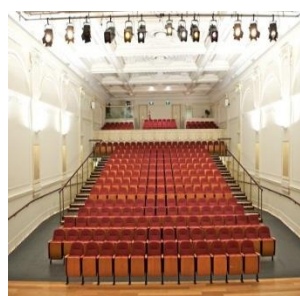
Based on Louisa May Alcott's life, Little Women follows the adventures of sisters, Jo, Meg, Beth and Amy March. Jo, an aspiring author, weaves the story of herself and her sisters and their experience growing up in Civil War America.

Little Women has been praised by critics for its ambition in adapting such a well-known story for the stage. This timeless, captivating story is brought to life in this glorious musical filled with personal discovery, heartache, hope and everlasting love.

The show often jumps into Jo's "operatic tragedy", allowing many of the actors to perform dual roles.

Click on the following link for a full show synopsis: <https://www.mtishows.com/little-women>

The Venue



"Little Women" will be presented at the Independent Theatre, 269 Millar Street North Sydney. Owned and operated by Wenona School, it has a beautiful 303 seat heritage listed auditorium. With excellent public transport access and walking distance from North Sydney Station, it couldn't be more perfect a venue for the production.

Check out the venue via the following link: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Independent_Theatre

The Production Team

Director	Jon Emmett	Lights	Fenella Jolly
Musical Director	Philip Eames	Properties	TBA
Choreographer	Kathryn Harradine	Sound	Neil Hoggard
Production Manager	Kathryn Harradine	Technical Director	Alan Roy
Stage Manager	Kathryn Harradine	Technical Assistant	Andy Davis
Costume Manager	James Worner	CMS Producer	TBA

Key Dates

Date	Event
Thursday, 30 November 2017	Orientation Night – 7.30pm to 9pm Brand X, 60 Atchison Street, St Leonards
Saturday, 2 December 2017	Auditions – 12.30pm to 4.30pm Brand X, 60 Atchison Street, St Leonards
Sunday, 3 December 2017	Auditions – 12.30pm to 4.30pm Brand X, 60 Atchison Street, St Leonards
Saturday, 9 December 2017	Auditions – 12.30pm to 4.30pm Brand X, 60 Atchison Street, St Leonards
Sunday, 10 December 2017	Call backs (if required) – 12.30pm to 4.30pm Brand X, 60 Atchison Street, St Leonards
Wednesday, 13 December 2017	First Rehearsal – 7.30pm to 10.30pm – Read Through Venue TBA

Full Rehearsal Schedule on next page.

“Little Women” - Rehearsal Schedule

DATE	WHAT	WHO
Thursday 30 November	Orientation Night – 7.30pm to 9pm - Brand X, 60 Atchison Street, St Leonards	
Saturday 2 December	Auditions – 12.30pm to 4.30pm – Brand X, 60 Atchison Street, St Leonards	
Saturday 3 December	Auditions – 12.30pm to 4.30pm – Brand X, 60 Atchison Street, St Leonards	
Saturday 9 December	Auditions – 12.30pm to 4.30pm – Brand X, 60 Atchison Street, St Leonards	
Sunday 10 December	Auditions – 12.30pm to 4.30pm – Brand X, 60 Atchison Street, St Leonards	
Wednesday 13 December	Read Through – Venue TBA	
Tuesday 16 January	Rehearsal – 7.30pm to 10.30pm – Brand X, 60 Atchison Street, St Leonards	
Thursday 18 January	Rehearsal – 7.30pm to 10.30pm – Venue TBA	
Tuesday 23 January	Rehearsal – 7.30pm to 10.30pm – Brand X, 60 Atchison Street, St Leonards	
Thursday 25 January	Rehearsal – 7.30pm to 10.30pm – Venue TBA	
Tuesday 30 January	Rehearsal – 7.30pm to 10.30pm – Brand X, 60 Atchison Street, St Leonards	
Thursday 1 February	Rehearsal – 7.30pm to 10.30pm – Venue TBA	
Tuesday 6 February	Rehearsal – 7.30pm to 10.30pm – Brand X, 60 Atchison Street, St Leonards	
Thursday 8 February	Rehearsal – 7.30pm to 10.30pm – Venue TBA	
Tuesday 13 February	Rehearsal – 7.30pm to 10.30pm – Brand X, 60 Atchison Street, St Leonards	
Thursday 15 February	Rehearsal – 7.30pm to 10.30pm – Venue TBA	
Tuesday 20 February	Rehearsal – 7.30pm to 10.30pm – Brand X, 60 Atchison Street, St Leonards	
Thursday 22 February	Rehearsal – 7.30pm to 10.30pm – Venue TBA	
Sunday 25 February	Rehearsal – Run act 1 and fix ups – 10am to 2pm – Brand X, St Leonards	
Tuesday 27 February	Rehearsal – 7.30pm to 10.30pm – Brand X, 60 Atchison Street, St Leonards	
Thursday 1 March	Rehearsal – 7.30pm to 10.30pm – Venue TBA	
Tuesday 6 March	Rehearsal – 7.30pm to 10.30pm – Brand X, 60 Atchison Street, St Leonards	
Thursday 8 March	Rehearsal – 7.30pm to 10.30pm – Venue TBA	
Tuesday 13 March	Rehearsal – 7.30pm to 10.30pm – Brand X, 60 Atchison Street, St Leonards	
Thursday 15 March	Rehearsal – 7.30pm to 10.30pm – Venue TBA	

Tuesday 20 March	Rehearsal – 7.30pm to 10.30pm – Brand X, 60 Atchison Street, St Leonards	
Thursday 22 March	Rehearsal – 7.30pm to 10.30pm – Venue TBA	
Tuesday 27 March	Rehearsal – 7.30pm to 10.30pm – Brand X, 60 Atchison Street, St Leonards	
Thursday 29 March	Rehearsal – 7.30pm to 10.30pm – Venue TBA	
Tuesday 3 April	Rehearsal – 7.30pm to 10.30pm – Brand X, 60 Atchison Street, St Leonards	
Thursday 5 April	Rehearsal – 7.30pm to 10.30pm – Venue TBA	
Sunday 8 April	Sitz Probe – 10am to 1pm then full run through Act 2 - 2pm to 5pm – Brand X	
Tuesday 10 April	Rehearsal – 7.30pm to 10.30pm – Brand X, 60 Atchison Street, St Leonards	
Thursday 12 April	Rehearsal – 7.30pm to 10.30pm – Venue TBA	
Sunday 15 April	Bump In from 10am to 10pm – The Independent Theatre, North Sydney	
Monday 16 April	Tech rehearsal from 6pm (no costumes) – The Independent Theatre, North Sydney	
Tuesday 17 April	Dress rehearsal from 6pm (start performance at 7pm) – The Independent Theatre, North Sydney	
Wednesday 18 April	Dress rehearsal from 6pm (start performance at 7pm) – The Independent Theatre, North Sydney	
Thursday 19 April	Final Dress from 6pm (start performance at 7pm) – The Independent Theatre, North Sydney	
Friday 20 April	Opening night – 7.30 pm show (please arrive by 6pm) – The Independent Theatre, North Sydney	
Saturday 21 April	Matinee at 2pm (please arrive by 12.30pm) & 7.30pm show – The Independent Theatre, North Sydney	
Sunday 22 April	Matinee at 3pm (please arrive by 1.30pm) – The Independent Theatre, North Sydney	
Thursday 27 April	Show at 7.30 pm (please arrive by 6pm) – The Independent Theatre, North Sydney	
Friday 28 April	Show at 7.30 pm (please arrive by 6pm) – The Independent Theatre, North Sydney	
Saturday 28 April	Matinee at 2pm (please arrive by 12.30pm) & 7.30pm show & BUMP OUT until midnight – The Independent Theatre, North Sydney	

Please Note: **There are also two compulsory weekend Sunday calls on 25 February 2018 and 8 April 2018.**

Rehearsals will be held between 2 different locations:

- **Tuesdays - Brand X**, 60 Atchison St, St Leonards.
- **Thursdays – Venue TBA**

What are we looking for?

Little Women is very much a character driven musical that requires strong actors, who are willing to put in the time and effort required to develop those characters. Any potential cast members should be prepared to come with an open mind, ready to discuss and explore their own character, and other characters, in order to give the strongest performance possible.

The show also moves across two time periods, requiring actors demonstrate a change in age, and maturity. In addition, those characters who have an operatic tragedy double must be able to show a strong contrast in their alternate character.

The script itself contracts a significant amount of depth from the novel, therefore a strong emphasis of this show must be exploring the relationships between the March Sisters. A key challenge is that, in a very short period of time, the production needs to establish the family dynamic, and take each sister through their individual journeys in such a way that causes the audience to become invested in those journeys.

Auditions

All auditions are by appointment only, consisting of a joint singing and acting audition. There will be no dance audition for this production.

All auditionees must be at least 16 years old on the day of auditions.

All auditionees must disclose any other commitments they have to any other shows during the specified period.

Dates

Saturday, 2 December 2017	Auditions – 12.30pm to 4.30pm Brand X, 60 Atchison Street, St Leonards
Sunday, 3 December 2017	Auditions – 12.30pm to 4.30pm Brand X, 60 Atchison Street, St Leonards
Saturday, 9 December 2017	Auditions – 12.30pm to 4.30pm Brand X, 60 Atchison Street, St Leonards
Sunday, 10 December 2017	Call backs (if required) – 12.30pm to 4.30pm Brand X, 60 Atchison Street, St Leonards

Bookings

Auditions slots will last approximately 5 minutes, however Auditionees will need to book in to 20 minute slots (4 people per slot). Please arrive fifteen minutes before your audition time. We will endeavour to keep to a strict schedule, however, such is the nature of these things that may become delayed. We therefore appreciate your patience in this regard.

Singing Audition

Auditionees should prepare approximately one minute of their own choice of song that they feel matches the style of the show and shows them off to their best. A pianist will accompany all auditionees on the piano.

Please bring clean readable sheet music that is correctly marked up and in the required key, in clear plastic page holders or binder. Backing tracks or a cappella singing will not be accepted. The singing auditions will be conducted in a closed panel format. You may sing a song from the show should you wish to.

Acting Audition

Auditionees should be prepared to perform one of the following sides for the character(s) for which they are auditioning:

Role	Side	Page
Jo	1 (Jo and Laurie)	63-66
Laurie (and Rodrigo)	1 (Jo and Laurie)	63-66
Meg (and Clarissa)	2 (Meg)	61-62
Amy (and the Troll)	3 (Amy)	27-29
Beth (and Rodrigo II)	4 (Beth)	88-89
Marmee (and the Hag)	5 (Marmee)	40-42
Professor Bhaer	6 (Prof Bhaer)	107-109
Mr John Brooke (and Sir Braxton Prendergast)	7 (Mr John Brooke)	31-33
Mr Laurence (and the Knight)	8 (Mr Laurence)	45-46
Aunt March	9 (Aunt March)	18-20
Mrs Kirk	10 (Mrs Kirk)	68-69

Please note that not all auditionees will be asked to read a side.

If you are auditioning for more than one named role, please note that the panel may choose not to hear all the set sides, but it is certainly in your own best interest to have them all prepared in advance.

The Panel

For all auditions, the audition panel will consist of the Director, Musical Director, Choreographer and the CMS Producer.

Call Backs

If required, call backs will occur on Sunday 10 December, 12.30pm to 4.30pm at Brand X, 60 Atchison Street, St Leonards

Bookings and Forms

Auditions can be booked now by following the links on the CMS website:

<https://www.chatswoodmusicalsociety.org/>

Audition forms and Dialogue excerpts are all available to download via the CMS website.

Please complete the form in advance of your audition slot and bring it with you on your audition day. Please remember to attach a head shot to the front of the audition form, as well as an Artistic CV if you wish.

Choreography

Once the show is cast, we will assess the respective dance/movement skills of the cast. Please include any dance/movement training in the appropriate section of the audition form.

How will I know I've been cast?

All auditionees will be contacted directly by phone or email by a member of the production team. Contact will be made within 3 days following the completion of call backs (by the evening of Sunday, 3 December 2017). The CMS website and Facebook page will also be updated with the casting results as quickly as possible.

What is my commitment?

Membership

All cast members must become members of Chatswood Musical Society, which requires that you act in the best interests of the Society. Current membership is set at \$25 annually. A one off show fee of \$75 is also required for each successful company member. The fee covers everything from insurance and rehearsal materials to a professional CD of photos from the show.

Both show and membership payments are due within **three weeks** of rehearsal commencement.

Attendance

Cast are expected to attend all rehearsals except by prior agreement of the Director.

Bump in Bump Out & Fundraising

All company members are required to commit to assist with the theatre Bump-in and Bump out, as well as participation in the scheduled fund raising day (date TBC).

Publicity

You must be available for promotional events to help sell and promote the show. These events will be notified to you well in advance to assist with planning your attendance. Cast should be prepared to use personal Facebook pages to include relevant photos on timelines, as profile pictures and sharing and tagging to spread the word as quickly and as far as we can. It is in the interests of all involved that cost-effective and efficient promotion via social media is widespread.

Set building

All company members will be required to assist with set construction/painting on a minimum of three weekends during the rehearsal period. Set building takes place at the 1st Killara Scout Hall, Carlyle Rd, East Lindfield. If you have commitments that prohibit you from attending, please inform the production team of this at your audition.

CMS Committee:

President - Chapin Ayres

Vice President - Ken Goth

Secretary - Kate Mannix

Treasurer - Andy Davis

Technical Manager – Alan Roy

Committee Member – Judy Roy

Character Roles & Descriptions:

Role	Description	Operatic Double	Stage Age	Vocal Range
Jo	The protagonist of the story, and the second-oldest sister. Bold and passionate, with an active imagination.	-	18-23	E3-A5
Laurie	The young boy-next-door, he is inducted in the family as the brother they never had. He initially proposes to Jo, is rejected, and eventually marries Amy in Act II. Charming, audacious, and energetic.	Rodrigo: The hero.	18-23	A#2-B4

Role	Description	Operatic Double	Stage Age	Vocal Range
Meg	The oldest sister, she marries John Brooke and has twins later in Act II. Gentle, loving, sweet and pious	Clarissa: The heroine.	21-25	A#3-Gb5
Beth	The second youngest sister, she dies of Scarlett fever in Act II. A shy manner, a timid voice, and a peaceful expression that is seldom disturbed.	Rodrigo II	17-21	A3-Gb5
Amy	The youngest sister, she marries Laurie in Act II. Although the youngest sister, she is the most important person, in her own opinion at least.	Troll	14-18	C4-Gb5
Marmee	The mother of the four March sisters. She is a strong mother, and acts as the moral role model for her girls.	Hag	45-55	Eb3-Eb5
Professor Bhaer	A rather proper German Professor who meets Jo in Mrs Kirk's boarding house, eventually falling in love with her. Must speak with a German accent (but not overly strong).	-	35-45	G2-F#4
Mr John Brooke	Laurie's tutor, poor but virtuous. He marries Meg.	Sir Braxton Prendergast	30-40	C#3-F#4
Mr Laurence	Laurie's grandfather and the Marches' next-door neighbour. He portrays a stern exterior, but eventually connects with Beth through a shared love of music.	Knight	45-60	Bb2-Bb4
Aunt March	A rich widow and one of the March girls' aunts. Over-bearing and difficult, but loves her nieces and wants the best for them.	-	45-60	E3-F5
Mrs Kirk	The owner of Mrs. Kirk's boarding house. Appears in a few scenes.	-	35-65	Spoken

Questions:

If have any questions regarding any aspect of the production or the audition process, please feel free to contact the production team by emailing them at: vp@chatswoodmusicalsociety.org

