

# HADESTOWN

## TEEN EDITION

### AUDITION PACK

**In February 2027, South Side Theatre will be presenting Hadestown: Teen Edition and you can take part! We are on the lookout for young performers aged 11 to 19 (currently in school years 6 to 13), who have a passion and drive for theatre to bring this inspiring story to life. The production will be led by a tremendous creative team, including choreographer, Ella Maton, musical director, Sufia Many, and our Artistic Director, Toby Ward-Smith.**

Auditions are open to anyone aged 11-19, in secondary school or on a gap year/working from September 2026. Auditions will be held at Tolworth United Reformed Church, on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> June, 5-9pm, Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June, 5-9pm and Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> June, 5-7pm. You will only need to attend one of the two days.

Call backs will also be held on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> June, 6-9pm.

Cast rehearsals will take place in Surbiton on

- Every Friday from 5-9pm, from the 11<sup>th</sup> September.
- Two Wednesdays – Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> December & Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> January
- 2 full day rehearsals on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> & Friday 30<sup>th</sup> October.

You will only be called for the specific rehearsals you are required for, so no one will be required to attend every rehearsal, but all cast are expected to commit to the full rehearsal process and give us their rehearsal availability on the audition form. Knowing your availability now will allow us to plan accordingly.

To take part, sign up for an audition via [www.southsidetheatre.com/hadestown](http://www.southsidetheatre.com/hadestown). Please read the information below.

The total project fee is £210 with a discounted price of £185 for current Weekly Academy members and for siblings. This can be paid 3 monthly payments or in full. Payment will only be due if successfully cast in the show.

We don't want anyone to miss out due to cost. Bursaries are available for those on low incomes. Please contact [info@southsidetheatre.com](mailto:info@southsidetheatre.com) to apply.

**All cast be available for show week from Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup>-Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2027.**

## ABOUT THE AUDITIONS

For cast auditions, you can choose whether you want to audition for a principal role or if you want to audition for an ensemble role. Regardless of the role you want to audition for, your audition will involve learning a dance routine, scene work and learning an ensemble song. Those wanting to audition for a principal role will then be invited to do a solo vocal audition, with details below.

Following auditions we will distribute the cast list via email, within a couple of weeks.

*The full list of characters can be found below.*

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### ROLES

**ORPHEUS**

**EURYDICE**

**HADES**

**PERSEPHONE**

**HERMES**

**FATES**

**WORKERS & ENSEMBLE**

### A NOTE ON CASTING

We are aiming to create a production that is impactful, and heart-warming. The show will be supported by strong production values enforced by our commitment to value every performer within the show.

The nature of this show requires a diverse cast of young performers with a clear passion and commitment for performing. Please come prepared to stretch yourself, and support everyone in achieving a fantastic experience.

We will be keeping the title characters to their originally written gender in the production; however, we are open to all genders for each part; you need only be comfortable presenting as the gender the role is written for. For example, if you are non-binary but wanting to portray a male character, we welcome this. Hermes can be played by any gender.

There are no specified ethnicities in the story. We welcome all ethnicities to apply for any of the roles.

### PRINCIPAL AUDITIONS

You will need to prepare and perform a section from one of the listed songs below if you wish to audition for any of the below roles.

You are able to choose any of the 6 songs;

- Road to Hell
- Our Lady of the Underground
- Wait for Me Reprise
- If It's True
- Why We Build the Wall
- When the Chips Are Down

- Promises

Details of the audition songs and the specific sections for the auditions will be released shortly on our website and via email.

Remember that it's important that we see how you act as well as how you sing.

**Orpheus: Male. Tenor. Range C3-D5**

Inspired by the mythological musician Orpheus, he is an idealistic songwriter who believes his music can change the world and save the woman he loves. (Recommend song 'Legally Blonde' or 'If It's True' or 'Promises')

**Eurydice: Female. Mezzo-Soprano / Alto. Range F3-D5**

Based on Eurydice, she is practical and independent, struggling to survive in a harsh world while longing for safety and stability. (Recommend song 'Promises' or 'Wait for Me Reprise')

**Hermes: Male or Female. Tenor/Baritone. Range C3-B4**

The charismatic storyteller Hermes guides the audience through the tale, acting as a narrator and protector to the young lovers. (Recommend song 'Road to Hell')

**Hades: Male. Bass/Baritone. Range C3-B4**

Inspired by Hades, he is the powerful ruler of the underworld who builds an industrial empire driven by fear, control, and a desire for security. (Recommend song 'Why We Build the Wall')

**Persephone: Female. Mezzo-Soprano. Range G3-C5**

She is the vibrant goddess of spring whose annual journey between worlds reflects both joy and sorrow in her complicated marriage to Hades. (Recommend song 'Our Lady of the Underground')

**Fates: Female. Mezzo Soprano/Soprano/Alto. Range G4-D5/E4-C5/C4-A4**

Drawing from the Greek mythological Fates, this trio represents destiny itself, constantly whispering doubts and influencing the choices of the characters. (Recommend song 'When the Chips Are Down')

**Workers & Ensemble: Male & Female. Variety of ranges**

The Workers are the labourers of Hadestown, trapped in an endless cycle of work that reflects the cost of Hades' industrial world. (Recommend song 'When the Chips Are Down' or 'Wait for Me Reprise')

**ABOUT THE SHOW**

Hadestown is a Tony Award-winning musical with music, lyrics, and book by Anais Mitchell. Blending American folk, jazz, blues, and New Orleans-inspired music, the show reimagines ancient Greek mythology in a stylised industrial world where love, hope, and power collide.

The story intertwines two mythological tales: that of the dreamer \*\*Orpheus and the strong-willed Eurydice, and the complicated marriage of Hades, ruler of the underworld, and Persephone, goddess of spring. When Eurydice is drawn into the dark, industrial world of

Hadestown, Orpheus journeys to the underworld in an attempt to bring her back, armed only with the power of his music.

Guided by the charismatic storyteller Hermes and accompanied by the mysterious trio known as the Fates, the story unfolds like a folk opera. Through its powerful score and poetic storytelling,

## **CONTENT ADVICE**

Hadestown retells the ancient Greek myth of Orpheus and Eurydice, set in a stylised industrial world inspired by the underworld ruled by Hades.

The story explores themes including poverty, hardship, power, environmental decline, and the effects of economic inequality. Characters experience hunger, desperation, and difficult choices as they struggle to survive. The narrative also depicts emotional manipulation, authoritarian control, and the separation of loved ones.

The production includes moments of tension and sadness, as well as references to death and the underworld drawn from Greek mythology. Some scenes portray exploitative labour conditions and the loss of personal freedom within an industrial society.

Please know that we are presenting a version of the show appropriate for teen performers and family audiences. We will approach all content with sensitivity and professionalism, emphasizing character development, respect for boundaries, and the empowering messages at the heart of the story.

We encourage you to speak with your teen about the material, support them in understanding the show's messages, and help them navigate their roles with confidence and maturity. Your partnership ensures a safe, educational, and enjoyable experience for everyone involved.

## **CREATIVES**

### Toby Ward-Smith - Director

Toby trained at the Guildford School of Acting, following gaining a distinction in his Performing Arts Teaching Diploma. He has extensively performed in the likes of Bugsy Malone (New Wimbledon Theatre), In the Heights (Stockwell Playhouse) and It Snows (Orange Tree Theatre). Alongside performing Toby has worked in Children's theatre for numerous years, starting out as a Class Assistant in the Children's Theatre Club at the Lantern Arts Centre, before leading their Easter Holiday Projects at the age of 18. He then went on to be the Assistant Director of the Young Company at the Churchill Theatre Bromley. In 2018, Toby founded South Side, with a belief that theatre should be accessible for everyone, with an aim to run all-inclusive, professional drama classes and productions for all young people. Since then, he has directed and produced 27 South Side productions and is your first point of contact should you need anything!

### Ella Maton - Choreographer

Ella returns following her stunning choreography in Legally Blonde! She is a recent graduate of Royal Holloway, University of London, receiving a First-Class Honours degree in English and Drama. She began her dance training at Memorial Dance Centre in the USA, and she

continued training with De Dutch Don't Dance Division and the New International Performing Arts Institute in the Netherlands and Germany.

Throughout her education, Ella worked as a choreographer, teacher, and director for various productions, such as A Chorus Line and Freaky Friday (Royal Holloway, American School of the Hague). She also has recently taken a show to the Edinburgh Fringe as stage manager/lighting designer (A Play About Feet). She is a passionate choreographer and physical theatre artist whose work evokes feeling, striking symbolism, and creates space for community.

#### Sufia Manya - Musical Director

Sufia trained at Royal Birmingham Conservatoire gaining an MMUS, BMUS (HONS) and PGDip in Music Performance. She is an Acting graduate of Drama Studio London & has appeared in many productions as a musical director, musician, actor-musician and actor. She is also a fully qualified Teacher of Music and believes passionately about nurturing musical ability in others.

As Musical Director: Sleeping Beauty (Reading Hexagon), Buggy Malone & Aladdin Jr (GLive), Consider This (Guildford Electric Theatre); Bad Girls, Return to the Forbidden Planet, Lights Up! (Stevenage Lytton Players); Honk! The Musical (Gordon Craig Theatre); 9-5 (Hitchin Thespians); Around the World in Eighty Days, Summer Holiday, Their Scarves Were Red, Cruisin (Highbury Youth Theatre)

For South Side, Sufia has musical directed, Chitty Chitty Bang Bang JR, High School Musical JR, Godspell JR, Legally Blonde JR, Newsies JR and Frozen JR.

#### Laura Sharp – Stage Manager

Laura is from New Orleans Louisiana where she grew up singing and performing with her grandfather who was a Jazz Pianist in the area. She later went on to train at Northwestern State of University of Louisiana where she received her degree in Musical Theatre.

Since graduating she has taught drama in the US, China, and the UK.

Performance credits include Tracy Turnblad in Hairspray, Martha in Heathers, and Sister Mary Patrick in Sister Act.

Most recently Laura has Musical Directed our recent productions of Finding Nemo, 13, Annie and Guys and Dolls, and stage managed Legally Blonde.

**If you have any questions, please email us at [info@southsidetheatre.com](mailto:info@southsidetheatre.com)! We look forward to seeing you at auditions!**