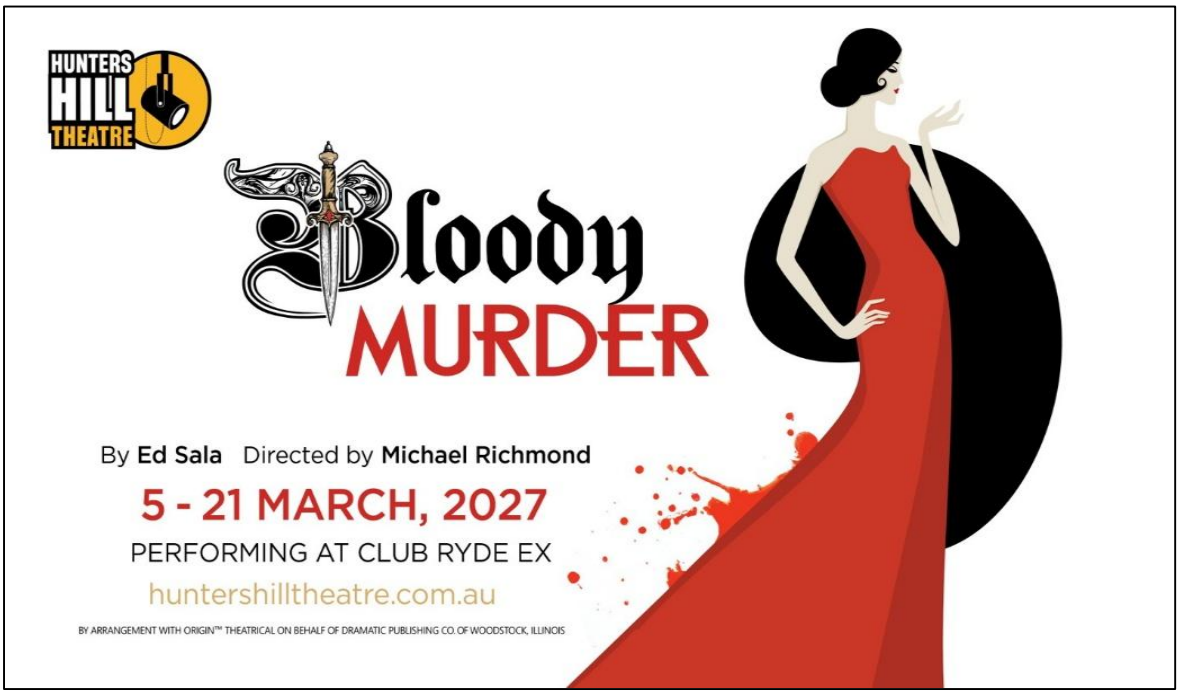
Presents


HUNTERS HILL THEATRE
Bloody MURDER
By Ed Sala Directed by Michael Richmond
5 - 21 MARCH, 2027
PERFORMING AT CLUB RYDE EX
huntershilltheatre.com.au
BY ARRANGEMENT WITH ORIGIN™ THEATRICAL ON BEHALF OF DRAMATIC PUBLISHING CO. OF WOODSTOCK, ILLINOIS

Audition information

Reading:

There will be a reading of the play at 7.00pm on Wednesday November 18, 2026 at the Theatre at Club Ryde Ex. Everyone is welcome to attend the reading whether you plan to audition or not.

Auditions are open and you may be asked to read for a different character than the one you are auditioning for.

Audition details:

Time	**7.00 pm**
Dates	**Tuesday November 24** **Thursday November 26**
Venue	**Level 2, Club Ryde Ex, 728 Victoria Road, Ryde**
Note	***Auditionees will be asked to read the prescribed pieces from the script, which may be prepared beforehand. The director may also request readings from other parts of the play (unprepared) or short improvised pieces in context, in an individual or group environment.***

Before your audition:

Read through all the information in this pack and check the draft rehearsal schedule and performance dates to ensure your availability. The rehearsal schedule may be changed to suit cast availability, but it is anticipated that rehearsals will either be on Tuesdays and Thursdays, **OR** Mondays and Wednesdays, as well as Sundays, beginning the first week of December 2026. We will break for Christmas and the first two weeks in January depending on cast availability.

Please fill out the audition form and email it back to the director, or bring it with you on the audition night.

If you have any questions, please call Michael Richmond on 0412 404 061 or email Michael.richmond@iinet.net.au

NOTE: Signing the audition form indicates your availability for and commitment to all activities relating to the production, including rehearsals, bump in, bump out and show dates. You will also be required to join Hunters Hill Theatre, if you are not already a member.

You will be notified if you have been successful in your auditions and a full cast list will be posted on the HHT website www.huntershilltheatre.com.au

Unsuccessful auditionees will be notified via email.

Performance Details

Venue – HUNTERS HILL THEATRE - Club Ryde Ex, 728 Victoria Road, Ryde.

IMPORTANT: ***All cast and crew will need to ensure that they are available for all performance dates and rehearsal times as indicated on the rehearsal schedule. Cast must be available to assist with scenery painting, construction and bump-out.***

Friday 7.30PM	Saturday 2.00PM	Saturday 7.30PM	Sunday 2.00PM
5 March 2027	6 March 2027	6 March 2027	7 March 2027
12 March 2027	13 March 2027	13 March 2027	14 March 2027
19 March 2027	20 March 2027	20 March 2027	21 March 2027

Synopsis

A group of the usual British murder-mystery types gather for a weekend retreat at the sumptuous country estate of the esteemed Lady Somerset. There's the Major who served in India; the inebriated, fading actor; the innocent ingénue; the exotic lady in red; the mysterious Chinese gentleman; the rich dowager aunt; and her faithful maid and worthless nephew. Suddenly, one of them dies of poison! Well, of course. Oh, what fun! But wait ... Her Ladyship refuses to summon the police! She says she won't go through all this, again. All what, again? And why were they all invited here in the first place? Is this actually just another formulaic, all-too-predictable mystery story? Or is it something diabolically ... different? Agatha Christie meets Pirandello, as characters rebel against their author. It's bloody murder. "Delight- fully warped"

Roles available:
3 - 4 Male - 3 - 4 Female
Some cast may be required to play two or three roles.

(NOTE: All descriptions are per the script and may change depending on requirements)

Character	Description	Stage Age	Gender
Lady Somerset	Lady SOMERSET - In her 70s. A woman of great wealth and social standing. Old Money and a genial hostess.	60-70	F
Jane	Lady Somerset's maid and head of staff, secretly despises the wealthy classes	40-60	F
Emma Reese	The far-too-innocent ingénue, too good to be true, fending off Charles' advances, and later reveals a secret.	25-30	F
The Countess and a Motorist and a Nun	A quite strikingly well preserved mystery woman, with a non-specific European accent.	30 - 40	F
The MAJOR	Served with the military in India and constantly reminds everyone of it. A Braggart and could place the Major General in Pirates of Penzance	50-60	M
Devon Tremaine	Formerly great tragic actor, now declining because of his fondness for single-malt.	40-50	M
Charles	Her Ladyship's feckless nephew, who enjoys the good life. Would fit into any Noel Coward play.	60 +	M
Chief Inspector Phelps and Mr Woo and El Gato	The dim-witted policeman could be a foil to Hercule Poirot.	40-50	M

We may opt to do the six-actor version. In this case:

Emma Reece also plays the Countess - Jane also plays stranded Motorist and Nun - Tremaine also plays Woo and El Gato - Charles also plays Inspector Phelps. Doubling roles may be changed again once a full cast is complete.

Rehearsal Schedule - *to be updated at first rehearsal*

Venue: Rehearsals will be held at HHT at Club Ryde Ex

In general, rehearsals are every Sunday from 1.00pm to 5.00 pm and 2 evenings per week: Tuesdays 7.00pm to 10.00pm and Thursdays 7.00pm to 10.00pm

(Changes may be required and will be notified in advance)

Pages relate to digital script that will be provided (NOTE: 2 script pages per page below)

DATE	DAY	SCENE/NOTES
1/12	Tuesday	Full read through whole play
3/12	Thursday	Pages 9-18
6/12	Sunday	Pages 19 - end of Scene 1
8/12	Tuesday	Pages 34 - 44
10/12	Thursday	Page 44 - end of Act 1
13/12	Sunday	Scene 1 - revision
15/12	Tuesday	Scene 2 - revision
17/12	Thursday	Act 1 double run
Break for Christmas and New Year		
12/1	Tuesday	Pages 57 - 67
14/1	Thursday	Pages 68 - 79
17/1	Sunday	Pages 80 - end of play
19/1	Tuesday	Scene 2 - double run
21/1	Thursday	Act 1 Fixes and run
24/1	Sunday	Act 1 Fixes and run
26/1	Tuesday	Act 1 double run

28/1	Thursday	Act 1 double run
31/1	Sunday	Act 2 Fixes and run
2/2	Tuesday	Act 2 double run
4/2	Thursday	Act 2 double run
7/2	Sunday	Full Run
9/2	Tuesday	Full Run
11/2	Thursday	Full Run
14/2	Sunday	Full Run
16/2	Tuesday	Full Run
18/2	Thursday	Full Run
21/2	Sunday	Full Run
23/2	Tuesday	Dress Rehearsal
25/2	Thursday	Dress Rehearsal
28/2	Sunday	Dress Rehearsal
2/3	Tuesday	Dress Rehearsal
3/3	Wednesday	Members Preview

Audition Form - Bloody Murder

Please complete this form and bring it to the audition, or email it to michael.richmond@iinet.net.au

NAME	
GENDER	
ADDRESS	
EMAIL	
MOBILE	
HEIGHT	
ROLE/S INTERESTED IN	
Are you prepared to accept the Director's judgement of the most suitable part for you?	**YES/NO** (Circle one)
If you are successful in obtaining a place in the production, do you give permission for your contact details to be published on a cast list?	**YES/NO** (Circle one)
Date on which you intend to audition	
Are you prepared and available for all scheduled rehearsals, performances, and related activities? (If no, which dates?)	**YES/NO** (Circle one)
Please specify details of any commitments which may impact upon your participation in the rehearsal process	
List previous productions and roles played, as well as any relevant training or experience	
How did you hear about us? **HHT Member?** **Audition Notice from HHT?** **Another group (name)?** **Other (please specify)?**	

Please read carefully before signing:

I understand that if I accept a role or participate as a member of cast or crew, an annual HHT membership fee of $25 is payable and that full commitment to the following is expected of me: attending bump in and bump out, all of the rehearsals the director nominates, all performance dates, and a willingness to be rostered on FOH for the next play.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

HUNTERS HILL THEATRE CODE OF CONDUCT

Hunters Hill Theatre Company (HHT) is a community theatre group that has been performing continuously since 1930. We aim to provide entertaining, diverse, and quality theatre experiences for our audience and members. We value creativity, collaboration, respect, and professionalism in all aspects of our work. We are committed to creating a safe, supportive, and welcoming environment for everyone involved in our productions, including our staff, volunteers, performers, audience members, and partners.

As a member of HHT, you are expected to abide by the following code of conduct:

- Treat everyone with kindness, courtesy, and professionalism
- Respect the artistic vision, opinions, and decisions of the directors, designers, and other creative team
  members, and offer constructive feedback when appropriate.
- Communicate openly and honestly and listen attentively to others.
- Follow the instructions and guidelines of the stage managers, production managers, and other team
  members, and adhere to the rehearsal and performance schedules.
- Respect the property and equipment of the HHT and the venue we use, and report any damages or
  issues to the Committee
- Refrain from any behaviour that could harm, harass, intimidate, or discriminate against anyone, such
  as physical or verbal abuse, sexual harassment, bullying, or hate speech.
- Report any incidents or concerns of misconduct or violation of this code of conduct to the Committee
  as soon as possible.
- Support the HHTôs mission, vision, and values, and promote a positive image of the organisation to the public.

By joining HHT, you agree to uphold this code of conduct and to accept the consequences of any breach of it. HHT reserves the right to take appropriate action, including termination of membership, suspension from activities, or legal action, in response to any violation of this code of conduct.

We thank you for your cooperation and dedication to HHT, and we hope you enjoy being part of our theatre family.