

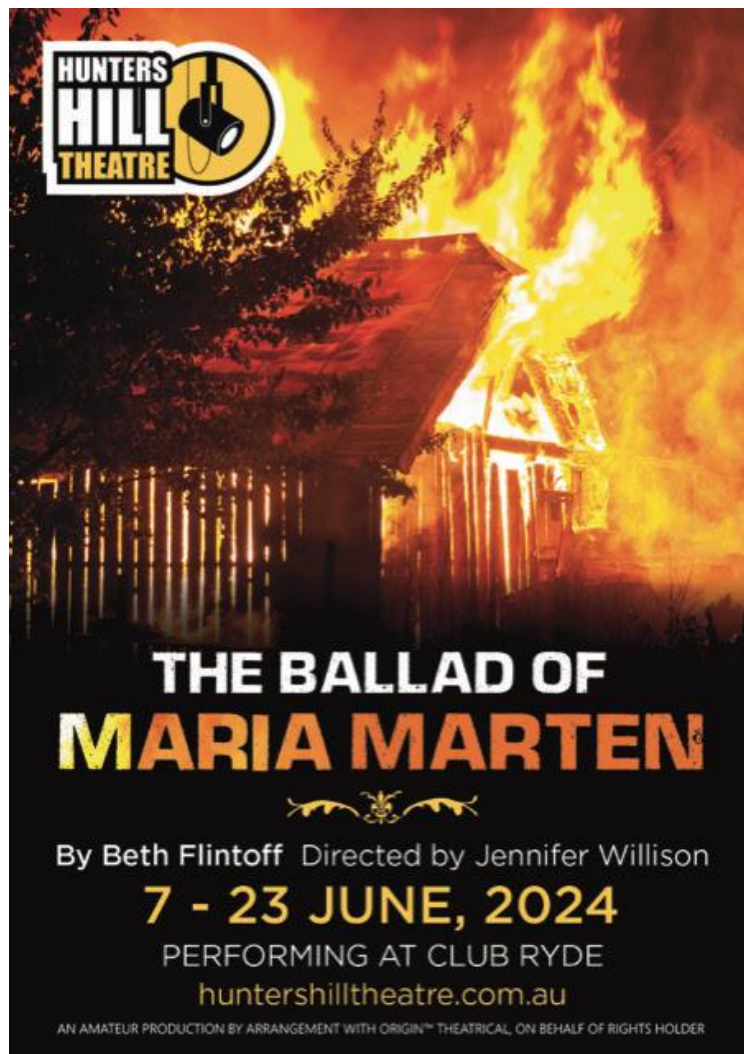


*presents*

# THE BALLAD OF MARIA MARTEN

*Written by*  
Beth Flintoff

*Directed by*  
Jennifer Willison



## AUDITION INFORMATION

There will be a READING of the play at the Theatre on Tuesday 27 February 2024 @ 7pm.

All are welcome to attend the reading whether you plan to audition or not.

TIME	7pm
DATE	Tuesday March 12 and call back Thursday March 14, 2024
VENUE	Hunters Hill Theatre Level 2, Club Ryde, 728 Victoria Road, Ryde

### 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 be on Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday, beginning on Sunday, 7 April 2024.

Fill out the audition form and email it back to the director.

Please notify your intention of auditioning to the Director by email to [willison\\_jennifer@yahoo.com.au](mailto:willison_jennifer@yahoo.com.au) and state which role.

Please read the script before auditioning.

If you have any questions, please email Jennifer Willison at [willison\\_jennifer@yahoo.com.au](mailto:willison_jennifer@yahoo.com.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 performance dates.

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](http://www.huntershilltheatre.com.au)

## PERFORMANCE DETAILS

Venue: Club Ryde, 728 Victoria Road, Ryde

Friday 7:30pm	Saturday 2pm	Saturday 7:30pm	Sunday 2.00pm
7 June	8 June	8 June	9 June
14 June	15 June	15 June	16 June
21 June	22 June	22 June	23 June

**IMPORTANT:** *All cast and crew 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 bump in and bump-out duties.*

## SYNOPSIS

In 1827 Maria Marten went to meet her lover and is never seen again. The play tells of the events that led to this disappearance, shows the class divisions and the part women played in society during this period. There is some singing and dancing but as the characters were rural folk it certainly doesn't have to be perfect. The play is based on a true story and was written for an all women cast.

**Roles available: 12 roles (male and female roles are all played by women). Unless stated, all roles can be played by actresses aged from 16 to 40 years old. Unless stated, all parts should have a slight English county brogue. (Think Pam Ayers)**

<b>ROLE</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>STAGE AGE</b>
<b>Maria Marten</b>	Young, naïve, romantic, easily led, easily influenced by men and doesn't think things through.	10-20 yrs.
<b>Phoebe Stowe</b>	Maria's closest friend. Supportive, becomes very concerned with Maria's behavior and Ann's obsession with finding Maria.	10-20 yrs.
<b>Lucy Baalham</b>	Innocent, eager to please, rather straightlaced. Later blames Maria for losing her job and has secret feelings for William.	10-20 yrs.
<b>Theresa Havers</b>	Not as easy going as the others. Later marries John and endures domestic violence which she tries to hide.	10-20 yrs.
<b>Sarah Stowe</b>	Takes life as it comes. Enjoys sex and loves her illegitimate children. Does become concerned about Maria's behavior.	10-20 yrs.
<b>Ann Marten</b>	Maria's step-mother. Happy to be married and step-mother to the Marten children. Becomes very concerned about Maria.	25-30 yrs.
<b>Lady Cooke</b>	Refined English accent. Her husband owns all the land, homes and villages in Polstead. Does good works but is class conscious.	25-30 yrs. (can be up to 50)
<b>Thomas Corder</b>	Local farmer's son. Happy to have an affair with Maria but not to marry her. Discards her when she's pregnant.	Early 20s
<b>Peter Mathews</b>	Lady Cooke's brother. Refined English accent. Becomes infatuated with Maria and is heartbroken when their affair ends.	25-30 yrs.
<b>Mrs. Woodstock</b>	Refined English accent. Dressmaker to Lady Cooke and the upper classes.	Any age
<b>Miss Anvil</b>	Refined English accent. Upper class village spinster.	Any age
<b>Miss Pettigrew</b>	Refined English accent. Upper class village spinster.	Any age

## Rehearsal Schedule - Draft

**Venue:** Rehearsals will be held at Club Ryde

In general, rehearsals are every Sunday 1.00 to 5.00 pm and 2 evenings per week:

Tuesdays 7pm to 10pm and Thursdays 7pm to 10pm

NB. **Sunday, April 7** at 1:00 PM. Reading, followed by Meet & Greet with cast, crew and committee.

DATE	DAY	SCENE/NOTES
NB. April 7	Sunday	Reading followed by Meet & Greet with cast, crew and committee
April 9	Tuesday	
April 11	Thursday	
April 14	Sunday	
April 16	Tuesday	
April 18	Thursday	
April 21	Sunday	
April 23	Tuesday	
April 25	Thursday	
April 28	Sunday	
April 30	Tuesday	
May 2	Thursday	
May 5	Sunday	
May 7	Tuesday	
May 9	Thursday	
May 12	Sunday	
May 14	Tuesday	
May 16	Thursday	
May 19	Sunday	
May 21	Tuesday	
May 23	Thursday	
May 26	Sunday	Technical rehearsal
May 28	Tuesday	Full Run (May have to start early)
May 30	Thursday	Second tech run
June 2	Sunday	Full dress and tech run
June 3	Monday	Dress Rehearsal (?)
June 4	Tuesday	Stand by
June 5	Wednesday	Final Dress Rehearsal

<b>THE BALLAD OF MARIA MARTEN – Audition Form</b>
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*Please complete this form and bring it to the audition.*

<b>NAME</b>	
<b>GENDER</b>	
<b>ADDRESS</b>	
<b>EMAIL</b>	
<b>MOBILE</b>	
<b>HEIGHT</b>	
<b>ROLE/S INTERESTED IN</b>	
Are you prepared to accept the Director’s judgement of the most suitable part for you?	<b>YES/NO</b> (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?	<b>YES/NO</b> (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?)	<b>YES/NO</b> (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)?	
If you are not chosen for the part of your choice, would you be prepared to be considered for another role?	<b>YES/NO</b> (Circle one)

**Please read carefully before signing:**

<p><i>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 the rehearsals the director nominates, all performance dates, and a willingness to be rostered on FOH for the next play.</i></p>
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**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_