

AUDITION NOTICE



READ THROUGH

Tuesday 6 October 2026, 7.45pm in the Studio

AUDITIONS

Friday 16 October 2026, 7.45pm in the Theatre

Sunday 25 October 2026, 2pm in the Theatre

Callbacks (if required) will take place the following week

FIRST REHEARSALS

Beginning Wednesday 9 December 2026

Rehearsals are at 7.45pm, Mondays, Wednesdays & Thursdays, with Sunday afternoons at 2pm from 31 January 2027

PERFORMANCES

18 – 27 February 2027 at 7.45pm

Matinée: Saturday 20 February at 2.30pm

DIRECTOR

Paul Dineen pjdineen@gmail.com 07780 759441

PA

Helen Dunford-Hearn helendunford12@yahoo.com 07984 746259

Scripts available from Helen.

"For once in my life I want to control a man's fate."

Newly married and already disillusioned, Hedda Tesman finds herself confined within a life of polite respectability that offers neither freedom nor excitement. Intelligent, perceptive and dangerously bored, she begins to exert her influence over those around her – a husband absorbed in his work, an aunt devoted to the life she has helped to build, and a household ordered by expectation.

When the brilliant but self-destructive Eilert Løvborg re-enters her world alongside the devoted Thea Elvsted, Hedda recognises an opportunity to shape his fate – and to reclaim something of the courage and freedom she feels she has lost. But as old tensions resurface and Hedda's manipulations deepen, new alliances begin to form and the balance of this carefully ordered world starts to shift. As the

watchful Judge Brack draws ever closer, Hedda discovers that she is no longer in control of the game she has set in motion.

The play will be presented on a traditional proscenium arch stage and set in the late Victorian period.

This production uses Richard Eyre's modern adaptation of Ibsen's text. Although the world of the play remains period, the language is direct and contemporary in feel, and should be spoken with clarity and naturalism rather than in a formal or "heritage" style.

Accents should reflect the character's social background and status. While no accent should be exaggerated or caricatured, a clear sense of class and period will be important.

CHARACTERS AND AUDITION PIECES

Note: Actors may be asked to read additional sections at the audition, and further material may be provided for callbacks. Playing ages are intended as a guide only and may flex considerably depending on the overall cast.

HEDDA TESMAN – female, 20s to early 40s

Intelligent, perceptive and acutely self-aware, Hedda finds herself confined within a life that offers neither freedom nor fulfilment. Restless and unable to reconcile herself to the world she inhabits, she exerts pressure on those around her, testing the extent of her influence and the limits of her control.

Audition Pieces:

Pages 28-30 From "My husband didn't know I was coming..." to "This is between us"

Pages 42-45 From "What hat?" to "...here comes the Professor"

GEORGE TESMAN – male, 20s to 40s

A committed and capable academic, Tesman takes his work seriously and is invested in the future he believes he and Hedda are building together. Warm and well-intentioned, he assumes a shared vision of life, holding firmly to a sense of order and progress that may not be shared by those around him.

Audition Pieces:

Pages 17-21 From "You're not my brother's son for nothing" to "I will call her aunt if I must, but that's as far as I'll go"

Pages 87-88 From "How could he have... died like that" to "If only we can do it"

JUDGE BRACK – male, 30s to 50s

A socially adept and authoritative figure, Brack observes the world around him with clarity and detachment. Recognising the tensions beneath the surface, he places himself carefully within them, exerting influence where it best serves him and maintaining control through charm, insight and quiet pressure.

Audition Pieces:

Pages 42-45 From "What hat?" to "...here comes the Professor"

Pages 69-72 From "I had a special reason for keeping an eye on my guests last night" to "Goodbye Mrs Tesman"

EILERT LØVBORG – male, 20s to 40s

A brilliant and intense academic, Løvborg has recently brought his life under control, channelling his energy into disciplined work. Charismatic and unpredictable, he represents both the possibility of transformation and the ever-present risk of losing it.

Audition Piece:

Pages 53-55 From "Tell me one thing, Hedda" to "Don't... that's enough"

Pages 73-75 From [Løvborg's entrance] to "The future's just a... blank"

THEA ELVSTED – female, early 20s to late 30s

Thea has left her former life behind to pursue a different path, committing herself to the work and life she has helped to create. Open, persistent and emotionally engaged, she brings a quiet but decisive strength, capable of sustaining what others might abandon.

Audition Pieces:

Pages 28-30 From “My husband didn’t know I was coming...” to “This is between us”

Pages 87-88 From “How could he have... died like that” to “If only we can do it”

JULIANA TESMAN (AUNT JULIANA) – female, 40s to 70s

Tesman’s aunt, who has devoted herself to his upbringing and success. Warm, attentive and quietly proud of the life she has helped to build, she brings with her a firm sense of duty and expectation, invested in maintaining a world she believes to be stable and right.

Audition Piece:

Pages 17-21 From “You’re not my brother’s son for nothing” to Juliana’s exit

BERTHE – female, 40s+

The Tesmans’ maid, who helped raise George and has recently joined his new household. Familiar with him but new to this home, she is charged with establishing its order and routine. Practical and observant, she brings a steady, grounding presence while adjusting to the tensions around her.

Audition Piece:

Pages 11-12 From beginning to George Tesman’s entrance