

# *Pippin* Audition Notice

Music and Lyrics by Stephen Schwartz, Book by Roger O. Hirson

## Synopsis

As told by a traveling troupe of actors led by the cunning and charming Leading Player, Pippin is the story of a young prince who is searching for his own "corner of the sky." Pippin returns from university certain that he will find a fulfilling purpose in life. As encouraged by the Leading Player, Pippin dabbles in bloody battle, licentious and lusty sexual entanglements, and savvy political maneuvers, only to discover that true happiness is more complicated than he thought. Pippin is both a humorous allegory about growing up and a dark tale of the danger of false appearances and empty promises.

## Audition Information

Auditions are Thursday, Sept. 14 7:30-11pm and Friday, Sept. 15 2-6pm in Aidekman 75. If you would like to audition, please sign-up for a ten-minute slot on the Aidekman callboard. Please arrive ten minutes before your audition to fill out audition information. If you would like to audition but cannot make any of these times, please contact our stage manager, Selena Groh, to set up another audition time. Callbacks will be held Saturday, Sept. 16 12-5pm in Aidekman 75.

Please prepare either a 1-2 minute contemporary monologue or one of the sides posted on the callboard, and 32 bars of any musical theatre song. Feel free to bring sheet music for accompaniment, and please come dressed ready to dance. We will test your vocal range in the audition. If you are only interested in ensemble, you can choreograph and perform a dance or circus-skill routine instead of a monologue.

## Rehearsal Information

Rehearsals begin with a read through Monday, Sept. 18 7-11pm in Aidekman 75. Rehearsals are Sundays 1-5pm and Monday-Thursday 7-11pm (except Wednesdays are 7-10pm) ending on Tuesday, Nov. 21. Actors cast will not necessarily be called for all of rehearsal every day, but will be expected to be available for all of that time. We will try to accommodate minimal conflicts including classes and other important commitments. All conflicts must be communicated to us on your audition form.

Please note actors cannot be cast in *Kin* or *The Hungry Woman* and also be cast in *Pippin*. Actors may audition for both *Lysistrata* and *Pippin*. If cast in *Lysistrata* as *Lysistrata*, *Time Traveler Then*, *Time Traveler Now*, or *Magistrate*, you may NOT audition for any role in *Pippin*. If cast in *Lysistrata*, as any other role, you MAY audition for *Pippin*, but you will not be eligible for the roles of *Pippin* or the *Leading Player*. If cast in both shows, you will be expected to attend rehearsals for both shows between 11/6-11/12. If you have any questions about this change or would like any

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clarifications about what your commitment may entail, please contact Celia Gittleman at [celia.gittleman@gmail.com](mailto:celia.gittleman@gmail.com) ASAP.

### **Tech and Performance Information**

Load-In/Tech will be Sunday, Nov. 26 to Wednesday, Nov. 29. Actors cast will be expected to be available for all of tech (all day on Sunday and 5-11pm Mon-Wed). Actors will be required to return to campus for load-in by the morning of the last day of Thanksgiving Break (Sunday, Nov. 26). Performances will be 8pm Thursday, Nov. 30 and Friday, Dec. 1 as well as 7pm Saturday, Dec. 2 in Balch Arena Theater.

### **Character Breakdown**

**Pippin (M, tenor)** - The young and confused protagonist of the Leading Player's story, he is longing to find his purpose in life. Naive, innocent, and discontent.

**Leading Player (any, tenor)** - Masterfully charming and manipulative, the ultimate 'ring leader' of Pippin's story. Obsessed with putting on a great show for the audience.

**Charlemagne (M, baritone)** - Pippin's demanding father and war-hungry King of the Holy Roman Empire.

**Fastrada (F, mezzo-soprano)** - A conniving Queen, she is sexy, smart, and twisted. Dedicated to gaining the throne for her darling son, Lewis.

**Berthe (F, alto)** - Pippin's saucy grandmother. A brassy woman full of wisdom, grace, and sass. She tries to help Pippin and encourages him to live his life to the fullest.

**Catherine (F, mezzo-soprano)** - A widow and mother. A beautiful and hopeless romantic who encounters Pippin at his lowest point and eventually falls in love with him.

**Lewis (M, spoken)** - Fastrada's son and heir to the throne after Pippin. Strong and not bright. The perfect soldier-- buff and brutish. Loves himself.

**Theo (any, tenor)** - Catherine's young child who has grown up without a father.

**Ensemble** - including Charlemagne's army, nobility, peasants, and the Players.

*Identities not represented in the show will not be excluded or discriminated against when casting. Decisions will not be made based on an actor's race, religion, sex, gender identity and expression, national or ethnic origin, age, sexual orientation, or disability.*

**Please don't hesitate to contact us with any questions, comments, or concerns!**

**Kevin Lombard (Director)**

**kevin.lombard@tufts.edu**

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**Olivia Montgomery (Co-Music Director)**

**olivia.montgomery@tufts.edu**

**Matt Davis (Co-Music Director)**

**mdavis17@tufts.edu**

**Selena Groh (Stage Manager)**

**selena.groh@tufts.edu**