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**AUDITION NOTICE**

QUARTERMAINE’S TERMS .by Simon Gray Director : Rodney Figaro - r.figaro111@btinternet.com

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**All dates and locations are subject to change to meet government guidance on social distancing. Updates will be posted on the RSS website and social media channels, or can be obtained by
e-mailing the director.**

**ZOOM events :- To join the Reading or the Auditions you will need to register, in advance, with the individual code given below for each. After registering your name and e-address you will be sent a new code which will allow you to join the event at the given time.**

**READING :** **Monday, January 18th**  at 7.45p.m. A **ZOOM** event
. Register at shorturl.at/qBIY7 *NB 3rd digit after / is upper case “ i ”*

**AUDITIONS :** **Monday, January 25th**  at 7.45p.m. A **ZOOM** event
. Register at shorturl.at/dDNO0.
Those intending to audition *MUST* complete and return an Auditions Application form - see foot of page overleaf\*.

**PLAYING DATES :** **Saturday, April 17th - Saturday, April 24th, 2021**

**REHEARSALS :** Rehearsals - initially via **ZOOM** - from Sunday, February 21st - thereafter four times a week - Tuesday, Thursday & Friday evenings and Sunday afternoons. A date for moving into the Theatre will be decided at a later time. Note: No actor will be scheduled for every rehearsal until later in the process.

**THE PLAY** Regarded as Simon Gray’s masterpiece, “QUARTERMAINE’S TERMS” chronicles several years in the lives of a group of lecturers at a Cambridge School of English for Foreign Students. Set entirely in the common room, it is sadly, thoughtfully, hilariously funny with bravura opportunities for all seven actors
(M5 – F 2).

**CHARACTERS** All are tutors at the school during the nineteen-sixties. Members of the educated middle-classes. N.B. All age indications given are approximate - and negotiable.

**St John Quartermaine** St John (pronounced “*Syngen*”) is one of life’s innocents. Described as - drifting through life without allowing the real world to impinge upon him. Destined to be a mediocre teacher - and failing at that. In a world of his own and sublimely unaware of the passions circulating around him. Age anywhere between mid-thirties and mid-fifties.

**Anita Manchip**  Bright and clever, in her early ‘thirties, married to a serial adulterer and subconsciously aware of it, but not allowing herself to acknowledge the fact. Often bravely smiling through tears.

**Mark Sackling** In his thirties. Aspiring but failing novelist whose wife has just left him. Somewhat overstrung and nervy, he starts the play close to a nervous breakdown, but stabilises with time.

**Eddie Loomis** The joint principal of the school. Elderly at the opening of the play, his health and ability to manage the business decline towards the end. Affable, kindly and “old-fashioned”. Playing age is mid-seventies to eighties.

**Derek Meadle** The youngest tutor, probably early “thirties” or younger and in his first job out of teachers training college in Hull. Accident-prone. Starts out timid and unsure of himself, but gains confidence (and abrasions) during the course of the play. A “northern” accent required.

**Henry Windscape** Tweedy, loquacious, highbrow andslightly pompous. Family man, gamely trying to downplay problems at home - approx. mid-forties to fifty. Smokes a pipe and is generous with advice.

**Melanie Garth** Calm and dependable on the surface, stoically bearing the burden of caring for her disabled mother whom she resents and hates. Uncomplainingly enduring her lot until later in the play, when she dramatically unburdens herself. 40-plus and unmarried - carrying a torch for Henry Windscape (see above).

**AUDITION PIECES** - Page references are to the FABER & FABER edition. French’s Bookshop at £9.99 - or contact the director.

**QUARTERMAINE** - pages 40/41 - from “*Oh yes, of course….”* to *“…. what they - they -”*

**ANITA MANCHIP** - pages 80/81 - from “*Oh, it was all a couple of months…”* to “*…the whole thing more bearable”*

**MARK SACKLING** - pages 8/9 - from “*She - she - I was upstairs…”* to *“….proud to be your father.”*

**EDDIE LOOMIS** - page 90 - complete speech “*I saw the lights on……”*

**DEREK MEADLE** - pages 58/59 - from “*Ah yes, Henry, but you see…”* to *“…holiday camps at Hayling Island.”*

**HENRY WINDSCAPE** - page 83 - from “*Oh. Oh good heavens, St John….”* to foot of page

**MELANIE GARTH** - pages 46/47 - from *“She hates me”* to *“…..imagining myself doing something -”*

NB. If time allows, auditionees will be invited to offer a second speech, in addition to that indicated above,
if they wish.

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**\*Audition Application forms can be downloaded from the *ACTING* section of the GETTING INVOLVED page of our web-site -** [www.richmondshakespeare.org.uk](http://www.richmondshakespeare.org.uk) **- and should be returned to the Director at -** r.figaro111@btinternet.com - **or to the Mary Wallace Theatre (address below) clearly marked “AUDITIONS - attn of Rodney Figaro” - not later than January 22nd .**

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**The RSS welcomes diversity and our auditions are open to all. Please be aware that, if cast, you will be expected to become a member of the R.S.S. before the first rehearsal.**

For details on how to join, please contact the Membership Secretary

on (020) 8898 4397 or membership@rss-mwt.org.uk

Membership forms are available on the website - [www.richmondshakespeare.org.uk](http://www.richmondshakespeare.org.uk)

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the Richmond Shakespeare Society, The Mary Wallace Theatre, The Embankment, Twickenham, TW1 3DU