

# Audition Notice

---

## PRODUCTION

## *London Assurance*

Performances	<b>2 - 6 June 2020</b>
Style	Period costume – Farcical Comedy
Author	Dion Boucicault revised by Richard Bean
Director	Ken Walsh
email	stamfordshoestring@gmail.com

## TIMETABLE

Reading	Fri. 13 Dec 2019; 19:45	Rehearsal Room, Stamford Arts Centre	
Audition	Fri. 10 Jan 2020; 19:45	Rehearsal Room, Stamford Arts Centre	
Audition	Fri. 17 Jan 2020; 19:45	Rehearsal Room, Stamford Arts Centre	
Rehearsals Begin	Mon. 9 Mar 2010; 19:45	Rehearsal Room, Stamford Arts Centre	
Technical Rehearsal	Sun. 31 May 2020; time tba	The Theatre, Stamford Arts Centre	
Dress Rehearsal	Mon. 1 Jun 2020; 19:45	The Theatre, Stamford Arts Centre	
First Night	Tue. 2 Jun 2020; 19:45	The Theatre, Stamford Arts Centre	
Last Night	Sat. 6 Jun 2020	The Theatre, Stamford Arts Centre	

## SYNOPSIS

Ludicrous man of mode Sir Harcourt Courtly is tempted away from London by the prospect of making an advantageous match. His intended is Grace, the teenage niece of boisterous Gloucestershire landlord Max Harkaway. Although Sir Harcourt finds Cotswold life bewilderingly uncouth, he takes a shine to the cigar-chomping and alarmingly named Lady Gay Spanker.

Meanwhile, his dissolute son Charles, who likes to present himself to his father as a paragon of rectitude, also heads to Harkaway's rural seat. Calling himself Augustus Hamilton and accompanied by his slippery friend Richard Dazzle, he is soon smitten by Grace and matters rapidly grow complicated.

## CHARACTERS

Character	Playing Age	Character Description	
Sir Harcourt Courtly, cultured 57-year-old fop	45-65	An ageing dandy; a rich, flamboyant society peacock.	
Charles Courtly, his dissolute son	20-30	A heavy-drinking wastrel who changes when he falls for Grace Haraway.	
Dazzle, Charles' equally dissolute companion	20-30	A rough-and-ready Cockney opportunist.	

Max Harkaway, country squire	45-70	Boisterous and jolly.	
Grace Harkaway, Max's 18-year-old niece, betrothed to Sir Harcourt	18-30	A strong-minded, confident young woman.	
Lady Gay Spanker, horse-riding virago	30-50	An enthusiastically lusty horsewoman who hymns the delights of the field. A swashbuckling performance is required.	
Mr. Adolphus "Dolly" Spanker, her ineffectual husband	55-80	Doddery and decrepit, but spirited.	
Mark Meddle, lawyer	40-60	A snooping lawyer, keen to exploit every situation.	
Pert, Grace's maid	18-45	A down-to-earth young woman.	
Cool, Sir Harcourt's valet	30-65	Coldly superior, smooth and cultured. Jeeves comes to mind.	
James, (Simpson), servant to the Harkaways	Any age	Could be female.	
Martin, servant to the Courtlys	Any age	Could be female.	
Solomon Isaacs, moneylender, in pursuit of Charles	Any age	When he finally appears he turns out to be Chinese. A small, but important role.	

**Director's Note** This will be a very fast-paced production which will require great energy from all the cast. I am looking for people who will learn lines quickly, who enjoy developing their characters, and who are capable of great comic-timing.

There will be live music provided by two of our favourite musicians.