

**Audition Notice for**  
**“In Camera”**  
**A Play by Jean Paul Sartre**  
**Directed by Warwick Beazley**

**Performance dates:** 28<sup>th</sup> February to 5<sup>th</sup> March  
**Audition dates:** 7<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> September, at 8pm  
**Scripts available from:** Linda Hall – 0208 668 1382

This is a short play, approximately 1 hour in duration, and will be presented in tandem with Pinter’s Dumb Waiter. It is a one-act play for four actors, and just one set. The Valet appears for a short while only at the beginning. Ages indicated are very flexible. Those wishing to audition should get familiar with the audition pieces referenced overleaf. It is not necessary that you learn them!

The play is a depiction of the after-life in which three deceased characters are punished by being locked into a room together for eternity. All expect to be tortured, but no torturer arrives. Instead they are left to probe each other’s sins, desires, and unpleasant memories, gradually discovering that this is their punishment: they are each other’s torturers. They discover how unsuited to each other they really are. This play illustrates one of Sartre’s most known ideas, that “hell is other people”.

**The Characters**

**The Valet:** Appears only in the opening scene. A butler-type, urbane, patient and courteous, but he has no feeling for the people who pass through his hands. Could be played by any age and either gender, though a senior male seems most appropriate.

**Garcin:** A man consumed by angst and regrets, he wants to retrospectively ‘sort his life out’. Died labelled a coward, but desperately wants to believe that he was not, and very anxious about how he is regarded by his former colleagues. Doesn’t care for either of the two women, and would prefer to be alone in his unhappiness. Age : 35 – 55.

**Inez:** A self-described “damned bitch” , has a very hostile attitude, is callous and cynical about life, and now about death. Knows she was evil, and accepts her present lot, with no longing for things to be different. She is contemptuous about men, Garcin in particular. Preferring women, she attempts to seduce Estelle. Of the three, she is the only one at ease with her fate, having effectively ‘moved on’. Age: 25-40.

**Estelle:** Upper-middle class, attractive, dressed in a pretty ‘garden-party’ way, obsessed with how she looks, and cannot be happy unless she is constantly the object of a man’s desire. She has no self-esteem, only that which she imagines comes from a strong man’s embrace. She is still in denial as to her present situation. Wants Garcin to want and admire her, though it’s not personal. Is scared of Inez. Age : 30 – 50

**Audition pieces** (not essential to learn them, but preferable to be familiar with them)

**Valet with Garcin:** Page 1 from start to page 4, to Garcin’s “ *Very well, you may go*”

**Estelle with Inez :** Page 12 from “*excuse me, have you a glass?*” to page 14 “*You haven’t missed a word of what we’ve said*”.

**Estelle solo:** Page 22, main speech.

**Inez with Garcin:** Page 16 “*that’s so*” to page 17 “*As you say, what matter?*”

**Garcin with Estelle:** Page 24 “*Now then, your lips..*” to page 25 “*They caught me at the frontier*”

**Inez solo:** Page 15 “*To forget about the others?*” to “*fight it out face to face*”