

# **Body Talk**

**By Andy Rashleigh**

## **AUDITION NOTICE**

**Directed by Simon Kennedy**

## **PERFORMANCE DATES**

**Tuesday April 11<sup>th</sup> – Saturday April 15<sup>th</sup> 2023 @ 8pm**

**Saturday 15th Matinee @ 2.15pm**

## **AUDITIONS**

**Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> November 6pm - 7.30pm\***

**Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> November 7.30pm - 9.00pm\***

at the Courtyard Theatre (Please collect children from the Bar)

**\* End time is tbc - if it needs to change, we will send you a text to let you know**

For more information, **including a copy of the script**, please contact: PA Hilary McNevin (Mobile number: 07801-533706 or [hilarymcnevin@gmail.com](mailto:hilarymcnevin@gmail.com))

## **REHEARSALS**

**Commence on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2023**

**Sunday rehearsals at 2pm-5.30pm**

**Monday rehearsals at 7:30pm – 9:30pm**

**Wednesday rehearsals at 7.30pm – 9:30pm**

## **AUDITION PIECES**

For all parts there will be a few pieces that we will use, asking the auditionees to rotate parts.

**Page 59 "Well, Mr Memory.." to Page 61 "Leave me alone"**

**Page 66 "Our boy's Great Grandma..." to page 69 "Right, no automatic pilot..."**

**Page 78 "Don't try and come Mr Clever Clogs..." to page 80 "He'd better be..."**

**Page 82 "We are now leaving the house..." to page 83 "Good morning Mr Postman"**

Those who wish to audition for the part of Germ will be asked to do an additional audition piece which includes Germ's long speeches: **Page 104 "do you think" to page 106 the end of Germ's long speech**

## **Synopsis**

Body Talk is a light-hearted play that takes place in the imagined control centres of two children's bodies. In a similar way to the Disney film "Inside Out" or the Dandy Comic Strip "The Numbskulls" the play follows the story of the various workers inside the heads of these two children as they face the trials and tribulations of being a kid.

Alongside the on-stage action, there is a need to film scenes to be projected onto the stage at various points in the play where the characters need to see "out" of the eyes of their host's body and so as well as rehearsals for the stage action, rehearsal planning and then filming of these sections will all take place ahead of the show run.

The play has been specifically selected because of its accessibility to youth theatre members of all ages but also because of the large variety of roles, both on and off stage. You will notice that alongside the normal list of on-stage roles below, there is also a list of off-stage responsibilities. I encourage children who are prepared to work hard and learn the ropes on these roles to express their interest in the same way you would for an on-stage role. Once the on-stage roles are cast we will look to pair those who expressed interest with an adult mentor with the ambition being, where possible, for the youth theatre member to take on that role for the shows (supervised and supported by their mentor). These roles are very important and are a great opportunity for the right child but it should be made clear that it will involve dedication and their work will not always be alongside the cast.

## **Characters (On Stage):**

**Although the characters do have their own personalities, these are quite flexible and so we may ask auditionees to read / offer parts that they might not be expecting**

### **Braino**

The leader of the Bods controlling our boy. Braino keeps the other bods in line and will do anything to help our boy.

### **Moutho**

Speaks into a microphone to control the voice of our boy.

### **Tummo**

In charge of food and digestion. Tummo controls a team of bods further down the body

### **Artlungs**

Artlungs spends almost all their time on their pumping machine which keeps the heart and lungs of our boy going. They are frustrated and bored of their job and want to move to another department.

### **Mr Memory**

In charge of keeping all our boy's knowledge. The whole story revolves around the fact that Mr memory is losing his memory and can't remember anything – including the revision for our boys geography test.

### **Germ**

The "baddy" of our story. The Germ invades the bodies and causes trouble. They're very proud of their skills and the long family history of causing nasty illnesses

## **Brainia**

The leader of our girl. The rest of the bodettes gang up on Brainia and they've had enough of it.

## **Ms Memory**

The memory banks of our girl. No problems here like in our boy – Ms Memory is fully prepared for the geography test.

## **Mouthia**

The very polite, well-spoken voice of our girl but with a nasty side behind the scenes

## **Other roles: White Corpuscle 1 & 2, Bottom ender, Narrator**

## **Video Roles: Tidge, Mudge, Mum, Mummy, Postman, Old Man, Teacher, Headteacher**

## **OFF-STAGE ROLES:**

**Stage Manager:** A high responsibility role that makes sure that all departments are running smoothly during the show. Also in charge of any set that comes on or off the stage and does the loudspeaker announcements to the cast and audience

**Lighting Operator:** Working with the lighting designer, you will sit in the control room at the back of the theatre and, following a script, will change the lights on the stage during the performance

**Sound Operator:** Working with the sound designer, you will sit in the control room at the back of the theatre and, following a script, will play music and sound effects during the performance

**Costume Assistant:** You will help to look through the theatre's clothing stores and to sort and organise cast costumes

**Props assistant:** You will help to search through the theatre's prop stores and organise the props on side of stage to make sure the cast have what they need

**Front of house assistant:** You will help the front of house team in various jobs from taking people's coats in the cloak room to selling programmes or ice creams.

**Prompt:** A very important role. You will attend later rehearsals to see how the play runs and then sit in the wings during the shows listening out for if anyone forgets their lines. If they do, you will say their line from the side of the stage to help remind them.

**Hair and Make Up assistant:** You will come to the start of every show and help the team do hair and make up for the cast.