

Urinetown: the Musical - Character Outlines

Whilst there are several lead character roles, every player is required to characterize an individual role. Each will be identified by a distinguishing costume and/or prop etc. Some players will be asked to play more than one role. Everyone will sing, act and dance. Indeed, the Company will be very busy throughout the entire show. Hence, energy, hard work, flexibility, teamwork, and a willingness to extend one's skills will be required of the relatively small but dynamic cast.

The following is a guide and indicator only:

Officer Lockstock

Age look: 35 – 55 range. Vocal Range: Bass/ Baritone Height: preferably tall

Narrator of the show and leader of the Police. A figure of authority. A key role. Strong acting ability and excellent comic timing are required. Some dance skills required. Prominent in 5 songs

Little Sally

Age look: 16 – 25 Vocal Range: Mezzo Soprano Height: Short

A poor street urchin who is also co-narrator of the show. Needs to be smallish in stature because she is the 'child' of the cast. Needs to look young (15 – 20) in stage age. A key role. Strong acting - singing ability and comic timing. Medium dance skills required. Prominent in 3 songs

Bobby Strong

Age: 23 – 30 look. Vocal Range: Tenor Height: Medium – Tall

The "Hero" of the show and the assistant-custodian at the poorest urinal in town – Amenity#9. Bobby is the leader of the poor through the rebellion and is not afraid to stand up for what he believes in. Falls in love with Hope. A key role. Strong acting - singing ability and good comic timing. Medium dance skills required. Prominent in 8 songs

Hope Cladwell

Age: 18 – 25 look. Vocal Range: Soprano Height: Medium

Cladwell's good hearted daughter. Fresh out of the Most Expensive University of the World and about to work at her father's company. A naïve girl who believes there is good in everyone. Ditzzy and has only gotten through life on her father's money – but she doesn't know it. Falls in love with Bobby. Key role. Strong acting - singing ability and good comic timing. Medium dance skills required. Prominent in 6 songs.

Caldwell B Cladwell

Age: 40 – 60 Vocal Range: Baritone or Bass Baritone Height: Medium - tall

CEO of Urine Good Company (UGC). Greedy and vicious villain of the show. Key role. Strong acting - singing ability and good comic timing. Minimal dance required. Prominent in 5 songs

Penelope Pennywise

Age: 40 – 60 range. Vocal Range: Alto Height: medium to tall

Can be younger in real age but will be made up to look older. The proprietor of **Public Amenity Number # 9**, the poorest urinal in town. A Black sheep, She betters her public standing by leaching onto Gladwell. She is always searching to find a quick buck and is ruthless in her attack. Harbors a secret! A gutsy female character. Strong acting - singing ability and comic timing. Medium dance skills preferable. Prominent in 5 songs.

Senator Fipp

Age: 40 – 60 Vocal Range: Bass Height: Short-medium

A corrupt Senator who hides all his crimes through politics. A creepy character who seems to lurk in all the wrong places. Strong acting, minimal singing skills and good comic timing. Minimal dance required. Prominent in 3 songs

Mr McQueen

Age: 30 – 60 look Vocal Range: Tenor Height: Short-medium

Gladwell's head lackey – a flamboyant character! He is always following in Gladwell's footsteps. Too weak too step out of the shadow. Has a secret. Strong acting, minimal singing skills and good comic timing. Minimal dance required. Prominent in 3 songs.

Hot Blades Harry

Age: Open Vocal Range: Tenor Height: medium -tall

A dangerous and unpredictable man- a sadist! He is poor and frequents **Public Amenity Number # 9**. Strong acting - singing ability and comic timing. Medium dance skills preferable. Prominent in 3 songs.

Little Becky Two-Shoes

Age: 18 – 25 look. Vocal Range: Soprano Height: Short

A young, pregnant crippled woman. She is poor and frequents **Public Amenity Number # 9**. Strong acting - singing ability and comic timing. Medium dance skills preferable. Prominent in 3 songs.

Soupy Sue

Age: Open Vocal Range: Soprano Height: Medium

An affectionate, poor woman in the gang who frequents **Public Amenity Number # 9**. Strong acting - singing ability and comic timing. Medium dance skills preferable. Prominent in 2 songs.

Tiny Tom

Age: 20 – 25 Vocal Range: Bass or Baritone Height: tall if possible.

A confused man-boy. He is poor and frequents **Public Amenity Number # 9**. Strong acting - singing ability and comic timing. Medium dance skills preferable. Prominent in 2 songs.

Robby The Stockfish

Age: Open Vocal Range: Baritone Height: medium - tall

A poor rebel who frequents **Public Amenity Number# 9**. Strong acting - singing ability and comic timing. Medium dance skills preferable.

Billy Boy Bill

Age: Open Vocal Range: Tenor Height: Medium

A poor rebel who **frequents Public Amenity Number # 9**. Strong acting - singing ability and comic timing. Medium dance skills preferable. Prominent in 2 songs.

Joseph 'Old Man' Strong / UGC Executive

Age: 40 – 60 look. Vocal Range: Tenor Height: Tall

Bobby's rebellious father. Bobby gets all his strength from his father and they have a close relationship. Strong acting, medium singing skills and comic timing. Minimal dance required. Doubles throughout the show.

Josephine ' Old Ma' Strong

Age: 40 – 60 look. Vocal Range: Mezzo Soprano Height: Short

Bobby's strong-willed mother. She is a poor woman who frequents **Public Amenity Number# 9**. Strong acting - singing ability and comic timing. Medium dance skills preferable. Prominent in 4 songs.

Officer Barrel

Age: 35 – 55 Vocal Range: Bass Height: Short or medium - preferably tubby.

Officer Lockstock's right hand 'man'. He is his partner in all things criminal. He has a secret! Strong acting - singing ability and comic timing. Minimal dance skills required. Prominent in 3 songs

Cladwell's Secretary / UGC Executive

Age: 25 – 50 look. Vocal Range: Soprano Height: medium – tall

Caldwell B Cladwell's Head Secretary. Prim and proper in nature and look. Straight – laced. Strong acting - singing ability and comic timing. Minimal dance skills required.

Mrs Millenium / UGC Executive

Age: 25 – 50 Vocal Range: Soprano Height: medium – tall

One of Cladwell's lesser lackeys. Office worker who aspires to be Cladwell's Head Secretary. Strong acting - singing ability and comic timing. Minimal dance skills required.

Dr. Billeaux / UGC Executive

Age: 25 – 50 Vocal Range: Bass or Baritone Height: medium – tall

A scientist for Urine Good Company. Typical "crazy" stereotypical scientist. Strong acting - singing ability and comic timing. Minimal dance skills required. Prominent in I song.

Police/ UGC Executives x 5 – 3 Males & 2 Females

Age: Open Vocal Range: Various Height: Open

Will be featured as Policemen / Policewomen and UGC Executives in the first and second Acts. Main roles will be a strong ensemble support base for Lockstock and Barrel and ensemble support for the UGC Scenes. Strong acting - singing ability and comic timing. Minimal dance skills required.

Characterization:

Urinetown is above all a parody and a comedy. In essence characters are seriously silly or more accurately, earnestly, seriously silly!! Not withstanding this description, the art of acting is to make the character as believable as possible. Indeed, this is the comedy of the show. Gesture, movement, facial expression are important tools to do this along with impeccable timing. *Urinetown* will stand or fall on this ability to be 'seriously funny' – to produce theatre of the absurd rather than absurd theatre. This ability to present each of the characters in this way is the key to the singing, choreography, and general movement on stage.

Further information on characterization can be obtained from the Director.