



AUDITION INFORMATION



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Tauranga Musical Theatre is very excited to be staging *The Last Five Years* in November 2022!

Synopsis: The Last Five Years

Drama Desk award-winner *The Last Five Years* is Jason Robert Brown's intimate window into a couple's doomed marriage. Cathy, a struggling actress, and Jamie, a budding novelist on the brink of wild success, are 20-somethings in New York who meet, fall in love, marry, and divorce over the span of five years. Cathy tells the story from the end of their marriage; Jamie begins from when they first meet. As the musical unfolds, Cathy moves backward in time to the beginning of the relationship as Jamie moves toward the end; they meet only once, in the middle, at their wedding. Since its Off-Broadway premiere in 2002, Brown's funny, poignant, and devastatingly honest two-person production has enraptured audiences around the world with its spellbinding and emotional score and libretto.

A full synopsis is located at the end of this audition pack.

Performance season

11 November 2022 to 26 November 2022 – Westside Theatre, Tauranga

Production team

Director: Phillie Holmes

Vocal Director: Jan Beets

Auditions

Wednesday 17 August 2022	From 5:30pm	Open Vocal Auditions
Saturday 20 August 2022	From 5:30pm	Open Vocal Auditions
Saturday 20 August 2022	From 6:30pm	Call backs

Audition bookings are now available to be booked online at the following booking link:

<https://go.oncehub.com/TheLastFiveYearsAuditionsTMT>

Please only book an audition for Saturday night if you are unavailable for auditions on Wednesday 17 August.

Audition slots will be 15 minutes per person.

Catherine (Cathy) Hiatt

- Female, Mezzo Soprano, stage age 20's.

Audition Songs:

- "Still Hurting", and "I Can Do Better Than That" (from "You don't need to get a haircut" to the end); and
- We would also like to see a one minute cut of another song from the show – your choice!

Jamie Wellerstein

- Male, Tenor, stage age 20's.

Audition Songs:

- "Moving Too Fast", and "If I Didn't Believe In You"; and
- We would also like to see a one minute cut of another song from the show – your choice!

Please prepare the two songs required for your chosen role as well as the one minute cut of another song from the show.

Please do not be offended if you do not get to sing all your prepared vocals. You may not be required to sing both songs in full. It does not mean you are not being considered. The panel will be aiming to keep to time and are also keen to see the number that you have picked yourself. Please do not present a number from another show.

You will be auditioning before a panel consisting of the director, vocal director, and a committee representative from Tauranga Musical Theatre.

Auditions will take place at Westside Theatre (Tauranga Musical Theatre), 141 Seventeenth Avenue, Tauranga. Please head directly to the Green Room.

Backing tracks are located at the following link:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1yelnGnSTKPD0vW2iXAA0iT6K0O5Z0dh?usp=sharing>

Call backs

Please be prepared for the possibility of a call back. Call backs will take place on the evening of Saturday 20 August 2022. This may be a group call back. The call back song is "The Next Ten Minutes".

Getting a call back does not guarantee a role. Please ensure that you have entered a contact telephone number on your audition application form where we can easily reach you during the audition dates.

Production expectations

Your participation in this production requires your undivided attention and commitment in order to ensure a production of the highest possible quality, of which TMT are proud. You should not audition if you cannot commit 100% to this production.

If you have any other commitments (personal or work) that may impact on your ability to attend rehearsals or any performances, please let us know on your audition application.

Casting announcement

Performers will be notified by email or phone of the outcome of their audition as soon as possible following casting. Feedback will not be given. A cast announcement will be subsequently made on the Tauranga Musical Theatre media channels.

All cast and crew and considered to be goodwill ambassadors for Tauranga Musical Theatre and for the show and we expect all cast and crew to meet that responsibility both in person and online.

Other information

All involved in this production will need to become a financial member of Tauranga Musical Theatre, and are required to agree and adhere to a code of conduct that covers health and safety, personal wellbeing, and responsibilities to fellow cast and crew members.

Please direct any queries that you may have to Jeremy Sparrow (jsparrow@tmt.org.nz).

Tauranga Musical Theatre
1 August 2022

FULL SYNOPSIS

Cathy and Jamie's relationship has lasted five years. As the story begins, Cathy is at the end of the relationship while Jamie is at the beginning. With inter-cutting scenes, we watch Jamie move forward in time as Cathy moves backward ("Still Hurting").

Cathy has just found a note from her husband, Jamie, signifying the end of their marriage. While she still struggles with their break-up, she feels that he has easily moved on without her.

Five years prior, Jamie has just met Cathy. He is soaring from the high of it. He recounts his past relationships, feeling as if he's been waiting for her all of his life ("Shiksa Goddess").

Cathy (moving backwards) is hopeful for the healing of their marriage. Jamie has come to meet her in Ohio, where she has been working as a performer ("See I'm Smiling"). She believes that he will see her show and they will be able to spend time together. Although it's her birthday, she is let down when he has to leave earlier than expected for a party back home.

After their first date, Jamie has made a phone call to a potential literary agent – a contact made through his college professor. Unbelievably, this agent seems interested in his work. He is 23 years old. Soon his career begins to soar, and Jamie decides that he wants to move in with Cathy. His life is moving at top speed, but no matter; he's living the way that he wants ("Moving Too Fast").

Catherine's career is struggling. She's been turned down by a theatrical agent. As she waits patiently during a book signing of Jamie's, someone asks her what it's like to be married to a famous author. She expresses how she rides out his manic writing spells, where he completely shuts her out emotionally, then suddenly lets her back in ("I'm a Part of That").

It's their second Christmas together, and Jamie reads a story he wrote for her ("The Schmuel Song"). It is intended to inspire her to go out and pursue her dreams of becoming an actress. He tells her to quit her day job and go and be happy. He also tells her how lucky he is to be in love with her.

Cathy has gotten a summer stock job in Ohio. The situation is less than desirable, but she's trying to make the most of it. Meanwhile, Jamie is back in New York, his latest book a bestseller. Cathy writes a letter to Jamie as she anxiously awaits his visit ("A Summer in Ohio").

Jamie is alone, prepping himself to propose to Cathy. She appears in her wedding dress and meets him at the altar. Physically together for the first time during this show, they exchange vows and promises of an undying love ("The Next Ten Minutes").

Jamie, now married, begins to feel the temptation and attraction of other women whom he meets at parties. His success has made him the center of attention and, though he feels the pull, he loves Cathy and believes his marriage will remain strong ("A Miracle Would Happen"). He calls Cathy, who is out of town working, and promises to meet her as soon as he can escape his publisher. Cathy has just auditioned for and gotten another job ("When You Come Home to Me").

Cathy shares with her father the stress and difficulty of daily auditioning and daily rejection ("Climbing Uphill"). At another audition, she flounders as a million different things about her life with Jamie race through her head. She is determined, however, to have her own career and not live in the shadow of her now-famous husband. Jamie is doing a reading at a bookstore. The passage he reads is a metaphor for Cathy's drive and the feeling of his isolation from her.

Jamie is in the middle of a fight with Cathy. He has just gotten a book published and wants her to go to the party the publisher is throwing for him. She refuses. He doesn't feel supported by her and does not understand why she is angry ("If I Didn't Believe in You").

Cathy is driving Jamie to meet her parents. She is happy and excited, talking about her disappointments of the past in contrast to her bright future with him ("I Can Do Better Than That").

Jamie wakes up beside another woman. He knows that he must go see Cathy in Ohio. Fighting panic and a feeling of inevitability, he admits to the other woman that he has fallen in love with her ("Nobody Needs to Know").

Cathy floats on air at the end of her first date with Jamie. They have shared their first kiss, and she wants the magical moment to last forever. She bids him goodbye until tomorrow. At the same time, Jamie ends their relationship. He simply bids her goodbye.