

# SUDDENLY

A SHORT NEW MUSICAL

## AUDITION BRIEF

DHB Theatrical announce auditions for the world premiere production of the new Australian short musical, **SUDDENLY**.

### Originate a role in a unique theatrical experience.

This production is a hybrid of a short film and live theatre. It will be staged with no physical audience, in November 2020, and filmed by an award winning cinematographer, for **free** online global distribution with a release this coming summer.

**SUDDENLY** is a contemporary musical with a pop/rock score, telling the story of a tested relationship between a mother and daughter. It reminds us of what's truly important in life; family, appreciation, and forgiveness.

## CREATIVE TEAM AND BACKGROUND

**SUDDENLY** features a book and direction by **Dean Gild** and **Jordie Tomas**, with music and lyrics by **Jordie Tomas**, arrangements and orchestrations by **Ned Wright-Smith**, and choreography by **Mia Brown**.

After creating the international award winning short film *"In My Head"* (2018), featured in 8 global film festivals, across Australia, the US and Europe, and with a background in musical theatre and live performance, Dean Gild (Producer) is passionate about bringing this original musical to the stage and screen with a team of highly talented and experienced young industry professionals. He is proud to present the incredible new work of his collaborators, Jordie Tomas, Ned Wright-Smith, Mia Brown, and more, each of whom have extensive experience and expertise in their craft.

The concept of the show derives from the specific intention to amplify the positivity and intrinsic goodness within people and familial relationships, which are elevated through mutual understanding and acceptance. The unique pop sound of **SUDDENLY**'s music and lyrics, is integral to the storytelling and the contemporary, relevant, and realistic characters of this production.

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## THE PRODUCTION

**SUDDENLY** differs from traditional forms of musical theatre, due to its short time frame of roughly 20 minutes, and that it will exist solely as a filmed performance. This allows for a fully realised and beautiful execution of a new Australian work, staged at the premium Besen Centre Theatre.

The characters of **SUDDENLY**, are crafted to be complex and multi-dimensional, allowing them to powerfully express their opinions, and voice their concerns, yet ultimately rediscover respect, empathy and compassion for each other, in order to focus on strengthening their relationships and improving their lifestyle.

The numbers in the show are entirely grounded in the pop musical theatre score. The ensemble of this production are integral to the emotion, and crafting of the environments within the story.

### Important Note;

This is an unpaid / volunteer opportunity only. The entire creative team and crew are also working on an unpaid / volunteer basis. We are focused on developing a production that allows everyone involved to explore, experiment, and entertain. We are dedicated to creating opportunities for current professionals and upcoming talents to gain experience, and enhance their craft and their careers, while working on a brand new piece of Australian musical theatre that will be distributed globally online. We hope that this production can offer an opportunity for you to continue doing what you love throughout this 'intermission' of live theatre.

## SUBMISSIONS

All application submissions should be made via [suddenlymusical.com/audition](https://suddenlymusical.com/audition)

Please submit a current CV and colour headshot.

All CV's must list the age and vocal range of the performer.

Submissions will only be accepted from current residents of Melbourne, Australia.

**Deadline for submissions is 5pm, Wednesday 19 August 2020**

**Auditions** are by invitation only, and will be conducted via "self-tape" video submission.

Those invited will be provided with access to the audition material which will be made available via online link. This will consist of either a short excerpt of a pop song of your choosing, and/or a dance showreel, dependant on character/ensemble requirement.

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## REHEARSAL DATES

*Please note all dates are subject to change with COVID-19 local government restrictions and advice.*

A maximum commitment of **8 rehearsals** in **late October / early November**.

Flexible dates; dependant on cast and theatre availability due to COVID-19.

Wednesday evenings (5pm - 8pm)  
and Sunday mornings (10am - 2pm).

## PRODUCTION DATES

*Please note all dates are subject to change with COVID-19 local government restrictions and advice.*

**2 Days in Late November // TBC** (10am - 2pm);  
Tech / Dress / Film

## COVID-19 SAFE

The health and safety of all those involved with **SUDDENLY** are paramount. DHB Theatrical is developing COVID-19 Safe plans, which are compliant with relevant government directions and guidelines, to ensure that activities can proceed safely.

## SYNOPSIS

A stretched relationship between a mother, Lindsay, and her daughter, Max, reaches its breaking point, pushing Max to leave. Following her into the subway, the pair find themselves in seperate carriages of a train which experiences an engine failure, causing a complete halt.

Unaware of how long they'll be trapped; they are forced to confront the issues which are causing their rift, by reflecting on their past, their innate insecurities, and personal struggles.

**SUDDENLY** is a short new contemporary musical that foregrounds the importance of strong familial relationships, the power of confronting your past traumas, and acts as a reminder to appreciate what, and *who*, you have.

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## CASTING BRIEF

### MAX

Female, 18 - 20s, any ethnicity.

Max is feisty, passionate, and won't back down from an argument. When Max finds a letter from her estranged father, the ensuing argument with her mum pushes her to run away.

Whilst Max is very strong-minded, she learns the importance of taking a step back and accepting that everyone has insecurities and challenges of their own.

**Vocal Requirements:** Excellent singer. Must have a high belt with a pop tone.

**Movement Requirements:** Comfortable with MT and contemporary movement.

### LINDSAY

Female, *playing late 30s\*\**, any ethnicity.

Above all else, Max's mum, Lindsay is protective of her child, perhaps to a fault. She is a hard working single parent, but it's sometimes impossible for her to handle everything at once.

Lindsay is plagued by the abandonment of Max's father, and these mixed emotions strike through her facade of strength, and the manifestation of her insecurities cause her to panic.

**Vocal Requirements:** Excellent singer. Must have a high belt with a pop tone.

**Movement Requirements:** Comfortable with MT and contemporary movement.

*\*\*open for younger artists to play.*

### HARRY:

Male, 18 - 20s, any ethnicity.

An old friend of Max, who finds himself stuck in the same carriage as her. Harry lives a seemingly comfortable and well-off life, yet internally, he feels as though he lives in isolation from his parents and family. He finds himself wishing he had a little less freedom than he's been afforded, and provides Max with a new perspective of her situation.

**Vocal Requirements:** Excellent singer. Tenor with a dynamic pop sound.

**Movement Requirements:** Comfortable with MT and contemporary movement.

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## DANCE ENSEMBLE

Male, Female, or Other, 18 - 30s, any ethnicity.

Ensemble dancers should be confident in their contemporary dance ability, and comfortable with aspects of hip hop. They should also have a minimum of 4 years studio experience.

**Vocal Requirements:** Comfortable in pop / MT style.

## ENSEMBLE (EXTRAS)

Male, Female, or Other, 18+, any ethnicity.

The 'extras' ensemble should be comfortable actors, portraying various ensemble characters throughout the production. This may include; train passengers, and city people.

**Vocal Requirements:** Comfortable in pop / MT style.

## Community and Inclusivity

DHB Theatrical is committed to colour inclusive selection and casting in all performances and project endeavours. We connect with people of all backgrounds, identities, and ethnicities, to encourage participation in the arts as audiences, performers and learners. We strive to treat each other as equals while respecting our diversity, and engender partnerships with inclusivity with integrity.

**For more information about SUDDENLY, please contact:**

**Dean Gild (Producer)**

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