

RENT

SHOW INFORMATION PACK

Buzz Theatre, Woking
28 - 30 May 2026

Book, Music and Lyric
Jonathan Larson

Musical Arrangements
Steve Skinner

Original Concept/Additional Lyrics
Billy Aronson

Music Supervision and Additional
Arrangements
Tim Weil

Dramaturg
Lynn Thomson

RENT was originally produced in New York by New York Theatre Workshop and
on Broadway by Jeffrey Seller, Kevin McCollum, Allan S. Gordon
and New York Theatre Workshop

This amateur production is presented by arrangement with Music Theatre International
All authorised performance materials are also supplied by MTI www.MTIShows.co.uk

AUDITION NOTICE

Hatton Musical Theatre are thrilled to announce that our next show will be ***Rent*** at Buzz Theatre, Woking in May 2026.

Set in the East Village of New York City, *Rent* is about falling in love, finding your voice and living for today. Winner of the Tony Award for Best Musical and the Pulitzer Prize for Drama, ***Rent*** has become a pop cultural phenomenon with songs that rock and a story that resonates with audiences of all ages.

The nature of this show requires a diverse cast of all ages who are strong singers and accomplished actors. We expect all parts to require a basic level of dance ability with some principal parts and the ensemble requiring more advanced skills.

Please read this document to find out how you can be part of the show.

ABOUT THE SHOW

Based loosely on Puccini's *La Boheme*, Jonathan Larson's ***Rent*** follows a year in the life of a group of impoverished young artists and musicians struggling to survive and create in New York's Lower East Side, under the shadow of HIV/AIDS. The physical and emotional complications of the disease pervade the lives of Roger, Mimi, Tom, and Angel. Maureen deals with her chronic infidelity through performance art; her partner, Joanne, wonders if their relationship is worth the trouble. Benny has sold out his Bohemian ideals in exchange for a hefty income and is on the outs with his former friends. Mark, an aspiring filmmaker, feels like an outsider to life in general. How these young bohemians negotiate their dreams, loves, and conflicts provides the narrative thread to this groundbreaking musical.

A detailed synopsis can be found [here](#).

If you would like to be involved in the show in any other capacity or have any questions please contact us at info@hattonmusicaltheatre.co.uk

MUSICAL NUMBERS

Act I

Tune Up #1 – Mark, Roger

Voice Mail #1 – Mark's Mother

Tune Up #2 – Mark, Roger, Collins, Benny

Rent – Mark, Roger, Collins, Benny, Joanne, and Company

You Okay Honey? – Christmas Caroler, Angel, Collins

Tune Up #3 – Mark, Roger

One Song Glory – Roger

Light My Candle – Mimi, Roger

Voice Mail #2 – Mr. and Mrs. Jefferson

Today 4 U – Collins, Roger, Mark, Angel

You'll See – Benny, Mark, Roger, Collins, Angel

Tango: Maureen – Joanne, Mark

Life Support – Paul, Gordon, Steve, Ali, Pam, Sue, Angel, Collins, Mark, Roger

Out Tonight – Mimi

Another Day – Mimi, Roger, Ensemble

Will I? – Steve and Company

On the Street – Christmas Carolers, Squeegee Man, Mark, Collins, Angel, Homeless Woman, Cops

Santa Fe – Collins, Angel, Mark, Ensemble

I'll Cover You – Angel, Collins

We're Okay – Joanne

Christmas Bells – Christmas Carolers, Saleswoman, Collins, Angel, Mark, Roger, Cops, The Man, Mimi, Benny, Company

Over the Moon – Maureen

La Vie Bohème A – Waiter, Mark, Roger, Collins, Benny, Mimi, Angel, Maureen, Joanne, Mr. Grey, and Company

I Should Tell You – Mimi, Roger

La Vie Bohème B – Joanne, Maureen, Mark, Angel, Collins, and Company

Act II

Seasons of Love A – Company

Happy New Year A – Mimi, Roger, Mark, Maureen, Joanne, Collins, Angel

Voice Mail #3 – Mark's Mother, Alexi Darling

Happy New Year B – Maureen, Mark, Joanne, Roger, Mimi, Collins, Angel, Benny, The Man

Take Me or Leave Me – Maureen, Joanne

Seasons of Love B – Company

Without You – Roger, Mimi

Voice Mail #4 – Alexi Darling

Contact – Company

I'll Cover You (Reprise) – Collins and Company

Halloween – Mark

Goodbye Love – Mimi, Roger, Benny, Maureen, Joanne, Mark, Collins

What You Own – Mark, Roger

Voice Mail #5 – Roger's Mother, Mimi's Mother, Mr. Jefferson, Mark's Mother

Finale A – Homeless People, Mark, Roger, Collins, Maureen, Joanne, Mimi

Your Eyes – Roger

Finale B – Roger, Mimi, Company

CASTING

The nature of this show requires a diverse cast of all ages who are strong singers and accomplished actors. We expect all parts to require a basic level of dance ability with some principal parts and the ensemble requiring more advanced skills. All performers must be over the age of 18.

For various reasons, it may not be possible to cast all who audition.

All auditionees will receive an email once casting has been finalised. Decisions made by the production team are final. Should you require any feedback, please email the team - info@hattonmusicaltheatre.co.uk

PRODUCTION TEAM

Director: Jack Griffin

Choreographer: Lucy Keyser

Musical Director: Anisa Bharmal

PERFORMANCE VENUE

Hatton Musical Theatre will be returning to the **Buzz Theatre** in Woking. Buzz is a 84 fixed seat studio theatre conveniently situated on Level 1 of the Peacocks Centre.

SHOW WEEK DATES

- **Get in:** Sunday 24 May 2026.
- **Technical rehearsal:** Monday 25 May 2026.
- **Dress rehearsal:** Tuesday 26 May 2026.
- **Performances:** Wednesday 27 May - Saturday 30 May 2026 (nightly at 7.30pm with a Saturday matinee at 2.30pm).

It is vital that cast members must attend all these dates.

REHEARSALS

Hatton Musical Theatre meets twice a week at the times/venues listed below.

<p>Monday evenings, 7.30pm-10.00pm St Hilda's Church Hall Stanwell Road Ashford Surrey TW15 3QL</p>	<p>Wednesday evenings, 7.30pm-10.00pm Greenfield School Old Woking Road Woking Surrey GU22 8HY</p>
---	--

Sunday rehearsals will also take place at Greenfield School. A full list of rehearsal dates can be found on our website.

As we're staging the show within an intensive six-week period, a high level of availability will be required. However, we can work pre-planned absences into the schedule.

If you are aware that you are unable to make certain dates, please acknowledge this on your audition form. We will do our best to work around planned absences as much as possible.

REHEARSAL ATTENDANCE

To allow us to rehearse this production to a high standard it is vital that you are honest and upfront about your availability and attend the rehearsals that you are called to. Hatton Musical Theatre reserves the right to recast a performer if required.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Social media campaigns will be running throughout the rehearsal process. Photos and videos will be taken during rehearsals or at pre-arranged photo shoots for promotional purposes. If you have any issues regarding this please contact our team via info@hattonmusicaltheatre.co.uk

MEMBERSHIP AND SHOW FEES

All cast members are also required to pay a show fee of £120.00 to take part in this production. Payment can either be made in full, or in 2 instalments of £60. Payment schedule is as follows:

Payment in full	Payment in instalments
£130.00 by 28 February 2026	£65.00 by 28 February 2026
	£65.00 by 31 March 2026

Full payment must be received prior to starting rehearsals. **All fees are non refundable.**

HOW TO PAY

Bank transfer is the preferred method of payment; however we can accept cash or card reader payments at rehearsals. Details will be provided once the show has been cast.

If you will have difficulty making these payments please email our Secretary via secretary@hattonmusicaltheatre.co.uk. We would like to make this production as inclusive as possible. All correspondence regarding fees will be kept confidential.

TICKET SALES

All cast members are required, and expected, to sell as many tickets for the show as possible. With high production costs, the tickets that each individual sells will go towards the cost of you performing onstage. In order to remain affordable, your individual show fee does not fully cover this cost.

KEY DATES

Date	Event	Time	Venue
Sunday 25 January	Launch night*	6.30pm-8.00pm	Greenfield School
Sunday 15 February	Auditions	6.00pm-9.30pm	Buzz Theatre, Woking
Sunday 22 March	Blocking rehearsal	12.00pm-6.00pm	Greenfield School

**The audition routine will be taught this evening.*

A full list of rehearsal dates can be found on the Hatton Musical Theatre website.

AUDITIONS - SUNDAY 15 FEBRUARY

All cast members must audition to take part in this show, including the ensemble.

Even if you do not want to be considered for any solo ensemble speaking/singing, you must still attend the dance call.

Auditions will take place on Sunday 15 February at BUZZ Theatre, Woking (from 6.00pm).

Please note that auditions for principal roles are closed room. Only the audition panel will be present. If you would prefer, you can bring one other person into the audition room for support.

If you are unable to make the audition date, please email info@hattonmusicaltheatre.co.uk and the team will do their best to find an alternative solution. Please note this may not be possible.

Everyone who wishes to be in the show is required to fill out an audition form on the Hatton website.

Only select **one** part to audition for. The audition panel will consider you for all other roles based on your audition, unless otherwise specified below.

The deadline for audition forms is midday on Saturday 14 February.

Hatton Musical Theatre reserves the right to close the audition form early should we be oversubscribed, so please submit your form as early as possible.

AUDITION TIMETABLE

Please ensure you are available for the times listed below.

Time	Role(s)
6.00pm	Roger Davis Mark Cohen Tom Collins Angel Dumont Schunard Benjamin Coffin III
7.15pm	Dance call - all must attend
7.45pm	Ensemble singing
8.00pm	Joanne Jefferson Mimi Marquez Maureen Johnson

CHARACTERS

Roger Davis

Playing age: 20 to 30

Vocal range: Rock tenor - F2 to A4

A once successful now struggling musician and former drug addict, Roger discovered he had HIV/AIDS in a note his girlfriend left him before she took her own life. His main goal is to write one great song before he dies. He is Mark's roommate and best friend. Often depressed and sullen, Roger battles with being HIV-positive, but he can be expressive and passionate at times. He is reminiscent of Kurt Cobain. The actor playing this role must be a good actor and an excellent singer with a rock edge. Guitar skills are desired, but not essential.

Mark Cohen

Playing age: 20 to 35

Vocal range: Baritone - A2 to G4

A filmmaker and video artist, Mark has left behind his affluent upbringing to pursue his craft. He narrates the show as he films the lives of his friends. He is Roger's best friend and was once Maureen's boyfriend (who left him for Joanne). Knee deep in his own soul-searching, Mark is the typical young artist. Quite a nerdy and quirky character, he is more comfortable viewing the world through his lens than in actively engaging in it. The actor playing this role must be a strong singer and actor. He dances the Tango with Joanne, so good movement skills are also required.

Tom Collins

Playing age: 25 to 40

Vocal range: Baritone - F#2 to A4

A nurturer with a smooth and relaxed disposition, Collins is a gay computer genius, anarchist and liberal professor who was recently expelled from MIT. Former roommate of Mark, Roger and Benny, he is brave enough to allow himself to fall in love with Angel in the knowledge that they are both HIV positive. Collins and Angel's relationship is the heart of the show, as the genuine love and devotion they have for one another brings hope and inspiration to the rest of the group. The actor playing this role must be an excellent singer and actor.

Benjamin Coffin III**Playing age:** 25 to 40**Vocal range:** Baritone - Bb2 to F#4

Married into a wealthy family involved in real estate, Benny is now the landlord of Mark and Roger's apartment building. He had been letting Roger and Mark live in the apartment for free but is now forcing them to pay rent or be evicted. Roger and Mark consider him a yuppie sell-out. His background is intertwined with the other main characters having gone to college with Mark, lived with Roger, Collins, Mark and Maureen and had an affair with Mimi before she dated Roger. Benny traded in his personal morals for power and wealth, but he ultimately realises his friends are more important. The actor playing this role must be a good singer and actor.

Joanne Jefferson**Playing age:** 25-40**Vocal range:** Pop belt - G3 to E5

An activist and headstrong lesbian, Joanne is a Harvard-educated lawyer. Though raised in an affluent, political family, she is committed to helping those less fortunate. Joanne has an insecure relationship with Maureen and struggles not to be jealous of Maureen's flirtatious nature with others. Competent, organised, dedicated, and a bit of a control freak, Joanne loves "margins and discipline" and "makes lists in her sleep." She's happiest when she has control, which happens frequently in her professional life but less often in her personal one. The actress playing this role must be an excellent singer and a good actress. Good movement skills are required as she dances the tango with Mark.

Angel Dumont Schunard**Playing age:** 20 to 30**Vocal range:** High Tenor (with falsetto) - C3 to A4

A drag queen and street percussionist, Angel is outgoing, flamboyant, yet an honest and caring individual. He has a magnetic personality and people are naturally drawn to him. Angel is the most generous and selfless character in the show. He meets and falls in love with Collins and, despite being HIV positive, embraces life and lives each day to the full. Angel succumbs to the disease in Act II and his death is mourned by all of the characters. Collins and Angel's relationship is the heart of the show and the genuine love and devotion they have for one another offers hope and inspiration to the rest of the group. The actor playing this role must be an excellent actor, singer, and mover. Percussionist skills desired but not required. The audition should ideally be done in heels.

Mimi Marquez

Playing age: 19 to 21

Vocal range: strong high belt/mix - Eb3 to E5

A dancer in a strip club, Mimi struggles with her addiction to heroin which has resulted in her contraction of HIV. She is an extremely sexy, optimistic, and likeable character but holds dark secrets. She lives in the same building as Roger and Mark and subsequently falls in love with Roger. She is also Benny's ex-girlfriend. Though Mimi has "lived life", she still sees the world through the eyes of a young woman and intends to make the most of every day. The role requires a strong singer, dancer, and exceptional actor with the ability to convincingly portray the struggles of heroin addiction, sexual promiscuity, and HIV/AIDS, whilst maintaining the optimism of youth. Must be able to play a girl of 19 as sung in "Light My Candle".

Maureen Johnson

Playing age: 20 to 30

Vocal range: Soprano belt - C4 to F5

A zany, bisexual performance artist, Maureen used to live in the loft and is Mark's ex-girlfriend. She recently dumped Mark for her new girlfriend Joanne. Confident, sexy, funny, fickle, and very selfcentred, Maureen is proud of her diva status and sees no reason to change her behaviour to please others. She loves creating conflict, shocking people, and challenging the status quo. She is bold, speaks her mind and is not afraid to take on the establishment and fight for what she believes in. The actress playing this role must be an excellent singer and actress.

Ensemble

The ensemble portrays a wide range of characters including homeless men and women, junkies, parents, vendors, bohemians, police officers, and members of the Life Support Group. Many ensemble members will take on multiple roles throughout the production.

Carollers

Homeless men and women who appear throughout the show, sarcastically singing Christmas carols.

Mrs. Cohen

Mark's stereotypical Jewish mother. Her voicemail messages form the basis of Voicemail #1, Voicemail #3, and Voicemail #5.

Alexi Darling

The producer of Buzzline, who attempts to employ Mark after his footage of the riot makes primetime. Sings Voicemail #3 and Voicemail #4.

Mr. and Mrs. Jefferson

The wealthy parents of Joanne Jefferson. They leave Voicemail #2. Mr. Jefferson is also one of the a cappella singers in Voicemail #5.

Mrs. Davis

Roger's confused mother, who calls in Voicemail #5, repeatedly asking, "Roger, where are you?"

Mrs. Marquez

Mimi's Spanish-speaking mother, who sings in Voicemail #5, wondering where her daughter is.

Mr. Grey

Benny's father-in-law, who wants to buy out the lot.

The Man

A local drug dealer from whom Mimi buys drugs, and whom Roger previously bought from.

Life Support Group

Paul (the facilitator), Gordon, Steve, Ali, Pam, and Sue.

As noted in the script by Jonathan Larson, the names of Life Support Group members may be adapted to reflect individuals known to the cast or production who have died from AIDS or other illnesses.

Squeegee Man

A homeless person who repeatedly chants "Honest living!"

Homeless Woman

Harassed by police and filmed by Mark. She initially shouts at him before asking for a dollar.

Waiter

Waits on the group and has solo lines in La Vie Bohème.

Other Non-Named Roles

Preacher, Seasons of Love soloists, police officers, bohemians, vendors, and additional homeless characters.

We fully welcome performers of all gender presentations for each role and where possible look to adapt the characters as needed to ensure the story and script remain coherent.

Certain roles can be directly reworked with minimal adjustments. However, named roles may require more nuanced adaptation to align with the narrative and character dynamics.

AUDITION MATERIAL

For your audition, you will not need to sing the whole song. A link to the sheet music, with the relevant cuts can be found on the auditions page of the Hatton Musical Theatre website.

We will not have any printouts on audition days so please do print your own copies of whatever you need. Feel free to use an iPad/tablet if you wish.

Please note we are not expecting you to be word perfect for the auditions. We just ask that you come with a knowledge and understanding of the song and show us lots of character!

Character	Audition Pieces
Roger Davis	Your Eyes (b.19 – 43) One Song Glory (b.25-61)
Mark Cohen	Halloween (entire song) What You Own (b.31-62)
Tom Collins	I'll Cover You Reprise (b.14 – 33) Sante Fe (b.78 – 110)
Angel Dumont Schunard	Today for You B (beginning – b.46)
Benjamin Coffin III	You'll See (b.30-51)
Mimi Marquez	Out Tonight (beginning – b.56) Without You (b.45 – 76)
Maureen Johnson	Take Me or Leave Me (b.38-63) Over The Moon "Then a little bulldog entered – "I awoke singing"
Joanne Jefferson	Take Me or Leave Me (b.64-84)
Ensemble singing	Seasons of Love A (b.37-52)

AUDITION FORM

The link below takes you to the audition form.

The deadline for audition forms is midday on Saturday 14 February.

[Click here to access the audition form.](#)

QUESTIONS

If you have any questions after reading this show information pack, please email info@hattonmusicaltheatre.co.uk and one of the team will get back to you.