



August 2021

MAD Play Reading Group: October Production Notice

MAD's Play-Reading Group presents:

Three Short Comedies by A. A. Milne
Directed by Jon Gardner
Produced by Eliot Malumuth

Performance: Saturday, October 16 at 8pm, live on YouTube.

To audition: sign up [here](#) and submit a video by Wednesday, September 1. Please see the audition sides and instructions on the MAD website: <https://www.madtheater.org/> in the Members section. Email the Director, jongreenbelt@yahoo.com for the password.

MAD is proud to welcome participants of all races, ethnicities, and gender identities. We do not tolerate discrimination. All roles are open to anyone of any race, ethnicity, and gender identity.

The three plays are:

1) "The Princess and the Woodcutter"

The King and Queen set a test to determine which of three Princes will marry their daughter. But the Princess and her friend, the Woodcutter, have a different plan.

2) "Wurzel-Flummery"

A Member of the British Parliament receives a bequest of 50,000 pounds, with a very unusual condition attached.

3) "The Red Feathers," an operetta in one act

A traveling group of musicians come across a country home in which a young woman is singing. This play includes several songs which have been set to traditional folk tunes. The songs are all solo, accompanied by recorded piano or fiddle, except for two duets in which the Daughter and the Singer mostly alternate verses.

Cast:

"The Princess and the Woodcutter"

- Princess
- Woodcutter
- King
- Queen
- Red Prince
- Blue Prince
- Yellow Prince

"Wurzel-Flummery"

- Robert Crawshaw, Member of Parliament
- Margaret Crawshaw, his wife
- Viola Crawshaw, his daughter
- Richard Meriton, Member of Parliament, in love with Viola
- Denis Clifton, Solicitor and amateur theater enthusiast
- Maid (bit part)

"The Red Feathers"

- Mother (middle-aged woman)
- Daughter (young woman, sings)
- Talker (middle-aged man)
- Singer (young man, sings)
- Fiddler (woman, any age, plays fiddle on stage)

Actors could be cast in 1, 2 or all 3 plays, depending on auditions.

The three short comedies range from 30 to 45 minutes each; the entire production will last about 2 hours. "The Princess and the Woodcutter" is taken from "Make Believe," published in the book, "Second Plays" by A. A. Milne. "Wurzel-Flummery" and "The Red Feathers" were published in the book, "First Plays" by A. A. Milne. Both books are available from The Gutenberg Project, or the scripts can be obtained from the Director. Audition sides and instructions are available from the Members section of the MAD website; to obtain the password, please email the Director at jongreenbelt@yahoo.com.

There will be about 8 online rehearsals between September 13 and October 14, with some additional work on the songs. The three plays will be presented sequentially together in a single live online performance on Saturday, October 16 at 8pm.

MAD Board Meeting

The next MAD Board meeting will be held on Thursday, September 9th, at 5:30 PM via Zoom. All club members are welcome to attend. We plan to hold our board meetings in 2021 regularly on the second Thursday of the month. Please email madboard@googlegroups.com if you would like the Zoom link to attend.

MAD About Town

Jim Pasquale will appear in the role of Nick Charles in "The Case of the Goofy Groom" episode of the Adventures of the Thin Man series at GAC. The performance will be available on YouTube in mid September.

Where's Dave? **Dave Solomon** has spent a couple of days this spring and summer working again as an "extra," or a background artist; once for the silver screen (a movie) and once for the small screen (a TV series for a major streaming service). Details are currently confidential, but in a few months, if the cutting room floor is merciful and allows one or more of his appearances to pass through the editing process, there may be one or two new shows that could be used to play the "Where's Dave?" game. More information will be revealed in this space as it becomes publicly available. Dave also wants to thank MAD for the fun of being part of the casts of our second and third streamed play readings, "Lady Windermere's Fan" and "Pygmalion" (and he hopes to do more).

Don and Sherry Mitchell will be appearing in a live concert production called "From Paris to Vienna," a collection of musical selections from beloved operettas, on October 8, 9 and 10, at the Rockville Civic Center. For tickets and more information, go to vloc.org.

MAD Update

Longtime MAD member, **John Degnan**, is downsizing and moving from Annapolis to Odenton in early September. He has accumulated two boxes of scripts (both plays and musicals) he is willing to pass on for free to any aspiring MAD directors. Contact John via email at <mailto:mijdegan3rd@gmail.com> if interested.

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