

# DUSTY

THE ORIGINAL POP DIVA

**Director:** Kate Ghent  
**Musical Director:** Mark Oldershaw  
**Vocal Director:** Julianne Jackson  
**Choreography:** Kaitlin West

**SHOW DATES:** 10 - 21 May 2022  
**AUDITIONS:** 20 - 21 Nov 2021  
**GRYPHON THEATRE:** [iticket.co.nz](http://iticket.co.nz)

[To book an audition time online please click here](#)

For further information about the show (cast or production) or if you have any questions please email [kauritheatre@gmail.com](mailto:kauritheatre@gmail.com)

**Book By**  
John-Michael Howson, David Mitchell, Melvyn Morrow

BY ARRANGEMENT with ORIGIN THEATRICAL  
[www.origintheatrical.com.au](http://www.origintheatrical.com.au)

**A KAURI THEATRE COMPANY PRODUCTION**

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## AUDITION INFORMATION

Auditions will take place Saturday 20 and Sunday 21 November 2021 from 9.30am to 5.00pm  
- at Toi Pōneke Arts Centre, 61/69 Abel Smith Street, Wellington. For anyone who can't make that weekend, we will hold extra auditions and possible call backs on Monday, 22 November, from 6.30pm.

You must be aged 18+ to audition. Kauri Theatre Company has a non-discrimination casting policy which is open to everyone. We encourage and welcome members of diverse backgrounds, experiences, ages and abilities to audition for our productions. Please note that this is community theatre, there are no paid roles.

Individual auditions will be approximately 10 minutes but please allow an hour for the full audition process. Please prepare a short piece (2 - 3 minutes) from a song that showcases you, your vocals and characterisation ability. The song does NOT need to be from Dusty the Original Pop Diva. You can either bring a backing track that can be played via Bluetooth, or bring sheet music and an accompanist will play for you. You may also be asked to read an excerpt from the show.

Group movement auditions will be around 15 - 20 minutes long. This will encompass an audition in a group of four. If you are auditioning specifically for a dancer role, you may be required to stay on a little longer.

Please complete the audition form (available on the website) and either bring it with you to auditions or email it to [kauritheatre@gmail.com](mailto:kauritheatre@gmail.com)

### Rehearsals

Rehearsals will be two nights during the week and four hours on Sunday. Currently we are waiting for confirmation from the venue of the availability for our rehearsal days/times so apologies that we can't give you that information. Not everyone will be required at ALL rehearsals - these will be scheduled - however, longer rehearsal times may be required closer to opening. We are anticipating no rehearsal over the Easter break at this stage, however, we may have to rehearse on the Monday night.

If you require any further information or have any questions about auditions, please don't hesitate to contact Production Managers Cheryl Moeau or Bonita Edwards via email [kauritheatre@gmail.com](mailto:kauritheatre@gmail.com)

### COVID-19 HEALTH AND SAFETY PROTOCOLS FOR ALL AUDITIONEES

You will receive an email one week out, advising the health and safety protocols for the auditions in line with the current alert level as at 20 November.

Stay in touch via our Facebook Kauri Theatre Company page <https://www.facebook.com/KauriTheatreCompany>

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## THE DUSTY TEAM

**Director:** Kate Ghent

**Musical Director:** Mark Oldershaw

**Vocal Director:** Julianne Jackson

**Assistant Musical Director:** Kathryn Ennis

**Choreographer:** Kaitlin West

**Director's Assistant:** Lox Dixon

**Production Managers:** Bonita Edwards & Cheryl Moeau

**Set Design & Build Manager:** Rob Romijn

**Lighting Design:** Logan Lockyer

**Assisted by:** Carlos Sierra

**Lighting and Rig Sponsor:** MJF Lighting

(with thanks to Mike Farrand)

**AV Design and Content:** Tanisha Wardle

**Stage Manager:** Ethan Jeffries

**Assistant Stage Manager:** Charlette Potts

**Costume Design:** Polly Crone

**Wardrobe Team:** Mary Jarmulski, Lynda Taylor, Brendan Goudswaard, Makini Calliste, Cathy Yee, Alexandra McLeod, Cheryl Moeau, Bonita Edwards

**Marketing Manager & Programme:** Sharron Pardoe assisted by Sally Pardoe

**Sound Design, FX:** Thomas Perry

**Props Manager:** Cheryl Moeau

**Wigs and Hair Manager:** Merlyn Criscillo

**Make-up Design:** Kate Ghent

**Specialist Make-up Design:** Brendan Goudswaard

**Make-up Sponsor:** Revlon (with thanks to Liz Reilly)

**Ticketing:** iticket.co.nz

## About Kauri Theatre Company

Established in 2017, Kauri Theatre Company is a not-for-profit incorporated society community theatre group based in the Wellington region. Founded by a group of longstanding members of the Wellington theatre community, Kauri Theatre Company stands for:

**Kindness:** Building meaningful, impactful relationships through benevolence.

**Accessibility:** Embracing diversity & inclusivity in all areas of our community and sharing a common passion.

**Unity:** Generosity of spirit through nurturing and sharing skills and talent. Valuing collaborative teamwork as a creative force.

**Responsible Guardianship:** Ensuring safe practice, robust governance, financial sustainability, and endurance.

**Integrity & Quality:** Transparency and respect in all we do. Fostering a culture of professionalism, innovation and excellence in our community.

Our very successful first production was *Bad Girls the Musical* in 2018. This was followed by our second production in 2019 - *The Full Monty* - again a highly successful and popular show and the sell out season of the community theatre premiere of *Shortland Street: the Musical* this year.

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## SYNOPSIS

**DUSTY** tells the story of Mary O'Brien who the world knew as Dusty Springfield. In the 1960s Dusty Springfield takes the entertainment world by storm with a score of hits, a top TV show and a legion of fans. She was the most influential British female artist of the 60s. Known as the White Lady of Soul, she was responsible for bringing the Motown sound to the UK. But the success she wanted is hollow and real happiness eludes her.

In the 1950s, a star-struck, plain and dumpy London schoolgirl imagines she could become a glamorous movie idol. Her parents tell her that her fantasies will never come true and not to dream the impossible dream. But nothing deters her.

Blessed with an amazing voice and talent, she sets out to become a singer and a star.

Soon, plain Mary O'Brien has transformed herself into the blonde pop icon, Dusty Springfield. But while Dusty, the gorgeous blonde star, is the image the world sees, it is an illusion behind which little Mary O'Brien still lives; the alter ego from which Dusty can never escape and who remains with her throughout her life.

In the 1960s, Dusty Springfield takes the entertainment world by storm with a score of hits, a top TV show and a legion of fans. But the success she wanted is hollow and real happiness eludes her. Driven by her sense of perfection, Dusty takes on the world even as she discovers a desperate need to be loved in a way that could cause her career to crash. At the pinnacle of international success, with triumphs in Britain and America, Dusty finds the pressure unbearable. Unable to be what other people expect, and finding the spotlight's heat can burn, she retreats from the world into a dark place.

Finding strength in adversity, Dusty returns to soar to the top. With the world applauding again, she has one more battle to fight.

The World Premiere took place on January 12 2006 at  
The Arts Centre in Melbourne, Australia.

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## MUSICAL NUMBERS

### Act I

Overture

**I Only Want to Be with You** - Dusty

**Yesterday When I Was Young** - Dusty

**When the Midnight Choo Choo Leaves for Alabam'** - Mary and Tom

**Dusty Springfield** - Mary

**Mama's Little Girl** - Mary and Dusty

**Little by Little 1** - Mary and The Lana Sisters

**Seven Little Girls Sitting in the Back Seat** - Al Saxon and The Lana Sisters

**Little by Little 2** - Mary and The Springfields

**Springfields Medley** - The Springfields

**Little by Little 3** - Dusty, Rodney and Peg

**Stay Awhile** - Dusty

**Nothing Has Been Proved** - Dusty and Company

**Dancin' in the Street** - Reno and The Nevadas

**Dancin' in the Street (Reprise)** - Dusty, Reno and Company

**Wishin' and Hopin'** - Dusty and Reno

**My Generation** - Company

**The Look of Love** - Dusty

**Stay Awhile (Reprise)** - Dusty and Company

**The Look of Love (Reprise)** - Reno

**Who Can I Turn to?** - Dusty and Mary

### Act 2

**In the Middle of Nowhere** - Dusty

**I Just Don't Know What to Do with Myself** - Dusty and Reno

**The Windmills of Your Mind** - Dusty

**Son of a Preacher Man** - Dusty

**I Close My Eyes and Count to Ten** - Dusty and Reno

**Soft Core** - Reno and Company

**My Colouring Book** - Kay

**I Think It's Going to Rain Today** - Dusty and Company

**Quiet Please, There's a Lady on Stage** - Dusty and Girls

**What Have I Done to Deserve This?** - Neil Tennant, Dusty, Ensemble

**Heart and Soul** - Dusty, Rodney and Peg

**I Close My Eyes and Count to Ten (Reprise)** - Reno

**All I See Is You** - Dusty and Mary

**You Don't Have to Say You Love Me** - Dusty and Company

**Dusty Megamix** - Company

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## CAST

### DUSTY

An emotional role. The character will develop as the story progresses. Strong acting ability will be required to carry her extremely complex personality. Requires an excellent pop voice that can handle the Dusty Springfield range and style. Very demanding vocally. Sings almost every song in the show. All the songs are in Dusty's original keys. Light Irish accent.  
Range: G below Middle C to Strong Chest C above Middle C.  
Age Range: 20-40 years. Strong acting and vocal ability with good movement.

### RENO

Reno is the lead singer of a female trio "The Nevadas." She has a close relationship with Dusty. Strong contemporary soul voice. American accent.  
Range: A below Middle C to C above Middle C.  
Age Range: 20-40 years. Strong acting and vocal ability with good movement.

### MARY O'BRIEN

Mary is the young, gawky, bespectacled Dusty and is portrayed in the show as a juvenile school girl who takes the journey through Dusty's formative experiences. This character takes on a narrative role and is continually on stage. Strong pop ballad voice. Light Irish accent  
Age Range: 18-25 years. Strong acting and vocal ability with good movement.

### RODNEY

Hairdresser, who is one of Dusty's long time confidantes. Theatrically "camp" and extremely loyal to Dusty through her career. Good at harmonies. English accent.  
Vocal Range: High Pop Baritone to D.  
Age Range: 20-40 years. Good mover.

### PEG

Theatrical dresser. Another of Dusty's closest friends. Good pop voice. English accent.  
Range: A below Middle C to C above Middle C.  
Age Range: 20 - 40 years. Good mover.

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## CAST

### **KAY O'BRIEN (MOTHER) & MR. O'BRIEN (FATHER)**

Typical Irish working class parents. Both with a sense of humour. Actors with comedic timing. Irish accents.

Vocal Range: Kay - Mature ballad voice. Solo song.

Vocal Range: Mr. O'Brien - Basically a non-singing role. Some harmony work. Baritone C to G.

Age Range: 40-50 years. Both roles will possibly be part of the ensemble.

### **TOM - Mary/Dusty's Brother**

He helps arrange early songs and performs as part of her original backing group. Strong vocals.

Vocal Range: Tenor up to G. Light Irish accent.

Age Range: 20 - 35 years. Good movement - also part of the ensemble.

### **COMPANY/ENSEMBLE/DANCERS**

Nevadas, Lana Sisters, Drag Queens, school girls, show girls, Springfields, Al Saxon, Jerry Wexler, Go-Go Dancers, Starlets, etc. with the role of Neil Tennant (Pet Shop Boys) also being cast from the ensemble.

This is an exciting dance and ensemble singing show with lots of intricate choreography in the 60s style. Must be able to carry the vocal demands of the show. The ensemble will also play a variety of small speaking/vocal roles and take on some key backing vocal parts. We may cast strong dancers seperately to the main ensemble. American, Irish and English accents for speaking roles.

Vocal Range: All must be excellent at harmonies and blending.

Age Range: 18+ years

Possibility of a Dusty understudy role.

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