

Stage School Australia is proud to announce
the Young Australian Broadway Chorus production of

RAGTIME

★ THE MUSICAL ★

Book by **TERRENCE MCNALLY** Music by **STEPHEN FLAHERTY** Book by **LYNN AHRENS**

Based on the novel "RAGTIME"
By E.L. Doctorow

Licensed exclusively by Music Theatre International (Australasia).

PERFORMANCE SEASON
Friday 19th - Sunday 28th Jan 2024
Cripps Centre, St Kilda East

THE SHOW

Written by the award-winning composer/lyricist team of Stephen Flaherty and Lynn Ahrens (*Once On This Island*, *Seussical* and *Lucky Stiff*), noted playwright Terrence McNally, and based on E.L. Doctorow's distinguished novel, *Ragtime* is the winner of the 1998 Tony Awards for Best Score, Book and Orchestrations, and both the Drama Desk and Outer Critics Circle Awards for Best Musical and Best Score.

Set in the volatile melting pot of turn-of-the-century New York, three distinctly American tales are woven together -- that of a stifled upper-class wife, a determined Jewish immigrant and a daring young Harlem musician -- united by their courage, compassion and belief in the promise of the future. Together they confront history's timeless contradictions of wealth and poverty, freedom and prejudice, hope and despair, and what it means to live in America.

THE COMPANY

Established in 1984, Stage School Australia runs programmes in Song, Dance and Drama for young people in Melbourne and Brisbane. Previous large scale productions have included acclaimed productions of *Wicked*, *Les Miserables*, *Cats*, and *Spring Awakening*.

For more of our show history, see <https://stageschool.com.au/shows/>



RAGTIMETHEMUSICAL.COM.AU



IMPORTANT DATES

REHEARSAL DATES

Saturday 16th December 2023	10:00am - 6:00pm	Hawthorn
Monday 18th - Friday 22nd December 2023	Between 9:00am - 9:00pm*	SSA Studios
Tuesday 2nd - Saturday 6th January 2024	10:00am - 6:00pm	Hawthorn
Tuesday 8th - Saturday 13th January 2024	10:00am - 6:00pm	Hawthorn
Monday 15th January 2024	TBC	Hawthorn & Theatre

* These days will be split into different call times for different characters and ensemble groupings. Average call length about 6 hours.

TECHNICAL, STAGE & DRESS REHEARSAL DATES

Tuesday 16th - Thursday 18th January	TBC	Theatre
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PERFORMANCE DATES

Friday 19th January	7:30pm	Performance (Preview 1)
Saturday 20th January	2:00pm	Performance (Preview 2)
	7:30pm	Performance (Opening)
Monday 22nd January	6:30pm	Performance
Tuesday 23rd January	7:30pm	Performance
Wednesday 24th January	7:30pm	Performance
Thursday 25th January	7:30pm	Performance
Saturday 27th January	2:00pm	Performance
	7:30pm	Performance
Sunday 28th January	2:00pm	Performance & Bump out

PRINCIPAL CAST PHOTO CALL

Saturday 7th October 2023	1:45pm - 5:00pm**	SSA Studios
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** Specific cast call times TBC

COSTUME FITTINGS

Tuesday 12th - Thursday 14th December 2023	By appointment	SSA Studios
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VENUES:	SSA STUDIOS	Stage School Australia, 23 Allen Street, Coburg
	HAWTHORN	Swinburne Senior Secondary College, Hawthorn
	THEATRE	Cripps Centre, St Kilda East

CONTENT WARNING

Please note this production contains some adult language, racial slurs, simulated violence, along with the depiction of systemic racism, racial violence and historical inequities during the early 1900s. Gun shots, loud music and theatrical haze will be used during the performance.

CASTING

We are actively seeking an ethnically and culturally diverse cast of young performers aged 15+ for this production. (There are several roles for younger children which will be cast at a later date.) The production will depict the broad range of cultures present in New York in the early 20th Century, including characters from the Black community, and European immigrants.

Please note that this production of Ragtime will be contingent upon the production team being able to cast the show appropriately.

We are looking for principal performers who can both sing and act, with strong movement skills, alongside an ensemble of singers who dance and dancers who sing.

CAST SUBMISSION

Performers should submit a self-tape video performing approximately 16 bars (<1 minute) of a musical theatre song. Classic/Golden Age material is recommended, as the singing style of the show leans to legit rather than pop/rock. Your audition can be recorded on a mobile phone, but make sure you can be seen and heard clearly.

Please apply via the website ragtimethemusical.com.au
You will be required to fill out all the fields and to upload your self-tape video there.

Submissions Close: Friday 8th September 2023

AUDITION DATES

Tuesday 12th September	5:00pm - 8:30pm	SSA Studios
Sunday 17th September	11:00am - 5:15pm	SSA Studios

Auditions are by appointment only and will run for approximately 1 hour. Should your online submission be successful, applicants will be contacted to book an audition time.

CALL BACK DATES

Tuesday 19th September	By appointment	SSA Studios
Wednesday 20th September	By appointment	SSA Studios

Auditions will be recorded as part of each member's participation for casting purposes. Any recording made of auditionees during the audition process is for internal use only.

PERFORMER COMMITMENT

Performers cast in the show will be expected to attend all rehearsals (for which they are scheduled) and all performances. Performers with any block out dates during rehearsals should discuss these with the production team before casting is finalised.

Performers will not be required to pay any show fees, but will be required to sell a minimum of 20 tickets to the production. Ticket prices will range from \$33.00 - \$55.00 dependant on performance date (ie. preview/non-preview) and seating (price reserves based on view of the stage.)



CHARACTER BRIEF

Coalhouse Walker Jr. - A proud and talented pianist. A Black man who believes that he can take part in the new America and will be treated fairly. Vocal range G2 - A4

Sarah - Washwoman. Sarah is a young Black woman, beautiful and filled with a strong will to live, fueled by an innocent spirit. Falls deeply in love with Coalhouse after much resistance. Vocal range G3 - F5

Mother - The consummate wife and mother. A kind woman with incredible moral fiber. Refined, intelligent, graceful and open minded. Vocal range G3 - F5

Father - Mother's professionally successful husband. Fancies himself an amateur explorer, he is commanding and attractive. Enjoys being the family breadwinner, a traditionalist. Vocal range A2 - F4

Younger Brother - Mother's younger brother. He is an erratic and passionate soul, a firework waiting to be lit. Influenced greatly by Goldman's teachings. Vocal range B2 - F4

Grandfather - Mother's patrician father. He is a retired professor, and easily irritated by nearly everything. (Doesn't sing solo)

Tateh - A Latvian immigrant. He wears the trials and tribulations of his past on his sleeve, but remains optimistic that he will be successful. Full of genuine drive and heart. He lives for his little daughter. Vocal range Bb2 - F4

Booker T. Washington - Brilliant Black social activist. He is an eloquent and articulate gentleman with no patience for Black Americans leading less than exemplary lives. Vocal range D3 - Eb4

Emma Goldman - Social activist. Originally from Russia, she is a leader, a fearless advocate for the oppressed. Vocal range B3 - D5

Evelyn Nesbit - Beautiful vaudeville performer. Thrust into the limelight after the high profile murder of her lover, the entire world is her stage. Vocal range B3 - D5

Harry Houdini - The famous magician, originally from Hungary. With notable physical ability, he stands as a symbol of the 'American Dream.' Vocal range E3 - G4

Ensemble - a large chorus of singers who dance and dancers who sing, to play a wide assortment of characters populating New York in the early 20th Century.



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Young Australian Broadway Chorus is a division of Stage School Australia
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