



Audition Information

Tuesday, December 11th: 3:30 p.m. – 4 p.m. Informational Meeting, Milburn Choir Room
Wednesday, January 9th: 3:30 p.m. – finish Auditions, Milburn Auditorium
Thursday, January 10th: 3:30 p.m. – finish Dance Call & Call Backs, Milburn Auditorium

****Call Back List will be posted on othschoir.com on Wednesday evening.***

There will be an information meeting on Tuesday, December 11th at 3:30 in the Milburn Choir Room. All those who are interested in participating in the Hunchback are encouraged to attend.

Please **prepare 16 bars of a musical selection of your choice for the audition.** You may sing what you feel comfortable with, but keep in mind it should be in a similar style to the Hunchback. You may sing a song from the show, but are not required to. **Please bring your own sheet music, in the correct key, with your 16 bar selection marked clearly to the audition!** You can easily purchase sheet music, both songs and whole books, online and print it. Do your homework! I also have a few music books in my office you can peruse. There will be a piano accompanist provided for the audition. You may choose to use pre-recorded accompaniment, but you must email me the YouTube link or mp3 by 3:00pm on Tuesday, January 8th if you wish to use it for the audition.

All who wish to be in the show must attend the dance call on Thursday, January 10 at 3:30pm. Call backs will be held afterwards for specific characters. If called back, you will be asked to read from the script and sing for a specific role(s). You may pick up the script readings/musical excerpts from the choir room the morning of callbacks to prepare.

The Hunchback requires not only a full ensemble cast, but also an additional SATB Choir. The Choir will be on stage for most of the show and act as the narrators, but will not be required at all of the staging rehearsals. For those looking to sing great music and to be a part of the show without specific acting, this would be a great opportunity for you.

IMPORTANT: Please do not try out for *HUNCHBACK* if you are not prepared to be at ALL rehearsals. We understand that some of you have jobs, friends, family activities and other extracurricular activities...BUT we will have a large cast and it will be impossible to have a great show unless we have EVERYONE'S cooperation. NO EXCUSES WILL BE ACCEPTED UNLESS THEY HAVE BEEN PREARRANGED PRIOR TO CASTING...this includes family vacations, dental and doctor appointments, and work schedules. YOU MUST SCHEDULE THESE THINGS AROUND THE REHEARSAL SCHEDULE. After you are cast, ONLY EMERGENCIES will be considered. We understand this is a tough policy, but it is necessary to ensure a great production. We will make every effort not to change the rehearsal schedule once it is announced, but you must be FLEXIBLE as things do happen that are out of our control.

SCHEDULE CONFLICTS: ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 9th, YOU MUST BE PREPARED TO TURN IN THE PROVIDED CONFLICT SHEET LISTING ALL SCHEDULE CONFLICTS YOU WILL HAVE DURING THE REHEARSAL SCHEDULE & PERFORMANCE DATES (FROM JANUARY 11 TO MARCH 31). SHOULD YOU BE CAST IN A ROLE, SCHEDULE CONFLICTS NOT LISTED WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED AND THESE ABSENCES WILL BE UNEXCUSED, AND YOU WILL BE REMOVED FROM THE CAST.

A REHEARSAL SCHEDULE will be given out at the first rehearsal, but you should tentatively count on rehearsals running MONDAY through FRIDAY as follows:

<i>January 11 through March 1</i>	<i>3:30 – 5:30 p.m.</i>
<i>March 4 through March 15</i>	<i>3:30 – 6:30 p.m.</i>
<i>March 18 through March 27</i>	<i>3:30 – 9:30 p.m.</i>
<i>March 28, March 29, & March 30</i>	<i>PERFORMANCE DATES!</i>

Full Synopsis

Act One

A company of actors emerges, intoning a Latin chant ("Olim") with the onstage Choir. As "The Bells of Notre Dame" echo throughout the cathedral/theatre, the Congregation narrates the dawn of the Feast of Fools, a day when all – even criminals (or worse, gypsies) – are free to roam the streets of Paris without fear of reprisal. From the pulpit, Dom Claude Frollo, the most powerful cleric in Paris, warns his flock against the wickedness of the festival. In flashback, the Congregation reveals the archdeacon's backstory. Frollo and his brother, Jehan, were taken in as orphans by the cathedral priests. Whereas Frollo thrived under the strict rules of the Church, the much wilder Jehan eventually took up with gypsies and was expelled. Many years passed, during which Frollo ascended through the ranks of the Church until he was summoned one day to his estranged brother's deathbed. Although Jehan rejected Frollo's offer of sanctuary, he did ask his brother to care for his gypsy baby. In grief, Frollo reluctantly agreed to do so and named the deformed child Quasimodo ("half-formed"). Frollo kept Quasimodo secluded in the cathedral bell tower for many years....

Now grown, Quasimodo is the lonely, but staunchly obedient, bell-ringer at Notre Dame. Frollo continues to offer him "Sanctuary" within the confines of the cathedral, but Quasimodo longs to be "Out There," and so he drums up the courage to defy Frollo and sneak out of the tower to attend the Feast of Fools. Down below in the square, Clopin leads the gypsies in their annual takeover of Paris ("Topsy Turvy") just as Captain Phoebus de Martin arrives from the battlefield to assume command of the Cathedral Guard. Looking forward to some "Rest and Recreation" first, Phoebus is disappointed to find himself taking his new position early and reporting to the reproachful Frollo. Both men are instantly captivated by the arrival of the beautiful gypsy, Esmeralda, as she dances in public to the "Rhythm of the Tambourine." The frenzied crowd then joins together to crown the King of Fools ("Topsy Turvy – Part 2"). They choose Quasimodo for the mock honor, but, as Frollo predicted, the people treat him with remarkable cruelty when their celebration of his deformity turns to contempt. Hostilities rise as the mob surrounds Quasimodo, ties him up and beats him while Frollo looks on in cold silence. Esmeralda rescues Quasimodo from the abuse, enduring frustrated taunts from the crowd before she disappears in a flash of smoke amid exclamations of witchcraft. Frollo steps forward to collect a chastened Quasimodo, who promises to never again leave the tower ("Sanctuary II").

Concerned about Quasimodo's welfare, Esmeralda ventures into the cathedral ("The Bells of Notre Dame – Reprise"), where Frollo, still overwhelmed by her beauty, offers her sanctuary and spiritual guidance. While

she ponders this opportunity ("God Help the Outcasts"), Phoebus happens upon her, and they duel flirtatiously. Eventually, Esmeralda finds Quasimodo, who shows her the view from the bell tower ("Top of the World"). Frollo finds them there and confronts Esmeralda with his offer but, when she refuses, he has Phoebus escort her from the cathedral. He encourages Quasimodo to forget about the unclean gypsy.

However, Frollo cannot stop thinking about Esmeralda and roams the streets in the shadow of darkness. One night, he comes upon a tavern where the gypsies spiritedly sing and dance ("Tavern Song – Thai Mol Piyas"). Inside, a charmed Phoebus seeks out Esmeralda, and their flirtation escalates, climaxing in a kiss. The spying Frollo, enticed and horrified, runs off. Back in the bell tower, Quasimodo remains smitten by Esmeralda's beauty and kindness ("Heaven's Light"). Meanwhile, Frollo convinces himself that Esmeralda is a demon who has been sent to tempt his very soul ("Hellfire").

The next morning, Frollo convinces King Louis XI to put out a warrant for Esmeralda's death, and a search commences ("Esmeralda / Act I Finale"). Frollo targets a brothel that he suspects has been harboring Esmeralda. When Phoebus refuses a direct order to burn it down, Frollo has him arrested. Esmeralda appears from the crowd, and a fight breaks out. Frollo stabs Phoebus and blames Esmeralda, who escapes with the injured Phoebus. Frollo continues the hunt while Quasimodo watches the burning chaos from above.

Act Two

The Choir sings the "Entr'acte" in Latin.

In the bell tower ("Agnus Dei"), Esmeralda implores Quasimodo to hide the wounded Phoebus until he is stronger. Quasimodo agrees to help, and she offers him an amulet that will lead him to where she hides. Envisioning himself as her savior and protector ("Flight into Egypt"), Quasimodo lies to Frollo when asked if he knows where Esmeralda might be ("Esmeralda – Reprise"). Frederic interrupts to reveal that the soldiers have found the gypsy lair, and Frollo declares that they will attack at dawn. Quasimodo and the injured Phoebus use the amulet to find Esmeralda before Frollo does ("Rest and Recreation – Reprise").

Arriving at the gypsy lair, Phoebus and Quasimodo are captured by Clopin and the gypsies, who sentence them to death ("The Court of Miracles"). Esmeralda intervenes, and the two men warn of Frollo's impending attack.

As the gypsies prepare to flee, Phoebus decides to go with Esmeralda. She consents and matches his commitment to a life together while Quasimodo watches, heartbroken ("In a Place of Miracles"). Frollo barges in, sends Quasimodo back to the tower and arrests Esmeralda and Phoebus ("The Bells of Notre Dame – Reprise II").

In prison, Frollo confesses his love to Esmeralda and attacks her ("The Assault"). When Esmeralda refuses him, Frollo threatens Phoebus' life, as well, and then has him brought into her cell so she can rethink his offer.

Esmeralda and Phoebus spend their final night alive together ("Someday"). Now, bound in the tower, Quasimodo believes that he is the only one who can save Esmeralda ("While the City Slumbered"), but Frollo has made him doubt himself ("Made of Stone").

In the square the next morning, Phoebus watches from his cage as Esmeralda is tied to a wooden stake ("Judex Crederis"). Frollo again offers to save her if she will be his ("Kyrie Eleison"). Her steadfast refusal enrages him, and he lights the pyre himself. Witnessing the horror from above, Quasimodo gains courage, breaks free of his bonds and swoops down to free the badly injured Esmeralda. He then enters the cathedral with her in his arms, claims sanctuary, bars the doors and returns her to safety in his tower. Violence breaks out in the square as Phoebus and Clopin rally the crowd against Frollo. When the Cathedral Guard breaks down the church doors, Quasimodo's last defense is to pour molten lead down on them, which ends the attack.

Quasimodo returns to Esmeralda, who declares him a good friend before she dies in his arms ("Top of the World – Reprise"). Frollo enters and tries to comfort the distraught Quasimodo ("Esmeralda – Frollo Reprise"), but he finally sees the archdeacon for the monster he is and throws him from the tower to his death ("Finale Ultimo"). Phoebus arrives, weak and broken from the battle, and collapses on Esmeralda's body in grief.

Quasimodo comforts him before picking up Esmeralda and carrying her into the square, where the Congregation has gathered to mourn.

Character Breakdown

Claude Frollo

Archdeacon of Notre Dame Cathedral and the most powerful cleric in Paris, he is the reluctant caretaker of Quasimodo. He will do whatever it takes to rid the city of the gypsy "vermin," even as he lusts after Esmeralda. Calculating, manipulative, and obsessive.

Gender: Male

Age: 40 to 50

Vocal range top: Bb4

Vocal range bottom: E2

Jehan Frollo

Claude's reckless younger brother. With the gypsy Florika, he fathers Quasimodo, who he leaves in his brother's care. Wild, passionate, and strong-willed.

Gender: Male

Age: 20 to 30

Vocal range top: Eb5

Vocal range bottom: F3

Florika

A gypsy and Quasimodo's mother.

Gender: Female

Age: 20 to 30

Vocal range top: F#5

Vocal range bottom: E4

Father Dupin

A priest of Notre Dame and Claude and Jehan's guardian.

Gender: Male

Age: 40 to 60

Vocal range top: A3

Vocal range bottom: C3

Quasimodo

The deformed bell-ringer of Notre Dame and Claude Frollo's charge. Lonely and staunchly obedient to Frollo, he possesses a vivid imagination that brings to life the bells and gargoyles of the cathedral. Despite his shyness and uncertainty, he quickly befriends Esmeralda. Big-hearted, and brave when need be.

Gender: Male

Age: 20 to 30

Vocal range top: Bb5

Vocal range bottom: Bb2

Clopin Trouillefou

The clever and charismatic King of the Gypsies. An air of mystery surrounds Clopin, who often leaves the scene in a puff of smoke. As the master of ceremonies for the Feast of Fools, he is witty and playful, but he boasts a darker, serious nature when not performing for the crowd.

Gender: Male/Female

Age: 30 to 40

Vocal range top: F#5

Vocal range bottom: D3

Captain Phoebus de Martin

Returning to Paris after serving in the war, Phoebus takes up his new position as Captain of the Cathedral Guard. Overconfident yet charming, this handsome, strong soldier makes the ladies swoon, yet his moral compass is also strong, and he openly defies the corrupted Frollo.

Gender: Male

Age: 25 to 40

Vocal range top: Ab4

Vocal range bottom: A2

Lieutenant Frederic Charlus

Lieutenant of the Cathedral Guard and loyal friend to Phoebus.

Gender: Male

Age: 20 to 30

Esmeralda

A beautiful and free-spirited gypsy who possesses the strong sense of justice and morality that Frollo lacks. Compassionate, she frees Quasimodo from the frenzied mob at the Feast of Fools and, against her better judgment, falls for the cocky Phoebus.

Gender: Female

Age: 20 to 30

Vocal range top: D5

Vocal range bottom: E3

King Louis XI

King of France, nicknamed the Prudent.

Gender: Male

Age: 40 to 50

Tribunal

A judicial officer.

Gender: Male/Female

Age: 20 to 50

Vocal range top: E4

Vocal range bottom: G2

Madam

Owner of a brothel and safe haven for gypsies.

Gender: Female

Age: 35 to 50

Saint Aphrodisius

A stained-glass image that comes to life.

Gender: Male/Female

Age: 30 to 50

Vocal range top: E4

Vocal range bottom: B3

Congregation

Gypsies, gargoyles, soldiers, and citizens of Paris.

Gender: Both

Choir

Gender: Both