



# The Magic Fire

## INFORMATION

Please read this information carefully—there are a lot of details and answers to many questions included below. If you have any additional questions, please email [auditions@theatreatfirst.org](mailto:auditions@theatreatfirst.org).

### ABOUT THE PLAY

**THE MAGIC FIRE** is a memory play set in Buenos Aires in 1952. The play focuses on Lise, a young girl in a lively intellectual family of immigrants from Austria and Italy, whose common interest is opera. As an adult, Lise looks back on her childhood memories and tries to understand them in light of what she now understands was happening at the time.

### CHARACTERS

LISE as adult. Ironic, wry. A restless woman.

OTTO BERG - Lise's father. 40s. Light Viennese accent. A quiet, gentle man.

AMALIA BERG - Lise's mother. 35-40s. Beautiful, charming, rather vague.

ELENA GUARNERI - Amalia's sister. 40s. Stunning, chic, wry, witty. A stage star.

GIANNI "JUAN" GUARNERI - Amalia & Elena's father. 70s. Light Italian accent. Big, jovial.

PAULA GUARNERI - Juan's sister. 60s. Delicate, slightly wild-eyed.

GENERAL HENRI FONTANNES - a neighbor. 40s. Handsome, charismatic, charming, troubled.

ALBERTO BARCOS - a friend of the family. 40s. An intellectual. Runs a newspaper.

NONNA GUARNERI - Juan & Paula's mother. Heavy Italian accent. Hard of hearing. Angry. NEVER CUTE.

ROSA ARRUA - the housekeeper. 40-50. Strong.

CLARA STEPANEK - Otto's aunt. 60s. Viennese accent. Careful, watchful, elegant.

**PREPARATION** No monologues are requested for this audition. The sides to be used in auditions are available on our website and you are encouraged to review them. You may be asked to read any of these sides, for a variety of roles. The audition will contain a musical portion, in which actors will sing a popular song in a group, and participate in some simple exercises with the Musical Director. You do not need to prepare anything in advance. If you do not feel comfortable singing, you will be released at that point. Musical talent and training are NOT required.

**AUDITIONS** Please arrive 15 minutes before your scheduled audition time. If you have not filled out an audition form in advance, extra copies will be available. Headshots and resumes are not required. Auditions will last approximately one hour.

We understand that auditions are nerve-wracking—we want you to relax, have fun, and have every opportunity to show us what you can do.

**NOTIFICATION** Casting decisions will be issued by 5pm on Friday, September 1<sup>st</sup>. Please make sure that your contact information is legible and remember to check your email each day. If you have not heard from us by that time, please email [auditions@theatreatfirst.org](mailto:auditions@theatreatfirst.org)

**Be sure to read both sides!**

**READ-THRU** The first reading of the play will take place at 7pm on Tuesday, September 5<sup>th</sup> at Unity Somerville.

**REHEARSALS** Rehearsals will take place at Unity Somerville on weeknights 7-10pm and on some Saturdays 1-5pm starting on Wednesday, September 6<sup>th</sup>. Additional time for line-running may be required. Rehearsals during the final week of production may run later, but every effort will be made to release actors as early as possible. Not all actors will be required to attend all rehearsals.

**CONFLICTS** Please be sure to indicate all potential conflicts on the calendar on the back of the Audition Sheet. Every attempt will be made to accommodate conflicts, but once the schedule is set, it is very hard to adjust it. If you do not have your calendar available at auditions, you may email [auditions@theatreatfirst.org](mailto:auditions@theatreatfirst.org) with additional conflict information.

**WORK DAYS** Actors are expected to attend two work days during the rehearsal period to participate in the construction of set, costumes, props, etc. These will be held on Saturday afternoons at Unity Somerville. If you are not available for work days, the Technical Director will be happy to discuss other ways and times that you can help.

**PERFORMANCES** Opening night will be Friday, Nov 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm. Additional performances will take place on Saturday, Nov 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm; Sunday, Nov 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm; Thursday, Nov 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm, Friday, Nov 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm; and on Saturday, Nov 18<sup>th</sup> at 3pm. All performances will take place at Unity Somerville.

**CREW** If you would like to join the technical crew and/or support staff of *The Magic Fire*, please make note of that on your audition form. The director will not take your answers into account when making casting decisions. We are happy to train you, but if you have any special skills please let us know. Our producer or a technical lead will contact you regarding participation.

**FEEDBACK** We try to make our auditions as smooth and pleasant as possible. If you have comments or questions regarding the process, please speak to one of our staff, or email [auditions@theatreatfirst.org](mailto:auditions@theatreatfirst.org).

**Thank you very much for auditioning for Theatre@First.**

Beckie Hunter  
Producer, *The Magic Fire*  
President, T@F

Elizabeth Hunter  
Director, *The Magic Fire*  
Artistic Director, T@F

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