

## Character Breakdown

### SWEENEY TODD

**SWEENEY TODD:** An infamous tale, Sweeney Todd, an unjustly exiled barber, returns to nineteenth century London, seeking vengeance against the lecherous judge who framed him and ravaged his young wife. The road to revenge leads Todd to Mrs. Lovett, a resourceful proprietress of a failing pie shop, above which, he opens a new barber practice. Mrs. Lovett's luck sharply shifts when Todd's thirst for blood inspires the integration of an ingredient into her meat pies that has the people of London lining up... and the carnage has only just begun! Intimacy and Stage Combat are listed with each role. Sweeney Todd deals with mature subject matter including physical, sexual, and emotional violence, murder, rape, sex, and other issues that some people may find triggering. Sondheim's masterwork takes an entertaining and eviscerating look at class warfare and the catastrophic consequences of a dog-eat-dog society. No less timely now than it was when it premiered on Broadway or when it first appeared on Broadway, our production aims to highlight the timeliness of this dark tale.

**Sweeney Todd** – Male presenting – Age Range: 40-55 – Vocal Range: Baritone (F2-Gb4) // A wrongfully imprisoned barber seeking to right the wrongs committed against him. He is Johanna's father, singularly focussed on taking bloody revenge. Our story's tormented protagonist. // Shares stage intimacy with Mrs. Lovett, experiences touch/closeness with multiple characters by "shaving them" and/or "pulling a tooth," and is involved in multiple instances of stage violence.

**Mrs. Lovett** – Female presenting – Age Range: 35-50 – Vocal Range: Mezzo-Soprano (G3-E5) // An entrepreneurial and amoral meat pie shop owner. She falls in love with Todd and turns his desire for revenge into a profitable business venture. // Shares stage intimacy with Sweeney Todd, as well as with Tobias (mother-child-like), and is involved in an instance of stage violence.

**Anthony Hope** – Male presenting – Age Range: 20-30 – Vocal Range: Tenor (Bb2-F4) // A naive and youthful sailor returning to London. He helps Todd return to London and unexpectedly falls in love with Johanna. // Shares stage intimacy with Johanna and is involved in some stage violence (including use of a gun).

**Johanna** – Female presenting – Age Range: 18-21 – Vocal Range: Lyric Soprano (Bb3-A5) // A spritely girl, constantly yearning for freedom. Todd's long-lost daughter and Turpin's ward. // Shares stage intimacy with Anthony and is involved in instances of stage violence (including suggested rape and use of a gun).

**Tobias Ragg** – Male presenting – Age Range: 16-25 – Vocal Range: Tenor (Bb2-Ab4) // A poor youngster apprenticed to Pirelli. He finds a surrogate family in Todd and Lovett. // Shares stage intimacy with Mrs. Lovett (mother-child-like) and is involved in an instance of stage violence.

**Judge Turpin** – Male presenting – Age Range: 50-65 – Vocal Range: Bass-Baritone (E2-Gb4) // A lecherous public official who portrays himself as a sanctimonious authoritarian. He takes advantage of his position in the city and is responsible for imprisoning Todd. // Experiences touch/closeness via "being shaved" by Sweeney and is involved in instances of stage violence (including suggested rape).

**The Beadle** – Male presenting – Age Range: 40-55 – Vocal Range: Tenor/Countertenor (D3-D5) // A pompous public official. He is deeply loyal to the corrupt Turpin. // Experiences touch/closeness via "being shaved" by Sweeney and is involved in instances of stage violence (including presence during suggested rape).

**Beggar Woman** – Female presenting – Age Range: 35-50 – Vocal Range: Mezzo-Soprano (Ab3-F5) // A deranged and schizophrenic woman who harbors a dark, surprising secret. // May share some stage intimacy with Sweeney and is involved in an instance of stage violence.

**Adolfo Pirelli** – Male presenting – Age Range: 30-45 – High Tenor (B2-C5) // A flamboyant Italian rival barber; a charlatan with a secret past. This role may also participate as part of the ensemble. // Experiences touch/closeness with multiple characters by "shaving them" and/or "pulling a tooth," and is involved in an instance of stage violence.

**Jonas Fogg** – Male presenting – Age Range: 35-60 // The owner of Fogg's Asylum. He sells the hair of madmen to wigmakers. This role will also participate as part of the ensemble. // Involved in an instance of stage violence (including use of a gun).

**Ensemble** – Ensemble – Any genders – Age Range: 20-99 Vocal Ranges: Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Baritone, Bass // Townspeople; Policemen; Lunatics. The ensemble acts as sort of a "Greek Chorus" throughout the show; each person plays multiple characters with numerous featured solos. // Members of the Ensemble may experience touch/closeness via "being shaved" and/or "having a tooth pulled" by Sweeney and/or Pirelli, and may be involved in multiple instances of stage violence.

*Casting is open to performers ages 16+.  
We are seeking to build an inclusive cast to tell a story that is set in one of the most diverse cities in the world: London.*