



# BE MORE CHILL

**AUDITION BRIEF**

# BE MORE CHILL

Saltpillar Theatre is thrilled to bring *Be More Chill* to The Phoenix Theatre in October 2025. This production of *Be More Chill* promises to be an all new high-tech extravaganza and we can't wait to take you back to High School with Jeremy, Michael, Christine and a troublesome little grey pill.

## ABOUT

Jeremy Heere is just an average teenager. That is, until he finds out about “The Squip” – a tiny supercomputer that promises to bring him everything he desires most: a date with Christine, an invite to the raddest party of the year and a chance to survive life in his suburban New Jersey high school. The musical explores themes of identity, social pressures, and the importance of authenticity, and has an audacious and irreverent tone.

**BE MORE CHILL** is a musical with music and lyrics by Joe Iconis and a book by Joe Tracz, based on the 2004 novel of the same name by Ned Vizzini and premiered in 2015.

## WHO ARE SALTPILLAR THEATRE?

Saltpillar Theatre was founded in 1986. Five members of the cast and production team of the first AUJS-Victoria (Australasian Union of Jewish Students) Comedy Revue resolved that the time for the establishment of a Jewish based theatre group was long overdue.

The original five, Ernie Schwartz, Steven Curtis, Eugene Berkovic, David Beresh and Ian Rubinstein soon converted ideas into action. In order to establish a true “community” group, they sought to involve a wide variety of people. By April 1987, a nine-person committee, representing a cross-section of the Melbourne Jewish Community, was already planning its first production. In March 1988, Saltpillar staged its first production, the Australian premiere of *On Edge*, by local playwright, Yvonne Fein.

Since then, Saltpillar has staged many productions, fostered Jewish writing through the Samuel Weisberg Playwriting Award and given many people the opportunity to be part of a Jewish theatre group. Saltpillar has built a strong reputation on the quality of its productions and the high level of professionalism brought to them by all involved.

### PURPOSES

The company proudly strives to foster the cater to our community. Saltpillar Theatre:

- Aims to foster Jewish creative talent in all spheres of the performing arts.
- Will stage a variety of theatrical events appealing to all tastes and age groups of interest to the Jewish and broader communities.
- Will maintain the highest standard in the art of theatre and its administration.
- Aims to be a performing arts resource centre for the Jewish community.
- Aims to be a self-funding body, ensuring funds are raised from donations, returns from theatre activities and all other appropriate means.
- Aims to be an inclusive space where all are welcome.

## CREATIVE TEAM

Producer	Dani Harrison
Assistant Producer	Camryn Elbaum
Production Assistant	Netanel Morris
Director	Christian Cavallo
Musical Director	Matan Franco
Choreographer	Jess Mohi

# PERFORMANCE VENUE

Phoneix Theatre, Elwood, 101 Glen Huntly Rd, Elwood VIC 3184

## REHEARSALS

All auditionees must be 18 years of age (and finished highschool) by the first rehearsal on Sunday 20 July.

All subsequent rehearsals will be held on:

- Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 7pm – 10pm
- Sundays from 10am – 5pm.

Rehearsal Venue: King David School, 520 Orrong Road, Armadale, unless otherwise specified.

## PRODUCTION SCHEDULE

Sunday 5 October – Bump Into Theatre

*Rehearsals will take place in the theatre from this point onwards.*

*Tuesday 7 October and Monday 13 October will be reserved for observing Jewish celebration days; Sukkot (Shemini Atzeret) and Simchat Torah.*

Sunday 12 October – First and Second Tech Runs

Tuesday 14 October – Lighting Plot, set completion (no cast required)

Wednesday 15 October – Technical Rehearsal

Thursday 16 October– Dress rehearsal

Friday 17 October– Dress rehearsal

## PERFORMANCE DATES

Preview Performance – Saturday 18 October, 8pm\*

Performance 1 – Sunday 19 October, 6pm

Performance 2 – Wednesday 22 October, 7pm

Performance 3 – Thursday 23 October, 7pm

Performance 4 – Saturday 25 October, 8pm\*

Performance 5 – Sunday 26 October, 6pm

Performance 6 – Tuesday 28 October, 7pm

Performance 7 – Wednesday 29 October, 7pm

Performance 8 – (Closing Night) Thursday 30 October, 7pm

*Note: There may be opportunities to add extra shows through the season if there is extra demand for tickets.*

*There will not be performances on Friday nights or during the day on Saturday, so that members of the company will be able to observe Shabbat.*

*\*Subject to change according to when Shabbat comes out.*

**IMPORTANT: Auditionees must be available for all Production Schedule and Performance Dates.**

**The Creative Team will consider minimal clashes with the rehearsal schedule. Punctuality and attendance are paramount to a successful production experience.**

## AUDITIONS

Auditions will begin on Sunday 1 June, and will comprise a vocal, acting and movement audition before callbacks.

Auditions will be held at King David School, 520 Orrong Road, Armadale.

# VOCAL AUDITIONS

If you are auditioning for a role in the show, you need to book in a vocal audition on Sunday 1 June between 1pm and 6pm. All vocal auditionees are asked to prepare a song which clearly demonstrates your vocal range — not from the show — that aligns to the character/s that you're auditioning for.

Please also prepare a short character monologue — not from the show — but that aligns with the character/s you may want to be considered for, no longer than one minute.

*Note: It will not be necessary to sing the whole song at the audition so please start at a section which will best showcase the range and quality of your voice.*

Please prepare sheet music appropriately to be played by our audition accompanist. No backing tracks allowed. Please ensure your sheet music is in your desired key, and place it in a folder with plastic sleeves for ease of playing by our audition accompanist.

Vocal audition bookings are now open. Bookings close on Thursday 28 May.

Please register your intent to audition through our [booking form here](#). Please also [register your time here](#).

# MOVEMENT & DANCE AUDITIONS

A movement and dance audition will be held on Tuesday 3 June from 7pm. All auditionees are required to attend.

# CALLBACKS

Callbacks will be held on Sunday 8 June from 10.00am. Please note that you may be required for a substantial time, at any time, on the callback day. You will be given musical material and excerpts from the show (sides) to prepare for your callback in advance.

# ROLES

The characters in this show are bold and varied encompassing a range of american highschool students. Most characters are aged 16/17, but we will be considering a much wider age range for our cast who can appropriately depict this age range. The ensemble cast will seek to include a mixture of talents and strengths, voice types and dance abilities. All of our cast must sing and act, and will need to be comfortable with movement and dance. We are happy for people to audition for more than one part. When auditioning, please prepare an American accent.

## JEREMY HEERE

Vocal Range: G2-A4

Male, playing age 16/17

Jeremy is a typical, awkward teenager, very average and unassuming. He's a sweet and well-meaning boy who is nothing special. Fed up with being bottom of the pile, he wants to do something about his social standing. He jumps at the chance to change his life when he learns of a super-computer he can take as a pill to make him cool and get him the girl of his dreams! Must have warmth, great comedic timing and a great rock/pop voice.

## MICHAEL MELL

Range: B2-A4 (B4 once)

Male, playing age 16/17

Typical gamer geek, 80s/90s retro kid. Jeremy's music-loving, weed-smoking best friend who's perfectly happy to be an outsider – with Jeremy by his side. Easy-going and optimistic in his best friends presence, though shy and introverted around others. The role requires great comedic timing and a strong pop/rock voice.

### **CHRISTINE CANIGULA**

Range: F3-D5

Female, playing age 16/17

Theatre geek, highly opinionated and temperamental. Can't settle on any one thing – passionate about anything. Small, sparky and full of energy. Must have lots of energy and a strong pop/rock voice.

### **RICH GORANSKI**

Range: Bb2-A4 (also rock falsetto)

Male, playing age 16/17

Jeremy's bully. Rich appears to be an aggressive, angry little dude. One of the popular kids, but he has a bit of a sad past, ultimately befriending Jeremy and convincing him to get a SQUIP to improve his special standing like he did. Little powerhouse with a strong pop/rock voice.

### **BROOKE LOHST**

Range: Bb3-Eb5

Female, playing age 16/17

Second most popular girl in school – following in Chloe's footsteps. A little bohemian-meets-preppy, sweet natured, a little naive and very insecure, very much a follower. Strong pop voice.

### **CHLOE VALENTINE**

Range: B3-E5

Female, playing age 16/17

Arguably the hottest, most popular girl in school. Appears to exude confidence, but in fact relies on the attention. She feels the need to fight to defend her 'Queen Bee' title. Strong pop voice.

### **JENNA ROLAN**

Range: G3-G5

Female, playing age 16/17

Total busybody, Jenna knows everything about everyone. Deep down she fears everyone hates her since no one seems to have the same interest in her. Strong pop/rock/belting voice.

### **JAKE DILLINGER**

Range: D3-Gb4 (Bb4 once).

Male, playing age 16/17

Very athletic, plays for just about every sports team in school. Not very bright, but pretty easygoing and likeable. He is very much trying to fill the void of his home life with his extra curricular activities. Strong pop/rock voice.

### **THE SQUIP**

Range F#2-Ab4

Male, age 20+

Has a look of Keanu Reeves about him. The Squip starts off innocent enough, but becomes more controlling and manipulative as time goes on. Has no problem breaking Jeremy down to get him to do as he says. Snarky, smooth talking with an attitude and quick wit. Strong pop/rock voice. We are happy to consider a female for this role.

### **MR HEERE/JEREMY'S DAD**

Range: Ab2-A4

Male, around age 40

Dorky, embarrassing kind of Dad completely out of touch with his teenage son. Bit of a pushover, divorced – doesn't wear pants. Strong pop voice.

### **SCARY STOCK WORKER**

Adult, non-singing role

Shady person who works at Middleborough Malls PayLess Shoes outlet. Sells SQUIPS from the back room. Blatantly lives in his mother's basement. Appears twice in the show, and could possibly double with other roles.

## **MR/MRS REYES**

Adult, non-singing role

Strange and bitter school drama teacher. Resents the kids and hates his job, but loves the theatre. Appears twice in the show, and could possibly double with other roles.

## **THE ENSEMBLE**

Playing late teens, 16-18.

Must be confident dancers with diversity in jazz and contemporary dance styles. Should have a strong singing voices. Acrobatic skills are a plus.

## **INCLUSIVITY STATEMENT**

Saltpillar Theatre is looking to assemble a cast of diverse and enthusiastic individuals who are passionate about theatre for our upcoming production. While we are a Jewish organisation, we absolutely encourage anyone from any cultural background to audition. We are an inclusive and equal opportunity organisation, and we aim to create a framework in which people who love theatre can come together to have fun, learn some new skills and create a performance that they are truly excited about, regardless of previous theatrical experience.

## **CONTACT US**

For any further questions or clarifications, please email us at [\*\*saltpillar.auditions@gmail.com\*\*](mailto:saltpillar.auditions@gmail.com).

We look forward to hearing from you and seeing you at auditions.