

Wuthering Heights

Shows Dates- 15th- 18th November

4 Female

5 Men (Traditionally cast as 3 men that multi role)

The version we are performing was adapted by Lucy Gough

To find out more please attend the plays read throughs on either 4th July or 7th July at 7.30pm. Auditions will take place on the 11th July.

Overview- *For full overview attend the read through on the 4th or 7th July*

The passionate but doomed relationship between Cathy and Heathcliff - and its destructive impact on those surrounding them - is one of the most famous and enduring love stories in the English language. In Lucy Gough's adaptation for the stage, the spirit of Emily Brontë's haunting novel is brought to exhilarating life.

Growing up together on the Yorkshire moors, Catherine Earnshaw and the gypsy Heathcliff are inseparable after he is adopted into her family. But when Catherine agrees to marry the refined Edgar Linton, Heathcliff sets his mind to revenge.

This eminentlyactable, and readable, version of the well-loved story was first staged by Aberystwyth Arts Centre in 2011, before touring. It is ideal for students and amateurs, as well as professional companies, who are looking for a full-blooded and fluent adaptation of a literary classic.

Characters-

Heathcliff – aged early twenty and then in his forties. Utterly good looking in a wild sort of way and utterly charismatic. Not related by blood to anyone else in the play.

An orphan brought to live at Wuthering Heights by Mr. Earnshaw, Heathcliff falls into an intense, unbreakable love with Mr. Earnshaw's daughter Catherine. After Mr. Earnshaw dies, his resentful son Hindley abuses Heathcliff and treats him as a servant. Because of her desire for social prominence, Catherine marries Edgar Linton instead of Heathcliff. Heathcliff's humiliation and misery prompt him to spend most of the rest of his life seeking revenge on Hindley, his beloved Catherine, and their respective children.. He is passionate and consistent in his love for Catherine, obsessed in fact, but is cruel and unfeeling towards anyone else, and becomes consumed by revenge.

Catherine Earnshaw then Catherine Linton- Aged early twenties. A melodramatic, self-absorbed, feisty teenager with dark hair, but also a neurotic romantic, there is a touch of madness, obsessiveness about her.

The daughter of Mr. Earnshaw and his wife, and sister to Hindley, Catherine falls powerfully in love with Heathcliff, the orphan Mr. Earnshaw brings home from Liverpool. Catherine loves Heathcliff so intensely that she claims they are the same person. However, her desire for social advancement motivates her to marry Edgar Linton instead. Catherine is free-spirited, beautiful, spoiled, and often arrogant. She is given to fits of temper, and she is torn between her wild passion for Heathcliff and her social ambition. She brings misery to both of the men who love her. **Doubles as Ghost.**

Ghost-

The ghost of Catherine who becomes a ghost because the relationship with Heathcliff is unresolved. She wants to enter the house but cannot, so haunts outside it, trying to get back inside to get in touch with her soul, which is in the space of the rooms. The sight of her daughter being tortured by Heathcliff enables her to finally break in to the house and change this.

Edgar Linton – aged early twenties and then in his forties. Well-bred but rather spoiled as a boy, Edgar Linton grows into a tender, constant, but cowardly man. He is almost the ideal gentleman: Catherine accurately describes him as “handsome,” “pleasant to be with,” “cheerful,” and “rich.” However, this full assortment of gentlemanly characteristics, along with his civilized virtues, proves useless in Edgar’s clashes with his foil, Heathcliff, who gains power over his wife, sister, and daughter.

Hindley Earnshaw – aged twenties and then in his forties. Father of Hareton and brother of Catherine. Jealous of his father’s love of the adopted Heathcliff, he grows up bitter and becomes utterly brutal in his treatment of Heathcliff and then later of his own son Hareton. After his father death, Hindley inherits the Heights where he rules with terror, drinking and gambling until he loses everything he owns, including his home, to Heathcliff. Hindley becomes distinctly feral and wild, wolfish-looking man.

Nelly Dean – Needs to have a 20 year age gap, but does not matter what age the actor starts at. Down to earth, and tends to be brutally honest, has no truck with ghosts and the like. She is impatient with Catherine’s melodramatic behaviour. She uses her position as nurse to attempt to influence things. As an older nurse looking after Cathy, she is concerned to protect her, but also to protect her own position and job. She is deeply involved in the story she tells. She has strong feelings for the characters in her story, and these feelings complicate her narration.

Cathy Linton – Aged early twenties. A stropky teenager. She is the daughter of Catherine and Edgar Linton. She starts out very ladylike and gentle, having been brought up at The Grange without a mother, but by her father and Nelly. But after being forced to marry Linton Heathcliff and going to live at the Heights, she becomes brutalised and almost feral. She is not as neurotic and melodramatic as her mother, but she has the same fierce and fearless streak.

Hareton Earnshaw - Aged early twenties. The son of Hindley and Frances Earnshaw, Hareton is Catherine’s nephew. After Hindley’s death, Heathcliff assumes custody of Hareton, and raises him as an uneducated field worker, just as Hindley had done to Heathcliff himself. Thus Heathcliff uses Hareton to seek revenge on Hindley. Illiterate and quick-tempered, Hareton is easily humiliated, but shows a good heart and a deep desire to improve himself. At the end of the novel, he marries young Catherine.

Linton Heathcliff – Aged early twenties. Heathcliff’s son by Isabella. Weak, snivelling, demanding, and constantly ill, Linton is raised in London by his mother and does not meet his father until he is thirteen years old, when he goes to live with him after his mother’s death. Heathcliff despises Linton, treats him contemptuously, and, by forcing him to marry the young Catherine, uses him to cement his control over The Grange after Edgar Linton’s death. Linton himself dies not long after this marriage.

Isabella Linton/Heathcliff –Aged early twenties Very feminine and dreamy sort of girl, but spoilt. Edgar Linton’s sister, she grows up in the privileged secure home of The Grange. She falls in love with Heathcliff and marries him. She sees Heathcliff as a romantic figure, like a character in a

novel. Ultimately, she ruins her life by falling in love with him. He never returns her feelings and treats her as a mere tool in his quest for revenge on the Linton family.