



Sierra Madre Playhouse

The Last Five Years

Written & Composed by
Jason Robert Brown

Music & Lyrics by
Jason Robert Brown

Directed by Josh Shaw
Music Direction by Joshua Foy
Produced by Sierra Madre Playhouse

The award-winning Sierra Madre Playhouse (SMP), located in Sierra Madre, California 91024 (just east of Pasadena) is committed to equitable, diverse, and inclusive representation in our productions, striving to make the experience of performing at our theater creative and fulfilling.

Both Union & Non-Union actors will be considered. Seeking actors of all ethnic backgrounds for this cast.

Performers Pay: \$18.00 an hour for all rehearsals and performances. Payment will be made weekly via direct deposit.

IMPORTANT DATES:

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: Sunday, February 18, 2024

AUDITIONS: Friday, February 23, 2024 from 10 am - 4 pm

FIRST REHEARSAL: Tuesday, April 29, 2024

TECH WEEK: Friday, May 10 through Thursday, May 16, 2024 (except for Mother's Day holiday on Sunday, May 12, 2024)

OPENS: Friday, May 17, 2024

CLOSES: Sunday, June 16, 2024 (no extension)

PERFORMANCES: All performances at Sierra Madre Playhouse (Fridays-Sundays)

Performances to the general public:

Fridays: 8:00 pm; Saturdays: 4:00 pm & 8:00 pm; Sundays: 2:00 pm.

No extra performances

DATES: (20 public shows): Evening [E] and Matinee [M]

May 17E, 18M, 18E, 19M, 24E, 25M, 25E, 26M, 31E

June 1M, 1E, 2M, 7E, 8M, 8E, 9M, 14E, 15M, 15E, 16M

All auditions will take place at Sierra Madre Playhouse.

Rehearsals begin Tuesday, April 29, at Sierra Madre Playhouse. It will be a condensed rehearsal period of up to 15 hours per actor. Final rehearsal schedule will be arranged after the show is cast. No reasonable conflicts should keep actors from submitting. If actors cannot do all performances they should still apply as we are planning on double casting both roles to be split based on availability of the artist.

Tech week and dress rehearsals begin Friday, May 10 through Thursday, May 16 (except for Sunday, May 12 for Mother's Day holiday). Actors must be completely available during that period.

SUBMISSIONS

Email headshot and resume to thelastfiveyears@sierramadreplayhouse.org or through Actors Access. Please also include a video recording of your singing and a monologue with your submission (see below for details). Submissions without all required attachments will not be considered.

If you are called in for an audition:

- Please prepare 32 bars of a contemporary musical theater song that showcases your storytelling ability and authentic emotional expression. While you may choose a song from *The Last Five Years*, selecting a piece that highlights your vocal and acting strengths is encouraged.
- Along with your song, prepare a contrasting contemporary monologue, not exceeding 60 seconds, to demonstrate your acting ability.
- An accompanist will be provided, so please come prepared with your sheet music. If you prefer, you may bring your own accompanist or use a backing track.

Callbacks will be held in person at a later date and will include prepared readings and singing numbers from the show.

PLOT SUMMARY

Synopsis: This contemporary musical intimately explores a five-year relationship between Jamie Wellerstein, a rising novelist, and Cathy Hiatt, a struggling actress. The story uniquely unfolds with Jamie's narrative progressing chronologically and Cathy's in reverse, with their timelines intersecting briefly at their wedding.

Note:

The Last Five Years offers a deeply personal glimpse into the lives of Jamie and Cathy, two individuals in their twenties navigating their way through love, ambition, and the challenges of life together and apart. This narrative, crafted with Jason Robert Brown's poignant and

memorable songs, delves into the themes of love, loss, joy, and heartbreak. It's a musical that has captured the hearts of many for its authenticity and emotional depth.

For those auditioning, it's essential to recognize that this production values not just vocal prowess but also the ability to embody characters who are endearing, genuine, and capable of conveying a story musically. The characters' ability to resonate with the audience, both as a couple and as individuals, is crucial for the show's emotional impact.

CHARACTER BREAKDOWN

Seeking actors of all ethnic backgrounds for this cast.

JAMIE WELLERSTEIN: [Male, any ethnicity, 25-35, tenor/pop/theater] Jamie is a talented, charming, and rising novelist. He's ambitious and enthusiastic, experiencing a growing success in his career. His story progresses chronologically from the joy of a new love to the challenges of success and temptation, and the eventual breakdown of his marriage. Jamie's part is written for a Tenor. His vocal range in the musical extends from A2 (A below middle C) to Bb4. Jamie's songs demand a good upper range, with a mix of lyrical and powerful moments.

CATHY HIATT: [Female, any ethnicity, 25-35, mezzo soprano/pop/theater] Cathy is a struggling actress, characterized by her emotional depth and vulnerability. She faces career disappointments and personal struggles in the relationship. Her story is told in reverse chronological order, beginning at the end of her marriage. She deals with professional rejections, the complexities of love, and the challenges of being in a relationship with a rising star. Cathy's part is written for a Mezzo-Soprano. Her vocal range typically extends from about G3 (G below middle C) to D5 or Eb5. The character's songs require a strong mix/belt voice as they often sit in the middle of the Mezzo range with occasional higher belts.

Sierra Madre Playhouse's Dedication to Inclusive and Diverse Casting

At Sierra Madre Playhouse, we embrace equity, diversity, and inclusivity in all aspects of our casting. For our production of *The Last Five Years*, we are actively pursuing a cast that reflects a rich diversity of backgrounds. We welcome and encourage auditions from individuals of all races, ethnicities, nationalities, genders, gender identities, sexual orientations, ages, abilities, and body types.

Should you require any specific accommodations for your audition, please do not hesitate to contact us in advance through our auditions email. Alternatively, you can inform our audition volunteers upon your arrival. We are committed to providing a supportive and accessible audition environment for everyone.