



*Pymble Players Inc presents*

# **The Odd Couple (female version)**

Written by

Neil Simon

An amateur production by arrangement with ORiGiN™  
Theatrical, on behalf of Samuel French Ltd.

**Directed by:**

Joy Sweeney

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# Audition information

## Audition details:

**Date:** Monday 1<sup>st</sup> July and Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> July from 7.30pm. **By appointment only.**

**Venue:** Pymble Players Inc Theatre, Cnr Mona Vale Road and Bromley Avenue Pymble

The audition will be closed and will consist of readings of selected scenes from the play. Auditionees will be given scenes as required on the night and 10-15 minutes to prepare amongst themselves before presenting to the Director. Scenes will be selected to highlight the development of the characters throughout the play.

**Audition Contact:** Please contact the Director, Joy Sweeney, on 0418 293 494 or by email at [divajoy@tpg.com.au](mailto:divajoy@tpg.com.au) **to book your audition time** and/or with any questions on the auditions, or the play in general.

**NOTE:** Signing the audition form indicates your availability for, and commitment to, all activities relating to the production, including rehearsals and show dates. Please download and fill out the audition form and bring it with you to your audition.

You will be notified by the Director if you have been successful in your audition and a full cast list will be posted on the Pymble Players Inc website – [www.pymbleplayers.com.au](http://www.pymbleplayers.com.au)

For productions some make-up and costumes may need to be provided by the cast, but speciality costumes will be provided. A basic make-up kit is available.

## Synopsis

That famous mismatched couple, Felix Unger and Oscar Madison, have become Florence and Olive – two complex and complicated women. Audiences will have a ball as they navigate the pitfalls of relationships and friendships of single women in 1980s New York. Be prepared for a play full to the brim with heart, warmth, spirit and cracking one-liners.

*Neil Simon at his comic best!*

# Performance details

## Dates & times:

Wed 8pm	Thurs 8pm	Fri 8pm	Sat matinee 3.30pm	Sat eve 8pm
2 <sup>nd</sup> October	possible performance	4 <sup>th</sup> October	5 <sup>th</sup> October	5 <sup>th</sup> October
9 <sup>th</sup> October	10 <sup>th</sup> October	11 <sup>th</sup> October	12 <sup>th</sup> October	12 <sup>th</sup> October
16 <sup>th</sup> October	17 <sup>th</sup> October	18 <sup>th</sup> October	19 <sup>th</sup> October	19 <sup>th</sup> October
23 <sup>rd</sup> October	24 <sup>th</sup> October	25 <sup>th</sup> October	26 <sup>th</sup> October	26 <sup>th</sup> October

**Venue:** Pymble Players Inc Theatre, Cnr Mona Vale Road and Bromley Avenue Pymble

**IMPORTANT:** All cast and crew need to ensure that they are available for all performance dates and rehearsal times as indicated on the rehearsal schedule.

## Director's Notes

1965's *The Odd Couple* may well hold the record as the most adapted of Neil Simon's multitude of hits, having spawned a 1968 film adaptation (and a 30 years later movie sequel), a long-running sitcom, a short-running African-American-cast sitcom, an animated children's series, an updated stage version (2004) and the 1985 female version with the male and female roles reversed.

Like the Broadway original that preceded it by twenty years, *The Odd Couple* (female version) recounts the comic tale of two long-time best friends who find themselves coinhabiting an apartment without really thinking about the consequences beforehand.

The scene is set at the regular Trivial Pursuit get together with a quartet of mutual gal pals. Recently divorced Olive and fellow players Mickey, Renee, Sylvie and Vera. Mid game Florence arrives late. The reason, it turns out, is her 5'3" cowboy boots and oversized toupee wearing husband, Sydney has asked for a divorce.

Given Florence's distraught state and the amount of time she spends in Olive's bathroom (as if taking an overdose or slashing her wrists or sticking her head out of the tiny bathroom window and slamming it down on her neck were the first things on her mind) – what's a best friend to do but invite the potential suicide to stick around for a while, at least until Florence can get herself back on her emotional feet.

Two weeks later Olive's house guest is driving her and her Trivial Pursuit buddies nuts! They find themselves beating a swift retreat from Florence's constant sweeping and picking up after them.

And so – Olive comes up with the perfect "Operation Fix Florence". She will invite over for dinner the upstairs neighbours Manolo and Jesus Costazuela. Surely some time spent with the sexiest guys you ever saw will be just the thing needed to break the tension building up between two best friends on the verge of becoming each other's worst enemy.

And so the hilarity continues.....

## Roles available: 6 Females 2 Male

**PLEASE NOTE - AGES:** The ages indicated below are just a guide. They could be anywhere from 30s to late 40s/early 50s. But the group of girls will need to be believable friend ages (within 10 years of Flo and Olive).

**The gaggle of friends:** These are all terrific roles. Very well defined and very funny in their own right with some beautiful Neil Simon cracking lines.

**The Costazuela brothers:** Manolo and Jesus, all but run away with the second act. Ideally the Director would love them to be of similar height and appearance. Or alternatively very tall and very short.

**Accents: Women – New York American**

**Men - Spanish**

Character	Description	Stage Age
<b>Olive Madison</b>	A successful television producer; she is intelligent, attractive, and wisecracking, with a good sense of humour, and she's a complete slob; she has an encyclopaedic understanding of sports. Olive needs to be played as a believable mess-maker that we identify with and feel for. Everything from her physical look, body language and walk, to the outfits and her never-quite-right coif, should make her believable as a randy, brainy slob who also manages to be successful in her profession, and, most importantly, caring about her friends and even her deadbeat ex-husband.	<b>30+</b>
<b>Florence Unger</b>	Attractive, very well-groomed, and neat; has just broken up with her husband; she takes herself very seriously, likes to clean, decorate, and cook; she is intelligent and warm-hearted, but has no sense of humour (at least about herself). Florence is a tricky character balancing the neurotic homemaker that can't stop putting coasters under everyone's drinks to the ladle-wielding cook who is pissed about Olive not appreciating her cooking efforts, to ultimately the woman who is found attractive by the saucy, sentimental Spanish neighbour guys.	<b>30+</b>
<b>Sylvie</b>	Desperately trying to stop smoking, and so sucks on lollipops or chews gum; she can get irritated with her friends, but has a good sense of humour, especially about her husband; and, yes, she is pregnant in the last scene.	<b>Late 20s - Up</b>

Character	Description	Stage Age
<b>Mickey</b>	A police officer, who is down-to-earth, plain-talking, and has a good understanding of people; she tries very hard to be in control of all situations.	<b>Late 20s - up</b>
<b>Renee</b>	Sylvie's best friend, can be very plain-spoken, especially when she points out Olive's failings as a hostess--and then Flo's; she is single and dating a doctor.	<b>Late 20s - up</b>
<b>Vera</b>	Very sweet, very nice, somewhat spacey, and, although quite smart, is often a step or two behind her friends; she's very funny, but doesn't realize it.	<b>Late 20s - up</b>
<b>Manolo Costazuela</b>	Handsome, very well-groomed, and Spanish with a Castilian accent; he is every woman's dream date and showers both Olive and Flo with attention; he must have good comic timing, as he gets very emotional; he is sensitive and appreciates Florence's sensitivity.	<b>30s +</b>
<b>Jesus Costazuela</b>	Manolo's younger brother; also very handsome, well-groomed, excellent posture, very romantic; he also gets very emotional and truly appreciates Florence.	<b>30s +</b>

## Rehearsal Schedule

**Venue:** Rehearsals will be held Pymble Players Inc Theatre, Cnr Mona Vale Road and Bromley Avenue Pymble.

Rehearsals will be 2 evenings per week – Monday and Wednesday from 7.30pm–10pm.

A rehearsal schedule will be provided once casting is complete.

**Audition Form – “The Odd Couple (female version)”** Please complete this form and bring it to the audition. For additional information, please call the director, Joy Sweeney on **0418 293 494**

Name: _____		Home Phone: _____	
Address: _____		Work Phone: _____	
_____		Mobile: _____	
_____		Height: _____ cm <b>OR</b> Ft ___ In ___	
Email address: _____			
Role(s) Interested in: _____			
Are you prepared to accept the Director’s judgement of the most suitable part for you?			<b>YES/NO</b>
If you are successful, do you give permission for your contact details to be published on a cast list and your name and photo on our website, official Facebook page & publicity?			<b>YES/NO</b>
Date on which you intend to audition.			
Are you prepared and available for all scheduled rehearsals, performances and related activities? If no, which dates?			<b>YES/NO</b>
Are you currently committed to any other productions? If so, provide details or discuss with the Director.			<b>YES/NO</b>
Will you be committed to any other productions during the rehearsal period for this production? If so, provide details or discuss with the Director.			<b>YES/NO</b>
Please specify details of any commitments which will impact upon your participation in the rehearsal process.			
If not cast, I would like to help in this or future productions as (please tick):			
Stage Manager <input type="checkbox"/> Production Assistant <input type="checkbox"/> Prompt <input type="checkbox"/> Lighting Operation <input type="checkbox"/>			
Sound Operation <input type="checkbox"/> Costumes <input type="checkbox"/> Set Construction/Painting <input type="checkbox"/> Front of House <input type="checkbox"/> Props <input type="checkbox"/>			
List previous productions and roles played, as well as any relevant training or experience:			

**Please read carefully before signing:**

I understand that, if I accept a role or participate as a member of cast or crew, an annual Pymble Players Inc membership fee is payable and that full commitment to attending all of the rehearsals the Director nominates, and attendance on all performance dates, is expected of me.  
**Annual membership: \$20 (\$10 - students/pensioners; \$30 - family membership)**

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_