

MONTY PYTHON'S SPAMALOT
ENSEMBLE — AUDITION SIDES

SCENE / CHARACTER WORK

SIDE 1 — FINLAND CROWD

Act I, Scene 2 | Script pages 2-4

CONTEXT: The ensemble has enthusiastically launched into an absurdly cheerful Finnish folk number, only for the Historian to interrupt and reveal that the show is supposed to be in England.

AUDITION DIRECTION: Begin with complete, high-energy commitment to the ridiculous celebration. On the Historian's correction, switch instantly into bashful embarrassment and retreat. Stay aware of the group while giving your reaction a clear individual point of view. We want to see a strong contrast between you in Finish Folk Song mode and awkward apology mode.

TWO SINGERS

FINLAND FINLAND FINLAND
THE COUNTRY WHERE I QUITE WANT TO BE

MAN #1

PONY TREKKING

MAN #2

OR CAMPING

ALL

OR JUST WATCHING TV
FINLAND FINLAND FINLAND
THAT'S THE COUNTRY FOR ME!

(HISTORIAN enters in disbelief.)

HISTORIAN

I said England!

CHORUS

Oh, sorry. Oops. (etc)

(The Finland set instantly collapses. The side panel tree drops are released, the painted backdrop falls, and the CHORUS pushes away the log cabin. They ALL exit embarrassed. The bright lights disappear, replaced by smoke, darkness and the tolling of a bell.)

SIDE 2 – FRENCH CROWD / THE WOODEN RABBIT

Act I, Scene 11 | Script pages 45–52

CONTEXT: The English Knights have left an enormous wooden rabbit outside the French castle as part of a hopeless secret plan. The French discover it and quickly convince themselves that it is an important work of art.

AUDITION DIRECTION: Make a strong, specific character choice and react truthfully to the other performers. The comedy should come from absolute commitment to the absurd situation. Accent accuracy is secondary to confidence, comic listening, physical specificity and ensemble awareness.

TAUNTER

A what?

FRENCHIE

A rabbit. A large, wooden rabbit.

TAUNTER

Oh, a large, wooden rabbit. How very very very nice. What is it doing here?

FRENCHIE

Perhaps it is Art.

FRENCHIES

Oh, Arte!

TAUNTER

Oh, yes. Of course. It is Arte. Hey, French people! Come outside and have a look at our big new piece of Arte.

(Cliché FRENCH PEOPLE enter through the gateway: people with baguettes and berets, a PAINTER, a MIME and the GIRL FROM "LES MISERABLES", all making appreciative French-sounding ad-libs.)

TAUNTER

It is very big, you know, but what does it mean?

(The MIME mimes the meaning of the RABBIT.)

TAUNTER

Oh, of course. So simple. Say no more.

ALL

Brilliant!

Oui! Oui!

Formidable!

TAUNTER

Bring the rabbit into the castle. We will hang it in the Salon next to the Renoir. But first let us see if the rabbit has any chocolate inside. It may be some kind of Easter thing.