

Sweeney Todd Character Breakdown

Sweeney Todd/Benjamin Barker (Bass/Baritone F2 - Gb4, 30 - 50) A man consumed by revenge after his wife is taken from him, and he is wrongly convicted and sentenced to life imprisonment. Darkly cynical, intense, and volatile.

Mrs. Lovett (Alto/Mezzo G3 – E5, Cockney accent, moves well, 30 - 50) An amoral, pragmatic seller of meat pies - takes practicality to a ridiculous level. She lusts after Todd. A very high-energy comedic role.

Joanna Barker (Soprano C3 – Bb5 , 15 - 25) Benjamin Barker's daughter, a ward of Judge Turpin. Haunted, but pure-hearted.

Anthony Hope (Tenor or Baritenor, Ab2 - F#4, 18 -30) A good natured, optimistic & naive young sailor with an undercurrent of obsession.

Beggar Woman/Lucy Barker (Soprano or Mezzo-Soprano Ab3 – F5, 25 - 40) Barker's wife, who he believes to be dead. Jarring multiple personalities ranging from pathetic to enraged to crudely suggestive.

Judge Turpin (Bass/Baritone E2 – F#4, 35 - 70) A lustful, immoral, power-hungry man. Twists the law to suit himself. He has never heard “no”, and revels in his sins.

Beadle Bamford (Tenor D3 - D5, 35 - 50) Judge Turpin's partner in crime. "A bully with a thin veneer of gentility."

Adolfo Pirelli/Danny O'Higgins (Tenor B2 - C5, 25 - 40) A charlatan who claims to be "the king of the barbers, the barber of kings." Must be able to use both rich Italian and rough Irish dialects. A very high operatic style tenor role. This also could be played as a “pants role” by a Mezzo-Soprano.

Tobias Ragg (Tenor or unchanged voice Bb2 – A4, 10 – 20's) Pirelli's young, simple, but kind-hearted drum-beating assistant. (Younger actors AND actresses are encouraged to audition for this role.)

Jonas Fogg (Male 35 – 60's, non-singing role, will be part of Ensemble) The abusive proprietor of London's asylum for the criminally insane.

Ensemble: A wide variety of roles will come from the ensemble. Ensemble members must have strong, trained voices and good musicianship. They must also be able to demonstrate a strong concentration, intensity, and the ability to play “characters”.

Chorus soloists: There are a number of important solo sung lines in the show, including one quintet for 5 un-named characters (all of which will double into the main chorus).

Note: All roles are open to actors of any ethnicity—we are actively seeking a diverse cast.