



## **Casting Brief Child Actors**

**Sydney Summer 2026**

***Madama Butterfly***



Opera Australia is seeking to cast two child actors to play Sorrow in our upcoming 2026 Summer Season of *Madama Butterfly* at the Sydney Opera House.

## Production Information

*Fire. Water. Beauty. Darkness. When love is lost, what is left behind?*

Cio-Cio-San is a woman who dreams of a bigger life. Pinkerton is a man who sees only a butterfly, something he can capture and keep. His callous pursuit ripples into sweeping tragedy.

Puccini's eternally popular *Madama Butterfly* is a profoundly moving experience. The yearning score soars to incredible heights (Cio-Cio-San's dazzling 'Un bel di') and offers moments of exquisite stillness (the 'Humming Chorus').

Moffatt Oxenbould's award-winning production is timeless. Tiny candles glimmer among floating flowers in a real onstage moat. Sliding paper panels reveal and conceal the secrets everyone is keeping. Sumptuous, colourful costumes are inspired by Japanese traditional dress. It's a serene, stunning backdrop for the unfolding emotional turmoil.

## Schedule Information

Children must be available for all calls listed below. Some rehearsals, and the performance period will be alternated between the two children, but they must remain available to cover in case of illness or other absence. We cannot accommodate any non-availability.

The schedule is subject to change.

### Rehearsal Schedule

Day	Date	Start Time	End	Type	Location
Friday	5/12/2025	10:15	13:30	Production Rehearsal	Opera Centre, Surry Hills
Monday	8/12/2025	16:00	17:30	Production Rehearsal	Opera Centre, Surry Hills
Tuesday	9/12/2025	14:15	17:30	Production Rehearsal	Opera Centre, Surry Hills
Monday	15/12/2025	15:45	17:30	Production Rehearsal	Opera Centre, Surry Hills
Tuesday	16/12/2025	11:00	13:30	Production Rehearsal	Opera Centre, Surry Hills
Wednesday	17/12/2025	15:00	17:30	Production Rehearsal	Opera Centre, Surry Hills
Thursday	18/12/2025	14:15	17:30	Production Rehearsal	Opera Centre, Surry Hills
Saturday	20/12/2025	11:00	13:30	Production Rehearsal	Opera Centre, Surry Hills
Saturday	20/12/2025	15:45	17:30	Production Rehearsal	Opera Centre, Surry Hills
Tuesday	23/12/2025	14:00	17:00	Piano Dress	Sydney Opera House

Tuesday	23/12/2025	19:15	22:00	Piano Dress	Sydney Opera House
Saturday	27/12/2025	18:45	22:00	Stage Orchestral	Sydney Opera House
Monday	29/12/2025	18:45	21:00	General Rehearsal	Sydney Opera House

## Performance Dates

Performances (25) at Sydney Opera House

December 31, 2025

January 3, 6, 8, 10, 13, 16, 22, 24, 29, 31(m)

February 4, 7(m), 11, 14, 20, 25, March 1(m), 3, 7(m), 11, 14, 18, 20, 25

All performances commence at 7:30pm, except for matinees marked with an 'm' which commence at 12:30pm on Saturdays, and 2pm on Sundays.

## Audition Brief

All children must live within 90-minutes' travel (one way) of all venues and normally reside in the area.

### Male Child Actors x 2

**Age:** 5-6 years old (mature 4-year-olds may be considered)

**Height:** No taller than 116cm

**Appearance:** Fair hair (blond to brown) if not Eurasian in appearance, or dark hair if Eurasian in appearance. 'Sorrow' is a three-year old boy, and we are looking for small and petite children.

We are looking for calm and confident children who can follow directions and sit still and calmly on stage for extended periods, without becoming fidgety, or distracted. The child must be happy and comfortable being carried, holding hands, and being embraced by cast members. They must be comfortable being placed in a variety of different seated positions.

The children will be in close proximity to people singing, and must be comfortable with loud vocal and orchestral noise near them.

Children who are cast may be required to cut their hair.

## Audition Application Information

Audition applications will be accepted via the following web form only: [Web Form](#)

Please include

- Any performance experience or current CV (PDF, maximum 2 pages)
- Headshot and full body photograph
- Current height in cm

If successful, an in-person audition will be offered.

Auditions will be held on **Friday 24 October at 3:30pm** in Surry Hills.

Callbacks will be held on **Thursday 20 November at 4pm** in Surry Hills.

They must be accompanied by an adult to their audition.

Everyone will be notified of the outcome of your child's application, once applications have closed.

**Submissions close 5pm (AEDT) Friday 17 October 2025**