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## AUDITIONS

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7<sup>th</sup> March 7 p.m. Compton Village Hall

## TONS OF MONEY

Performances: 17<sup>th</sup> 18<sup>th</sup> 19<sup>th</sup> June 2010

A farce in the Great British tradition

Adapted by Alan Ayckbourn.

From the play by Will Evans and Valentine

Directed by: Elaine Devlin

&amp; Produced by Gordon Ayshford

Wordplay, duplicity and extreme Britishness are the key elements of  
"Tons of Money," a 1920s-style farce -

Aubrey and Louise Allington are desperate to keep their newly acquired inheritance from their creditors. That, in a nutshell, is the plot. The mechanics thereof involve two faked deaths by Aubrey and a subsequent resurrection; two separate impersonations of a relative presumed dead who also inconveniently turns up himself; the mutton-dressed coquetry of a not-quite-widow who gets to indulge herself with all three of the aforementioned; a clutch of comic (laconic, lustful, conspiratorial) domestics, a deaf aunt and of course, a country house with various entrances through French windows and doors into the drawing-room where the action all takes place.

**Aubrey** : Charming spendthrift "inventor" - Quick comedy retorts are his trademark. 30-45.

Nearing bankruptcy he inherits money, which if he dies will pass to another relative George (who he believes to be dead). To protect his inheritance he fakes his own death and returns dressed imitating George to claim his inheritance.

**Louise** : Aubrey's pampered wife, Sweet, but scheming (played by Yvonne Arnaud in the 1931 film).

She comes up with the death and impersonation plot which goes wrong and the recovery plan (which also goes wrong), both putting her husband's life at risk. In the final scene when all appears to have returned to status quo her final line is "I have got an idea"

**Jean** : Louise's friend, good-looking, young widow, shallow and flighty.

**George**: Aubrey's cousin, believed killed in Mexico - also Jean's estranged husband !

**Sprules**: The butler, hard done by, wants to get rich so he can marry the maid.

Having overheard some of Aubrey and Louise's plot he hatches his own plot for his brother Henery to also impersonate George on Aubrey's death and claim the inheritance.

**Henery** : Sprules' Brother, joins in a plot with Sprules to impersonate George and gain an inheritance.

**Simpson**: The maid and the object of Sprules' desires, she also joins in the plot.

**Chesterman**: A solicitor, dealing with Aubrey's affairs.

**Miss Benita Mullet** : The mature maiden aunt of Louise, opinionated and a little hard of hearing.

**Giles**: The faithful gardener, a man of few words suffering from having been spurned by the cook.

Henery impersonates George convincingly so the two actors would ideally be of similar physical disposition. Aubrey also impersonates George but does not need to be quite so convincing.

Aubrey also impersonates a Monk and in between these characters he appears on stage dripping wet after faking a drowning ~ as close to naked as the actor is comfortable with (the script calls for cushions to preserve modesty so we have some scope).

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Contact

or

For a script

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If you can't make the auditions *please* register your interest beforehand

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