

Batavia

Audition Instructions

Please make a short phone video of yourself, reading the script excerpts below, then forward the video to choristers@nationalboyschoir.com.au by **5:00 pm on Wednesday 21 April**.

- Please label your video with your name and 2021 Choir number.
- Use costumes or props if you think it will help
- We would like to see you read all three characters, even if you only want to try out for one.
- If you wish you can make separate videos of the different characters.

The three characters here are:

1. Cabin Boy 1
2. Commander Pelsaert
3. Jeronimus Cornelisz

There are some other, lesser characters too.

A second round of auditions will be held in-person once the videos have been reviewed.

SCRIPT EXCERPTS

1. CABIN BOY 1

This is the biggest role in the work, with a lot of lines to learn. The boy is somewhere between 11 and 14 years old, and needs a well-projected, stable (light) voice. He needs to look and sound younger than the adult characters.

(Excerpt duration 50 seconds approx.)

SONG 3 Water

[Bar 5]

Most of us managed to reach the small sand island whose reefs we hit, but then things only got worse. The sun beat down on us day after day. Never a cloud in the sky. We were sunburned, and blistered and parched, and our lips cracked and bled. Every day we felt more desperate for water.

We made a few rough shelters from the sails and the wreckage, but we **had** to find fresh water. So much water all around us – SALT water! Taunting us with its uselessness.

Every day the captain and his crew searched the nearby islands while we waited in the never-ending wind, under that merciless Sun.

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2. COMMANDER PELSAERT

Commander Pelsaert is the senior merchant, and in charge of the voyage. He is a wealthy, older man, who takes his responsibility seriously, and is used to being in charge. He needs a strong, commanding quality to his voice and actions (Excerpt duration 30 seconds approx.)

SONG 3 WATER

[to JACOBSZ] Then tomorrow we must take the longboat and some of the crew to look further afield. Cornelisz will remain here in command.

SONG 5 GALLOWS WAITING

[Letter B] These monstrous deeds must be punished here and now. Justice cannot wait another day. We will hold the trials tomorrow, on this very island.

3. JERONIMUS CORNELISZ

Cornelisz is an evil, ambitious man, who inspires or orders his henchmen to torture, rape and murder members of the ship's company, so he can keep the gold and women for himself. Practise your raucous, scary laughter! (Excerpt duration 15 seconds approx.)

SONG 4

[Letter G] [inebriated?]: You, boy, bring me that gold necklace! And the rich red cloak! And all those rings!

[OMIT] Yes, sir. It makes you look like a King, sir.]

CORNELISZ I will be a King! [Raucous, scary laughter]