

'RJ' – INFORMATION (RJINFO FULL)



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'RJ' – A Rock Musical **(Amateur / Educational productions)**

Original Play by William Shakespeare
Lyrics & Music by Joy Ardy and A. W. Milburn.

*This is a brand new musical version of the classic Shakespeare tale,
'Romeo and Juliet' which has been updated and abridged.
This musical appeals to a wide audience.*

Synopsis

The story of 'Romeo and Juliet' was first brought to us in 1623 by William Shakespeare. It is the story of two families at war, whose children, Romeo and Juliet, fall in love and marry in secret. Tybalt, Juliet's cousin, takes offence at Romeo's interest in Juliet and challenges him to a duel. Mercutio, Romeo's friend, fights on his behalf and is killed. Romeo, in a fit of rage, takes revenge and kills Tybalt. He is banished from the city. Juliet is heartbroken and seeks council from the Friar who formulates a plan to re-unite the two lovers. The plan is foiled by events and both Romeo and Juliet eventually take their own lives, thinking the other is dead.

Now 'RJ' - a rock musical retells this romantic and tragic tale using extracts of the original text fused with modern songs, lyrics and ensembles. The duration of the show is approximately 2hrs.

Characters/Chorus

There are 19 principal roles plus SATB or Unison Chorus. In the original Shakespeare play the majority of principal roles are male orientated, but we have tried to re-dress the balance a little in 'RJ' and many of the principal roles can be played by females without detracting from the plot, indeed we found that it added an extra dimension to the original play.

Tybalt, in the original, is Juliet's cousin, as there are no particular romantic links in the script with this character then this part lends itself equally to a male or female player.

Mercutio, in the original, is Romeo's friend, as there are no particular romantic links in the script with this character then this part lends itself equally to a male or female player.

Prince/Narrator, is a character of refinement and power, qualities which lend themselves to either gender.

Capulet/Montague Servants (Abram, Gregory, Sampson, Balthasar) All could be either male or female. In our original production we had females playing all of these parts.

With this in mind there are a potential 11 roles for female and 8 for male, which balances the distribution of parts between genders. 'RJ' retells the story of Romeo and Juliet with a contemporary score, and the casting should reflect this forward-thinking with the distribution of parts between genders. A story must be told, in the end, it matters not whether that story is told by males or females, but rather that it is told well.

This is suitable for ages 12 and above. The voice ranges in the songs are written to suit voices of all ages and ranges. There is also plenty to keep the chorus busy as you will see from our **PERUSAL SCORE** (available to view by request).

Pitching of Solos, there are some parts, especially those where a female alternative is suggested, that are pitched for Soprano, but they could easily be sung an octave lower by a Low Alto voice.

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CHARACTER (SINGING ROLES)

<u>CHARACTER (SINGING ROLES)</u>	<u>GENDER</u>	<u>RANGE</u>
NARRATOR / PRINCE , The Prince of Verona	M/F	Baritone/Mezzo Sop
MERCUTIO , kinsman of the Prince and friend to Romeo	M/F	Tenor/Sop /Alto (8vb)
FRIAR LAURENCE , a Franciscan Monk, confidant to Romeo and Juliet	M	Baritone/Bass
LORD MONTAGUE , Head of the Montague Family	M	Baritone
LADY MONTAGUE , mother of Romeo	F	Alto/Mezzo
ROMEO , son of Montague	M	Baritone
BENVOLIO , nephew of Montague, cousin to Romeo and friend to Mercutio	M	Tenor
LORD CAPULET , Head of the Capulet Family	M	Tenor
LADY CAPULET , mother of Juliet	F	Soprano
JULIET , daughter of Capulet	F	Soprano
TYBALT , cousin of Juliet	M/F	Tenor/Soprano
NURSE , Juliet's nanny and confidant	F	Alto
ABRAM (ABI) , of the Montague household	M/F	Any gender/voice
BALTHASAR (BALTHA) , of the Montague household	M/F	Any gender/voice
SAMPSON (SAM) , of the Capulet household	M/F	Any gender/voice
GREGORY (GRETLE) , of the Capulet household	M/F	Any gender/voice
CHORUS , of Capulets, Montagues and Citizens of Verona		SATB or UNISON

CHARACTER (NON-SINGING ROLES)

PARIS , a young count, kinsmen of the Prince and suitor to Juliet	M
FRIAR JOHN / SISTER JOAN , Friar Laurence's assistant	M/F
APOTHECARY , of Mantua	M/F
SERVANT , to Lord Capulet	M/F

PLUS - There are many solos for chorus members throughout the show.

Hire Pack

3 Piano/Vocal Scores, Principal Scores/Libretto and Chorus Scores. These are hired for a basic 5-month period terminating with the final performance of the Musical Play. If you require a longer period of time the cost will be calculated at a fixed fee per month, per item. Conductor's Score and Orchestral Parts (Full or Reduced), which are included in the **hire-fee**, are normally hired for a basic 6-week period terminating with the final performance of the Musical Play. If you require a longer period of time the cost will be calculated at a fixed fee per week, per set.

Additional Scores and Libretti can be hired for an additional charge. The hire pack can be requested for extra time for an additional charge.

Hire Fee

An application form (RJAPP) and hire fee is required to secure your performance. Please complete and return the form RJAPP with a cheque (made payable to '**A. W. Milburn**') for the amount indicated below. This **hire-fee** is non-refundable;

	HIRE-FEE	ROYALTIES
Educational/Youth	£150	+ 10% of box office each show (£50 min. per performance).*
Adult/Amateur	£225	+ 10% of box office each show (£70 min. per performance).*
Professional	£CALL	

* Performance Fees (Royalties)

A percentage of the box office each performance (with a minimum amount payable per performance, whichever is the greater) is charged to cover royalties and must be paid no later than two weeks after the final performance. Please see the information sheet entitled 'Royalties' (RJFEES) for further details.

Orchestral Parts

FULL ORCHESTRAL PARTS. 6-week period.

Reed 1(Fl/Picc), Reed 2(Oboe), Reed 3(Cl/Alto), Reed 4(Cl/Tenor), Reed 5(Bassoon), Trumpet, French Horn, Trombone, Acoustic/Electric Guitar, Electric Bass, Drum Kit, Percussion(tuned & untuned), Synth I, Synth II, PLUS EITHER – Strings – Violin I(1 or 2 players), Violin II(1 or 2 players), Viola(1 or 2 players), Cello(1 or 2 players), Double Bass(1 or 2 players). OR Synth III(All string parts reduced).

REDUCED ORCHESTRAL PARTS. 6-week period.

Reed 1(Fl/Picc), Reed 2(Cl/Alto), Reed 3(Cl/Tenor), French Horn, Acoustic/Electric Guitar, Electric Bass, Drum Kit, Synth I, Synth II, PLUS EITHER – Strings – Violin I(1 or 2 players), Violin II(1 or 2 players) OR Synth III(All string parts reduced).

Orchestral parts can be hired for an additional fee of £30 per week.

(NB: It is recommended that all string players use pick-ups and amplification if possible, alternatively larger string sections may be required).

Extra Vocal Scores / Libretti AND/OR additional time

Extra Scores are available in addition to those contained in the **HIRE PACK**.

Hire additional copies (**5-month period**).

	<i>Extra Copies for 5-month period</i>
Piano/Vocal Scores:	@ £20 per copy
Principal/Libretto Scores:	@ £10 per copy
Chorus Scores:	@ £10 per copy

You can also hire the **HIRE PACK** for extra time if necessary, charged at **£50** per additional month.

Recording Licence

If you wish to record your performance of this work onto any form of playback media for distribution strictly within the membership of the production company, an additional recording fee of **£150** must be paid, and written permission must be sought **BEFORE** the dress rehearsal of the performance. A. W. Milburn will also be entitled to **50%** of the selling price. Please read the 'Terms and Conditions' for further details.

Terms and Conditions

A Licence granted to the above Production Company for the Musical Play and dates mentioned above is subject to acknowledgement and acceptance of the Terms and Conditions. Please read carefully.

This musical is an absolute must for any Amateur Theatre Company/ Dramatic Society, Youth Theatre Company or School in need of something exciting, challenging, fun and even educational to perform.

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TERMS & CONDITIONS

Please read these carefully.

1. The Licensee agrees to return, at its own expense and responsibility, all hired Orchestral parts, Vocal Scores and Libretti, in the same condition as received **not later than 14 days** after the final performance and to make good any damage or loss they may suffer whilst in the possession of the Licensee. The Licensee agrees to obtain a Certificate of Posting from the Post Office as proof of postage. Such parts may only be used for the stage production which is the subject of the Licence.
2. The Licensee agrees to perform the Work in accordance with the script and/or music and not make any major alterations, cuts or interpolations unless prior permission, in writing, has been granted by the Licensor.
3. The Licensee agrees to give equal credit to the authors and composers of the Work in a prominent size type on all programmes, posters and other advertising material. The words “**AWM MUSIC**” and **logo** must be stated/included on such material. Space must also be made in the programme to include either an advertisement for AWM MUSIC and/or a reference to our website, **www.awmmusic.co.uk**.
4. The Licensee agrees to send to the Licensor one copy of the printed programme and to make available two seats free of charge, if requested by the Licensor, for their representatives to view the production during one of the regular performances.
5. **The Licensee recognises that the performance in whole or part may not be broadcast, televised, recorded by tape, both audio or video, or by any other means, analogue or digital. It is the duty of the Licensee to prevent unauthorised recording of the work by its members or by the public attending the performance. If the Licensee wishes to record the work for distribution strictly within its members, a recording fee of £150 will be charged and the Licensor is entitled to 50% of any profits made from the sales of such material. The Licensee **MUST** obtain written permission from the Licensor prior to the dress rehearsal of the production. The Licensor must also receive the recording fee **BEFORE** the dress rehearsal of the production.**
6. All rights other than those specifically granted herein are strictly reserved to the Licensor.
7. **The Licensee agrees to advise the Licensor immediately in the event of a cancellation or any change to performance details.** The Licensor has the right to charge a cancellation fee in addition to any hire and postage charges incurred at their discretion.
8. **The Licensee agrees to pay a non – refundable hire fee on confirmation of being granted permission to perform the Work. The Licensee agrees to forward the final invoice and full payment within fourteen days from the date of the final performance, unless otherwise instructed.**
9. **The Licensee agrees that a performance royalty, calculated as a percentage of the gross box office receipts, per performance, or a guaranteed minimum charge per performance (or whichever is the greater), is payable to the Licensor.**
10. **The Licensor retains the rights to change the fees /figures, without given notice, for any of the following; the Performances Royalties, Hire Materials, Orchestral Scores and / or any special offers that may be offered. This will not affect the fees / figures for any performances that have already been booked, regardless of the amended fees / figures, if a performance has been booked, the Licensor will adhere to the price agreed with the Licensee. The Licensor reserves the right to refuse permission for both Performing Licence and Recording Licence at their own discretion.**