

# THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST

**BY OSCAR WILDE**

**DIRECTED BY SARAH GILES**

## CURRICULUM LINKS

Drama Stages 4 – 6

English Stages 4 - 6

## PLOT SYNOPSIS

Friends and unwitting co-conspirators, Algernon Moncrieff and Jack Worthing lead secret double lives. In town, they're gadabout bachelors, enjoying all the delights that Victorian London has to offer young men of means. In the country, they're pious, retiring, and upstanding members of the quiet gentry. But when Algernon sets his sights on Jack's naïve ward Cecily, and Jack is barred from marrying his beloved Gwendolen by her imperious aunt Lady Bracknell, their alter egos spring into action. Will these antics result in a mastermind game of deception? Or will they devolve into a hilarious mess of mistaken identities?

## APPROX. DURATION

2 hour 20 mins, including interval

## CHARACTERS & CAST

<b>Merriman, Butler / Servant</b>	Gareth Davies
<b>Cecily Cardew</b>	Melissa Kahraman
<b>Miss Prism, Governess / Servant</b>	Lucia Mastrantone
<b>John Worthing</b>	Brandon McClelland
<b>Lane, Manservant</b>	Sean O'shea
<b>Moulton, Footman / Servant</b>	Emma O'Sullivan
<b>Rev Canon Chasuble / Servant</b>	Bruce Spence
<b>Lady Bracknell</b>	Helen Thomson
<b>Gwendolen Fairfax</b>	Megan Wilding
<b>Algernon Moncrieff</b>	Charles Wu

## FORM AND STYLE

- Heightened Realism
- Melodrama
- Satire
- Farce
- Comedy of Manners
- Camp