

SUNSET BOULEVARD – PRINCIPAL CHARACTERS

Norma Desmond. playing age 45-60. Silent movie star who still lives in her isolated dream world of the past. Maturely attractive and stylized in dress and manner. Eccentric and jaded. Soprano

Joe Gillis, playing age 30 – 40, Strong vocal, high baritone, not “pop” style writer struggling to make his name in Hollywood. Not Hollywood in manner, but very Hollywood in looks. Tall, strikingly handsome, self-assured, yet with a manly rugged demeanor. An excellent singer with a natural film-style approach. Charming, with an opportunist-like quality. High Baritone

Max von Mayerling, playing age 50 to 60, baritone, Ex-film-director-turned-devoted-servant, with European accent. Norma's biggest fan and also her ex-husband.

Artie, playing age 25 – 30, tenor, Joe's friend, a generous, hardworking director's assistant. Clean cut professional, but fun. Betty's fiancé.

Betty Schaefer, playing age 20 – 27, soprano, belt/mix, Artie's fiancée, a clean-cut, bright-looking girl, in her twenties. Sweet but sophisticated in a professional manner, a go-getter who wants to sincerely work with Joe...eventually falling for him.

Cecil B DeMille, playing age 50 – 65, Famous film director. Baritone, Strong, imposing with a fatherly quality. Doubles as other roles.

Sheldrake/Ens, playing age 45 – 60, Boss of the studio, neurotic, stressed. Doubles in additional roles. Baritone

Manfred/Ens, playing age 30 – 45, tenor, expensive tailor to the stars. Doubles in additional roles.

ALL PLAYING AGES ARE APPROXIMATE!