

## ***A Man of No Importance* character speeches for auditions**

### **ALFIE**

This is for all of us. This, what we do here, our play, is not real life. And that is Wilde's great achievement. To take the crude clay of real life and to transmute it into art. So, though Salome is a belly dancer, she's as pure as quicksilver is pure. Do you see? Wilde had no life aside from art. Remember that. He lived in the realm of the aesthetic. He never descended into the sewer. Let's rehearse. Second Cappadocians, quickly, quickly! First Nazarene! Complete concentration now. No smoking or eating. Or gum chewing. This is a very difficult scene for Miss Rice. Silence!

### **LILY**

A girl! Oh, Alfie! Well, that is the power of the nine weeks of St. Jude for you! Excuse me while I faint. No, while I holler out the window: Mum, Dad, wherever you are up there: tell Gabriel to blow his mighty horn. My own dear sweet little brother's in love!

### **ADELE**

What are you all looking at? I didn't move to Dublin to be made fun of! Go to hell all of you, I'll walk...I expected more from city folk, but I guess human nature is what it is, big city or village: mean spirited and vile. A single girl is the butt for anyone's jokes.

### **CARNEY**

The St. Imelda's Players have the distinct privilege of presenting for your play-going perusal and dramatic discernment *The Importance of Being Earnest* with Mr. William Carney in the leading role of Algernon. Mr. Carney, a familiar and beloved member of the St. Imelda's Players, is best known for his performances as Denny O'Connell, the irate father, in *A Night on the Town*, and *Long John Silver* in his own adaptation on *Treasure Island*, for which he also provided additional staging.

### **MRS. GRACE**

Margaret Grace returns to St. Imelda's after a brief absence brought on by her husband's condition. Maggie is perhaps best remembered for her Katisha in *The Mikado* and her portrayal of St. Joan. Her water colors may be seen in the lobby. They are for purchase.

### **BALDY**

James Michael O'Shea, (or "Baldy" as he is known to one and all), has stage managed every production at St. Imelda's since its founding. His late wife, Mary, will be remembered for her many performances on our stage. Mr. O'Shea is a retired publican.

**MISS CROWE**

Oona Crowe was Miss Prism in last season's performance of *The Importance of Being Earnest* but her favorite role remains the title in one in our centennial production of *Peter Pan*....My dear, may I make a suggestion? When you're speaking to me, always be sure to face away from the audience. That's right, your back to them. It's called upstaging. Just little tricks of the actor's craft, my dear. You'll catch on.

**ERNIE**

Ernest Lally will be remembered by St. Imelda's audiences for his sterling portrayal of Mustard Seed in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

**RASHER**

Rasher Flynn is a founding member of St. Imelda's and appeared in our inaugural production of *Pygmalion* as Colonel Pickering. In his youth, Rasher was an All-Ireland gymnast.

**SULLY O'HARA**

Sully O'Hara, currently unemployed, is making his theater debut with this production.  
Thank you.

**MRS. CURTIN**

Maureen Curtin was a child star of the Dublin Music Hall and has kept her skills well-honed. This performance marks her return to the stage after some years. The Curtins have 9 children: Deidre, Padric, Rosaline, Fintan, Rebecca, Juliet, Anton, George Bernard, and Portia.