

CALL OUT – Seeking participants for a study on the effects of theatre on society



Did you see Dundee Rep's production of *The Cheviot, the Stag and the Black, Black Oil*?

Would you like to take part in a research study on the effects of theatre on society?

"Art is not a mirror to hold up to society, but a hammer with which to shape it", is a famous quote attributed to playwright Bertolt Brecht. But there is disagreement over *how* the arts shape society.

This study is seeking to determine whether and how certain types of theatre can lead to societal change.

It focuses on Dundee Rep's acclaimed production of *The Cheviot, the Stag and the Black, Black Oil*, by John McGrath. I am interested in audience members' responses to this play.

I am an MSc student at the University of Edinburgh, conducting this study for my dissertation.

What would your participation involve?

The only prerequisite is that you attended a performance of Dundee Rep's *The Cheviot, the Stag and the Black, Black Oil* in 2015 or 2016, at any of the venues to which it toured.

If you would like to participate, you would need to be available for two informal interviews, each one lasting about one hour. We will chat about several themes covered in the play, and how they are relevant today. Your comments will be anonymised in the dissertation.

You do not need to remember the play in detail, as I will read out a brief summary and excerpts of the relevant sections.

To thank you for your participation, you will receive £10, free coffee or tea and cake at the interview, and reimbursement for travel expenses.



When: The interviews will take place the **weeks of 29th May and 5th June.**

We will choose times that suit your schedule within those weeks.

Where: We will meet at the cafés in the theatres to which Dundee Rep's *Cheviot* toured:

- Dundee Rep, Dundee
- Royal Lyceum, Edinburgh
- Eden Court, Inverness
- His Majesty's Theatre, Aberdeen
- Citizens Theatre, Glasgow

I will travel to whichever theatre is closest to you.

Who I Am:

My name is Amanda Grimm. I am a postgraduate student at the University of Edinburgh, on the MSc in Environment, Culture and Society. This study is for my final dissertation project.

Contact: If you would like more information or would like to take part, please contact me at: amandafgrimm@gmail.com. Thank you very much for your time, and I hope to meet you soon!

