

AUDITION NOTICE

**Pornography**

**By Simon Stephens**

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**WHAT’S IT ALL ABOUT**

July 7th 2015 marked the tenth anniversary of the London bombings. The city nosedived from elation at the 2012 Olympic bid win, into a state of shock at the news that Britain’s first suicide bombers had struck. In *Pornography,* Simon Stephens creates a kaleidoscopic view of London through 7 different seemingly unrelated stories.

The characters are all unnamed and include an angry racist teenager besotted with his teacher, a pair of siblings that enter into an incestuous relationship, a lonely older widow outcast in society, a working Mum who seeks vengeance on her boss, a male academic who makes an ill-judged move on a former student, and eventually one of the bombers himself on his final journey that day.

The play can also be rearranged and reordered in whichever way we choose, which will be decided upon throughout the rehearsal process.

**CREATIVE TEAM**

Director: Chris Davis

*A Woman of No Importance* by Oscar Wilde (Sussex University); *Educating Rita* by Willy Russell (Sussex University); *Dinner* by Moira Buffini (KDC Lion and Unicorn)

Producer: Madhia Hussain

Writer and Producer of *Fair Exchange* performed at Hen and Chickens Theatre (2014) and Tabard Theatre (2015). Currently developing new play *Homo-* with production team Written Foundations.

Assistant Director: Alastair Norton

*Directing: Rent (South Staffs Musical Theatre Company); Assistant Directing: Medea; Playwriting; “”Nothing the Matter Here”; Production; “Getting Out of Town” Concert in aid of Parkinson’s UK*

**WHO ARE WE LOOKING FOR**

We are looking to cast for a minimum of eight speaking roles, likely with a gender split of 5 female, 3 male. However, none of this is set in stone and may change depending on whom we see in the auditions. The characters are unnamed but roughly can be described as:

Character One: A working Mum who can be of any background and in her 20s/30s. Lost in an under-pressure world, she seeks vengeance on her demeaning boss.

Character Two: A young angry male teenager who becomes besotted with his teacher. He looks to be of Italian heritage but with an East End London accent

Character Three and Four: A pair of siblings of any gender in their 20s, from similar backgrounds. They enter into an incestuous relationship, with one much more dominant than the other.

Character Five: A man in his 20’s/30s to play one of the bombers of July 7/7. It is important that this character is played with empathy.

Character Six and Seven: A lonely male University teacher in his 40s-60s, and his former student in her 20s.

Character Eight: A lively elderly female in her 60s-80s, who has lived her life in the heart of the city.

We are looking for actors who have the ability to play multiple roles, so in the case of all these characters age is not an issue. You may not appear a certain age, but it is important that you can act that age to suit the relevant character. Racial background is generally also non-specific so we really encourage performers from a Mixed Race, Black and Asian background.

The play is made up of a series of monologues, two handers and group speaking. We are looking for actors who are flexible in the type of characters they play, and can work just as well alone as they can together in a group.

**KEY DATES**

**Workshop:** Monday 12 October, 7pm

**Auditions:** Sunday 25 Oct at 12pm, Tuesday 27 and Thursday 29 October at 7pm

**Recalls:** Saturday 31 October from 10am

**First read-through (depending on cast availability):** Wednesday 4 November

Rehearsals will be on Mondays and Wednesday nights initially, but may change as the rehearsals progress. Weekend days will alternate from Saturday to Sunday

The workshop, auditions and recalls will all be held at

City Library

1 Brewer Hall Gardens (off 55 Basinghall St)

London

EC2V 5BX

**Tech Rehearsal:** Sunday 24January from 10am

**Dress Rehearsal**: Monday 25 January from 10am (please expect to keep this date free all day)

**Performances:** Tuesday 26 January – Saturday 30 January. A Saturday matinee to be confirmed. The performances take place at the Bridewell Theatre (Bride Lane, Fleet St, London EC4Y 8EQ).

Please ensure that you keep the entire weekend of 23 – 24 January free, as this will include final rehearsals and get-in.

We will try to schedule rehearsals based around cast availability as much as possible but please indicate on your audition form any dates you are unavailable. Please be honest - this will not necessarily stop you from being cast.

**WORKSHOP**

**Monday 12 October – address above. 6.45pm for 7pm start. Finish 9pm (ish).**

* The workshop will be an opportunity to learn more about the production, the roles and the audition process and for you to ask the creative team questions.
* There will be some fun group exercises and the chance to read extracts of the script, and direct some of the pieces with smaller groups of 2 or 3.
* No preparation is required and attendance is strictly optional.
* If you are planning on attending the workshop, please e-mail **pornography.sedos@gmail.com** just so that we have an idea of numbers.

**AUDITIONS**

**Sunday 25 October at 11.45am for a 12pm start**

**Tuesday 27 and Thursday 29 October at 6.45pm for a 7pm start**

* Each audition will begin with a mix of warm up group exercises, to see how you can play different ages and switch from multiple characters.
* You will then be given a script extract, either a monologue or two-hander to practice before reading to the creative team.
* No preparation is required.
* Please note that we may only have time to hear you read for one character at the initial audition.

**We will aim to inform you by Thursday 29 October whether you have been recalled**. While we will try to take your preferred method of communication into account, we may have to notify you by another method due to time constraint. In the event that you are unsuccessful, we will be very willing to provide feedback when time permits.

**BOOKING AN AUDITION**

To book an audition please email the team at **pornography.sedos@gmail.com** stating:

* **Audition** in the subject line
* Full name
* Telephone number
* Preferred date
* Second preferred date in case we are over subscribed
* Availability on Saturday 31 October in case we want to recall you

There will be a cap per audition day, and we will notify you if full and refer to your second reference. Please email asap if you have to cancel.

**RECALLS**

**Saturday 31 October from 10am – 2pm**

* More details of the recalls will be given if you are recalled.
* We are not intending to do “workshop” recalls.
* No preparation is required.
* You will have time to prep the scenes prior to performing.
* We will want to use this time to see the chemistry between actors so some people may be asked to stay longer than others.

**We will aim to inform you by Sunday 1 November whether you have been cast or not.**

**FEES**

Sedos is one of London’s pre-eminent amateur theatre societies, with the aim of producing quality amateur shows to the best artistic quality possible. Please note that performers are not paid including expenses. **Auditions are free for Sedos members and £5 for non-members. If cast you will be required to become a Sedos member (currently £30 per year) and pay a participation fee of £30.**

**BACKSTAGE**

We are looking for a **LIGHTING AND SOUND** person to come on board early into the rehearsal process. The production will ideally feature video projection, strobe lighting and spot lighting and is a great opportunity for an individual interested in lighting and sound to really get involved and share their own unique ideas for staging the production. Please email **pornography.sedos@gmail.com** if you are interested or have any questions.

Sedos is always looking for volunteers to help with props/costumes, working Front of House or backstage. If you are interested in getting involved in any capacity please get in contact.

**We are looking forward to seeing you at the workshop & auditions!**

For more information about Sedos, please visit our website sedos.co.uk.