

Hush Now

Written & Directed by Danielle Florence & Carl Fletcher

Performance dates: 2-6 April 2019

Venue: Barons Court Theatre



1. Auditions

When: Monday 14, Tuesday 15 and Wednesday 16 January 2019. Choose whichever date suits you best but bear in mind that auditions get busier later in the week.

Time: Registration 6.40pm. Auditions from 7pm-9.30pm.

Where: Deptford Lounge, 9 Giffin Street, London SE8 4RJ. Nearest stations: Deptford (3 minute walk) Deptford Bridge (8 minute walk) and New Cross (9 minute walk).

Transport connections:

Deptford station is 6 minutes from London Bridge on SouthEastern and ThamesLink lines.

Deptford Bridge station is on the DLR from Bank or Canary Wharf.

New Cross station is 5 minutes from London Bridge on the SouthEastern line (also goes from Cannon Street) and is on the Overground line from Canada Water.

Format: Auditions are free and open to all. You do not need to prepare anything, the audition will be in the form of a group workshop. We are looking for people who are not afraid to try new things, and who play well with others. There will be some movement work, puppetry, vocal, improvisation, and acting. We are not expecting everyone to be able to do everything! In the rehearsals there will flexibility in who does what, and we will have time to teach skills, especially around operating puppets.

All three KDC spring shows will be auditioning in the same venue at the same time, to allow you the chance to audition for two or three shows in the same evening. The audition slot for each show will last between 40 - 60 minutes.

On the night you audition, you will be asked to fill in an audition form so that we have your contact details. On the form you can let us know if there are any specific parts you'd like to audition for or which play you prefer, as well as if there are any rehearsal dates you can't do.

2. Recalls

You will be contacted by Thursday 17 January if the directors would like to invite you recalls.

Time: 12 - 4pm, Saturday 19 January 2019

Venue: Theatre Deli - Deli Studios, 2 Finsbury Ave, London EC2M 2PA. Nearest tube(s): Liverpool Street (4 minute walk), Moorgate Station (5 minute walk).

3. Show Dates

The show will be performed from Tuesday 2 April to Saturday 6 April at Barons Court Theatre, 28a Comeragh Rd, Hammersmith, London W14 9HR . Each performance will start at 7.30pm and you will be called at least an hour beforehand to warm up. There will be a full run-through the Sunday before the opening night and a dress and tech rehearsal on Monday 1 April. On the Monday you will need to be available from midday onwards. If this is impossible for you, it may not vital but you will need to flag this to the director when you audition (verbally) and note it on your audition form.

4. Rehearsals

First rehearsal (depending on cast availability) on Monday 21 January 2019. Rehearsals will be mainly on Monday and Wednesday evenings and Sunday afternoons/evenings. You might not be needed for every single rehearsal. A rehearsal schedule will be created and circulated as soon as possible, once the cast's availability dates are all accounted for.

KDC rehearsals take place in central London. The most frequent venues used in past seasons are:

- Theatre Deli - Deli Studios, 2 Finsbury Ave, London EC2M 2PA. Nearest tube(s): Liverpool Street (4 minute walk), Moorgate Station (5 minute walk)
- Hoop and Grapes pub, 80 Farringdon St, London EC4A 4BL. Nearest tube(s): Blackfriars (7 minute walk), St Paul's Station (9 minute walk)

5. KDC Subs

Auditions are free and open to all. If you are cast, you will be required to pay a 'subs' fee of £70, which gives you membership of KDC for three seasons (one year). KDC Theatre is a charity. Your subs, along with tickets, help to cover some of the costs of the putting on the show.

6. About the Play

Hush Now is a semi-devised piece utilising physical theatre and puppetry to tell the story of a family fractured by grief. The play centres around a teenager haunted by his own guilt. He navigates the world in a new way since his father was taken from him, but as the pain he feels festers and grows, so does the monster that begins to torment him...

We will be starting with clearly designed characters & plot, but a loose script, so in the rehearsal process we will be developing the character interactions into their final state. We will have a mix of live action acting and puppet characters, puppets being used for flashback story elements and the supernatural. We also will be exploring a variety of storytelling techniques, including silent / music-backed movement sections, and a non-speaking main character. Several of the characters including the lead can be either male or female. The entire audience will be wearing headphones so we can mix the live feed from the stage with our soundscape, effects, and original music, and therefore precisely control the audience experience.

7. Cast Breakdown

We are looking for 5 or 6 performers to take on the following roles: (ages are the ages of the characters only. Actors need to *play* those ages, but do not necessarily need to *look* that age)

Penny (or Percy) (female or male, 15)

A damaged individual that is withdrawn and chooses not to speak since witnessing their father's death 3 years ago. They blame themselves for the accident, as in the Father put himself directly in mortal danger to save them. Ever since the accident Penny/Percy has been stalked by a Monster that either has chosen to haunt them, or possibly conjured up from their own guilt...

Penny's Mother (female, 30-40)

Trying to do her best under almost impossible pressure, the Mother has lost the love of her life and now must raise a child that she sadly neither wanted nor has bonded with.

Penny's Aunt (female, 35-45)

The sister of the lost father, the Aunt came to stay after his death and never left. She unfairly blames the Mother for corrupting her brother as a teenager and denying him the freedom she had.

Penny's Cousin (male or female, 18)

A bubbly confident individual that is the polar opposite of Penny. They have managed to put behind her the stresses that dog the rest of the family, and likes Penny because they listen.

Penny's Father (puppet only) (puppeteer male or female)

Entirely a puppet as the father is only seen in flashback through Penny's memories, so anyone can operate and voice this puppet. A proud and somewhat controlling patriarch that Penny worships.

Various minor characters, and The Monster

8. About the Directors

Danielle and Carl last year directed the acclaimed (apparently!) Red Envelope that was also on at the Barons Court Theatre. We have a fun, collaborative style, and though this play is not fully devised, we maintain many of those methods and plan to develop and personalise the play to our cast. We believe the best shows happen when we show off the personalities, skills and history of the cast.

9. Anything else?

We alter our shows to fit our cast. Come with enthusiasm to develop & play!

To meet the directors and find out more about the audition process, come to
KDC's Spring Season Launch
7pm on Thursday 10 January 2019
at The Hoop and Grapes, 80 Farringdon St, EC4A 4BL