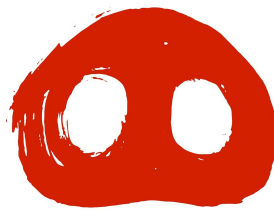


Animal Farm

Adapted by Nelson Bond from the book by George Orwell
Directed by Saskia van 't Hoff

Performance dates: 26 - 30 November 2019

Venue: Barons Court Theatre, 28a Comeragh Road, Hammersmith, London W14 9HR



1. Auditions

When: Monday 16, Tuesday 17 and Wednesday 18 September 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: Theatre Deli - Broadgate Studios, 2 Finsbury Ave, London EC2M 2PA. Nearest tubes: Liverpool Street (4 minute walk), Moorgate Station (5 minute walk).

Format: Auditions are free and open to all. You do not need to prepare anything for the initial audition. The audition will be in the form of games and exercises. Please make sure you wear something comfortable that you can move around in easily as we will do some movement-based exercises.

Both KDC shows (this and 'Tis Pity She's a Whore) will be auditioning in the same venue at the same time, to allow you the chance to audition for both 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 19 September if the directors would like to invite you recalls.

Time: Registration 11:50am. Recalls 12 - 4pm, Saturday 21 September 2019

Venue: Theatre Deli - Broadgate 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 26 to Saturday 30 November 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 during the day on the Monday before the opening night. On the Monday you will need to be available from midday onwards. If this is impossible for you, it may not be 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 Wednesday 25th September 2019. Rehearsals will be no more than 3-per-week, mainly on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday evenings and Saturday/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 putting on the show.

6. About the Play

Animal Farm - the most horrendous bedtime story ever told.

A rebellion is being planned - the animals are taking over the asylum. Well, the farm. With song and bloodshed the suppressed successfully manage to overthrow the tyrannical overlords, to create a utopia of equality and prosperity. What could go wrong?

'Animal Farm' is a study in power, (in-)equality, corruption, and humanity. Originally written as a satirical piece warning against communism, it's never been more actual than now; a time where equality and authoritarianism are talked about more than Love Island.

Told as a fairytale, a bedtime story, a tale of caution - the actors are the animals, the narrators, and the humans. The suppressed, the overlords, and the bystanders. Actors will play multiple roles in an intimate setting at the Baron's Court Theatre. Looking the audience in the eye, they will tell the story of the rebellion and the power, holding up a mirror and asking the question: are we humans or animals?

7. Cast Breakdown

Animal Farm will be performed by 7 actors who will all play multiple roles.

Below are short descriptions of each main character, grouped together per actor. Playing ages are indications only; it is more about the right person than the age!

Narrator: The main storyteller of the play that is neither human nor animal.
also **Jones:** The often drunk and unkind owner of the farm the animals live on.
Male, 25+

Snowball: The pig who challenges Napoleon for power of the farm. Intelligent and less devious, the other animals are quite loyal to him.
also **Frederick:** Owner of the neighbouring farm, Pinchfield. Tough and untrustworthy.
Male, 25+

Squealer: Napoleon's right hand pig who spreads propaganda and stories to support his leader.
also **Moses:** A raven who tells stories of Utopia and paradise, after the animals die. They are also the messenger between the farms.
also **Pilkington:** Another neighbouring farm owner, but much nicer. Frederick's sworn enemy.
Male, 20+

Clover: A sweet cart-horse who suspects the pigs of changing the commandments, but is easily convinced she just remembered wrong. Boxer's best friend.
also **Various Animals:** The farm is more than pigs and horses; there is a big cast of various animals with their own distinctive voices and opinions!
Female, 18+

Boxer: A cart-horse of incredible strength but minimal intelligence. He doesn't question the pigs and just works. His mottos are "I will work harder" and "Napoleon is always right".
also **Benjamin:** The long-lived donkey that does what he likes, unimpressed by the pigs or unwilling to challenge the changes, he believes life will always be hard no matter who is in charge.
Male, 30+

Old Major: The prize-winning boar whose vision of Utopia kick-starts the rebellion. Old Major dies three days after teaching the animals the song and vision, leaving the other pigs and Napoleon to take charge.

also **Napoleon:** The pig who steps up to lead the rebellion against the humans. He uses intimidation and lies to gain power and trust.

Male, 25+

Mollie: Vain and pampered, Mollie doesn't like life after the rebellion. There are no hair ribbons for a start.

also **Muriel:** The goat who can read. She is often seen with Clover, reading over the ever-changing commandments.

Female, 18+

8. About the Director

This is Saskia's third time directing for KDC; first in 2016 with *There Has Possibly Been An Incident* and most recently for *Carried Away* in the summer of 2019. She also directs for Directors Cut Theatre Company, and frequently stage manages on various shows.

As a director, Saskia works from a technical basis. She uses games and exercises to create characters and scenes. Specifically with *Animal Farm*, special attention will be given to the storytelling part of the play, and how to do that while in character. Saskia is also looking to incorporate movement pieces and choreography. There will be some mask work too, and some basic singing. Don't be put off by this; you don't need any experience with any of this!

Above everything else, Saskia aims to make the rehearsal and show process as fun as possible, and an environment where people can play and learn.

To meet the directors and find out more about the audition process, come to

KDC's Autumn Season Launch

7pm on Thursday 12 September 2019

at The Hoop and Grapes, 80 Farringdon St, EC4A 4BL

9. Anything else?

If you're not sure if this show is for you for whatever reason, please do come to the Autumn Season Launch on Thursday 12 September. You will be able to hear the director explain the vision for the play, and ask any and all questions you have.

If you want to be involved in the show but not as an actor, please contact us or come to the Autumn Season Launch; Saskia is looking for an Assistant Director to support rehearsals and the show, and a Sound/Light operator for during the show (this can be a combined role). It is a fun role with lots to do and many responsibilities!