

Casting Call for "Animal Farm The Sequel"

Talkin' Turkey Theatre

Requirements:

- We are seeking four actors.
- Physical theatre skills are desirable but not essential.

Audition Details:

Dates, times and locations:

- Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th of May from 7.15 to 9.30 pm at the Lantern Methodist Church, 2 Griffiths Rd, London SW19 1SP.
- Sunday 19th of May from 3.30 to 5.30 pm at William Morris House, 267 The Broadway, London SW19 1SD.

You will be asked to read for the part/s you are interested in auditioning for. Audition pieces are attached below, but there is no expectation on anyone to learn the lines ahead of the auditions. Paper copies of the audition pieces will be available on location.

Applications deadline: *Applications for auditions close at 1 pm on Wednesday 15th of May.*

How to Apply:

Please send audition form to Talkinturkeytheatre@gmail.com by 1 pm on the 15th of May 2024.

About the Play:

Animal Farm The Sequel is a new play that has been selected for the New Wimbledon Theatre Premieres Season for New Writing. The play, a continuation of George Orwell's seminal work, is a thought-provoking and timely piece that resonates with contemporary global challenges. *Animal Farm The Sequel* blends satire, drama, and social commentary to explore themes of power, greed, and the corruption of ideals. Set against a backdrop of environmental decay, inequality, and societal unrest, it acts as a stark reminder of the challenges facing our world today, urging audiences to engage with global issues.

Synopsis:

In the aftermath of a revolution gone awry, the beasts of Animal Farm embrace a new ideology, 'Neoanimalism', hoping it will lead them to true freedom and prosperity. As they navigate this new era, they are challenged by the intricacies of democracy, trade, environmental degradation, and the tantalizing temptation of panzucar - a deceptively sweet distraction. Soon it becomes evident that the appealing veneer of Neoanimalism masks deep-seated struggles and familiar contradictions. Fast-forwarding three generations beyond the closure of George Orwell's seminal work, this gripping tale continues the saga on Animal Farm, unveiling layers of ambition, deceit, and the relentless pursuit of an ideal world.

NOTE: *This project operates on a profit-share model. Actors' remuneration will not be fee-based; instead, they will share in the financial success of the production.*



Performance Details:

Venue: Studio at New Wimbledon Theatre, SW19 1QG.

Show Dates: 31 October to 9 November 2024 (Get in 28th October).

Rehearsals Details:

Rehearsals start on the 9th of June. Actors must be available for most Wednesdays 7:30 - 9:30 pm and Sundays from 2:00 – 8:00 pm from the 9th of June to the production date (with the exception of the last week of July and the first two weeks of August). Availability is also essential for the get in (28th to 30th of October) and for the production dates.

Location: Lantern Methodist Church, 2 Griffiths Rd, London SW19 1SP.

Roles Being Cast:

Alexandre (Male / Female, playing age 16 to early 20s): Alexandre is a resolute and physically strong mule, embodying the struggles of a troubled teenager grappling with identity and societal pressures. Forced to mature rapidly due to the harsh realities of his environment, Alexandre's journey reflects the challenges of youth transitioning into adulthood under difficult circumstances. This role demands an actor who can convey a complex blend of vulnerability, defiance, and strength.

Marcus (Male, playing age late 30s to 40s): Cast as a steadfast and wise donkey, Marcus is the supportive husband of Penelope, the tale's protagonist. Marcus is a pillar of reason and comfort, often providing sound advice to his wife in the most difficult moments. He combines wisdom with a deep emotional undercurrent.

Rambo (Male, playing age 18 to late 20s): Rambo is a robust and somewhat aggressive character, serving as the enforcer of the farm's elected rules. Despite his thuggish demeanour and tendencies to bully, Rambo is fiercely loyal to his master, displaying a complex duality in his loyalty and his methods.

Rosa (Female, playing age 20s to 30s): Rosa is a rabbit, currently pregnant, and primarily focused on the safety and well-being of her kits. Rosa embodies the spirit of maternal instincts and the concerns of ordinary life amid societal upheaval.

About the Company:

Animal Farm The Sequel is the first production of [Talkin' Turkey Theatre](#), a new company dedicated to producing engaging and socially relevant content. Despite our recent inception, our team boasts wide and diverse expertise in theatrical arts, including seasoned actors, directors and creatives. Our mission is to create bold and thought-provoking theatre that tackles contemporary issues head-on. We believe in the transformative power of theatre to shape society through productions that challenge conventional narratives. Our goal is to stimulate reflection and debate, encouraging audiences to ponder and question, rather than providing definitive answers.

This is a great opportunity to get visibility through the New Wimbledon Theatre Premieres Season and work alongside a group of talented experienced actors and creatives. We look forward to discovering talented performers who can contribute to this compelling narrative. Thank you for your interest in *Animal Farm The Sequel* and for considering being a part of this important dialogue.

ALEXANDRE AND MARCUS

Alexandre the mule enters the stage, a backpack slung over his shoulder, his mood visibly sour.

ALEXANDRE.- Oh for goodness sake, not panzucar again! Don't you have anything better to talk about?

MARCUS.- Hi Alex, how was school?

ALEXANDRE.- Fine.

MARCUS.- How did your exam go?

ALEXANDRE.- Fine.

MARCUS.- Did you hang out with your friends afterwards?

ALEXANDRE.- That's none of your business.

MARCUS.- Hey! Don't talk to me like that!

(Beat)

MARCUS.- What's wrong Alex? You've been so grumpy lately, is there something bothering you?

ALEXANDRE.- Forget it!

MARCUS.- No, I won't just "forget it". Talk to me!

ALEXANDRE.- It's nothing, OK?

MARCUS.- Is it about panzucar?

ALEXANDRE.- Maybe.

MARCUS.- Son, we've discussed this. Panzucar's bad for you. It'll ruin your teeth!

ALEXANDRE.- I don't care about my teeth!

MARCUS.- And do you care about going hungry? Because panzucar harms the soil too.

ALEXANDRE.- You don't know that.

MARCUS.- I do, I've worked those fields for decades, and every year it gets harder to grow anything.

ALEXANDRE.- But you don't know if it's because of the panzucar, do you? It might be something else.

MARCUS.- Like what?

ALEXANDRE.- I don't know, do I? All I know is that everyone else seems fine with it.

MARCUS.- Well, not this family.

ALEXANDRE.- Great!

Alexandre stands to go.

MARCUS.- Alex, please stay. We need to talk.

ALEXANDRE.- Talk about what dad? We've gone over this a million times!

MARCUS.- I just want you to understand.

ALEXANDRE.- No, I don't get it! I don't know what's your problem with panzucar, everyone eats it, and they certainly look happier than us.

MARCUS.- It's bad Alex.

ALEXANDRE.- It's delicious.

MARCUS.- How would you know?

ALEXANDRE (*hesitant*).- My friends... they told me.

MARCUS.- Open your mouth.

ALEXANDRE.- No.

MARCUS.- I said open your mouth Alex! Open it!

Marcus tries to open his son's mouth. Alexandre resists but eventually gives in. He opens his mouth wide, expressing mock anger.

ALEXANDRE.- Uuuuugh! There! Happy now?

MARCUS.- You've got a rotten tooth!

ALEXANDRE.- So what?

MARCUS.- Have you been eating panzucar?

ALEXANDRE.- Leave me alone.

Alexandre turns to leave, but MARCUS grabs his arm.

MARCUS.- Alex, why are you doing this? Why won't you listen?

ALEXANDRE.- Because you know nothing, that's why. You don't have a clue! You don't know what it's like for me! The only stupid mule in the whole farm!

ALEXANDRE AND RAMBO

RAMBO.- Do you know what dogs used to do to rats?

HERCULES.- You can't do that anymore, no animal should harm another animal, remember?

RAMBO.- Oh really? But accidents happen. Maybe he'd fall off the barn roof! Or suffocate in his stinky hole! Tragic!

ALEXANDRE.- Let him go! Now!

RAMBO.- Calm down Muleculous! Shouldn't you be helping mummy with the flyers?

Rambo snatches Alexandre's backpack, rummaging through it with a cruel glee, and scattering its contents.

ALEXANDRE.- Give me that!

RAMBO.- Do you have them in here Muleculous? Let's see.

Rambo finds a box with food.

RAMBO.- Look! Mummy packed breakfast for Muleculous! How sweet! Or was it daddy? Is mummy too busy campaigning?

Alexandre grows increasingly frustrated. Rambo picks up a lump of panzucar that has fallen on the floor.

RAMBO.- Oh look at this! Naughty Muleculous!! Eating panzucar? Does mummy know?

ALEXANDRE.- Give that back!

RAMBO.- I bet she doesn't. She'd be so angry! You'd get a big spank Muleculous!

ALEXANDRE.- Give it back!

RAMBO.- Oh maybe mummy doesn't spank you anymore. Will she give you a Ministry when she wins the election?

ALEXANDRE.- Shut up!

RAMBO.- You could be Minister of Dumb Heads. Or Minister of Outcasts.

ALEXANDRE.- Stop it!

RAMBO.- Oh I got it! Minister of Reproductive Failure!!

Alexandre, unable to contain his anger, lunges at Rambo, and they start fighting.

ROSA

CORNELIUS.- Additionally, we have strategically deployed more defence weapons around the farm to repel human attacks and deter any unauthorized entry. Our farm is stronger and safer than ever before.

ROSA.- This is all well and good, but what about food? I have twelve hungry kits at home!

CORNELIUS.- Dear Rosa, I understand your concerns, but at this crucial moment, I believe your predicament is not patriotic. We must focus on defending our beloved farm from those who seek to destroy us.

ROSA (to Victoria).- Will Pilkington trade panzucar for food?

VICTORIA.- I believe he will.

ROSA.- Cornelius, give me my panzucar.

CORNELIUS: She's lying to win your favour!

ROSA.- I own 98 kg! I want them now!

CORNELIUS.- Calm down my friend! What is this panic about?

ROSA.- My kits are hungry! I want to buy some carrots from the farmer.

CORNELIUS.- The mare is lying! The farmer is not a friend of ours, he's...

ROSA.- Give us what is ours, Cornelius!

CORNELIUS.- We should not be swayed by momentary hunger. Our farm, our freedom, are at stake. Don't...

ROSA.- Enough talking!

CORNELIUS.- Please, please! listen to me. You must not forget the purpose of this farm - to be free from human influence. Remember we were once under human oppression...

ROSA.- Human oppression, pig oppression, it all looks the same to me! Give me my panzucar now!