



## **Assistant Director Le Navet Bete and John Nicholson's 'King Arthur'**

Hello! Thank you for your interest in the role of Assistant Director on *King Arthur* with Le Navet Bete.

This short doc is designed to give you all the information you need, but if there's anything that you're unsure of or if you need assistance with anything, please don't hesitate to contact Le Navet Bete's producer, Al Dunn ([al@lenavetbete.com](mailto:al@lenavetbete.com)).

We want Le Navet Bete to be a rewarding and enjoyable place to work where people are treated with respect, valued for who they are and the contribution they make. For this role of Assistant Director we welcome applications from people irrespective of age, disability, race, gender, religion or belief, responsibilities or sexual orientation. We believe our organisation and collaborative way of working is strengthened by the skills and experiences that come from a diverse workforce and that our work is at its best when it is impacted upon by people from a wealth of varied backgrounds and life experiences.

### **About the Show**

*King Arthur* will be a three-handed, ludicrously fast paced piece of physical comedy theatre touring to midscale venues across the country throughout 2023/2024 and beyond. The show will explore how the Arthurian Legends came into existence and question what it is to create a story that treads the line between legend and fantastic human endeavour. Material will also be developed in association with key focus groups of young people through co-creation workshops in and around the south west. *King Arthur* is in association with Landmark Theatres and funded by Arts Council England.

### **Role Details and Key Dates**

Fee: £2750 (£550 pw)

- Freelance engagement from 21<sup>st</sup> August 2023 – 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2023

- This will be a full-time position working in Exeter, Monday - Friday from 21<sup>st</sup> August to 15<sup>th</sup> September.
- Rehearsals will take place at Theatre Alibi, Emmanuel Hall, Emmanuel Road, Exeter, EX4 1EJ from 9am – 6pm (start and end times subject to change).
- We will transfer to the Queens Theatre, 100 Boutport Street, Barnstaple, EX31 1SY for tech week on the 18<sup>th</sup> of September and remain there until the 23<sup>rd</sup> of September.
- Opening night will be the 21<sup>st</sup> of September.
- Some evening sessions will be expected during tech week.
- Accommodation will be provided in Barnstaple for tech week (18<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> September).
- Travel costs not included.

## **The Role of the Assistant Director**

We are looking for an Assistant Director to provide imaginative and administrative support to the Director, John Nicholson, during the creation of the show. The Assistant Director will work closely with John and the team (three cast members and the wider creative and technical teams) to create the show, whilst having the opportunity to observe a professional theatre director in action.

## **What You Will Do**

- Attend rehearsals and provide general and imaginative support to the Director - e.g., researching elements of the play, discussing the show together.
- Understanding and facilitating the rehearsal process - e.g., keeping in mind rehearsal goals and schedules.
- Help the Director with communicating notes and updates with venue staff, cast, creative and technical teams - e.g., sending email updates to the producer.
- Work alongside the cast to help facilitate open rehearsals in the co-creation workshops.
- Work closely with the cast, providing support and care - e.g., running warm-ups, helping with line-runs and practising fight / movement choreography, giving notes on performances, checking up on the wellbeing of the cast and wider teams.
- Attend all tech rehearsals, dress rehearsals and preview performances, offering notes and supporting their smooth running.
- Attend all performances of the opening week of the production, making notes for the cast and technical team to ensure the production is of the highest quality.

## **What We Are Looking For**

### **Essential**

- You would be confident in offering your insight, experience and expertise to support the Director, cast and creative / technical teams.

- You can offer administrative support, such as scheduling plans for the next day.
- You are a strong communicator, verbal and via email and in delivering notes to the team.
- You enjoy developing relationships with the Director, cast, creative and technical teams.
- You have a deep commitment to supporting actors and members of the creative team.

## Desirable

- You have had experience of working on at least two shows (including fringe performances, community theatre, digital work) as Director or Assistant Director
- You live / have a base in or around Exeter / south west UK.

**Please note** - do not apply if, at the time of applying for this role, you are in full or part-time education. We want to offer this opportunity to someone in the early stages of their professional practice.

## How to Apply

To apply please:

- Email your CV to [info@lenavetbete.com](mailto:info@lenavetbete.com)
- Fill out our Anonymous Equal Opportunities survey <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/TC5BGJ6>.
- Include your full name and *King Arthur* Assistant Director in the email subject.

**The deadline for all applications is midday on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2023.**

If you choose to, you are also welcome to submit a personal statement alongside your CV, either in the form of a one-page cover letter or a short video or sound file (2 minutes max).

We will inform you of our decision and interviews will take place shortly afterwards either in person or online.

If you have any further questions about the application or Assistant Director role, then please don't hesitate to contact [info@lenavetbete.com](mailto:info@lenavetbete.com) and we will be more than happy to help.

## ***King Arthur* Creative & Technical Team (as of June 2023)**

Producers - Le Navet Bete

Co-Writers - Le Navet Bete & John Nicholson

Director - John Nicholson

Cast - Le Navet Bete (Nick Bunt, Al Dunn, Matt Freeman)

Set & Costume Design - Fi Russell

LX Design & Technical Manager - Stuart Billingham

SFX Design / Composer - Jonny Wharton  
Set Builders - Backdrop Design  
Prop maker - Lizi Bennett  
Stage Manager - Mel Moran / Fi Russell  
Audience Development Manager - Anna Bunt  
Filmmaker & Videographer - Simon Burbage  
Graphic Design - Rebecca Pitt  
Photographer - The Other Richard

## About Le Navet Bete

We are one of the UK's leading touring physical comedy theatre companies having been proudly based in Exeter, Devon UK since 2008. Our mission is to create and tour hilarious, physical and totally accessible comedy theatre using creative and engaging storytelling for absolutely everyone (ages 4 - 104!) throughout the UK and internationally. We are Associate Artists at the Exeter Northcott Theatre and Artists in Residence at the Exeter Phoenix.

There are three of us who make up the core team of the company - Nick Bunt, Al Dunn and Matt Freeman. We first met each other whilst studying on the Theatre and Performance course at the University of Plymouth in 2003 and, since graduating, have produced over a dozen indoor and three outdoor shows, seen by hundreds of thousands of people, to huge critical acclaim and success.

Our first two shows *Serendipity* and *Zemblanity*, heavily influenced by bouffon and non-narrative-based structures, were performed at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe in 2008 and 2009 respectively and gained multiple five-star reviews. As we developed over the following years, our inimitable style of performance became much more storytelling / narrative-driven with hit shows such as *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*, *Dick Tracy* and *Robin Hood and His Merry Men* placing physical theatre, fooling and slapstick at the heart of it. Our most recent touring shows *Dracula: The Bloody Truth*, *The Three Musketeers: A Comedy Adventure* and *Treasure Island* have all been published by Nick Hern Books, licensed internationally and are regularly performed by companies across the world and have been translated in multiple languages. We have performed the Exeter Northcott Theatre's Christmas show for the past three years with *Treasure Island*, *A Christmas Carol* and *Robin Hood*. Christmas 2023 will see us back there co-writing and performing in *Dick Whittington*.

Diversifying our work has been at the centre of our ethos right from the very beginning. This saw us branch out into outdoor performance in 2010, quickly becoming one of the UK's most ridiculously outrageous, much-loved outdoor acts, performing to hundreds of thousands of audiences from the circus fields at Glastonbury Festival and the beautiful gardens of the Herrenhausen Palace in Hanover, Germany, to the picturesque Plaza de Armas in Morelia, Mexico, and high up on the side of the Rock of Gibraltar.

As well as performing, we have a widely renowned education programme specialising in physical comedy, performer-audience relationships and play, that we have taught in schools, colleges and universities across the world from the Royal Central School of Speech and Drama in London to the Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico in Mexico City.

The main reason we do what we do is that we simply love to make people laugh. Everyone should be able to enjoy theatre and that is exactly what we hope to achieve.

## **About the Director**

John is a writer, performer and director and is an Artistic Director of the award-winning Peepolykus with whom he has created 12 productions that have toured the company world-wide and into the West End with *The Hound of the Baskervilles* (which has also been licensed over 200 times worldwide). It's published by Nick Hern Books alongside four of John's other adaptations; *The Massive Tragedy of Madame Bovary*, *Dracula: The Bloody Truth*, *The Three Musketeers: A Comedy Adventure* and *Treasure Island*. For BBC Radio 4, John has written two afternoon plays, two series of *A Trespasser's Guide to The Classics* and a series of short stories with Rik Mayall. Writing/performing credits for TV include BBC3, BBC2, Paramount and ITV. Writing/directing commissions for theatre includes Aardman, Liverpool Everyman and Playhouse, Bristol Old Vic, Lyric Hammersmith, Leeds Playhouse, Traverse Edinburgh, Jermyn Street Theatre, Barbican Plymouth, Sydney Opera House, Pickled Image, National Youth theatre, BritishYMT, LIPA, Bath Theatre Royal, Pentabus, London Old Vic, Royal National Theatre, Spymonkey, Paul Merton, Nina Conti, Neal Street Productions and theatre company Le Navet Bete.