



## Casting call

### **We Will Be Happy Here**

Aurora's apprentice (performer/ animator/ walkabout role)



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## **Introduction – key details**

We are looking for a female/ non-binary or gender fluid person with performance/facilitation or walkabout immersive performance experience. They will be part of the team animating our interactive installation **We Will Be Happy Here** for learning disabled adults.

### **Aurora's Apprentice**

Female/ nonbinary or gender fluid person  
Age 20+

### **Rehearsals and participatory workshops**

Three weeks – w/c Mon 12, 19 and 26 July – London

### **Installation showings**

Three weeks – w/c August 2, 9 and 16 (Mon – Fri) - London and online

**Four weeks break** – w/c August 23 and 30, September 6 and 13

### **Workshops and installation showings**

Five weeks – September 20 and 27, October 4, 11 and 18 – London and Hampshire. There may be further extension to the tour tbc.

### **Pay**

Weekly wage £585 (ITC/ Equity rate plus 15%) plus holiday pay.  
Associated relevant expenses for touring weeks.  
Pension 5% employer contributory pension if matched with 5% employee contribution.

## **Experience required**

You need to be a flexible team member with a lot of patience, curiosity and able to explore risk.

You should have strong physical improvisation, devising and movement skills, object animation, be happy to work using lights and torches with the participants (faders and pushing buttons in response to the participants lead will be important), possibly overhead projectors. Musical ability is an advantage. There is a Stage Manager to run the installation overall.

Ideally you have worked on devised performance or walkabout installation work and/or sensory immersive experiences.

Experience of creative or other work with learning disabled adults may be an advantage.

If you have toured before, please let us know. If not you should know that this engagement will require at least one-week residential touring (Mon – Sat). The show will fit in one van and everyone will be assigned a role in the get in and get out.

## **About the role**

### **Aurora's Apprentice**

The Apprentice is a gentle facilitative presence supporting Aurora to make the visit what the Guest needs it to be. There will be a lot of responsive work and occasionally stepping in for the Guest if they want you to do something for them.

Age, height, weight, body shape, location (as long as you are prepared to tour and able to work in the UK) are not important. Whoever you are, you will need sometimes to defer to Aurora and always be able to disappear as a presence so that the Guest remains the focus. This is a role but not a performance. We are especially interested in meeting people from groups under-represented in arts.

The personae of Apprentice and Aurora may be exchangeable over time. In the event of illness, you may swap in with the Director standing by as ultimate cover!

## **We Will Be Happy Here – about the installation**

Made in consultation with first guests from the Bangladeshi Parents and Carers Association in Tower Hamlets and bespoke to all the guests in other locations and people taking part online, We Will Be Happy Here explores what it would feel like to live in a world that is designed with inclusion at its core. A multi-sensory immersive installation inhabited by Aurora and her Apprentice offers the guest and a support worker or family member the opportunity to experience, create, design, face down demons and share their ambitions building a digitally evolving exhibition to be shared with their local communities, friends, allies, politicians. We Will Be Happy Here is both a promise and a manifesto of requirements for an equitable world.

### **The Conceit**

The installation has been created by Aurora, a female artist who believes in the transformative power of creativity and the importance of creative expression, especially for people who do not use spoken language as their primary means of communication.

The Apprentice is Aurora's first ally – the first person to recognise the need to make these statements and champion people's views that were the first to be lockdown and may be the last to come back out into the world. Some may have been shielding prior to and after lockdown. As society contemplates the new normal, We Will Be Happy Here creates a much needed space for the wishes and experience of learning disabled people to be acknowledged and listened to and for their desired normal to be embodied.

### **Rehearsals and Workshops**

Aurora and the Apprentice will work together with Artistic Director Rebecca Manson Jones and the creative team to develop the sequences using light, sound, textures, savours, temperature, space and memory to create bespoke experiences for each of the guests – based on a series of

participatory workshops held prior to the installation visits either in person or online. The creative period will also involve visits from learning disabled advisors.

### **A Hybrid Work – Live in the space and live online**

During 2020, we continued as far as possible to work with our community partners on the telephone, in the post and through online sensory workshops and performances.

We decided to expand and develop this strand of our work. Depending on Covid regulations at the time of the installations, some visits will be by people joining us remotely over Zoom. We will offer this even if all restrictions are removed because we want to involve people shielding or who cannot travel for whatever reason.

As part of the role, you will be interacting in the installation with the guest over Zoom and will be trained on remote operation software by our stage manager.

### **Venues on Tour**

The installation will be resident in community centres, arts centres, it will be light construction and all team members will have a role in get-in and get-outs, costume and consumable props maintenance.

Adjustments to team member's access needs will be discussed before we go on tour but all team members will be asked to contribute however they can as part of their contract

## **About Spare Tyre**

***‘We want to work with people who want to change the world’ –***

Rebecca Manson Jones, Spare Tyre Artistic Director (Joint CEO)

***"It was a unique, multi-sensory experience. Our members and support workers fed back that they felt they were part of the experience and never seen anything as engaging and accessible."*** Michelle Kitch, Kingston Mencap

***“Spare Tyre has fearlessly explored difficult territory, ahead of these issues***

***being talked about more widely in mainstream discourse.”***

Elizabeth Lynch, Arts Producer & Theatre Research Fellow Birkbeck

Spare Tyre is a leading participatory theatre company that seeks to reflect society, challenge its prejudices and make life equal.

We create theatre with people that are under-represented in arts and culture and society’s decision-making at large. Built on more than 40 years experience, our work is participatory, collaborative, immersive, taboo-busting and above all responsive to the passions and talents of the people who make it.

Our projects visit traditional arts venues, community centres, care homes and online spaces. Meanwhile, we run and amplify creative campaigns that reflect the values and passions of our artists and participants.

Our current creative partnerships are with groups supporting:

- women who have experience of violence and abuse
- learning disabled and neurodivergent people
- people living with dementias and their carers.

We are also starting to work with participants who experience long term health conditions, including long COVID.

Some words often used to describe Spare Tyre include...



## How to apply

## Still Interested? – we like you already!

You need to be available for all the dates (we'd consider if people apply as a job share, or declare it on application, but we can't guarantee a match).

To apply send the following to Rose Chorlton ([rose@sparetyre.org](mailto:rose@sparetyre.org)):

- A professional performance/walkabout/animation CV.
- One page cover note to highlight your interest. You can do these in alternative formats (short videos or audios if you wish).
- Send a link to previous work or show reel that shows you in non-verbal contexts if you have one – but do not spend time or money making one!

If you require this pack in an alternative format, or would like to make an application in a video format, please let us know by emailing:

rose@sparetyre.org or calling our office on 0208 692 4446 (ext. 273) or calling/ texting 07598 142 058.

Please also complete the Diversity Monitoring Form, which is unattributed and will be separated from other documents at point of receipt.

Spare Tyre is intersectional by nature, anti-racist, inclusive, experimental and planet-loving by choice. We are committed to building a diverse workforce and welcome applications from individuals from all backgrounds.

## **Recruitment schedule**

**Deadline** 10am Monday 21 June 2021.

Possible Zoom calls/physical meetings Wednesday 23 to Friday 25 June

Recalls w/c June 28 tbc

Please note: Quick turn round is due to just receiving confirmation of funding.

We will probably only be able to meet about 10 people and will let you know when the role has been cast.

The offer will be made subject to an enhanced DBS check and our own safeguarding checks. Safeguarding training will be provided

All expressions of interest will be dealt with in confidence.

## **Covid Safety**

We strongly recommend you get vaccinated as soon as you are offered one for your safety, team members and so as not to put our participants at unnecessary risk. If this is not possible you can discuss this with us confidentially. The need for social distance rigour will continue irrespective of vaccination status and all team members will be required to adhere to Covid safe practice at work and to consider the nature of their work when going about their personal life during the engagement period.