

Casting Call

She Said What?!

Historical conversations
that never happened



Raucous, thought-provoking but mostly very funny. There's even a song or two.

Four women multi-role their way through imagined historical scenarios inspired by real events.

Horrible Histories meets 39 Steps. This is a dangerously entertaining show for adults.

Who we are looking for –

Four women who are flexible actors with comedy up their sleeves that love to multi-role. They relish the chance to jump from high stakes 'Film Noir' to medieval monastery farce to a poignant, thought-provoking scene set in World War 2.

We need one strong singer. The other actors should be happy to sing simple folk-style backing to accompany them.

Ideally our cast will be a contrasting and diverse group.

We would like to discuss and incorporate Actor's responses to scenes, so we hope to find people who are interested in the material and will find the process enjoyable and rewarding.

Commitment –

March 15th- 18th (Tuesday – Friday) Rehearsals 6-9pm at Dance Attic, Fulham

March 19th – no rehearsal

March 20th – In the Hope Theatre, Islington from 1pm. Meet the space, Dress reh, first show at 7:45

March 21st – In the theatre from 6:30 for warm-up and second show at 7:45

Pay is £27 per session. 7 sessions = £189 (Four rehearsal sessions, a dress rehearsal and two shows.)

The dress will be photographed and both shows will be filmed with the aim of developing and promoting the show. Photos and footage will be shared with the cast.

More About the Show -

Run time approx. 1hr

There is a 'found theatre' vibe, and the show produces as little waste as possible.

The cast will supply small nods to costume sourced from items they already own and bring in kitchen items to be used as props and percussion.

'She Said What' is new writing which has been developed with the support of the Newsroom Theatre Company and had its first performance at the Haringay Fringe last year.

Writer - Helena Raeburn, Director - Beth Clarence

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To apply please send the following to helenaraeburn@hotmail.com by Saturday 5th March

- Confirmation of your availability for rehearsals and shows.
- A link to your spotlight page or CV.
- Details of your singing experience and skill level and a link to a reel or recording if you have one.
- A link to a short self-tape.

Please don't attach original files, it will clog the email inbox!

For the self-tape, please -

1. Read the two pieces of script below.
2. Tell us about some theatre that has inspired you, it can be something you were in or something you watched. About 20-30 seconds is perfect.

Feel under no pressure to send us something beautifully polished for the self-tape, an on-script performance with your cat in the background is absolutely fine.
It is to help us get to know you and work out how you would fit in the group.

Thank you.

Script 1

I was at a suffrage march about a year ago. It was my first one. I'd made a banner and I was so nervous. I met a friend so we could march together.

It was noisy and busy and quite overwhelming. But I remember seeing the first girl in lipstick. It was such a shock! I'd never seen someone wearing it in real life. Then suddenly I realised loads of the women were wearing it, almost like a uniform. It was powerful. I'd read that only terrible women wore it, but they were decent and well dressed and just like me.

Then I saw where it was coming from – there was a lady outside Boots the chemist just handing out lipsticks. I went and took one. I felt so bold! I opened it and put some on and suddenly felt like I was one of the powerful women I'd seen before. It was like I feel when we're wearing our land girl uniforms. We're a team. We can do so much.

I got home and found I'd put it on really badly and it looked awful!
So, I got a mirror and practiced and now I can do it anywhere.

(Her story has relaxed the tension.)

I can't believe that was just over a year ago. Everything has changed so much.

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Script 2

Read all the characters. Have fun!

Father Pious – Deeply Pious and well-meaning but innocent and naïve.

Brother Frangelico – tempted often, knows he shouldn't, but is quite self-forgiving.

Brother Chartreuse – tempted often and hates himself for ever slip.

Brother Buckfast – Easy going, relaxed, not so aware of the rules.

Father Pious

Welcome back brothers, I hope you found the abbey lunch refreshing.

Frangelico

Very much so. I may have sampled a little too much of your fine cheese.

Chartreuse

I am in the middle of a seasonal fast, so ate nothing.

Buckfast

Well, I hope you enjoyed the smell of the food as you watched us eat. The flavours were divine.

Chartreuse

The guilt of that scent courses through me as keenly as though I had eaten everything I saw.
(Awkward silence)

Pious

Brothers, the village require us to write them another book of law. They have found our previous thoughts on criminal law, property law and the 6-day working week invaluable.

Frangelico

I still feel that the Lord should get one more day for us to rest on.

Chartreuse

We need to work out how to identify those who are coverting.

Buckfast

The restrictions we have laid down for sacred artistic self-expression are far too harsh.

Pious

Putting aside our differences and previous disagreements, let us strive to work together. The village wish our guidance in relation to sins of the flesh and marital relations.

Chartreuse

Surely this is the purest and simplest of all the laws

Frangelico

But flesh is weak and the temptations are multitude

Pious

We must guide our flock. We are celibate and are free from the sins of the flesh that others must suffer.

Buckfast

We must be glad that they do suffer them, or there would be no more brothers for the monastery.

Frangelico

Perhaps this sin may be seen as a blessing?

Chartreuse

Brothers, the bible is clear, bodily union can only be permitted within a marriage blessed by God.

Pious

It is as you say, simple.