



## Lyceum Young Company Audition Pack

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Following the success of our first Young Company production in April 2022, we are excited to announce a second opportunity for a new cohort of young people to present an exciting new piece of writing with the working title *The Multiverse is Gay: A play for everyone, from every Universe!*, by Lewis Hetherington in Spring 2023.

The script is still in development, but it will be an ensemble piece with 12 roles available for young people aged 16-21. As such, we are initially looking to build a strong group of performers who will work together to bring the play to life. The first six weeks of rehearsal will be dedicated to establishing the ensemble and casting specific roles.

### About the play

It's the last day of school and a raggle-taggle group of friends are bunking off. They break into some fancy private gardens to have a party. In a world that feels like it's falling apart, they are trying to hold themselves together. Other people seem to cast them as the outsiders; the geeks, the queer kids, the school dropouts. But they know they are a community, a family.

Except for Amber. She always feels slightly on the outside of things. Her friends couldn't be kinder, but she feels out of kilter. Like she's looking in on her own life, trying to work out what is wrong with her.

As the garden revels begin, Amber wanders off and accidentally stumbles through a portal which launches her in flight across the Multiverse. As she tumbles through time and space, will she finally find somewhere that she belongs?

*The Multiverse is Gay* (working title) is a wild, playful and joyful rollercoaster through life in High School, the multiverse, and finding yourself over and over and over again...

#### Creative Team

Director: Sophie Howell

Assistant Director: Leila Price

Writer: Lewis Hetherington

### About the characters

**Amber** has moved around a lot. She doesn't ever feel like she has settled. She feels so happy to have found this group, but it feels almost too good – she sees these friends, so kind, so full of light...but she doesn't feel that way. She feels broken and scratchy and empty inside.

**George** has been leading a protest for the whole last term of school against the School Prom, on the grounds it is regressive and reinforces oppressive hetero-patriarchal norms! George is very passionate, and desperate to get people on board with the cause.

**Benny** just wants to have a good time. Just for one day – no drama, no campaigns against injustice, no ranting at the world. Just fun. They used to go out with George, and thought maybe they felt that

spark igniting, they thought maybe they'd ask them to the Prom, but then...all the anti-prom started, and Benny remembered why they broke up...

**Dan and Lucy** left school a few years ago, they now grow and deliver their own vegetables to rich people who across the city. It's hard work but they're doing their bit to change the world. Lucy is wondering if they are really making a difference. Maybe she should just get a real job. But she doesn't think she could ever tell Dan, he'd be broken.

**Jessie** holds a secret sadness the others don't know about and never had. Jessie lives with it and that's ok. It also means they can see that Amber is also hiding a sadness too. They think Amber is amazing and wish they could tell her how they feel.

**ALL THE AMBERS:** When Amber heads off into the Multiverse, she meets many, many versions of herself: men, women, non binary, cyborg, Ambers that only sing, Ambers that can fly, Ambers that live underwater, Ambers who have been lost and roaming the multiverse for thousands of years...maybe, together, they can work out how to make sense of what it means to be their best, truest, most joyful self.

## Who can audition?

Lyceum Young Company opportunities are designed as a professional development opportunity for young people with little or no professional training.

### In order to audition, you must:

- Be aged between 16 and 21 as of 1<sup>st</sup> February 2023, to comply with Council performance licensing rules
- Be confident with both acting and movement
- Be available on Tuesday and Friday evenings for rehearsals, and production/performance week dates (please check the Project Commitment section carefully)
- Not be in any form of professional drama training

No previous acting experience is necessary and young people of all abilities and background are encouraged to apply. We are particularly interested in hearing from young people who identify as part of the LGBTQIA+ community, though this is not a requirement to be involved.

## Audition dates and times

Auditions will be held in a friendly, supportive group environment involving a mixture of script, improvisation and character work, but there is no need to prepare anything in advance.

Auditions are free, but a place must be booked via the Lyceum website. The following group slots are available, all of which will be held in the Lyceum's Creative Learning Space opposite the main Theatre building on Grindlay Street:

- Monday 29 August, 6pm – 8pm
- Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> August, 6pm – 8pm
- Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> August, 6pm – 8pm

Should you feel that you would benefit from any kind of additional support – such as physical access, neurodiversity or mental health - please get in touch with us at [lyt@lyceum.org.uk](mailto:lyt@lyceum.org.uk) in advance of your audition so we can make your experience accessible as possible.

## Project Commitment

Young Company productions are a substantial commitment, so we ask that auditionees read the following information carefully to check dates in advance and carefully consider how the project fits alongside school/university/work and other responsibilities you may have.

| Activity   | Dates   |
|--|---|
| <p><b>Masterclasses</b><br/>           These will take place at the Lyceum between 5pm - 7pm on Tuesdays throughout the first month of rehearsals, and will be an opportunity to learn skills needed for the production.</p>   | <p>Tuesday 20 September 2022<br/>           Tuesday 27 September 2022<br/>           Tuesday 4 October 2022<br/>           Tuesday 1 October 2022</p>   |
| <p><b>Acting Rehearsals</b><br/>           These will take place at the Lyceum between 6pm and 9pm every Friday until December 2<sup>nd</sup> when we will break for Christmas.<br/><br/>           When we resume in January, we will be rehearsing twice a week on Tuesdays and Fridays.</p> | <p>Friday 23 September 2022<br/>           Friday 30 September 2022<br/>           Friday 7 October 2022<br/>           Friday 14 October 2022<br/>           Fridays 28 October 2022<br/>           Fridays 4 November 2022<br/>           Fridays 11 November 2022<br/>           Fridays 18 November 2022<br/>           Fridays 25 November 2022<br/>           Friday 2 December 2022<br/> <b>CHRISTMAS BREAK</b><br/>           Friday 13 January 2023<br/>           Tuesday 17 January 2023<br/>           Friday 20 January 2023<br/>           Tuesday 24 January 2023<br/>           Friday 27 January 2023<br/>           Tuesday 31 January 2023<br/>           Friday 3 February 2023<br/>           Tuesday 7 February 2023<br/>           Friday 10 February 2023<br/>           Tuesday 21 February 2023</p> |

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|   | <p>Friday 24 February 2023</p> <p><b>(NO REHEARSAL w/c 27 Feb)</b></p> <p>Tuesday 7 March 2023</p> <p>Friday 10 March 2023</p> <p>Tuesday 14 March 2023</p> <p>Friday 17 March 2023</p> <p>Tuesday 21 March 2023</p> <p>Friday 25 March 2023</p>         |
| <p><b>Intensive Rehearsals</b> will take place during the Edinburgh October and February half terms, and on Saturdays leading up to the production.</p> <p>Timings for these days will be 10.30am – 4.30pm.</p> | <p>Tuesday 18 October 2022</p> <p>Wednesday 19 October 2022</p> <p>Thursday 20 October 2022</p> <p>Thursday 16 February 2023</p> <p>Friday 17 February 2023</p> <p>Saturday 11 March 2023</p> <p>Saturday 18 March 2023</p> <p>Saturday 1 April 2023</p> |
| <p><b>Production week activity</b> is currently scheduled for the following days.</p> <p>Exact timings and cast commitment TBC</p>  | <p>Thursday 6 April 2023 – Wednesday 12 April 2023</p>   |
| <p><b>Performances</b> are currently scheduled for the following evenings</p> <p>These will be confirmed with cast members asap, including exact timings and any Saturday matinees.</p>                         | <p>Thursday 13 April 2023</p> <p>Friday 14 April 2023</p> <p>Saturday 15 April 2023</p> <p>-</p> <p>Thursday 20 April 2023</p> <p>Friday 21 April 2023</p> <p>Saturday 22 April 2023</p>   |

## On the day of your audition

On arrival, audition candidates are asked to wait outside the Lyceum glass foyer until a member of Creative Learning staff collects them. Please note that there may be a mainstage production on at the same time as the auditions, so to avoid any confusion we ask participants to wait under the awning closest to 'Zucca' on the left-hand side of the building.

If you are running late or can no longer attend the audition, please email [lyt@lyceum.org.uk](mailto:lyt@lyceum.org.uk). If you arrive late, you can use the 'Number 1' buzzer on our office buildings directly opposite our main foyer, and someone will come down to collect you.

### Please bring with you:

- Comfortable clothes you can move around in
- A bottle of water
- A notepad/pen

The Lyceum Theatre is committed to creating accessible opportunities for young people. If you have any access requirements for the auditions, please let us know by emailing [lyt@lyceum.org.uk](mailto:lyt@lyceum.org.uk) once you have booked an audition slot.

All Auditionees will be informed via email if they have been successful/unsuccessful in moving forward to the next stage.

### **Covid-19 information**

The Lyceum operates under current Government guidelines regarding Covid safety measures, and further relevant information will be issued to auditionees at the time.

## **After your audition**

After your audition, we will contact you by phone or email to let you know if you are being offered a place in the ensemble.

## **Young Creatives**

Alongside acting roles, we also intend to offer a number of 'Young Creative' opportunities for young people to support the production in a learning capacity. These roles will be unpaid and are intended to give young people who are passionate about non-performance roles the opportunity to observe and learn from the professional team delivering the project. There may be the opportunity to develop practical skills should the opportunity arise, but the emphasis will be on:

- Observing rehearsals and the creative processes
- Joining creative conversations and contributing ideas
- Learning from the creative team through discussions and individual support

We are still identifying the roles that will be available to apply for, but if you would like to be kept in the loop about these please drop us an email at [lyt@lyceum.org.uk](mailto:lyt@lyceum.org.uk) to express an interest and we will get in touch with further details and how the application process will operate we have more information.

## **Questions**

We hope that this pack has all the information you need, but if you have any questions you can get in touch with us at [lyt@lyceum.org.uk](mailto:lyt@lyceum.org.uk) where we will be happy to help.