



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Call out for emerging actors from the East of England for new play

The HighTide Performance Academy is looking for budding young actors aged 16-25 to audition for a new play, to be performed in late August at The Garage and The Cut, Halesworth. This is a fantastic opportunity for emerging actors to gain experience working with industry professionals. Auditions will be held at the Garage on 11 July, rehearsals take place between Wednesday 6 – Wednesday 20 August. The Academy is a collaboration between **The Garage** and **HighTide Festival Theatre**.

Successful participants will work on a new play written by **Vickie Donoghue** (Mudlarks, HighTide Festival/Theatre 503/The Bush) and directed by **Justin Audibert** (Gruesome Playground Injuries, The Gate). The play entitled **Game Over** has been written using ideas that were created by young participants of the **HighTide Writing Academy**, which took place earlier in the year at HighTide Festival 2014.

Auditions take place on Friday 11 July, 6pm - 9pm at The Garage, Norwich with Director Justin Audibert. If successful the cost for taking part is £50, and participants will need to be available for the below dates. Audition slots can be booked by emailing takepart@thegarage.org.uk, or calling 01603 283382. For further information visit: www.thegarage.org.uk.

Dates

Performance Academy Auditions: Friday 11 July, The Garage, Norwich, 6pm – 9pm

Performance Academy: Wednesday 6 – Wednesday 20 August, The Garage, Norwich

Performance Academy Performances: Wednesday 20 August, 7pm, The Garage & Thursday 21 August, 7pm, The Cut in Halesworth.

Steven Atkinson, Artistic Director of HighTide Festival Theatre said:

'I feel that it's extremely important that we offer a scheme like this to young people and emerging artists in order to nurture and develop new talent. The HighTide Academy is always a highlight of our calendar and we're delighted to be working with The Garage again in order to offer 2 weeks of intensive rehearsal and learning with Justin and Vickie. As an organisation, HighTide is committed to ensuring that emerging artists - performers and writers - get the very best opportunities and feel it is necessary to allow them to develop artistically in a constructive environment, only then are we able to safeguard the future of outstanding new British theatre.'

This Performance Academy sits alongside a range of summer activity at the Garage from mixer workshops in musical theatre and circus skills; to ballet and contemporary dance summer schools. The Garage also programmes regular professional performances in the theatre and has over 35 weekly classes for all ages. It's devoted to bringing in great work, offering a range of exciting classes and workshops and growing the talent in the region with its Performance Academies Programme.

About Justin Audibert

Justin is a freelance director, Artistic Associate of HighTide and Associate of Told By An Idiot. He was given the 2012 Leverhulme Award for Emerging Directors and was Resident Director at the National Theatre Studio.

About Vickie Donoghue

Vickie graduated from the MA in Creative Writing (Plays and Screenplays) at City University in September 2009. Her debut full length play Mudlarks premiered at The HighTide Festival in May 2012 before transferring to London's Theatre 503 and then to The Bush Theatre in October 2012. Vickie was one of 12 writers selected to take part in the inaugural The Bush Theatre/KUDOS TV development scheme and was longlisted for the Evening Standard Theatre Awards as Most Promising New Playwright 2012.

About HighTide Festival Theatre

HighTide Festival Theatre is one of the UK's leading producers of new plays, and the only professional theatre focused on the production of new playwrights. Currently they read and consider around 1000 scripts a year from around the world, from which they then work with 100 playwrights on a range of development opportunities, from workshops to full productions. Every play that HighTide receives is read by the Artistic Director and Associates. HighTide Festival Theatre was founded in 2007 by Steven Atkinson and Sam Hodges. www.hightide.org.uk.

The Garage

The Garage is a lively performing arts centre in Norwich and home to The Garage Trust, a charity providing support and development opportunities for children, young people and families from all backgrounds. The Garage offers a wide range of community dance, fitness, music and drama classes, open to all, and performance companies for all ages. As part of its charitable work, The Garage reaches out beyond its building base, working in partnership to deliver strategic initiatives for young people in schools and organisations across Norfolk. For more information visit www.thegarage.org.uk

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