

## **Audition Notice - “Educating Rita” Bar Show – Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> to Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> February**

Audition – Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> October

“Educating Rita” offers two stand-out and substantial roles. As a two-hander, this play will require the stamina to occupy the stage for both acts and to deliver with pace and wit. The chemistry between Rita and Frank will be vital for the play’s success.

### **Rita**

Rita is a 26 year-old hairdresser from Liverpool who has made a determined choice to change her life. She is vivacious and a whirlwind that drives the play forward.

During the audition process I am looking for an actress who can capture Rita’s enthusiasm and deliver a performance with pace and physical exuberance. Comic timing is key.

Rita is a large part and the successful actress will need to be willing and committed to dedicate time to line learning early on so we can hit the necessary pace well in advance of performances

A Liverpoolian accent will be required – as well as the ability to put on a more “refined” accent – but a perfect accent is not expected at audition. During the rehearsal process we will ensure that accent coaching is provided to ensure convincing confidence.

### **Frank**

A jaded and dishevelled literature professor in his 50s. Frank’s journey through this play is every bit as complex as Rita’s. He needs to find subtle nuances and convey feelings about Rita and himself while hiding behind his “teacher” talk as well as listening to and observing Rita.

Frank is a heavy drinker – this needs to be conveyed and found by the actor without becoming a “trite” stereotype with slurred speech.

### **The rehearsal process**

I would like to start rehearsals in November/December when we will focus on exploring the character’s journeys and evolving relationship as well as the blocking for both acts so each actor can find different angles within the bar to provide each audience member a compelling experience.

During January there will be time set aside in the rehearsal schedule to allow both actors to focus on learning and drilling lines so that there is a good period to build on performances without scripts before opening at the end of February.

### **The audition process**

For the audition we will focus on three or four different scenes for Rita and Frank from both acts so those auditioning can explore different elements of both characters.

Given the size of both roles, I would be interested in seeing the performances of one of the character's longer speeches (around ten sentences) without a script. This is not compulsory but will allow actors to show their ability to deliver without being in "reading" mode.

If you are interested in auditioning, please contact me at [kerrinajroberts@gmail.com](mailto:kerrinajroberts@gmail.com) for the audition pieces.

Thanks

Kerrin Roberts