



Hammerpuzzle Theatre Company in co-production with the Everyman Theatre Cheltenham

**The Velveteen Rabbit
&
The Old Curiosity Shop**

We are looking to cast 3 - 4 actors to perform in two new ensemble adaptations for this year's Christmas season at the Everyman Studio, to be followed by a short January tour. Actors will perform in both productions.

Production 1 – The Velveteen Rabbit

A new adaptation based on the children's book by Margery Williams. We've all wondered if toys have a life of their own. One Christmas, one child does just that when they receive a very special gift; a cuddly rabbit made from soft velvet. But is this rabbit only a toy, or does the child love him enough to make him real?

Production 2 – The Old Curiosity Shop

A new adaptation of Charles Dickens' beautifully tragic tale, woven with live song and music. A piece that explores both the bleak and the beautiful.
"Let us walk through country places and sleep in fields and under trees, and never think of money again. And when you are tired, you shall stop to rest in the pleasantest place that we can find."

We are looking for the following:

3 - 4 actor/musicians. The nature of the work will be ensemble based with multi role and choral work; therefore applicants must have strong ensemble storytelling skills. Applicants must be strong singers, able to work in harmony and learn by ear, prepared to work in rep; with any other musical skills an additional advantage.

Please specify in your application which instruments you play or if you have any additional musical skills. Both organisations advocate equal opportunities and are actively encouraging applications from a diverse range of actors.

This is a co-production with the Everyman Theatre, Cheltenham. The show has been written and composed with original music by Tamsin Kennard, is being produced by Lizzy Cummins and the productions will be directed by our Associate Director Bryn Holding.

Rehearsals

Rehearsals will take place:

- 5th-9th November Rehearsal week 1 (Bristol/Bath TBC)
- 12th-16th November Rehearsal week 2 (Bristol/Bath TBC)
- 19th – 24th November Rehearsal week 3 (Cheltenham)
- 26th-29th November Tech and Dress for Show 1 (Cheltenham)
- 3rd-5th December Tech and Dress Rehearsals for Show 2 (Cheltenham)



Performances

Show 1 (TVR) will open at the Everyman Studio, Cheltenham on Thursday 29th November and will run there until Sunday 23rd December.

Show 2 (OCS) will open at the Everyman Studio, Cheltenham on Wednesday 5th December and run there until Sunday 23rd December.

Both shows will then tour to Gloucester Kings Theatre and The Roses, Tewkesbury (11th -12th and 18th-19th Jan 2019).

Any additional touring dates will be contracted before the start of rehearsals.

Fees

Rehearsals and performance will be paid at a minimum weekly rate, based on an Equity House Agreement. This could be increased subject to funding. Subsistence is available for production weeks.

Applicants therefore should have a base in or near Bristol/Bath throughout the rehearsal period as accommodation may not be provided by the company for these first two weeks.

Auditions will take place on **Tuesday 17th July** at the **Natural Theatre Company Building, Bath.**

Please send your CV, headshot & a covering letter to info@hammerpuzzle.co.uk by **5pm on Friday 6th July**. Applications after this time will not be accepted. You will be contacted if you are shortlisted for audition.

For more information visit: www.hammerpuzzle.co.uk