



Richmond Shakespeare Society

# AUDITION NOTICE

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## Joseph K and the cost of living *after* Franz Kafka

by Emily White

**Director: Maxina Cornwell**

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**Physical Theatre Workshop: Thursday, February 20<sup>th</sup> at 7.30-10pm** Venue TBA\*

**Reading: Monday, 24<sup>th</sup> February at 7.45pm** at the Mary Wallace Theatre

**Auditions: Monday, 3<sup>rd</sup> March at 7.45pm** at the Theatre. Registration at 7pm

**Callbacks: Tuesday, 4<sup>th</sup> March at 7.45pm** Venue TBA

**Playing dates: Saturday, 31<sup>st</sup> May 2 - Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> June 2025**

**Rehearsals:** Starting Sunday, 9<sup>th</sup> March 2025  
(and from then on - Tuesday, Thursday, Friday evenings & Sunday afternoons)  
Rehearsals will take place close to the theatre.

**AUDITIONS ARE OPEN TO ALL. The RSS actively encourages diversity in casting and casting decisions will *not* be constrained by the perceived gender or ethnicity of the roles being auditioned, unless specified by the author.**

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As this is a physical theatre production, the auditions will be in two parts: Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> March audition pieces (text) and then, on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> March, callbacks and physical theatre (no experience necessary).

About the play:

Joseph K has a comfortable job in finance and barely notices the growing chaos all around him on the walk to work - the homeless, food banks, protests and the rise in the cost of living. Until, one day, K is arrested. No one will explain what the charges are, but they must be answered. Emily White's adaptation of *The Trial* weaves the nightmare of arrest and injustice into a funny and physical take on Kafka's classic.

Looking for a strong ensemble of 10 actors who are keen to explore physical theatre, multiple roles and expressionist theatre.

*If you have any questions, or if you want to attend the workshop\*, please email the director, Maxina.*

Please note that the director will record the auditions for her own personal reference for casting. The recordings will not be shared with anyone and will be deleted after casting.

## Characters

**Joseph K - split into 4 roles: K1, K2, K3, and K4**

**K1** - A cis white male from a privileged background. Arrogant junior analyst at a global investment bank.

**K2** - A trans woman or non-binary person of any descent.

**K3** - A cis female of any descent.

**K4** - A cis male from the global majority.

**Ms Grubach** - Joseph K's landlady.

**Elsa** - A burlesque dancer and nurse.

**Karla** - Joseph K's aunt.

**Leni** - Male assistant/carer to Huld. Strange. Sexual predator towards Huld's clients.

**Huld** - Lawyer to Joseph K. Grotesque. Walrus like. Breathing problems.

**Titorelli** - A social media manager.

**Block** - Female client of Huld. Older woman.

**Prison Chaplain** - Chaplain of the cathedral.

**Cleaner** - A cleaner at the courthouse.

**Magistrate** - Examining magistrate at the courthouse.

**Student** - The magistrate's apprentice.

**Guards, Inspector, Bank Manager, Colleagues, Whipper, Fruit Seller, Sex Worker, Preachers, Clerk, Water Seller, Petitioners, Volunteer, Glitterman and other small roles to be played by the ensemble.**

## Audition Pieces

There is only one text edition printed by Faber.

**Please prepare two audition pieces, from your preferred category, to demonstrate contrast in character.**

**Women:** please prepare 2 pieces from:

(1) **Ms Grubach:** pages 31-32, scene 3, "Come in Joseph ..... **K1** Will she take my hand I wonder?"

(2) **K3:** pages 68-71, scene 13, **Huld** "I've been waiting .... **Block** .... when the Advocate is speaking!"

(3) **Block:** pages 70-71, scene 13, **Huld** "Is that Block? .... **Block** .... when the Advocate is speaking!"

**Trans woman / Non binary:** please prepare (1) below and one other piece from either the Women's or Men's list:

(1) **K2:** pages 48-50, scene 8, **Leni** "Impressive isn't it? .... **K2** Neither do I really"

(2) **Pick one other piece from either the Women's or Men's list.**

**Men:** please prepare 2 pieces from:

(1) **K1:** pages 31-32, scene 3, "Come in Joseph ..... **K1** Will she take my hand I wonder?"

(2) **Leni:** pages 48-50, scene 8, **Leni** "Impressive isn't it? .... **K2** Neither do I really"

(3) **Huld:** pages 68-71, scene 13, **Huld** "I've been waiting .... **Block** .... when the Advocate is speaking!"

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**You do not have to be an RSS member to audition but, if cast, you will be required to become a member before the first rehearsal.**

**Membership Application** forms are available in the theatre - or contact the Membership Secretary at - [membership@rss-mwt.org.uk](mailto:membership@rss-mwt.org.uk)

**Audition Application** forms are available in the theatre, or can be downloaded via the GET INVOLVED and ACTING pages of [www.richmondshakespeare.org.uk](http://www.richmondshakespeare.org.uk) Please return your form to the Hon. Secretary at the theatre, or by e-mail to - [secretary@rss-mwt.org.uk](mailto:secretary@rss-mwt.org.uk)