

Assistant Director Job Pack

We are looking for an Assistant Director to work on our upcoming production of Global Majority by Chris Fung.

We are particularly keen to hear from artists who are Black or Global Majority Deaf, disabled or neurodivergent, female, trans or non-binary. We recognise that these artists are historically and presently under-represented in the industry and work to address that in-balance.

Please note that this position requires working on site.

How to Apply

We would like to hear from you in whatever way feels most appropriate for you. We have outlined some options below, but if you would like to suggest an alternative, please let us know.

- A written letter or statement (approximately 500 words)
- A video (approximately three minutes spoken or six minutes if in BSL)
- A sound file (approximately three minutes)

We are interested to hear:

- Why you are interested on working on this specific production and creative team
- What attracts you to working at the Bush
- How your skills, experience and knowledge could contribute to the production
- What you would like to learn to expand your own creative practice

In addition, please send:

- A CV
- The name and contact details for two referees - we will not take up references before notifying you
- Completed Access Rider (if appropriate)
- Completed Equal Opportunities Monitoring Form. (If you prefer not to provide this information, please answer 'prefer not to say' to the questions.)

We are committed to inclusive working practices and ensuring access. We will ask you about any access requirements at each stage of the process. The pack is available in a range of formats.

1. Read the Job Description and Person Specification.
2. Apply through our recruitment portal [Breathe HR](#)

You can upload video or sound files using the We Transfer service <https://wetransfer.com/>. When using this service, please include the We Transfer link in your Breathe HR attachments by including the link in your CV or submitting it on a separate document. Please don't forget to include your CV.

3. Complete our [Equal Opportunities Form](#). This helps us to better understand if our recruitment practices are accessible and equitable to all.

If you have any need for this information in a different format please contact our People and Culture Manager by emailing jobs@bushtheatre.co.uk or phone 020 8743 3584.

Deadline for applications: 23:59 Friday 14th of August

First Interview date: Monday 17th of August

Second Interview date: Friday 21st of August

Interviews will take place in person at the Bush Theatre, 7 Uxbridge Road, London, W12 8LJ or online. The nearest tube stations are Shepherd's Bush Market on the Hammersmith and City Line and Shepherd's Bush on the Central Line

We produce new plays and develop artists who see the world from a different vantage point and who write stories for the many communities in contemporary London. Our diverse team and their range of experiences are vital to the Bush's success, but we have ongoing work to do to make sure the team always fully represents the communities we work and engage with.

If you are excited about this role and the work we do we want to hear from you even if you don't meet every criteria of the job specification. We are particularly keen to hear from artists who are Black or Global Majority Deaf, disabled or neurodivergent, female, trans or non-binary. We recognise that these artists are historically and presently under-represented in the industry and work to address that in-balance.

Minimum Criteria Guaranteed Interview Scheme

As part of our Minimum Criteria Guaranteed Interview scheme, we will offer an interview to disabled candidates who meet the essential criteria for the role. If you consider yourself to have a disability or long-term condition and would like to apply through this interview scheme, please let us know by stating '**I would like to apply through the Minimum Criteria Guaranteed Interview scheme**' anywhere in your application.

Offer condition

All offers will be subject to a minimum of two satisfactory references, proof of identity and right to work in the UK.

Data Policy

Your application and any associated personal information will be stored and processed in accordance with our Data Policy and destroyed after six months. We will keep your equal opportunities form for a period of up to 6 months, after which the data will be anonymised and aggregated for monitoring purposes. If you are engaged by us, the information you supply will be kept securely and form part of your record with us.

Background

Opened in 1972, the Bush Theatre is internationally renowned as 'the place to go for ground-breaking work as diverse as its audiences' (Evening Standard).

A champion of playwrights and operating in one of the most culturally diverse areas of London, the Bush Theatre is committed to its local community and the wider artistic community. Braiding these two strands of work together, the Bush produces an engaging and challenging programme that reflects the world we live in.

Recent successes include multi-award-winning productions *Red Pitch* by Tyrell Williams and *Shifters* by Benedict Lombe, which both transferred to the West End and have gone on to international tours and transfers (including Sweden, Washington, and New York), and *Invisible* by Nikhil Parmar, which transferred Off-Broadway. Richard Gadd's *Baby Reindeer* (now a hit Netflix series), Igor Memic's *Old Bridge*, Waleed Akhtar's *The P Word*, and *Sleepova* by Matilda Feyişayo Ibini (which also transferred to Washington) won the Olivier Award for 'Outstanding Achievement in an Affiliate Theatre' in 2021, 2022, 2023, and 2024 respectively. *Not Your Superwoman* by Emma Dennis Edwards, staged in 2025, included the highly celebrated cast Golda Rosheuvel and Letitia Wright.

The Bush Theatre's talent development programmes discover and develop the very best of the UK's leading artists. The Bush team believes the theatre has a responsibility to programme and generate opportunities for new and established makers and, with long-term residencies, add to the sustainability of their careers.

The Bush continues to create a space where all communities can be part of its future and call the theatre home.

[Meet the Bush team](#)

Assistant Director Bursary Job Description

Responsible to: Director of Global Majority (Rupert Hands)

Purpose of the role

The Assistant Director will work closely with director Rupert Hands to provide creative and administrative support during the creation of the show. This will be a freelance full time commitment and the Assistant Director will work on the show throughout the rehearsal process, technical rehearsals and previews up to and including Press Night.

During the run they will also attend a performance at least once a week for noting and supporting the production. The schedule will be agreed with the theatre and director in advance.

Rehearsals typically take place Monday to Saturday between 10am-6pm, with possible evening calls. Rehearsals take place at Bush Theatre, 7 Uxbridge Road, Shepherd's Bush, London, W12 8LJ.

£2675 to cover the period from appointment to Press Night. A fee of £50 per performance will also be offered for any show watches requested throughout the run (maximum once a week).

About the Show and Creative Team

Brian Tran is being interviewed. Succeed, and he could become the most powerful leader in the world. But, as the interview tests become increasingly brutal, Brian is forced to face what might happen if he fails.

Black Mirror meets Succession in this tale of twisted family loyalty, cabalistic elites, and what we're prepared to sacrifice for proximity to power.

An exhilarating, unflinching thriller from Tony Craze award-winning writer Chris Fung (*The Society for New Cuisine*) and director Rupert Hands (*End of the Rainbow*).

CHRIS FUNG

Chris is the resident Associate Artist for Ransack Theatre 26/27

As Writer: *The Society for New Cuisine* dir. Rupert Hands (EdFringe '23, Omnibus '25); *Frank and Jen* dir. Rupert Hands - in development. *Around the World in 80 Days* dir. Tara Noonan (UK Tour '26), *Those Who Can't Teach* - in development.

As Performer: *The Society for New Cuisine* (EdFringe and Omnibus), *Frozen* (West End), *Cyrano de Bergerac* (West End and NT Live), *Your Lie in April* (West End), *The King and I* (Au Tour)

Writing Schemes and Awards:

Tony Craze Award Winner 2026 (for Frank and Jen)

The Ilfeld Prize Winner 2026 (for Global Majority)

Offies Assessor's Choice 2025 (for Society for New Cuisine)

Criterion New Writing Program '26; Soho Writers Lab 25/26, New Earth Writers 25, ATG Musical Theatre Writers '26, Offies Assessor's Choice 2025, 5 Fringe Theatre Award Nominations, OffFest Best Solo Show Nom 2023 (all for *The Society for New Cuisine*); Rafia Hussain Productions Early Commission (for *Frank and Jen*); ; Affiliate Playwright Pint-Sized Theatre; Junior Member - League of Independent Producers, Projekt Europa - Mentorship Scheme 26/27.

Chris is the director of Camino Meets, a free dramaturgical development community for low socioeconomic London Playwrights.

Instagram: @chrisbfung @caminomeets

Website: <https://www.funguytheatreproductions.com/>

RUPERT HANDS

As Director: *End of the Rainbow* (Soho Walthamstow); *The Phantom of the Opera* (ArtsEd); *American Saviour* (NYC, Workshop); *Roam* (Shaftesbury); *West Side Story* (Birmingham Hippodrome); *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels* (London Palladium/Tokyu Theatre Orb); *Wendy and Peter Pan* (Leeds Playhouse); *Love Life* (Theatre Royal Drury Lane); *The Society for New Cuisine* (Omnibus); *Otto Weidt* (Workshop, Leeds Playhouse); *Global Majority* (Workshop); *Dirty Hearts* (Old Red Lion); *Blackbird* (The Other Room); *The Secret Garden* (Ambassadors); *Crazy For You*, *High Society* (ArtsEd); *Songs For a New World*, *Six Characters in Search of an Author*, *Oh What a Lovely War*, *Candide* (all Mountview); *Carrie*, *Edward II*, *Spring Awakening*, *Company*, *Between Riverside and Crazy* (all RWCMD); *Pericles*, *Greenland* (LAMDA).

As Associate Director: *Evita* (Palladium); *Sunset Boulevard* (St.James, Broadway/Savoy); *Cyrano de Bergerac* (Playhouse/Pinter).

Instagram: @ruperthands

Website: www.ruperthands.com

Key Dates:

Rehearsals - Thursday 22nd October - Wednesday 18th November

Technical Rehearsals: Thursday 19th November - Wednesday 25th November 2026

Previews: Wednesday 25th November - Monday 30th November 2026

Press Night: Tuesday 1st December 2026

Performances: Wednesday 2nd December - Wednesday 23rd December 2026

Christmas Break: Thursday 24th December 2026 - Sunday 3rd January 2027

Performances: Mon 4th January - Saturday 16th January 2027

This will be a freelance full time commitment and the Assistant Director will work on the show throughout the rehearsal process, technical rehearsals and previews up to and including Press Night.

During the run they will also attend a performance at least once a week for noting and supporting the production. The schedule will be agreed with the theatre and director in advance.

Rehearsals typically take place Monday to Saturday between 10am-6pm, with possible evening calls. Rehearsals take place at Bush Theatre, 7 Uxbridge Road, Shepherd's Bush, London, W12 8LJ.

£2675 to cover the period from appointment to Press Night. A fee of £50 per performance will also be offered for any show watches requested throughout the run (maximum once a week).

The Role of the Assistant Director

The Assistant Director will work closely with director Rupert Hands to provide creative and administrative support during the creation of the show. This will include:

- Working in collaboration with the director and creative Team to realise the artistic aims of the production.
- Research, preparation and support during the pre-production period, as required.
- Supporting rehearsals, technical rehearsals, previews and performances of the production to the end of the run.
- Work closely with the cast, providing support and care, this might include running warm-ups, helping with line-runs etc. Post-press, you will attend performances and, in consultation with the director, provide notes to the cast.
- Supporting and participating in production and creative team meetings.
- Supporting the director and stage management team with scheduling and overseeing rehearsals.
- Help the Director with communicating notes and updates with producing teams, cast, creative and technical teams.
- Collaborate with the wider Bush Theatre team to coordinate and manage cast and creatives' availability for Marketing, Press, Community, and Development activities, including interviews, press events, donor meetings, and associated AV logistics.
- Uphold a proactive approach to production support, with a willingness to support on any task, (big or small) to keep the project moving forward.

What we are looking for in an Assistant Director

We hope that the Assistant Director will bring the following knowledge, experience, and skills. They will have:

- A minimum of two credits as director within a professional context – these can be short runs in a fringe context or working with young people.
- Experience of working on a show as an assistant on a run of over four weeks, including noting a show during the course of a performance run.
- Experience of working with writers and/or in new writing, and an understanding of the challenges and opportunities around presenting and developing new plays.
- Has knowledge of the production process.
- An interest in, and experience of the dramaturgical process and supportive work with writers.
- A collaborative, pro-active and committed approach to contributing to a production.
- A high degree of tact, discretion and confidentiality.

- A commitment to anti-racism and anti-oppression and the values of the Bush
- Strong communication skills (verbal and written) with a range of people both creative, producorial and technical.
- A commitment to working with actors and confidence to run a rehearsal room and deliver notes to the team on behalf of the director.

Eligibility

- You should be resident in England at point of application
- Have the right to work in the UK for the duration of the assistantship
- Be fully available for the duration of the assistantship (see key dates above)

Please do not apply if you are a recent graduate as this role requires experience working with a creative team and actors in a professional context.

Next Steps

The process will include two rounds of panel interviews where you will meet Rupert, the director and a member of the Bush team.

First interviews will take place on 17 August 2026.

Second interviews will take place on 21 August 2026.

We will contact everyone that expresses an interest by 4 September 2026.

Interviews will take place on Zoom for the first round and or in person (in London) for the second. The space will be accessible.

If you are invited to interview you will be asked about any access requirements so we can put access provisions in place or adjust the interview schedule.

We hope this short pack will give you all the information you need but please contact Dorothy Ekema-Walla (dorothyekema-walla@bushtheatre.co.uk) if you need any more information.

TERMS & CONDITIONS

Hours: 4 - 5 days a week from the start date of rehearsals until press night. Some additional hours may be necessary to fulfill the requirements of the role. Noting the show post-press night may also be required.

Fee: £2675 to cover the period from appointment to Press Night. A fee of £50 per performance will also be offered for any show watches requested throughout the run (maximum once a week).

Ideal start date: Thursday 22nd of October