



NATIONAL YOUTH MUSIC THEATRE



LAUNCH AUDITIONS AND ANNOUNCE 2019 SEASON OF PRODUCTIONS AT THE OTHER PALACE THEATRE

The National Youth Music Theatre is proud to launch online auditions ahead of auditions across the UK, as well as announcing their 2019 season at **The Other Palace Theatre**, which includes; *Parade* by **Alfred Uhry** and **Jason Robert Brown**, *Legend Trippers* (commissioned especially by NYMT) by **Scott Gilmore** and **Claire McKenzie** and *Anything Goes* by **Cole Porter**. As well as the three productions at **The Other Palace**, **NYMT** will be taking their production of *Growl* by **Timothy Knapman** and **Laurence Mark Wythe** on the road for a mini tour of festivals.

In January and February each year the **National Youth Music Theatre** auditions throughout the UK to find outstanding young people aged 10-23 for their upcoming productions - as actors, musicians, stage crew and creative assistants.

This is an outstanding opportunity to benefit from over 40 years of musical theatre history by auditioning for the award-winning National Youth Music Theatre. The 2019 programme comprises four full productions - including a new commission and the première of another new musical - and a residential workshop of a piece currently in development.

NYMT provides exciting opportunities for:

- Stage performers
- Musicians and actor-musicians
- Lighting & sound technicians
- Stage management, backstage crew & costume assistants
- Assistant directors, musical directors, choreographers & designers

Auditionees must be aged at least 10 years old by 1 April and no older than 23 years by 1 September 2019.

Following the initial online auditions, NYMT will be auditioning throughout January and February at the following centres:

- Belfast - The MAC
- Birmingham Ormiston Academy
- Bristol Old Vic Theatre School



- Cardiff - Sherman Theatre
- Cambridge - Perse Upper School
- Glasgow Academy Musical Theatre Arts
- Leeds - Northern Ballet
- Leicester - Curve Theatre
- London - NYMT at Adrian House
- Liverpool - Performers' Theatre School
- Manchester - Chetham's School of Music

Recalls will then take place in London at the end of February 2019.

Full details on auditions can be found here: <https://nymt.org.uk/auditions/>

The National Youth Music Theatre's annual residency at London's **The Other Palace** will feature three contrasting works. Amid religious intolerance, political injustice and racial tension, the stirring Tony Award-winning **Parade** explores the endurance of love and hope against all the odds. With a book by acclaimed playwright **Alfred Uhry** and a rousing, colourful and haunting score by **Jason Robert Brown**, **Parade** tells the tragic, true story of the trial and lynching of a man wrongly accused of murder.

NYMT's new commission for 2019 is **Legend Trippers** by **Scott Gilmour** and **Claire Mackenzie** aka Noisemaker. **Legend Trippers** uses the lens of a group of mismatched school kids who all share a love of the supernatural to explore themes of social and political division, shining a light on how we treat "outsiders".

The third of **NYMT's** productions for **The Other Palace** is the classic **Cole Porter** musical, **Anything Goes**. Music, dance, laughs, and the age-old tale of Boy Meets Girl – **Anything Goes** is a hilarious shipboard romp, wrapped around one of **Cole Porter's** most magical scores.

NYMT represents the very best in work with young people through musical theatre and for over 40 years has enabled thousands of youngsters across the UK to develop both their creative and personal potential, leading **Andrew Lloyd Webber** to dub it "*the best youth music theatre in the world*".

Established in 1976 by **Jeremy James Taylor**, **NYMT's** productions have been seen throughout the UK and abroad. From its first show, **The Ballad of Salomon Pavey**, at the **Edinburgh Fringe** (subsequently part of **Her Majesty's Silver Jubilee** celebrations in London) the company's work has toured to Canada, Greece, Hong Kong, Japan, Norway, Taiwan and the United States winning numerous accolades and awards.



The semi-professional company featured prominently at the **Edinburgh Festival** in the mid-1980s, premiering shows such as **Richard Stilgoe's *Bodywork***, highlighting NYMT's commitment to developing new work. This has continued to this day with premières of ***The Kissing Dance*** and ***the dreaming*** by **Howard Goodall** and **Charles Hart**, ***Orvin*** by **Alan Ayckbourn** and ***Creation*** by **Richard Taylor**. In 2009 the NYMT were the first to produce a musical at **Hull Truck's** brand new theatre with **Melvyn Bragg's** and **Howard Goodall's *The Hired Man***. 2010 began with **Jeremy James Taylor** being awarded an OBE in recognition of his many years' service to young people and the theatre. Then, to mark **Sondheim's** 80th birthday, NYMT took his thriller, ***Sweeney Todd***, out of the theatre and into a converted Victorian warehouse in London's East End.

Highlights of the last few years have included an invitation from **Her Majesty The Queen** to perform for a reception at **Buckingham Palace** celebrating **Young People in the Performing Arts**; an unforgettable collaboration with the outstanding American musical theatre composer, lyricist and playwright, **Jason Robert Brown**, who directed a young NYMT cast in the West End première of his musical ***13*** at **The Apollo Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue**; an epic, site-specific production of ***West Side Story*** in the vast Victoria Warehouse, Manchester, directed by **Nikolai Foster** and with exciting new choreography by alumnus **Drew McOnie**; and - most recently - a huge, celebratory concert in London's West End to mark the company's 40th anniversary.

Recent commissions have included ***The Other School***, by **Dougal Irvine** and **Dominic Marsh**, ***Prodigy*** by **Jake Brunger** and **Pippa Cleary**, and ***Brass*** by **Benjamin Till**, which was commissioned to commemorate the **Great War** centenary and went on to win the **UK Theatre Awards** title of **Best Musical Production 2014**. NYMT restaged the work in 2016 at Hackney Empire to mark the **100th anniversary of the Battle of the Somme**. In similar tribute, the company premiered ***The Battle of Boat*** by **Jenna Donnelly** and **Ethan Lewis Maltby** at **Rose Theatre, Kingston**. In 2017, NYMT commissioned two outstanding new works: ***Imaginary*** by **Timothy Knapman** and **Stuart Matthew Price**, and ***Billy The Kid*** by **Ben Frost** and **Richard Hough**. In 2018, NYMT produced three productions at **The Other Palace**; ***The Legend of Sleepy Hollow*** by **Helen Watts** and **Eamonn O'Dwyer** based on a short story by **Washington Irving**, ***The Beautiful Game*** by **Ben Elton** and **Andrew Lloyd Webber** and ***A Little Princess*** by **Carol Miller** and **Marc Folan**, based on the novel by **Frances Hodgson Burnett**. There was also a touring production of ***Superhero, The Musical*** by **Adam Johnson** and **Henry Roadnight** which visited Bury St. Edmunds, Leicester and Kingston.

Further information about The National Youth Music Theatre can be found here:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M7Olx2p_B3U

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