

Open Clasp are looking for a Set Designer for our new play

Written by Catrina McHugh MBE

Open Clasp Theatre Company present:

Rupture

Written by **Catrina McHugh MBE**

Directed by **Rachel Glover**

Co-created with the women from **HMP Low Newton**

I didn't know you could get vultures in this country but here it is, on the roof, just the two of us...

A code blue presents an opportunity. In a split-second decision, Destiny finds herself on the roof of the prison.

Destiny loves bonfire night. She likes to watch things burn. She remembers the chaos, noise and her cold feet. Up on the prison roof she can see it all, the past, the present and the 'what next'.

She's not sure how much time she has before they find her, so she decides to enjoy the view.

Created with women from HMP Low Newton, and based on true-life experiences, *Rupture* is their story about being mothers in prison.

Information about *Rupture*

Rupture was created in collaboration with women from HMP Low Newton. The play is about the experiences of mothers in prison and their parental rights. The play, to be presented both at HMP Low Newton and publicly in Newcastle in June 2023, is approximately 60 minutes in length.

Written by the Artistic Director of Open Clasp Theatre Company Catrina McHugh MBE, and directed by Rachel Glover, *Rupture* is a one-woman show.

Information about Open Clasp

Changing the world one play at a time, by placing theatre at the heart of transforming the lives of women and girls.

We are a women's theatre company based in the North East of England. We collaborate with women and young women excluded by theatre and society to create bold and urgent theatre for personal, social and political change.

"Working with Open Clasp has been life changing, empowering and has given me a voice when mine has been taken. I now have hope for the future..." **Co-creator, Rattle Snake**

"Open Clasp- a remarkable company working with disempowered women." **The Guardian**

For more information please visit <https://www.openclasp.org.uk/>

Brief

We are looking for a Set Designer to work alongside the Director and Illustrator to create an integrated set design for our new theatre show *Rupture*.

This call out is open to all Set Designers who are women. Applications from both represented and unrepresented Set Designers are accepted.

The play is in the mid stages of development, and we are looking for a Set Designer to join the creative team and lead on the set design and creation in collaboration with the Director and Illustrator for *Rupture*. We are interested in working with someone open to creativity and imagination, however some key information we know at this stage is:

- Rupture is a one woman show that is being created to fit in small/mid-scale studio spaces
- The show will contain projected, animated illustrations throughout
- The show will be performed in two spaces in June 2023- HMP Low Newton in Durham and West End Women and Girls Center in Newcastle, with the possibility of future touring
- The show will need to be suitable for national touring to multiple spaces

The Set Designer will work closely with the Director Rachel Glover, an illustrator and the wider creative team to create a design that is suitable for a combination of live performance and use of projection and reflects the play's themes.

The Role and Responsibilities

The Set Designer will be responsible for all aspects of designing and building/managing the build of the set for *Rupture*. They will work alongside the Director Rachel Glover and a wider creative team and report to the Open Clasp Producer.

Main Duties and Responsibilities

- Design and oversee the purchase and/or making of sets
- Design and oversee the purchase and/or making of costume and props
- Work alongside the creative team and participate in design and production meetings as required
- When designing the set, to consider the different venue spaces the show will be performed in.
- To collaborate with the Director and Illustrator to ensure the set is thematically and functionally suitable for different forms of projection within the play
- To attend technical and dress rehearsals and take responsibility for issues concerning the set design
- To be present at rehearsals and performances on dates agreed in advance with the Director and Producer.
- To make site visits if required
- To lead or assist in any reasonable requests in line with the role of a Set Designer

Key Dates and Information

All applicants must be available for the technical and dress rehearsals

13 th & 14 th April	R&D dates
w/c 22 nd May	Week 1 Rehearsals
w/c 29 th May	Week 2 Rehearsals
w/c 5 th June	Week 3 Rehearsals
w/c 12 th June	Tech/Dress/Performances

Proposed Design Deadlines

We are open to being flexible with the designer wherever possible. Below is a suggested timeline

w/c 27 th March	Initial Design concepts presented
13 th & 14 th April	R&D- Developed design concepts presented
w/c 1 st May	White Card
Friday 12 th May	Final designs submitted and confirmed
w/c 22 nd May	Set build
w/c 12 th June	Get In/Tech/Dress/Performances

- Rehearsals will take place in West End Women and Girls Centre in Newcastle upon Tyne
- Performances of the piece will take place in HMP Low Newton and West End Women and Girls Centre.

Fee

£2000

How to Apply

Tuesday 24 th Jan	Submissions Open
Tuesday 7 th Feb	Submission Close
Wednesday 15 th Feb	Successful applicants invited for an informal chat with Director Rachel Glover (either in person or on zoom depending on location.)
w/c 20 th February	Applicants informed of decisions*

**All applicants who apply will be informed of the outcome, whether they have been successful or not.*

Please email Erin (Producer) at erin@openclasp.org.uk with the subject line 'Rupture-Set Designer' and the following information:

- Your Name
- Contact number
- A CV/Portfolio or similar document outlining your experience as a Set Designer. If possible, please include images of previous work
- A Cover Letter (no more than 1 x side A4) **OR** a video/voice note (no longer than 5 minutes) outlining why would like to work on this project

If you have any questions about applying, please email Erin.

Thank you very much for your interest in working with Open Clasp and good luck with your submission!

The Open Clasp Team