

**Assistant Director**  
***New Javaad Alipoor Project (production title tbc)***  
**Application Pack**

# HOME

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## **Assistant Director: New Javaad Alipoor Project (production title tbc)**

A Javaad Alipoor and HOME Co-Production, Co-Commissioned by Diverse Actions, Theatre in the Mill, Norfolk and Norwich Festival, Bush Theatre.

The JMK Trust in partnership with HOME is offering an Assistant Director Bursary to a participant of the JMK HOME Directors' Group. The bursary is an arts scholarship, funded by the Leverhulme Trust that will provide a learning and training opportunity for an emerging director, based in the North West of England area who has demonstrated a commitment to directing and a passion for theatre making. The recipient will become a Leverhulme Arts Scholar.

HOME strives to present a vibrant, diverse programme that is reflective of the city that we live in. We believe that this can only truly be achieved if the workforce at HOME encompasses a broad range of beliefs and vantage points. We particularly welcome applications from people from a BAME background and/or those who are Deaf or disabled, as we are keen to work with people from a diverse variety of backgrounds.

*Javaad Alipoor and HOME believe that opportunities like this should be as open as possible, and we wouldn't want circumstances beyond your control preventing you from applying for this opportunity. If you need support with transport, translation, childcare or any other costs we haven't thought about, we have an access fund to support your involvement. Please do let us know in your expression of interest how we can help.*

### **Our Ideal Candidate**

We are looking for an Assistant Director to assist on **Javaad Alipoor's** next production. **This production** is the third in a trilogy of shows by Javaad Alipoor and his collaborators, which began with the critically acclaimed *Believers Are But Brothers*.

The bursary recipient will demonstrate a commitment to living and making theatre in the North West and will also be or become a participant of the JMK HOME Directors' Group and as part of the bursary will also be responsible for working with the JMK Artistic Coordinator and HOME to support and facilitate the group until next year's bursary recipient is chosen.

### **The Production**

This will be a play that will examine some truly international political questions; it will provoke theatre audiences to think about the shifting the nature of the world, and the collapse of the post-colonial settlements as we move into a new century.

All across the world, the gap between the rich and the poor widens, with the middle class collapsing. The lives of the super-rich can seem further and further away, more and more ghettoised. Iconic cases like *The Tower* (see 'Links to Articles section) reveal a world where gated communities are just the beginning. A nexus of power that connects the post-colonial elites of the global south to the markets opened up by neo liberalisation of their economies and global trade have given that elite unimaginable riches.

At the same time, social media has meant that these two worlds can come into collision. As the recent unrest began in Iran, western media picked up on the story of the "*Rich Kids of Tehran*", Instagram account, with the New York Times reporting on how it fuelled the seed of resentment at the heart of the protests. Whilst the worlds of the super-rich and the urban and rural poor might seem miles apart, everyone is on Instagram together.

This isn't just true of Iran: in the run up to the coup against Mugabe in Zimbabwe, news went viral there, of his oldest son, uploading footage of himself in a club in South Africa, surrounded by white women, pouring Bollinger on his \$60,000 watch.

In China, the austere and "antiimperialist" leadership of the CCCP struggle to keep pictures and videos of their daughters drinking champagne and ordering personal shoppers around Parisian department stores off their national social media.

But at the same time it helps to reframe political and social questions closer to home. It's a play about decline and decadence, in a moment when the old elites anywhere don't seem to be able to provide any answers. It's about the new class apartheid between the superrich and everyone else, and the way digital technology cuts across it. It's about children and their parents, and what people who have built an austere and tough image do with the children that they bring up in privilege and comfort.

## **Application Procedure**

**Please send a CV and covering letter to [Jennie.McCusker@homemcr.org](mailto:Jennie.McCusker@homemcr.org).**

Please detail:

- Why you are interested in working on this production.
- How this assisting opportunity and involvement in the JMK Trust Directors' group will contribute to your professional development
- Your relevant experience and what you can bring to the role
- Your commitment to living and making theatre in the North West

The deadline for applications is **Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2019**

Interviews will take place on **Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> April 2019**

We will acknowledge receipt of applications. If you have not heard from us by **Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2019** please assume that we will not be taking your application any further.

HOME strives to be an equality of opportunity employer. Thank you for your interest in this post. If you have any questions please contact [jo@jmktrust.org](mailto:jo@jmktrust.org)

## **Job Description for Assistant Director**

**Job title:** *Assistant Director, New Javaad Alipoor Project (production title tbc)*

**Responsible to:** Javaad Alipoor, Director

The JMK Trust in partnership with HOME is offering an Assistant Director Bursary to a participant of the JMK HOME Directors' Group. The bursary is an arts scholarship, funded by the Leverhulme Trust that will provide a learning and training opportunity for a talented emerging director, based in the North West of England area who has demonstrated a commitment to directing and a passion for theatre making. The recipient will become a Leverhulme Arts Scholar.

**You should be an aspiring director or artist, with some background in theatre or the performing arts. We would expect the successful candidate to have some of the following:**

- **A familiarity with the show's subject matter**
- **Some previous knowledge of contemporary arts and/or politics**
- **Some previous experience of a rehearsal room environment.**

## Main Duties:

### As Assistant Director, your duties would include:

- To observe and assist the Co-creators in pre-production, rehearsals, technical rehearsals and previews at both venues.
- As agreed with the Co-creators, to carry out any research that will inform and benefit the production.
- To input into engagement and educational activities or events by mutual agreement with the producers and venues.
- To attend, note and maintain the production in performance, supporting company as agreed with the Director and Company Stage Manager.
- Any further duties as required by the Director and producers.

## TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF SERVICE

### Assistant Director

**Dates:** The Assistant Director will need to be available on an exclusive basis for:  
**Rehearsals** from **17<sup>th</sup> June – 29<sup>th</sup> July 2019**.

### Schedule:

| DATE                   | VENUE                   |                     |
|------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| 17th June              | HOME                    | Rehearsal week      |
| 24th June              | Theatre in the Mill TBC | Rehearsal week      |
| 1st July               | Theatre in the Mill TBC | Rehearsal week      |
| 8th July               | HOME                    | Rehearsal week      |
| 15th July              | TBC                     | Tech Week rehearsal |
| 22nd July OR 29th July | TBC                     | Previews            |

**Bursary:** £2,350 inclusive of all expenses\*.

**\*Expenses for rehearsals outside of Manchester will be covered**

**Hours of work:** Monday to Saturday tbc  
10am to 6pm with evening work to be confirmed.

## HOME Vision

To be an international production and exhibition centre of outstanding provocative contemporary theatre, visual art and film and an axis of experimentation at the point where they meet. To be a HOME for both artists and audiences, with a strong reputation for use of digital media communication and distribution, developing talent, audience engagement, and working creatively with communities.

## HOME Mission

We live to work with artists to define a new form of art centre by producing and presenting questioning ambitious artistic projects in and of Manchester but with a distinctive international outlook that grows and involves audiences through new remarkable experiences and diverse stories

## Strategic Aims

1. To position HOME as a major national and international centre with a body of work and reputation for great/distinctive/diverse contemporary work
2. To have developed cross artform practice that attracts new partnerships and investment
3. To have created a sustainable business model for HOME that enables artistic risk and growth
4. To have built a new audience for HOME and re-positioned programme and offer
5. To have established an organisational culture for HOME that supports the artistic ambition

Over the three-year journey to establish HOME the organisational trajectory will be one of progressive growth:

- 2015-16 will give HOME a **Safe Landing** as the doors are opened and the organisation explores the rhythm of the new building, builds its relationship with local and regional audiences and develops Team HOME.
- 2016-17 will see Team HOME **Turn Up The Volume** on the programme and engagement with audiences having got a better understanding of the potential of HOME's new spaces and new partnerships have been established with co-producers and co-commissioners
- 2017-18 Team HOME will move up another gear and to **Almost Full Volume** making the most of the having re-defined the organisation's artistic place, created a new track record and developed strong national and international links

## Key success measures

HOME will know it has been successful if by March 2018 the organisation:

1. Is perceived by its stakeholders as a major national and international centre with a body of work and reputation for great/distinctive/diverse contemporary work
2. Has developed cross artform practice and attracted new partnerships and investment to that work
3. Has a sustainable business model that enables artistic risk, growth and social impact
4. Has increased and diversified the audience and re-positioned programme and offer within Greater Manchester and the North West
5. Has an organisational culture for that supports the artistic and business ambition, high performance and diversity

## Programme

HOME Film - An extraordinary and independent programme and experience across five screens

HOME Theatre - is international, interdisciplinary, provocative, questioning, visual and poetic.

HOME Visual Art - foregrounds artists' projects that work across its distinctive strengths - artist film, performance and participation

HOME Community & Young People - with and for the people of our city

HOME digital & creative - to help to develop the creative industries

## **JAVAAD ALIPOOR**

### About Javaad Alipoor

Javaad Alipoor is an artist, director, writer and activist who regularly makes theatre with and for communities that don't usually engage in the arts. He is a Scotsman Fringe First and Columbia University Digital Storytelling Award winner. In 2017 his play, *The Believers Are But Brothers*, opened at Transform Festival in Leeds before transferring for a sold-out, critically acclaimed run at Summerhall at the Edinburgh Fringe, where it received a Scotsman Fringe First Award. The production then ran at London's Bush Theatre before its world tour.

Last year, Alipoor directed the stage adaptation of *One Flew Over The Cuckoo's Nest* for Sheffield Theatres, to mark the end of his three-year tenure as Associate Director at The Crucible Theatre.

His previous stage work includes *Orgreave: An English Civil War*, about the Miners' Strike and the Arab Spring and *My Brother's Country*, about murdered Iranian pop icon Fereydown Farrokhzad.

This summer, Alipoor will direct the second part of a trilogy, continuing many of the themes explored in *The Believers Are But Brothers* such as the crisis of masculinity, the role internet and the rise of youth disengaged across the globe; this new production will open in Edinburgh in August 2019.

Javaad Alipoor is Artistic Director of Northern Lines, resident of The Watershed's Pervasive Media Studio, a collaborator of The National Theatre's Immersive Story Studio, a member of Arts Council England's Northern Council, and was a founding trustee of Artistic Directors of the Future.