SUMMER 2027 PITCH PROCESS

We are delighted to be opening applications to direct our 2027 summer production which will be held at **Trinity College Gardens** from **27th July 2027 to 6th August 2027.**

OTG has been making acclaimed outdoor theatre in Oxford college gardens, parks and playing fields for over 70 years. From Shakespeare to Chaucer and Jane Austen to Robert Louis Stevenson, we've entertained thousands of residents and visitors to our city.

Following on from a successful, sell-out run of *All's Well that Ends Well*, we are keen to hear about your creative vision for our next garden show. We can offer a wealth of support and expertise, as well as practical assistance to the director.

We are looking for a creative person with a clear vision to direct our next outdoor show in summer 2027. If you feel you have the qualities needed to create and direct an outdoor summer show, then we want to hear from you.

Our summer productions have traditionally been Shakespeare plays, but other productions include Pride and Prejudice, Canterbury Tales and The Recruiting Officer, so there are no hard and fast rules other than it be suitable for performance in an outdoor space.

Probably the most important thing to look at when considering a potential play is whether it will appeal to the audiences that traditionally come to our summer shows. There are three main groups: Oxford residents, tourists and language / summer school parties. So, the play we eventually select will need to have strong name recognition.

There is a huge freedom to create a very special performing arena when we work in a garden setting. If you haven't seen or been involved in one of our outdoor productions, we can put you in contact with people with direct experience of working in the space.

Our summer shows are major undertakings – large cast, large crew, large creative team. It is probably not the place for someone with no significant experience of directing – but, of course, it is not only OTG experience that counts

If you are interested or would like to talk more about ideas, please feel free to get in touch with the Chair, Vaughan Pierce at chair@oxfordtheatreguild.com.

The deadline for pitches is **Sunday 20th December at 6pm.**

TIMETABLE

The timetable for applications is as follows:
19th November – Applications open. We welcome any preliminary indications of an intention to pitch (to pitches@oxfordtheatreguild.com) at an early stage.

20th December – Deadline for pitch documents to be sent to pitches@oxfordtheatreguild.com

w/c 11th January – Pitch Interviews with the OTG Committee

Note:

- In the event of there being fewer than two candidates submitting a pitch, the pitch process will be automatically reopened for an additional TWO weeks.
- The committee reserves the right to create a shortlist of candidates to be invited to the interview stage.

PREPARING A PITCH

Please prepare a short document covering all the points below. This will be circulated to the Guild committee and will form the basis of our discussions with you. In addition to the pitch, please supply a substantial extract from the play (if not Shakespeare).

We ask that all documents are supplied in PDF form if at all possible. Please do not hesitate to ask if you need any help completing the pitch.

Please cover the following areas in your pitch:

Summary

- 250 word summary of your pitch

About the Play

- Synopsis
- Why you have chosen it
- Key selling points for audiences and potential cast members
- Size and mix of cast
- Rights – availability and cost

Your approach

- How you intend to treat the play – style, design, tone etc.
- Your approach as a director and what OTG members will get out of the experience of working with you as a director
- Your theatrical CV
- Any collaborators you have already spoken to

Requirements & Planning

- Specific skill(s) required for cast, if any e.g. accents, stilt walking • Technical requirements and anything out of the ordinary, with any cost implications (rough idea)
- Suggested audition dates (i.e. point in a month) and format
- Suggested rehearsal start date, plus an outline rehearsal schedule

WORKING WITH OTG

Creating a safe and supportive atmosphere is important to us as an organisation so we ask that everyone who is involved in OTG activities takes the time to read our Statement of Values, our Bullying & Harassment policy and our Audition policy.

OTG statement of values

Oxford Theatre Guild (OTG) is a charity registered in England and Wales and is run wholly by volunteers to promote the advancement of the art of drama. We believe that all OTG's members and volunteers have the right to be healthy, happy, safe, valued and respected. OTG collectively strive for best practice in health and safety and an environment free from bullying, harassment or discrimination.

OTG's committee will work pro-actively to prevent or tackle anything that

contravenes our values. Any actions, speech or behaviour in breach of these values should be brought to the attention of the committee.

Click to read our Bullying & Harassment Policy. Click to read our Safeguarding Policy. Click to read our Audition Policy.