

*Studio18*

# **CREATING CONSCIENCE**

**(WORKING TITLE)**



# **Audition Pack**

# What Do You Need To Know?

Studio 18 is looking for versatile actors who are fluent in both Maltese and English to join the cast of a new piece that is loosely based on **Carlo Collodi's Pinocchio**.

Set locally in 2023, the concept looks at the narrative's nuances from a contemporary perspective. It delves into the themes of:

- Agency & Power
- Tradition & Nostalgia
- Conscience & Free Will

In this piece, Pinocchio represents Maltese society itself, with the supporting characters taking on other elements that connect to it.

Beset on all sides by choices that offer the 'easy way out', a battle ensues with his conscience.

The question of 'can I' versus 'should I' takes centre stage for most of this narrative, with the protagonist sacrificing morals, values and principles at the cost of their integrity.

Along the way, our protagonist must come face to face with the results of his choices and is presented with the choice to either assume responsibility for the error of his ways or damn himself in this vicious cycle.

# Who Forms Part Of The Creative Team?

## **The Writer - Anton Saliba**

Anton is an actor and writer who has been active in the Maltese and UK theatre scenes since 2011. He trained at Masquerade School of Performing Arts and TMYT before furthering his studies at Mountview Academy of Theatre Arts. Working across both theatre and screen projects, his recent credits include Rick in Breath and The Overseer in 2044. In 2019 Anton made his debut in writing with Ninu which was staged at Spazju Kreattiv. In 2021 he wrote Żepp, a monologue that he also performed at the Valletta Campus Theatre.

## **The Director - Jean-Marc Cafà**

Jean trained at the Guildford School of Acting and the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland and has directed and performed in various plays and musicals locally and overseas. He is currently the Creative Director of Studio 18 Malta, while also working as a consultant and freelance director. Directing credits include:

The Brat and That, #babydaddy, Limbo, Inez Kienet Perf (the play and the online series), System, Dear Pete, DripFeed (co-direction with Andre` Agius), and the Valletta 2018's iLand (Studio 18), Il-Ħajja Xej Kool ta' Teenager Jismu Julian (Du Theatre, Teatru Aurora), Loveplay (Pagoni Theatre), Evita (Teatru Astra), Tgħid Lil Ħadd (Studio 18/Teatru Aurora), Xilallu (Teatru Malta), Cabaret (FM Youth), The Addams Family (Barn Youth, UK),

(Cont.) The Dream Master for the Palestine International Children's Festival, and most recently, Ma Kuragg u Wliedha (Teatru Malta and Teatru Manoel). Jean also served as assistant director on Her Naked Skin (GSA, UK), Così Fan Tutte (Jackdaws, UK), Orpheus the Mythical (Yvonne Arnaud Theatre and Richard Stilgoe), Grease (Teatru Astra) and Shakespeare scene work for the Sam Wanamaker Festival at Shakespeare's Globe.

### **The Musical Director - Aleandro Spiteri Monsigneur**

Aleandro Spiteri Monsigneur is a Maltese musician and composer, mostly known for his role as keyboardist and songwriter for Red Electric, winners of the Best Band and Best Album awards at the 2020 Malta Music Awards. Aleandro is also very keen on collaboration and the cross-pollination of ideas, collaborating with several Maltese singers, with the majority of songs placing in the local Top 10 charts and garnering thousands of online streams. With his band, he has performed in Poland, Germany, USA, and Cyprus. The 23-year-old graduated with a Bachelor of Music from the University of Malta summa cum laude in composition in 2021. His chamber and orchestral compositions have been performed on multiple occasions locally as well as abroad in Latvia, Italy and Germany. Aleandro is currently engaged in a global publishing deal with 'Best Independent Publisher' (Music Week Awards 2022) Reservoir Media.

## **The Movement Director - Rochelle Gatt**

Rochelle furthered her studies in dance at the University of Malta. In this program Rochelle understood that her artistic voice resonated more and read a postgraduate degree in physical theatre at the Accademia Teatro Dimitri, Switzerland. There she directed and produced her first independent work of 'The Nose Knows'. At present, she continues to participate in many interdisciplinary projects and working with international artists as she freelances. Cheek to Cheek is the brainchild of local movement artist Rochelle Gatt, who brought the DasArts Feedback Method for the first time to Malta-based artists in 2022, which culminated in a physical theatre creation of 'Quo Vadis?'. In 2019, Rochelle was awarded support from ACM to follow a one year program that invests in the movement culture of Fighting Monkey (Jozef Fruzek and Linda Kapetanea) . She is currently lecturing performing arts at MCAST.

**The concept of this piece has been developed together with a group of young creatives in a series of workshops.**

# What Is Required?

All candidates must:

- Be comfortable with text work and have a background of movement and/or physical work.
- Be comfortable with singing and rhythm.
- Prepare text and a song.
- Attend the audition workshops on Tuesday November 1st.
- Be available for all rehearsals (unless previously negotiated with the creative team in such a way that a leave of absence does not disrupt the process and cast welfare).

# What Is The Audition Like?

On the day, you will:

- Perform two minutes of a **pop, rock or contemporary musical theatre** song of your choice in Maltese OR English with storytelling being an important element of your interpretation.
- Participate in a movement workshop.
- Perform **scene work** – the text will be sent beforehand, and we highly encourage that candidates **memorise** text in preparation for this audition.

## Other Audition Details

### Where?

Studio 18, Zebbug

### When?

Tue 01.11.22, from 19.30 to 22.30

### Who?

All roles excluding the lead part (precast) are up for grabs.

### What else?

Bring water, wear comfortable clothes, and have the backing track for your song handy!

# How Do I Apply?

Drop us an email at [projects.studio18@gmail.com](mailto:projects.studio18@gmail.com) by no later than the **30<sup>th</sup> of October**. In your email, please provide the following:

- A headshot
- A performance and training CV or bio
- A backing track for your chosen song
- Any issues with rehearsal availability

We will then provide you with the text that you need to prepare for your audition.

# The Rehearsal Schedule

- Rehearsals will take place in the evening and at weekends.
- A reading and two preparation workshops will take place in December, prior to Christmas.
- The rehearsal process will then kick off on January 9<sup>th</sup> 2023.
- Rehearsals will take place approximately 3 times a week until February 13<sup>th</sup>, after which rehearsals will regularly until the first performance (March 17<sup>th</sup>).

**Performances will take place on March 17<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> at the Spazju Kreattiv Theatre.**

# Remuneration

- Actors' remuneration will be stipulated once an offer has been made.
- Applicants must have a valid VAT registration number. The selected service provider will be responsible for all the relevant taxation and social security contributions according to the national legislation.