

EAT - 2020/2021 PRODUCTION #05 - THE DISTANCE



Title: **THE DISTANCE**
Theme: **Drama /Comedy**
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In Performance: **MAY 29TH - JUNE 5TH 2021**
Publisher: **by arrangement with Nick Hern Books**
Audition Date: **To be advised**
Audition Time: **To be advised**
Misc: **The Play contains some strong language**



Description /Tagline:

The play explores the limits of friendship as well as the theme of parenthood, it is a show that pushes boundaries and goes against the conventional family etiquette. With *The Distance* we see the main female lead Bae decide at the age of 40 to just up and leave her husband and two small children behind in Australia. Having made a bold choice about her life, old friends struggle to support her, or even to understand. Another secondary theme at the heart of the play is that of friendship. Imagine a circumstance where the unconditional support of a strongly bonded group of friends falls apart and instead of bringing them closer, one person's decision starts to erode everyone else's sense of self. These are what the main three female characters have to contend with in this bold new play. Although the show has a heavy content it is sure to make you laugh as well as a middle class drama and comedy touching on taboo subjects.

CAST / AUDITION DETAILS

*All characters playing ages are just a guide as written from the book.

Female Characters:

Alex - (playing age 40) Main part

Good comic-timing, slightly absent-minded enjoys a glass of red wine. Alex is a voice for both her friends argument over Bae's Choices and Kate's argument against her rash decision. She spends a good part of the play worrying about her son (Liam) whereabouts in the London riots.

Bae - (playing age 43) Main part

Bae has made a rash decision to leave her family behind. She seeks refuge in her oldest dearest friends. She is feeling lost and looking for a new lease of life. Bae has made her decision and is out to convince her friends that it was the right one to make. Lots of emotion depth that surfaces toward the final part of the play.

Kate - (playing age 41) Main part

Kate is married to Dewi, she is very controlling and patronising towards both her husband and friends. Kate tries to talk sense into Bae and wants her to go back to Australia for custody of her two boys.

Male Characters:

Dewi - (playing age 40) Medium part,

Dewi (married to Kate). He is Good-natured person who mostly does whatever Kate tells him to do without question. Dewi is quite reserved in opinion, but acts composed when situations become heated throughout the play. It's not until the very end we see his emotion surface expressing how he really feels. (Welsh accent optional)

Liam - (playing age 15) Medium part,

Liam is Alex's son, he has a love hate relationship towards his mother. He has no father figure and often left to his own devices. He is young and vulnerable. (Appears in the whole of Act Two)

Vinnie - (playing age 43) Medium part,

Vinnie (Dewi's Brother) Good comic timing. Likes a rockstar lifestyle. used to

be in a band with his brother. Flirty, Bubbly personality and slightly sarcastic towards Kate (Dewi's wife). As the play goes on has slightly more of a serious side to his character when voicing his opinion. (Welsh accent optional)

Man / Simon - (playing age 30's)

This is a small part and a key character in the play. Has a couple of nice scenes with Bae. (Southern Australian accent required).

Audition notes:

The audition will be a workshop style consisting of a short warm-up

Improvisational group work:

I want to see how well you can build character through a few short devising exercises. How well you can work together as a group.

Character Readings: for each character your auditioning for.

Alex - (45-47 / 83-89)

Bae - (31-35 / 83-89)

Kate - (16-21 / 83-89)

Dewi - (90-93 / 83-89)

Liam - (72-75 / 83-89)

Vinnie - (29-31 / 56-61)

Man/Simon - (9-12)

* Some extra scenes may be added during audition day.

I'm looking for a good group of Actors that look and work well together. Especially Alex, Kate and Bae characters who are the central part of the play and have to share a very close bond but divided on opinion by Bae's decisions. They're involved in heated discussions of gigantic moral scale on the responsibility that comes with motherhood and parenthood, the meaning of friendship. All seven characters have a lot of layers to them. Really think about emotional-depth. How you would feel in these characters situations.

If you would like more information about the play please don't hesitate to contact me. I look forward to see you at the audition.

Please note: Due to the ongoing Coronavirus situation, all production and audition dates are subject to change. If you are interested in auditioning for our new season, please contact the director by email. Thank you