

# PERFORMERS WANTED FOR NEW PLAY 'HOE IK TALENT VOOR HET LEVEN KREEG'

## AN EPIC THEATRICAL MEETING OF DIFFERENT WORLDS

For a new theatre project by theatre company WAT WE DOEN in cooperation with the Amsterdam Andalusian Orchestra, George & Eran Producties, ICK Amsterdam and Theater de Meervaart, we are looking for people with a refugee background (refugees with a residence status) who would like to take part in the production 'Hoe ik talent voor het leven kreeg'.

### THE STORY

Rodaan al Galidi wrote the highly praised novel *Hoe ik talent voor het leven kreeg* (How I Found a Talent for Living) about the 9 years he spent in a Dutch asylum seekers' centre (AZC). It tells the poignant yet humorous story of Semmier Kariem, who requests asylum in the Netherlands. Semmier dreams of a new life, but for him the AZC becomes an almost magical village, where time passes in endless waiting. In *Hoe ik talent voor het leven kreeg*, Al Galidi presents a raw, surprisingly funny portrayal of the Dutch asylum policy and of Dutch society as a whole.

*'The Netherlands taught me three things: not to let respect trump caution when it comes to Europe. That a polite lie is better than the messy truth. And I now knew the difference between a granny bike and a ladies' bike.'* - from the novel *Hoe ik talent voor het leven kreeg*

This colourful, funny and moving production combines theatre, music and dance in an epic theatrical spectacle. An impressive cast of actors and musicians, together with dozens of refugees with a resident status, tell Al Galidi's remarkable story in the theatre. Companies WAT WE DOEN, the Amsterdam Andalusian Orchestra, George & Eran Producties and ICK Amsterdam combine forces to present the AZC on stage as a village with its own customs and laws. Seen from Semmier's point of view, the performers draw the audience into the at times bizarre lives of the people who live and work here. Often they genuinely try to do right, for themselves and others, but become hopelessly entangled in the system.

### WHAT WE ARE LOOKING FOR

The performance is played by 5 professional actors and 5 musicians. We are still looking for enthusiastic participants for the supporting performers group.

We are looking for performers who:

- are amateurs. So you don't have to have acting or dancing experience
- speak Dutch and /or English
- live in Amsterdam, Arnhem, Rotterdam, Utrecht, The Hague or Leeuwarden
- aren't afraid to be on stage
- like to move
- want to participate in this theatre project for a longer period of time
- enjoy working with a diverse group of people

### WHAT DO WE OFFER YOU?

- A volunteer payment (this is tax free)
- Long-term contact with many different types of people and organizations
- The chance to be on stage in big theatres
- The chance to participate in the performers group and to move / dance
- Various workshops in the field of theater and in the field of work in general
- The ability to tell your story to thousands of people

## PERIOD

Start October / November 2019 up to mid-April 2020.

This differs per city.

February 13 is the premiere at the Stadsschouwburg in Amsterdam. From February - April 2020 is the tour along the major theaters in the Netherlands.

### There are three groups:

#### Group A:

- Only performs in their own city: Rotterdam, The Hague, Utrecht, Arnhem or Leeuwarden
- Performers live in the city where they perform
- Rehearsals: +/- 10 times
  - *Mostly in the evening, max. 3 hours*

#### Group B:

- Only performs in Amsterdam
- Performers live in Amsterdam
- Rehearsals: +/- 15 times
  - *Mostly in the evening, max. 3 hours*
  - *1 time during the weekend on a Sunday*
  - *In the week before the premiere also several rehearsals during the day*

#### Group C:

- Plays all shows and tours through the Netherlands
- Performers live in Amsterdam
- Rehearsals: +/- 25 times
  - *Mostly in the evening, max. 3 hours*
  - *2 times on weekends (Saturday and Sunday)*
  - *In the week before the premiere also several rehearsals during the day*

Depending on your time and wishes, we will see which group fits you best.

## REGISTER FOR A SELECTION DAY

In September and October, we are hosting several selection days in Amsterdam, Rotterdam, The Hague, Utrecht, Arnhem and Leeuwarden.

Do you feel like joining? Then please register via:

[Apply](#)