



Spymonkey Office: Unit 7b Level 3N, New England House, New England St, Brighton BN1 4GH UK // www.spymonkey.co.uk

Spymonkey Apocalypse Wow R&D Assistant Director Call Out

Spymonkey are looking for an Assistant Director to join their small team for a research and development phase of our next production, Apocalypse Wow.

We are particularly keen to use this opportunity to meet people outside of our existing networks and we positively encourage applications from people who have experienced racism - African diaspora people, South, East and South-East Asian diaspora people, mixed race or other minority ethnicities - or those who have been discriminated against because of gender, sexuality, disability or socioeconomic background.

About Us

Spymonkey is the UK's leading comedy theatre ensemble. With our roots in the European clown tradition, physical theatre and street theatre we create a distinctive brand of dark, edgy theatre that lies "somewhere between Monty Python, the Marx Brothers & Samuel Beckett" (The Houston Chronicle). We frequently touring mid-scale productions across the UK & internationally.

We're recognised world specialists in physical comedy and clown, sought out by companies as National Theatre, RSC, and comedy megastars like Sacha Baron Cohen.

Since 1998, Spymonkey's distinctive work has toured to over 880,000 people with over 2100 performances. We are recognised internationally as leading teachers of clown and physical comedy and, even during the Covid-19 pandemic, our creative mentorships and workshops have supported artists from across the world.

About Apocalypse Wow

In a world governed by buffoons, who better placed to bring about the Apocalypse than 'four of the greatest clowns working in Britain today?'

A mystery play for the 21st Century, this absurdist retelling of St John the Divine's psychedelically destructive vision, will comprise the ultimate in human folly, contagiously hilarious horse-play, and the End of Days. A clown show to end all clown shows, a cavalcade of catastrophically ill-judged acts to bring about Armageddon: choirs of angels, modernist opera, death metal, puppetry, prosthetics, doom and dressage.

It's going to be a little bit epic.

Apocalypse Wow Research and Development Phase

Thanks to support of Cultural Recovery Fund we are planning a week of research and development (R&D) with the core artistic team including Joint Artistic Directors Aitor Basauri and Toby Park, Spymonkey Associate Artists Stephan Kreiss (collaborator/performer) and Lucy Bradridge (collaborator/designer), Writer Carl Grose and Director Adele Thomas.

We expect to use this time to explore the subject of the Apocalypse using text, improvisation, interpretations of the apocalypse from across the cultural sphere, song, dance and silliness.

Role of the Assistant Director

Spymonkey's creative process is highly collaborative, and we are looking to bring someone into the creative team who has experience of devising, and is willing to contribute their creativity, sensitivity and organisation to this process.

We rely on thorough documentation of the R&D process so that we can reflect back on the material generated later in the creative process. This documentation will be a key role of the Assistant Director who will be responsible for video recording the improvisations and physical material generated, archiving it so that we refer to the material at a later date, taking detailed notes of discussion points and decisions, and assisting the Director sensitively and effectively.

Essential

- Willingness to be collaborative
- An interest in documenting the creative process - particularly note taking & filming
- A sense of humour

Desirable

- Experience of making physical comedy
- Experience in operating a basic camera setup for filming
- Experience of dropbox and
- Experience of writing and/or directing theatre

We welcome applications from people who are new to, but interested in, directing work on the mid-scale.

The Finer Details

The R&D will take place in **central Brighton** between **Mon 24th - Fri 28th May 2021**.

Spymonkey will cover a **fee of £550 plus travel, accommodation and per diems** alongside the necessary PPE guidelines to ensure the work is carried out in Covid-19 safe working conditions.

At the moment we don't have funding in place for the next phase of rehearsals but we're really keen to use this opportunity to work with someone new without the pressure on either side to commit to the future production.

How to apply

Please send us no more than 2 sides of A4, or an audio or video application of up to 4 mins. Your application should explain your experience and interest in the role, using the essential and desirable qualities outlined above to guide you.

Please use your application to tell us about any access requirements you may have (using additional space if necessary).

Please send applications to Spymonkey's Executive Producer Emily Coleman on emily-coleman@spymonkey.co.uk by Tuesday 11th May at 12 noon.

Key Dates

Deadline for applications: Tues 11th May at 12noon

Short Zoom interview: Thurs 13th May between 10am-3pm

Start date: Mon 24th May