

## ***The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time***

Based on the novel by Mark Haddon adapted by Simon Stephens

Produced by special arrangement with Dramatist Play Services, Inc.

Directed by Katherine Turner Produced by Mary Nowlan

SHOW DATES: Evenings April 7, 8, 13, 14, 15, 20, 21, 2023 at 8 p.m.

Matinees are April 9, 16, and 22, 2023 at 2 p.m.

**Important:** We will be providing a safe working environment – all participants in this production from creative staff, crews, actors, and other volunteers must be fully vaccinated and provide proof. Masks will/may be required.

### **The Story**

It is Christopher's story – we enter his world – how he perceives his relationships, his actions, his needs, his decisions, and his brilliance. He is different and though he may be labelled as being on the Autism spectrum, he is not like anyone else. As he detects and makes the most harrowing of discoveries, we are with him. We feel with Christopher when he makes his discoveries. We feel his confusion and fear and his need to escape.

*The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* is about coming of age, family, relationships, overcoming obstacles and labels and with hope for the future.

### **Characters and Actors - 5 males, 5 females**

All the roles are demanding – vocally, physically, emotionally. Actors will need to be prepared to move, to become multiple characters as well as defining a space or place. Actors may need to lift boxes, move people and be ready to play and explore possibilities. The play is clearly set in England so we will consider accents. Ages reflect the age of the characters and not necessarily the age of the actors.

**Christopher:** (identifying as male) He is 15 years 3 months and 2 days old. He has a brilliant mind for maths but struggles to understand other people. It is difficult for him to read people's expressions and that there is meaning in a raised eyebrow. He needs order and routine. So, when his world is threatened and in turmoil, it is truly an incredible journey for Christopher and for the actor playing him.

**Ed Boone:** (identifying as male) Christopher's Dad is likely in his early 40's. He operates his own heating and boiler repair business. He works with his hands and is comfortable working as a handy man. He loves his son, but it is hard. He must deal with every aspect of Christopher's life from making sure foods do not touch to communicating with the school about A Level's. He is devastated to feel that Christopher fears him. A wonderful role for an actor.

**Judy Boone:** (identifying as female) Christopher's Mum is likely in her late 30's early 40's. She feels overwhelmed being Christopher's mother. She does not manage as well as Ed does and her abdications as Mum create real tension in the marriage. She seeks solace and care with another man, Roger Shears. She leaves the marriage feeling it is the best for both Christopher and Ed. Judy does not want to be forgotten, writing 43 letters to her son over the 2 years that she has been pronounced dead.

**Siobhan:** (identifying as female) Christopher's teacher. Siobhan is the calm centre of Christopher's life, a guide he respects and trusts as well as learned teacher. I am assuming that she supports his math. Siobhan becomes the other voice for Christopher to tell his story. It is as if she is the other voice in his head. Siobhan will need to love telling stories – her voice and text work.

**The Voices and Characters** – it is suggested that these actors are on stage for most of the play like a Greek Chorus. They will certainly be present for large crowd scenes or as their conversations come up – policeman, Mrs. Shears, Rev. Peters etc. but there will be scenes that are more intimate like Christopher and Mum where others could drift off stage. These actors would need to love creating unique and different characters vocally and physically. The ages reflect the age of the characters and not necessarily the age of the actors.

**Voice One/Mrs. Shears/Mrs. Gascoyne/ Woman on Train/shopkeeper** (identifying as Female)

- These characters would be a similar age to Ed and Judy so late 30's early 40's

**Voice Two/ Roger Shears/Duty Sergeant/Mr. Wise/man behind counter/drunk 1**(Identifying as Male)

- Again, these characters would be a similar age to Ed and Judy – late 30's early 40's

**Voice Three/ Policeman/Mr. Thompson/Drunk 2/Man with socks/London Policeman** (Identifying as Male)

- These characters may be younger so in late 20's early 30's

**Voice Four/ Rev. Peters/Uncle Terry/Station Policeman/Station Guard** (Identifying as Male)

- These characters may be older so in their 50's

**Voice Five/ No. 40/Lady in Street/Information/Punk Girl** (Identifying as Female)

- These characters would be among the youngest so likely in their 20's

**Voice Six/ Mrs. Alexander/Posh Woman** (Identifying as Female)

- The script is clear that Mrs. Alexander is older and retired so would likely be late 60's- early 70's. She is a grandmother.

## **BOOKING AN AUDITION**

### **AUDITION DATES**

**Tuesday, January 17, 2023, 7 – 10 p.m.**

**Wednesday, January 18, 2023, 7 – 10 p.m.**

### **CALLBACKS (IF NEEDED)**

**Saturday, January 21, 2023, 1– 4 p.m.**

**CALLBACKS ONLY:** If you are auditioning, please keep this date open until advised otherwise.

Please be prepared to be available for the full three hours

**Auditions will be in person** at the Scarborough Players Rehearsal Unit

**Auditions must be booked in advance**

**TO REQUEST AN AUDITION, SEND AN E-MAIL TO [audition4sp@gmail.com](mailto:audition4sp@gmail.com)**

***Please note: Email is the most efficient way to book an audition***

***Auditions are booked in 10-minute slots. Please indicate the role in which you are interested.***

**Requirements:** Please prepare a short dramatic monologue – no more than 90 seconds. Something you know well. Be prepared to be re-directed. There will be cold readings from the play. Please contact [audition4sp@gmail.com](mailto:audition4sp@gmail.com) for more information about the play.

Due to COVID, once you have booked your audition, we will be sending you forms to complete at home. We also ask you to please email your resume and headshot/photo with your audition request. We will be managing contact, distancing, and numbers in the space.

## **LOCATION**

**Auditions and Rehearsals will be held at 780 Birchmount, Unit 5** (West side of Birchmount, south of Eglinton, beside the Alison's Fine Foods). There is parking in front and near the entrance to the unit. TTC accessible by #17 Bus from Warden Station or any Eglinton West bus from Kennedy Station. However, Eglinton is under construction with the Cross-Town route and traffic can be slow from Kennedy. Please check with TTC for updates.

### ***Very Important:***

***First read-through will be Tuesday, January 24, 2023, at 7:30 p.m.***

***Most rehearsals will be held on Tuesday and Thursday evenings, 7:30 – 10:30 p.m. and Sundays, 1 – 5 p.m.***

***Some rehearsals and all performances are at Scarborough Village Theatre, 3600 Kingston Road (at Markham Road).***

***Additional rehearsals may be added as we move closer to the production opening, especially the week of opening. You will be asked to please list ANY potential conflicts. Please note: the production opens on Good Friday, April 7, 2023, and runs over the Easter weekend.***

*Scarborough Players is an inclusive community theatre company and encourages all interested individuals from all backgrounds to audition. Those auditioning must be Non-Equity performers and understand that this is a non-paying production. We do not enter into any contracts or agreements with CAEA or ACTRA.*