

# CLEAN BREAK SHEFFIELD THEATRES



Assistant Director, Typical Girls

[BLANK] at the Donmar Warehouse. Photo by Helen Maybanks



# Welcome!

Thank you very much for your interest in the role of Assistant Director for Typical Girls by Morgan Lloyd Malcolm, a Clean Break and Sheffield Theatres production.

Because our work is about highlighting women's experiences and providing services to women, all of our positions are open to women only (exempt under Equality Act 2010 Schedule 9, part 1).

We hope that this pack will give you plenty of information before you apply. Our website ([cleanbreak.org.uk](http://cleanbreak.org.uk)) will also give you lots of background on our company and our work.

We want everyone who believes they meet the Person Specification to feel comfortable and confident in applying for this role. It is our responsibility to make the application process accessible, and to give you the information you need to decide whether you might apply. So, if you require the pack or any further information in a different format, or have any questions before you apply, please get in touch.

Send any requests or questions to [general@cleanbreak.org.uk](mailto:general@cleanbreak.org.uk) and you'll hear back from Maya Ellis (Projects Coordinator) or Dezh Zhelyazkova (Assistant Producer).

**The deadline for submitting applications for this role is Monday 2 August, 10am.**

Good luck with your application and we look forward to hearing from you.

# Equal Opportunities

Clean Break is a women's theatre company, founded in 1979 by two women prisoners who believed in the power of theatre to transform lives.

Our vision is of a society where women can realise their full potential, free from criminalisation.

We strongly believe that your lived experience enhances what you bring to a professional setting. We want women from a broad range of diverse backgrounds with a cross section of skills, experiences and narratives to extend and develop how we work.

The UK's cultural workforce does not represent the diversity of our society – far from it. We know that many women face multiple barriers when looking to begin or progress a career in the arts, for all sorts of reasons.

Clean Break has long sought to break down barriers to entry for women in the arts and across society: it's at the heart of our vision. But we have plenty more to do, and we are looking at new ways to strengthen our role in creating long-lasting change for women in the UK workforce.

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# Equal Opportunities

We recognise that women are even more likely to have faced barriers, in our sectors and others, if they identify as one or more of the following:

- women with lived experience of the criminal justice system (including former prisoners, probation clients, and/or women cautioned by the police)
- Black, Asian and minoritised women
- women from a lower socio-economic background
- women who identify as D/deaf or disabled.

As ever at Clean Break, if you tell us that you have personal experience of the criminal justice system or that you identify as D/deaf or disabled, and you have clearly demonstrated in your application that you meet the minimum criteria outlined later in this pack, you will be invited for interview.





Inside Bitch at the Royal Court. Photo by Ali Wright

# Background

## About Clean Break

Clean Break was founded in 1979 by two women in prison who believed in the transformative power of theatre to change lives. Our vision is of a society where women can realise their full potential, free from criminalisation. We pursue this vision by producing ground-breaking theatre which puts women's voices at its heart and creates lasting change by challenging injustice in and beyond the criminal justice system. In 2019 Clean Break produced *Inside Bitch* at the Royal Court Theatre and *[BLANK]* by Alice Birch at the Donmar Warehouse alongside a national tour of *Sweatbox* by Chloë Moss. In the same year Clean Break published *Rebel Voices: Monologues for Women* by Women. So far in 2021 Clean Break has produced a film adaptation of *Sweatbox* by Chloë Moss; *Blis-ta*, an audio drama by Sonya Hale; and a retrospective exhibition, *I am a theatre*.

## About Sheffield Theatres

Sheffield Theatres is home to three theatres: the Crucible, the Sheffield landmark with a world-famous reputation; the Studio, an intimate, versatile space for getting closer to the action; and the gleaming Lyceum, the beautiful proscenium that hosts the best of the UK's touring shows. The company has a reputation for bold new work and Sheffield Theatres held the title 'Regional Theatre of the Year' for 2020, having previously held the title on an unprecedented three separate occasions. Committed to investing in the creative leaders of the future, Sheffield Theatres' dedicated talent development hub, The Bank, opened in 2019 to support a new cohort of emerging directors, writers and producers every year.

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# Background continued

## About Typical Girls

Typical Girls is a co-production between Clean Break and Sheffield Theatres written by Morgan Lloyd Malcolm premiering at the Crucible Theatre. The production will be directed by Clean Break's Joint Artistic Director, Róisín McBrinn.

In a mental health unit inside a prison, a group of women discover the music of punk rock band The Slits and form their own group. An outlet for their frustration, they find remedy in revolution. But in a system that suffocates, can rebellion ever be allowed?

Typical Girls is a funny, fierce and furious new play with the songs of 1970's all female punk band, The Slits at its heart. It will feature a cast of seven women including Members of Clean Break and both companies are hugely excited about returning to the stage with this provocative, joyful, rude celebration of rebellion and interrogation of the injustices that women in experience in British prisons.



# Production Details

Timescale of project: August 2021 – October 2021

Pre-rehearsal research - from appointment

Rehearsals – from Monday 23 August 2021 (Week 1 and 4 Sheffield, Week 2 and 3 London)

Fit up – from Monday 13 September 2021

Tech – from Monday 20 September 2021

Public Dress / First Preview – Thursday 23 September

Previews – Friday 24 September, Saturday 25 September, Monday 27 September

Opening / Press night – Tuesday 28 September

Final performance – Saturday 16 October 2021

\*Please note this show will require you to be based in both London and Sheffield throughout the contract, therefore you must be able to be in Sheffield for six weeks across August, September and October, and London for two weeks late August and early September (plus available to carry out pre rehearsal research as required).

Fee: £3,000 excluding VAT plus accommodation and travel expenses (up to £1,800 travel and accommodation)

Application deadline: Monday 2 August, 10am

Interviews: Monday 9 August



# Person Specification

We are looking for an Assistant Director, with experience as follows:

- Experience directing your own production for a paying audience
- A proven commitment to what Clean Break and Sheffield Theatres stands for and alignment with our values
- A love of the rehearsal room and process of making theatre
- Experience of assistant directing on at least one full production
- Ability to respond quickly with creative solutions
- Sensitivity in working with actors

Because our work is about highlighting women's experiences and providing services for women with experience of the criminal justice system and at risk of entering it, all of our positions are open to women only, (exempt under the Equality Act 2010, Schedule 9, part 1).



# Job Description

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- To prepare for the production by doing research related to the production, agreed by the director
- To support the director and creative team's vision for the production
- To assist the production in line with how the director sees necessary
- To adhere to the agreed compact of the rehearsal room, created by the Typical Girls company
- To attend all rehearsals, production meetings, technical rehearsals, previews, and press night
- To attend performances throughout the run (agreed with the director) in order to monitor the show and be the conduit between the production and the director/companies during the run

# Application Process

Please apply in writing or by video, with the subject header Assistant Director, Typical Girls to [maya.ellis@cleanbreak.org.uk](mailto:maya.ellis@cleanbreak.org.uk) including the following:

- Covering Letter OR video, detailing your relevant experience as in the person specification, and why you want to do this job now
- CV
- Contact details for two referees

Covering letter should not exceed one sheet of A4 excluding CVs. Video should not exceed three minutes.

Timescale:

**Closing date for applications is Monday 2 August, 10am**

Interviews (in person) 9 August 2021

Contract begins: 23 August 2021 with pre-rehearsal research from appointment.

Completion: 16 October 2021

## Pre-work Checks

This role involves working with adults and may involve working with children (Members can participate in the Members Programme from the age of 17). For these reasons, we will request a Enhanced Level DBS Check from the Disclosure & Barring Service (DBS) after any conditional offer of employment.

Registered charity number 1017560  
Company number 2690758



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Still from Sweatbox, the film. DOP Sara Deane