



NOISES OFF

By Michael Frayn

ADC Lent Week 1 Mainshow (27th-31st January 2025)

Costume Designer Application Pack

ABOUT THE SHOW

Noises Off has gone from being the genre-defying black sheep of the English farce, to a genre-defining archetype of the genre.

Michael Frayn's most well known work follows the cast and crew of a touring farce called "Nothing On" from their disastrous dress rehearsal in Weston-super-Mare, to interpersonal chaos backstage at a matinée in Ashton-under-Lyme, ending at a doomed performance in

Stockton-on-Tees. Much of the conflict in the play results from overlapping romances between various members of cast and crew, which cause tensions to repeatedly boil over before and during shows. Each of the three acts centres a repeat of Act 1 of “Nothing On”, while the real story happens either around or on top of it. Renowned for its witty dialogue, ingenious staging and complex slapstick, *Noises off* is a theatrical tour de force and not to be missed!

DIRECTORIAL VISION

The aesthetic I have planned for the show is a celebration of backstage at the ADC. I’m talking inexplicable cables, LX tape in weird places and weird colours, wood obviously taken from gash, chipboard, visible lights in counterweights, black paint, cuddly ducks etc. Considering we spend so much time trying to hide what the backstage looks like from the audience in the ADC, I think it would be brilliant to purposely bring it to the fore and heighten it. This will also set the visual style of this production apart from other renditions of *Noises Off*. As the play takes place both in front of and behind the set, consider the difference in design styles between them being the front is the ADC with white workers on, and the back is the ADC with blue workers on.

ABOUT THE DIRECTOR

My name’s Tom (he/him) and I’m a 3rd year PBS Student at Trinity Hall. I’ve been directing for a few years now in all sorts of wacky places, but this is my first (and let’s be honest, probably last) time directing in the ADC Theatre proper. I cannot wait to get started with this project and get to know all the people who will be working on it with me. The big challenge of *Noises Off* is achieving a farce on-stage and not off, and I’m only hoping all of you will be able to help me with that...

HOW TO APPLY

Please send all applications by email to me (Eva, she/her - Producer) at ei284@cam.ac.uk by **23:59 Sat 22 Nov**

Please include your name, and if comfortable your subject, year and pronouns.

If you need an extension, just ask!

COSTUME DESIGNER

The costume will be in charge of sourcing and fitting costumes for all the cast members. This will require striking a good balance between the look of the backstage and onstage characters and also integrating the designs into the wider aesthetics of the show. Thankfully there should be minimal costume changes in the show so there will be time and budget to focus carefully on each character's costume! No specific experience is required for this role, although some experience with modifying or creating clothing is desirable.

(Optional) Questions for Application:

- Why do you want to be involved in *Noises Off*?
- What (if any) experience do you have that would relate to the role of Costume Designer?
- When you think of bad provincial UK Theatre costume design (such as what the company in *Noises Off* might muster), what do you think of?
- Do you have any ideas at this stage for the costume design?

TRIGGER WARNINGS for show:

Moderate Comic Peril, Pregnancy, Mention of Blood, Alcohol Abuse, Sexism