

ROYAL MANITOBA THEATRE CENTRE AUDITION NOTICE

Part of the 2020/21 Tom Hendry Warehouse Season

New

By Pamela Mala Sinha
Directed by Alan Dilworth

Rehearsals begin
Opening Performance
Closing Performance

October 5th, 2020
November 5th, 2020
November 21st, 2020

Auditions in Winnipeg March 16th and in Vancouver March 17th

Character Breakdowns are listed below

Audition Requirements:

Actors are asked to read the script prior to auditioning.

A limited number of scripts are available to sign out at the Royal MTC Box Office, 174 Market Ave.

Monday – Friday: Noon – 5:00pm (Please return promptly out of consideration for your colleagues)

Actors will be asked to read from the script in the audition.

Royal MTC Inclusive Casting Policy: We are committed to diverse, inclusive casting. For every role, the director will consider all submissions, without regard to age, disability, ethno-cultural identity, gender, or any other basis.

For auditions, email résumé and headshot to
Jenn Bahniuk, Artistic Coordinator, Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre jbahniuk@royalmtc.ca.

Please include either “NEW Wpg” or “NEW Van” in the subject line depending on which city you will be auditioning in, and the role of interest in the email body.

Submission deadline: **March 12th**

Character Descriptions provided by the Director:

(The roles of Aisha and Nuzha have been cast)

Sita

Married to Sachin, thirty, dancer

Sita has moved with her husband to Winnipeg from India. Before they left, she lost a baby in childbirth. She has very little English. She was an extraordinary dancer. Her husband has not been able to comfort her through her grief, hoping that distance will make the grief go away. She has not forgiven him for this.

Sachin

Forties, professor

Sachin is married to Sita, who lost a baby in childbirth. He chose to have them move to Canada from India shortly after losing the child, hoping that would help her get over her grief, and his own. It backfired. She has not forgiven him for what she sees as his insensitivity, and failure to give what she needed to let go the child. He and Sita are struggling.

Ash

Late thirties, PhD student of English

Ash is married to Aisha. Ash loves Aisha but is attracted to men. Aisha wants to have a baby and wants to be the object of Ash's desire. Ash wants to be married to Aisha but is struggling with the pressure he feels from Aisha. Pot and visits to the gym are Ash's distractions of choice. Ash is inspired by Nuzha, a young arranged bride living in their building, who is determined to be who she is, and manifest the life she wants, regardless of her circumstances.

Qasim

Mid/late forties, medical doctor

Qasim is very settled in Canada. In India, Qasim's mother is on a hunger strike until he agrees to marry Nuzha, a very young woman who is connected to someone from his mother's past in India. He does. Qasim is in love and in a relationship with Abby (not Indian), a woman who works in his clinic. Qasim struggles to be transparent with Abby, Nuzha, and his friends. He breaks his and Abby's hearts, because he cannot betray his mother, as there is too much at stake given their family's traumatized history from Partition. Qasim, indifferent to Nuzha, neglects her, until he finds out she has started to have an affair with Sachin, his best friend, and that she has found a job for herself. She has begun to build a life for herself in Winnipeg, while he works long hours at his clinic. He comes to appreciate and respect Nuzha.

Abby

Mid forties, Not Indian, a nurse and Qasim's lover

Abby is in love with Qasim, and he is in love with her. Qasim has just been married over the phone to a very young woman back home in India, on the insistence of his mother, who is on a hunger strike until he agrees to do so. Qasim struggles to be transparent with his dilemma with Abby, and his friends. Qasim breaks his own and Abby's heart, because he cannot betray his mother, as there is too much at stake given his family's traumatized history from Partition. Abby struggles to understand the depth of Qasim's dilemma.