
CASTING ADVERT

Production Details

Production Name: My Mother's Son
Production Company: Infinita Productions
Production Type: Short Film
Paying: Main Roles: £150 plus travel expenses per day.
Supporting Roles: £75 per day plus travel expenses per day.
Location: Greater London
Duration: 5-day shoot
Deadline for Applying: 16th of October

Short Synopsis:

27-year-old Ash is a final year PhD English Literature student. Their mother, Sabine, is the charismatic and persuasive spokesperson for a conspiracy group with a hardline anti-vaxxer agenda. Both now find themselves on opposing sides of the narrative, and tensions have reached a tipping point. Can they reconcile the hard truths that have punished and tested their mutual maternal bond?

Usage:

The video footage is to be used as a submission for a final Master Projects. Metfilm school will retain any usage of the film for promotional material. The creator of the project will also hold the right to submit the film for festivals and use it in any way they see fit without having to consult the prospective cast. The usage and rights maintained are within this universe and any other universe till the end of time.

Key Dates:

The shooting will take place in Greater London from the 29th of October to 3rd of November 2021.

Application Process:

There are two stages of the audition process:

Stage 1 – Please film yourself in standard landscape mode with your head and shoulders in full view of a camera (phone camera is fine) and recite your selected dialogue for the character you are auditioning for. If you are auditioning for more than one character, please make this clear in both your application and the video submission. Please WeTransfer, Google Drive link or Dropbox link the video submission to the emails below. Applications will be accepted up till 16th of October.

Stage 2 – Call backs from successful applicants will be conducted in person at Metfilm school during the week commencing 18th of October.

Rehearsal:

We will have two rehearsal day for successful applicants. This will be paid at £50 + expenses per day. This is currently set on the 25th & 26th of October (but this is subject to change)

Submissions:

All submission are to be directed to josh.wilkin@metfilmschool.ac.uk with the subject line *My Mother's Son Casting_Role_Name*

Including: A CV with all relevant previous experience, contact information and full measurements. A video performing one or more of the characters below.

Main Roles required:

SABINE STEADMAN-BUTLER

Age Range: 40 - 50

Gender: Female presenting

Ethnicity: White British

Character details:

Sabine is an independent mother who made her way up, becoming a spokesperson defending absurd conspiracy theories. The new trend for conspiracists is the anti-vax subject. Self-centred, she even denies the death of her mother by covid-19. Her extreme convictions are dragging her away from the connection with her only son.

Audition monologue:

Sabine to the crowds: "Thank you, for your generous welcome. It is of utmost importance that we share with the world the truth. *(Someone wheels a case of vaccines from off-stage to Sabine. She holds one up high in the air. The crowd starts booing aggressively.)* This is the threat. It is not the cure. Never was, never will be! *(She SMASHES the vaccine on the ground. The crowd goes wild.)* No vaccine has ever been proven safe. No vaccine has been proven effective. There is just no evidence of a pandemic - it's just plain paranoia and blind followers! I worked in the industry, I saw the lies. There is zero evidence that SARS COV-2 has been purified and is unequivocally in existence. Don't stop questioning!"

ASHLEY STEADMAN-BUTLER

Age Range: 25 - 30

Gender: Male Presenting

Ethnicity: Mixed

Character details:

Two women have raised Ash. The constant absence of his mother Sabine, the provider, brought him close to his grandmother. His Nanna died recently by Covid-19, and Sabine denied the cause of the death. The gap from his mother reaches a tipping point now he is a MA Literature student specializing in absurd narratives, and Sabine is turning into an infamous social media anti-vax spokesperson.

Audition monologue:

Post-grad English class. Ash, now 27, stands in front of a presentation titled "Unreliable Narrators"

The Picaro, the Madman, the Naif, and the Liar. We can categorise unreliable narrators as much as we want, but, what is more fascinating to me is perhaps the allure of unreliable narrators.

Regardless of our moral and ethical standing, unreliable narrators are clever, charming, even seductive. It is intellectually dishonest to assert otherwise. Thank you.

Support Roles Required:

MELINDA

Age Range: 25 - 30

Gender: Female Presenting

Ethnicity: Mixed

Character details:

Melinda is a MA Literature student, and she kinds of fancy his classmate Ash. Intelligent and sensitive, she is into decoding all sorts of narratives. She is fascinated by the creative human minds and the absurd stories they create.

Audition monologue:

Ash, Mel and Pete walk down the corridor.

MEL

Took your time, didn't you?

PETE

There's an anti-vaxx demo in the park at 2pm today.

MEL

We're going.

PETE

A whole load of paranoid, insane, deluded conspiracy theorists. I can't wait.

Ash slows to a stop.

ASH

How big is the rally?

PETE

Massive. Definitely one of the bigger ones. I heard big names are coming.

Ash considers - a masked worry behind his thoughtful expression.

ASH

I don't think I'll join, guys. Sorry.

PETE

What?

MEL

You, the vocal champion of all social causes, don't want to show up and prove these fu -

ASH

I really can't. Sorry

PETE

Age Range: 25 - 30

Gender: Male Presenting

Ethnicity: Mixed

Character details:

Pete is a geek into comics, d-movies and conspiracy theories.

Audition monologue:

Ash, Mel and Pete walk down the corridor.

MEL

Took your time, didn't you?

PETE

There's an anti-vaxx demo in the park at 2pm today.

MEL

We're going.

PETE

A whole load of paranoid, insane, deluded conspiracy theorists. I can't wait.

Ash slows to a stop.

ASH

How big is the rally?

PETE

Massive. Definitely one of the bigger ones. I heard big names are coming.

Ash considers - a masked worry behind his thoughtful expression.

ASH

I don't think I'll join, guys. Sorry.

PETE

What?

MEL

You, the vocal champion of all social causes, don't want to show up and prove these fu -

ASH

I really can't. Sorry.

LAURA THE NEWS ANCHOR

Age Range: 35 - 45

Gender: Female Presenting

Ethnicity: Mixed

Character details:

Laura is a determined and sharp tv news interviewer.

Audition monologue:

LAURA, THE NEWS ANCHOR, seated, speaks to the camera.

LAURA

In other news. An extraordinary moment between Populist conspiracy theorist, Sabine Steadman-Butler and a very unexpected guest at her anti-vax rally. Sources tell us that friends of the guest was overheard saying that he is none other than her 27 year old son. A spokesperson for Ms Steadman-Butler provided a statement earlier explaining it was a private family matter.

Laura turns and we see a monitor on the other side of the desk - it's Ash.

LAURA (CONTINUED)

We have Ms Steadman-Butler's son, Ashley Steadman, with us in the studio today.

Ash, smartly dressed, sits facing with Laura on screen.

LAURA

What prompted you to attend the rally?

ASH

I deemed it necessary, and admittedly, long overdue to confront her. My Nan passed away recently. But my mother did not attend the funeral.

LAURA

So sorry for your loss, Ashley. Do you have
any speculation as to why
Ms Sabine did not attend the funeral?

ASH

My Nan was an avid supporter
of the vaccine. That's the
only reason.

LAURA

Why did you choose to
confront your mother so
publicly?

ASH

I want people to know it is
not wrong to question. But
what she's saying is
dishonest and it's
dangerous. She's spreading
falsehoods that will cost
more lives.

LAURA

What do wish to achieve?
From all of this.

Ash, caught off guard, ponders for a moment.

ASH

I hope to get her back. I
am, despite everything,
my mother's son.