



# AUDITION NOTICE

## *Outlying Islands* by David Greig

directed by Joanna Daniel and Tamsin Jacson

**Audition dates: Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> & Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> November: 7pm at Studio Theatre**

**Production dates: Monday 16<sup>th</sup> February - Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2026**

**There is a pre audition read-through of the play on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> October starting at 6pm.  
Everyone is welcome to attend and take part: and director Jo Daniel will be on hand  
to answer any questions you may have about the play.**

Copies of the script are available upon request by emailing [daniel.joanna.53@gmail.com](mailto:daniel.joanna.53@gmail.com)

### **About the Play**

In the summer of 1939, on the eve of the Second World War, two young Cambridge ornithologists, Robert and John, are dispatched by "the Ministry" to a remote, uninhabited Scottish island to survey the island's birds. Unbeknownst to them, they are in fact unwittingly sizing it up as a testing ground for destruction by anthrax. With them on the island are Kirk, the authoritarian leaseholder, and his niece Ellen, a lonely young woman in love with the stars of silent comedy. Stranded on the island, with only Kirk and Ellen for company, tempers and passions start to rise. What begins as a scientific mission gradually evolves into an intense psychological and emotional exploration. Robert becomes enraptured by the island's wildness, while John struggles to maintain his societal decorum. Ellen undergoes a powerful transformation, shedding societal constraints to embrace newfound freedom.

### **Characters**

**ROBERT (20's-30's)** (Upper class English accent)

Cambridge ornithologist. Charming, impulsive, comes across as a bit of a Casanova, but one wonders if it's all an act. Passionate to the point of obsession about wildlife.

**JOHN (20's-30's)** (English or mild Edinburgh accent)

Cambridge ornithologist. Somewhat naive, bound by politeness and a strict moral code that often prevents him from doing anything at all.

**KIRK (50's-60's)** (Scottish accent - Outer Hebrides)

Miserly leaseholder of the island's grazing rights. Purports Christian values whilst focusing on his own self-interests and monetary gain. Ellen's uncle and guardian.

**ELLEN (20's-30's)** (Scottish accent - Outer Hebrides)

Kirk's quietly reserved niece, supposedly the naive village-girl. Her repressed existence with her uncle hasn't stopped her seeing *Way Out West* 37 times and secretly lusting after Stan Laurel.

**CAPTAIN (30's-50's)** (English accent)

Military Captain, down to earth and authoritative, as one would expect.

*Please be aware that the characters of John and Ellen have an intimate scene together which will require both actors to be in a state of semi-undress. The scene will be sensitively handled and the actors will not be pressured into doing anything they are not comfortable with.*

If you have any questions or are unable to make either of the audition dates, please contact Joanna via email at [daniel.joanna.53@gmail.com](mailto:daniel.joanna.53@gmail.com) or by phone at 07936 779576.

Thank you, and we look forward to seeing you at auditions!