

Immediate Theatre  
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# CASTING CALL

## Rift

*Exploring the complexity of teenage relationships today.*

By Abi Falase

Directed by Eva Sampson

After the huge success of last year's schools tour, *Pressure Drop*, we are debuting Abi Falase's new piece tackling attitudes towards women and girls, and how male privilege can impact other's lives. The play will tour to students in years 9 and 10 in Hackney, Tower Hamlets, Newham and Essex in June-July 2024.

### Synopsis

*Chi loves her twin brother, TikTok-famous Kam, but why does she always have to clean up his mess? Since a kiss captured on social media cost Chi her best friend Ella, she has been focusing on her GCSES and planning to get away.*

*Charlie is proud of his "menemist" approach to life, but has he thought this through? Now everyone's stuck at the Geography residential and things could really get out of hand. Can Ella and Chi find female solidarity? Will Kam and Charlie ever wake up to the impact of their privilege?*

### Roles

*We are casting for the following roles. Performance skills will take priority over looking the appropriate age, but youthful energy is essential. Please note that we cannot cast anyone under the age of 18 due to Safeguarding reasons.*

Chi, 15

Chi is an extremely well-read Black girl. She is driven and focused but equally mouthy and caring to her fault. Although 12 minutes younger than her twin brother, Kam, she takes good care of him at her mother's insistence.

If Chi was to tell you why she's so smart, she would say it's because she has to be. She has to be ready to argue clearly and concisely for fear of being called irrational, she has to be better than everyone else if she is going to go through life as a young black girl from the ghetto, she has to work three times as hard. Chi has never been allowed to be a child, she faces constant adultification and infantilisation at the same time, she lives in constant paradox. She desperately wants to have fun and let loose but can't quite fathom that it won't be the end of the world if she does.

As the play develops, Chi realises that she's carrying too much and trying to keep up with society's impossible expectations of women is robbing her of her childhood. So, she rebels and has a little fun!

Kam, 15

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Kam is Chi's twin brother. He is fun, extremely affectionate with big dreams of being a content creator. He sometimes addresses the audience as if they are his TikTok followers, watching a video he is about to post. Kam has ultimate golden retriever energy, very possibly undiagnosed ADHD, he's sensitive about his intelligence and hates being compared to his sister.

Kam cares a lot but is an unfortunate product of his environment. He generally believes in the equality of all genders but doesn't have the knowledge of how deep rooted the sexism is within culture and his environment. This means his sexism and gender bias is more casual rather than intentionally problematic.

After finally being confronted by Chi, he begins his conscious attempt to unlearn his biases.

#### Ella, 16

Ella is shy and aloof in bigger groups but one on one with both Chi and Kam, she finds her voice a little. She's kind but lacks confidence but that changes when she's doing anything remotely artistic, whether that's make up or painting. She relishes her ability to just exist with Chi without societal pressures, she makes Ella feel at ease with herself. This leads to Ella developing a small crush on Chi and kissing her, sparking a conversation about consent. In the summer, their group of friends hosted a party, at which Chi kissed the boy one of the other girls was dating. Feeling pressured by the rest of the group, Ella passively joined the campaign against Chi by ignoring her and not standing up for her with the other girls.

#### Charlie, 16

Charlie is a lad's lad, an alpha male, a young geezer who is also product of his environment. He's working class and his parents are pretty bigoted, mostly due to the fact that they feel disenfranchised as born and bred Brits. Charlie would identify as a proud "meminest" or Male's rights activist, he holds a lot of unconscious bias and prejudice but has done none of the work to undo that. He isn't malicious as a human being, just ignorant which is ironic because he is so smart. He's funny and likeable until he opens his mouth to talk about societal issues.

He has a crush on Chi because he's never been with a Black girl before. When she rejects him, they have a conversation about how because he doesn't respect women, she can't date him because you can never love or even like something you don't respect.

We see Charlie begin to attempt to unlearn his biases as a result of being called out on his problematic behaviour by Chi.

#### **All members of the company must:**

- Assist the Company Manager with the get-ins and get-outs;
- Participate in post-show discussions/workshops with students;
- Be able to travel easily around East London;
- Undergo a DBS check.

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### Key Dates

- Deadline for application – midnight on 08/04/2024
- Auditions – 11/04/2024
- Rehearsals – Monday 27th May & 31/05 – 18/06 (some weekend calls)
- Dress Rehearsal – 18/06/2024
- Performances – 19/06/2024 - 16/07/2024 (Mondays-Fridays)

You will be given holidays during the run. Please note that school performances/workshops will take place exclusively during the daytime and may require early starts. We expect to have two venue-based performances which will take place in the evening.

**Fee** – £573 per week

### How to Apply

- Please send a CV/showreel and a cover letter introducing yourself. Please provide **two references** (these will be followed up on before final appointment).

**Send to:** [recruitment@immediate-theatre.com](mailto:recruitment@immediate-theatre.com). Use the subject line **CASTING – RIFT** by midnight on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April. If you have any access requirements, please include this in your email and a member of our team will be in contact with you.