

The Martyrdom of St John Ogilvie

A New Play by Stephen Callaghan for Lentfest 2012

Auditions for “The Turnaround” by Stephen Callaghan

Auditions for the play take place on Thursday 15th December at 7.30pm in St Michael’s Church Hall, 1350 Gallowgate, Parkhead, Glasgow G31 4DJ.

The audition process will take about 2 hours.

If you cannot make it on this date, but want to arrange an alternative date/time with us.

Auditions are open to anyone aged 16 years or over. No experience is necessary.

What to do if you want to audition:

- Please turn up on 15th December at 7.30pm in St Michael’s Hall. Whilst it is not necessary to call in advance, it would be helpful if you could inform our office by leaving a telephone message at 0141 554 1333 or e-mail info@agap.org.uk to tell us that you would like to audition. We will do our best to answer but if you do not hear from us, it’s nothing personal and we still want you to come, it’s just that we haven’t had time to respond!
- It is not necessary to prepare an audition piece. Sections of the script will be given to you. The part you read will not necessarily be the part allocated to you if you are cast in the production. You may also be asked to take part in a group activity. First-time performers are very welcome. Auditions are informal. However, if you would prefer to perform an audition piece of your own choice in addition to the pieces given on the night, please inform us of this in advance.
- Have a look at the character list (below) and the plot summary. Have an idea of which characters you might like to play. If you are not sure, don’t worry about it! You will be allocated sections of the play to read but if you want to read for a specific character, tell us on the night.
- Have a look at the rehearsal times and the provisional performance dates. If there are any availability issues, please inform us on the night of the auditions.
- At the auditions you will be asked to fill in a short form with your contact details and availability.

PROVISIONAL PERFORMANCE DATES:

About 10 evenings during 10th March and 30th March 2012. Possible preview dress-rehearsal on 8th March 2012. It is a touring production and will visit church halls across the Archdiocese of Glasgow during Lentfest. There is a possibility that it will also travel to a one-off venue in the Archdiocese of St Andrew’s and Edinburgh and to a one-off venue in the Diocese of Motherwell. In this eventuality, the dates will be discussed with the cast as well as arrangements for travel, etc.

REHEARSALS:

Monday and Thursday evenings at 7.30pm – c.9.30pm in St Michael’s Church Hall, Parkhead. There will be ONE rehearsal before Christmas on Monday 19th December 2011 to read through the script. After this, rehearsals will resume on Monday 9th January 2012. Prior to the performance, there may be some additional rehearsals. The dates/times will be negotiated with the cast.

PLOT SUMMARY:

A teenage girl visits St Andrew’s Cathedral on the night of its reopening and reflects upon the martyrdom of St John Ogilvie depicted in the painting, with the help of a mysterious woman who explains the events surrounding his passion and death. The main action happens between 1614 and

1615 in Edinburgh and Glasgow and charts the final months of the life of the Jesuit priest who was hanged at Glasgow Cross for saying Mass and refusing to accept the spiritual authority of King James VI.

CHARACTERS: (In Order of Appearance)

Please note that the ages given below refer to the characters themselves and do not need to be an exact match for the actors playing them so long as it is not unconvincing or out of context.

Sophie: A teenage student in 21st Century Glasgow.

Margaret: A woman of 25 years from Edinburgh. She has a gentle manner.

William Sinclair: A 31-year old advocate in the Canongate of Edinburgh. Married to Isabella Papia and father of two young sons.

Isabella Papia Sinclair: A woman in her late twenties. Married to William Sinclair and mother of two young sons.

Father John Ogilvie SJ: A 33-year-old Jesuit priest from Banffshire, educated overseas and returned to Scotland.

Robert Heygate: A stationer in Glasgow's High Street. Probably in his late twenties or early thirties.

Anne Spottiswoode: The Daughter of the Episcopal Archbishop. A young woman of independent thought and deep character. She is probably in her late teens or early twenties. She is secretly in love with James Stewart (below).

Rachel Spottiswoode: The Wife of the Episcopal Archbishop and mother of Anne. She is an unhappy woman, disappointed with the circumstances she finds herself and hides her suffering behind a mask of propriety.

James Stewart: A high-spirited, talkative man. Son of the Lord Provost of Glasgow. He enjoys debate and banter, particularly about religious matters and is a friend of Robert Heygate.

Mary Mack: The hard-edged landlady at the tavern on Glasgow's High Street. She has a quick wit and a sharp tongue.

Archbishop John Spottiswoode: The 49-year-old Episcopal Archbishop of Glasgow. A man of great intellect but proud and disliked by many. His life is full of the complications and politics of religion during a very turbulent period.

William Hay: The stern, imposing servant of Archbishop Spottiswoode. He is a tall, bad-tempered bully of a man.

Lord James Hamilton: The uncle of Archbishop Spottiswoode. He is appointed to be Lord Provost of Glasgow.

Mareon Walker: An elderly widow with a fiery nature and a strong faith.

Adam Boyd: A scheming avaricious rogue with a history of violence.

Robert Scot: A Glasgow minister of the Kirk.

Hangman

Cathedral Priest: A priest in 21st Century Glasgow.

Various crowd parts.

If you have any further questions about the play or the auditions, please do not hesitate to contact us on 0141 554 1333 or e-mail info@agap.org.uk

AGAP is part of the Archdiocese of Glasgow, a charity registered in Scotland, No: SCO 18140