

BEAUTIFUL THING

By Jonathan Harvey

An Urban Fairytale

Old Nick Theatre Company will be holding Auditions for it's July production of "**Beautiful Thing**" by **Jonathan Harvey** at their 50a Letitia Street Headquarters on **Friday the 23rd of April** from 7.30 pm and **Saturday 24th April** between 1.30 pm and 2.30 pm. Audition notices will be in The Mercury on Saturday the 10th of April and Saturday 17th of April.

The production will be directed by **Glenn Braithwaite** with set Design by **Carolyn Whamond**. Stage Manager will be **Cat Terry**.

Production season will be at **The Peacock Theatre**, Salamanca Place from **Friday 16th of July 2010** (Opening Night) and **Saturday 17th of July**. Then **Tuesday 20th July** thru to **Saturday 24th July 2010**. All performances commence at 8.00 pm.

About "Beautiful Thing"

"Beautiful Thing" was first performed in London in July 1993 and was first directed by Hettie Macdonald. It was revived and toured in 1994 ending with a run at the Donmar Warehouse, London. In September 1994 the play opened in the West End at the Duke of York's Theatre. A screen adaption of the play was produced by Channel 4 in 1996 with Hettie Macdonald directing the film.

"Beautiful Thing" is set in 1993 on a working class South East London council estate called Thamesmead. It follows the bittersweet love story of two 16 year old boys **Jamie** and **Ste**. **Jamie** lives with **Sandra** his mum who is a barmaid at a local pub. Sandra is searching for a way out of the Estate while trying to maintain her relationship with **Tony** her boyfriend. She is at odds with her next door neighbour **Leah** who is a 16 year old school drop out who takes drugs and is obsessed by the music of Mamma Cass. **Ste** lives with his drug dealing abusive brother and his alcoholic father next door to Jamie. After **Ste** gets a beating from his brother one night, **Sandra** invites **Ste** to stay at her flat. **Ste** must share **Jamie's** bed and with this begins the sexual awakening of the two boys. The play deals with the throws of teenage first love and sexual awakening in a humorous and sometimes tough and tender way. The characters of **Jamie** and **Ste** are not effeminate in anyway, they just happen to be two ordinary English working class lads who fall in love for the first time.

CAST

The cast consists of 5 actors.

Jamie, sixteen a plain looking lad.

Leah, Jamie's neighbour, sixteen. Attractive in a rough way.

Sandra, Jamie's mother, thirty five. Attractive and sexy

Ste, another neighbour, also sixteen. Attractive and athletic.

Tony, Sandra's young man, twenty-seven. Middle class trying to rough it up. Surfie/Hippie type.

All the characters in the play except **Tony** have broad south-east London accents

We are looking for 2 male actors 18 – 21 years of age to play the characters of **Jamie** and **Ste**. 1 female actor 18 -21 years of age to play the character of **Leah**. 1 female actor 35 – 40 years of age to play the character of **Sandra** and 1 male actor 25 – 35 years of age to play the character of **Tony**.

The play contains course language, drug use, sexual and adult themes and smoking.

Due to the plays content we are looking for actors over the age of 18. Consideration may be given to younger actors if their parents or guardians fully understand the content of the play and allow written permission to participate in the production.

Auditions

The audition should last about 10 mins.

Actors should prepare a short piece of their own choosing **no more** that 3 minutes long.

Actors will also be required to read a short extract from the play. You can access them from the Old Nick web site.

Actors should bring with them a current head and shoulders photo if possible.

Applicants can download the Audition form and a selection of 5 audition pieces from the play on the Old Nick website.

It is strongly recommended that applicants download and fill in the Audition Form before coming to the audition. This will save your time and ours.

Rehearsals

Rehearsals will begin early May and will be held at Old Nick Headquarters in Letitia Street.

Successful applicants

Successful applicants will be required to attend all rehearsals, costume calls, Technical rehearsals, Dress rehearsals, publicity or photo shoots and of course be available for the performances.