Ten in the Bed by Steve Tasane for ages 3-8

Half Moon is seeking 2 adult actors (over 18) to play NAZ and IGGY for our forthcoming April-June national tour of Ten in the Bed. Demonstrable experience and training required, offering an energetic style, team player ideally with good physical/movement ability. Confident or interested in work for family audiences. A valid clean driving license useful but not essential. This being small-scale touring, actors will be travelling in the company van with the Technical Stage Manager. Actors will assist with get-in and get-out. Actors will be required to have or be willing to obtain an Enhanced DBS certificate. This is a two-hander. £610 per week / invoice job. Half Moon runs an ITC Equity Ethical Manager contract for this job which includes stated allowances/benefits (i.e. per diems/accommodation provided on tour/holiday pay).

NAZ – male character*, playing age = youthful look as the character is a child but we would expect that the actor cast would be actual age 24-34. Bossy, organised, efficient. This is a culturally specific casting for an actor identifying as coming from / heritage from Asian diaspora / MENA+ region (Middle East, North Africa and the surrounding area). *This is a male character, but we welcome actors of any gender identity to audition.

IGGY – male character*, playing age = youthful look as the character is a child but we would expect that the actor cast would be actual age 24-34. IGGY – male character*, playing age = youthful look as the character is a child but we would expect that the actor cast would be actual age 24-34. Energetic, cheeky, playful. This is a culturally specific casting for an actor identifying as coming from / heritage from a Black diaspora. *This is a male character, but we welcome actors of any gender identity to audition.

Rehearsals – at Half Moon, London E1. 3 weeks into tech from week beginning 15th April, opening at Half Moon 4th May, and then touring until 9 June (possible extension until 16 June). This is a busy venue only tour including week runs at Polka Theatre and Half Moon.

Written by award-winning teenage fiction writer Steve Tasane (*Child I, Blood Donors*), *Ten in the Bed* sensitively explores the child refugee experience, where the power of invention offers an escape from reality. Framed by an evocative soundscape, it is the latest exhilarating production for 3-8s from Half Moon, the UK's leading small-scale young people's venue and touring company and recent winner of four Off West End Theatre awards across the theatre for young people categories. This is a playful tale of pirates, misunderstood sharks and fishing trips that hook some unexpected catches. But we ask what happens if the bed is not big enough to fit everyone in? How do they decide who gets to stay and who has to go? The play acts as a metaphor for the child migrant experience into the UK.

Performances last 50 mins, no interval

At Half Moon, our shows don't educate, as such, as there are not always correct answers or solutions when talking about or addressing prejudice, social injustices, equality and social inclusion. Like any good story, the aim is to allow the audience to join up their own dots, think creatively and ask questions so they can discover their own answers to complex issues even at an early age through experiencing high-quality theatre.

Reviews of previous Half Moon productions for this age focus:

★★★★ "A funny, anarchic play that will capture the interest and imagination of children.... [Party] wowed the kids and kept them all gripped...the magical grand finale had every child in the room screaming with joy."

Everything Theatre on Party, a Half Moon production

 $\star\star\star\star$ "An utterly enjoyable production... *Dust* deals with a number of difficult emotions, but with such a light touch it's suitable for children of any age, including the adult kind... A captivating,

imaginative production that uses tiny particles to make big things possible"

Everything Theatre on Dust, a Half Moon co-production: 2021 Off West End Award Winner, Best Show for 5-11s

"A colourful, amazing production"
The Guardian on Grandad Anansi, a Half Moon co-production

Half Moon is the UK's leading small-scale young people's venue and touring company. It is a local organisation with a national remit, committed to supporting artists and young people at every stage of their creative development. Working from their base in East London, they specialise in new writing and artform development, acting as a gateway organisation that provides pathways for progression and experimentation. Their wide-ranging programme reaches around 50,000 annually and engages those who are often excluded from arts activity. Activity includes a season of professional plays for young audiences, national touring productions and an extensive creative learning programme, including eight youth theatres. Half Moon is a National Portfolio Organisation of Arts Council England and receives regular funding from the London Borough of Tower Hamlets.

Ten in the Bed is one of several productions that form part of Half Moon's touring portfolio at a national and international level.

Website: halfmoon.org.uk

Twitter | Facebook: halfmoontheatre

Instagram: halfmoon_theatre

Dates – Submit <u>via Spotlight</u> or via email with the subject 'CASTING TEN IN THE BED' to admin@halfmoon.org.uk by **6 February**

Auditions scheduled to be at Half Moon week beginning 12 February; it is hoped that successful candidates will take part in the final R&D for the complete creative team on 21 February.