

MAY 2026

Thank you for your interest in the post of **ASSISTANT DIRECTOR – Bloodsport: After Helen of Troy**

This pack includes information on Theatre Royal Stratford East, the job description, person specification and details on how to apply. Please read all the information carefully before starting your application. Only relevant information will be considered when shortlisting applicants for interview. You may find it helpful to look at the Stratford East website www.stratfordeast.com for general information on the theatre's policies, current programme and past history.

We would like all applicants to know that if they need additional support during the recruitment process we are happy to make reasonable adjustments.

Access requirements for the application process

We want to make this application process as accessible as possible and supply large print application packs. We will accept covering letters and CVs in a video or audio format.

We appreciate that some candidates will have needs which mean that it is preferable for them to submit a recorded application, rather than a written one.

Recorded applications should be:

- No longer than 5 minutes, unless longer is needed to meet your access needs
- We welcome application videos in BSL

If you have any specific requirements including anything you might need should you get called for interview (e.g. interpreters, information in different formats etc.), or would like to discuss any aspect of the role in confidence, please contact recruitment@stratfordeast.com.

Please note, any information you provide around your access requirements will not form part of the shortlisting process.

To apply for the position, please send us the following:

- A summary of your Directing credits or other relevant experience. This can be in your preferred format: CV, film or audio.
- Your answer to the question: 'Why are you interested in working on this specific project?'
- When answering we encourage you to tell us about your experiences, skills and interests so that we can understand as much about you and your suitability for the role as possible.
- If you're writing the answer, then please keep it to **one side of A4**. If it's filmed or recorded, then please keep it to less than four minutes.
- Let us know your access requirements (e.g. Printing on coloured paper, step-free access, BSL interpreter etc.)
- Complete the equal opportunities monitoring form via this link: [Applicant Monitoring Form](#) (optional)
- If you choose to submit a recorded application, please email the recording to recruitment@stratfordeast.com
- If your recorded application can be found online, please send the link to recruitment@stratfordeast.com
- When submitting your covering letter and CV via our website, please ensure your full name is part of the file name of the document you upload.
- Please ensure your CV is no longer than 2 pages.

- Please include why you want the job and how your skills meet the person specification within your covering letter.

The deadline for receipt of completed applications is **10am, Mon 25 May 2026. Applications received after 10am on the deadline date will not be accepted.**

Interviews will be held in-person at Stratford East. Interviews are expected to be held in the w/c 22nd June 2026.

We may ask you to carry out a task as part of the interview process. We give as much notice as possible ahead of a task. We are happy to make reasonable adjustments for applicants, if needed, to complete the task.

We look forward to receiving your application and thank you for your interest in Theatre Royal Stratford East.

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR – Bloodsport: After Helen of Troy

We are looking for an Assistant Director for our production of Bloodsport: After Helen of Troy by Ava Pickett, directed by Lisa Spirling. This is a Stratford East production generously supported by Eleanor Lloyd Productions and Eilene Davidson Productions.

About Bloodsport

Helen has been brought home from the long war fought in her name. Her husband celebrates. Her best friend Cee does not. Confronting the reality of Helen's homecoming, old wounds reopen, loyalties fracture, and her true plans emerge. Stratford East has announced dates for the world premiere of Bloodsport: After Helen of Troy by Ava Pickett (1536, The Manningtree Witches, upcoming Baz Luhrmann Joan of Arc film). Lisa Spirling will make her directorial debut as Stratford East's new Artistic Director with this fierce new play which asks what happens when the woman who started a war comes home to finish it.

Duties and responsibilities include:

- Working in collaboration with the Director and Creative Team to realise the artistic aims of the production
- Attending, supporting and participating in production and creative team meetings, rehearsals, technical rehearsals and preview

performances of the Production up to and including the Press Night Performance, as required

- Supporting the director and stage management team with scheduling and overseeing rehearsals
- Attending and facilitating pre- and post-show question and answer sessions and outreach events in the absence of the Director
- Research, preparation and support during the pre-production period, as required
- As needed, overseeing understudy/cover rehearsals including the regular understudy/cover rehearsal call during the run and ensuring that the understudies/covers are ready to perform to a professional standard throughout the run of the Production
- Supporting the Director in the delivery of any integrated access performances over the run
- Checking and noting the Production on a weekly basis following the Press Night Performance

Person Specification:

Experience and Knowledge	Essential	Desirable
Experience working on at least three professional productions (can be of any scale as a director, associate director, assistant director or similar)	X	
Knowledge of production process and practices	X	
Experience of working on new writing		X
Experience of working with access providers to deliver semi-integrated access performances		X
Experience of overseeing the transfer of a production into another venue		X
Experience of working with supernumeraries		X
Personal Attributes	Essential	Desirable
Team player who enjoys collaborative working	X	
Demonstrable alignment with Stratford East's core culture and values	X	

Enthusiasm for theatre and the arts	X	
Someone who is excited by the creative process and interested in working with people of different experiences	X	

Dates and Time Commitment:

The Assistant Director will be required on a full-time basis throughout the rehearsal process, technical rehearsals and previews up to and including Press Night. They will be required to attend at least once a week for noting and supporting the production during the run, on a schedule to be agreed, as well as leading understudy rehearsals and supporting the understudy/cover process throughout the run where necessary.

Schedule:

Rehearsals from 3rd August 2026

Fit up w/c 24th August 2026

Tech w/c 31st August 2026 Previews from 3rd Sept 2026

Press 10th Sept 2026

Close 10th October 2026

Fee: £4,250

Please note the above fee is inclusive of any travel and accommodation expenses that may be incurred over the course of this engagement. Rehearsals will take place on the Southbank, SE1 and technical rehearsals and performances will take place at Stratford East, E15.

TRSE is committed to a policy of equal opportunities embracing diversity in all areas of activity and positively welcomes applications from disabled people and people of all ethnicities.