

GATE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR



GATE THEATRE: GROUNDBREAKING INTERNATIONAL THEATRE

The Gate brings people together from across the world to engage with theatre, performance, art and ideas. Founded in 1979 to stage ground-breaking international plays, the Gate is a platform for some of the 21st century's most radical artists, writers and directors from across the globe, known for its transformative ability to push the boundaries of what theatre is and can be. It is where creatives come together to imagine storytelling differently and where theatre and experimental thinking are front and centre.

At a time when the world and our own nation grow increasingly insular, we believe it is important to foster communication and understanding across borders, across languages, across cultures. The Gate works with artists in London to tell stories from beyond our borders, celebrating the multiplicity of identity within our artists and our audiences through the power of theatre.

As a home for new voices and new ideas, we also have a reputation as a training theatre. Gate shows enable artists to take risks and to develop and advance their own talent, and their own professional journey, by making high quality work that moves the artform and the sector forward.

We are now seeking an Assistant Director for our 2025 production, to be directed by Artistic Lead Atri Banerjee and produced in London this coming Autumn.



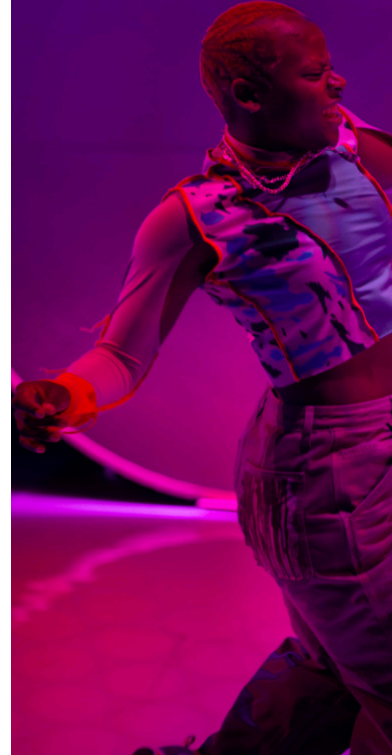
Wish You Were Here (2024)
Photo: Richard Lakos

GATE

At the Gate

The Gate is more than a building.

The Gate works with risk-taking artists to push the boundaries of what theatre can be. From designers being empowered to explore new techniques, to directors given permission to do the unexpected with existing texts, the Gate allows theatre to be transformative. The Gate's priority is producing an artistic programme that showcases our mission and impact beyond a physical space.



Hot In Here (2023)
Photo: Tasha Best

How we work is as important as what we produce.

We interrogate established ways of working, recognising that theatre is implicitly political and social and we must make work that responds to and engages with the context. Through creativity, care and accessibility, we can make challenging work while considering more sustainable models of theatremaking. We call this our 'slow theatre' approach, where work is generated while we support artists in long-term development.



Dear Elizabeth (2021)
Photo: Mark Senior

Storytelling is a means of change.

We believe that everyone should have access to exceptional stories, creative activities and a platform for expression. We prioritise international voices as a means to diversify and enrich the conversation on our stages. Access to theatre and the arts is an inalienable human right. At the Gate, the work should be an opportunity for social change and provocation to think deeply. Through this, we have the opportunity to imagine society differently.



Brassic FM (2023)
Photo: Craig Sugden

Assistant Director

The Gate is looking for an Assistant Director for an as yet undisclosed UK premiere of a new play directed by Gate Artistic Lead Atri Banerjee. The Assistant Director will provide creative and administrative support to the Director during the creation of the show. They will work closely with the Director and the team (four cast members, Creative and Production Teams) as well as the Gate Senior Producer Alice Linnane. This is intended as a training opportunity and the successful candidate will receive mentorship from the Director and the chance to develop a meaningful relationship with the Gate.

‘Not only have the Gate strengthened my commitment for daring, radical and joyful work, and educated me on the countless ways in which to achieve that, but they have given me my London professional stage debut. It was honestly one of the best experiences of my life.’

Kwame Owusu,
Gate Young Associate



Assata Taught Me (2017)
Photo: Ikinyum Photography



A Sudden Violent Burst of Rain (2022)
Photo: Craig Fuller

The Role

Contract type: Freelance

Fee: £3,250

Hours of work: The Assistant Director will be required on a full-time basis throughout the rehearsal process, technical rehearsals and previews up to and including the Press Performance. 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 subject to their availability.

Rehearsals: From Monday 18 August 2025

Technical Rehearsals: From Monday 15 September 2025

Preview Performances: w/c 15 September 2025 and w/c 22 September 2025 TBC

Press Performance: w/c 22 September 2025 TBC

Final Performance: Saturday 25 October 2025

Responsibilities:

Assist the Director in the rehearsal room, including:

- Supporting rehearsals
- Conducting research
- Supervising rehearsals as required
- Attending production meetings
- Supporting the Director during technical rehearsal, and taking responsibility for elements of technical rehearsals if required
- Liaising with technical and production departments

Maintain the quality of the Production by:

- Watching the show at regular, pre-agreed intervals
- Noting the actors as necessary
- Updating the Director
- Liaising with Stage Management
- In the event of cast indisposition, the Assistant Director may be required to read in
- Taking responsibility for delivering access performances such as BSL-interpreted, audio described, captioned and relaxed performances

Assist the Gate team with marketing (including rehearsal diaries, social media takeovers and the like) and wraparound activity (panel discussions, company Q&As etc) as part of Gateways programme.

This list of responsibilities is a guide to the nature of the work required of this role. It is not comprehensive or restrictive and may be reviewed as required. All Gate staff are expected to work collaboratively to undertake any other reasonable tasks for the benefit of the production.

Essential skills, qualities and experience

- Experience of directing
- Experience of working with professional casts
- Experience of assistant directing with a similar organisation
- A desire to build a career as a director
- An interest in International theatre

Desirable skills and attributes

- Experience of working in a producing theatre organisation
- Experience of working on access performances
- An interest in reaching new audiences
- An interest in the Gate

This is intended as a training opportunity so it is not a requirement for the successful candidate to have directed their own professional show. We are particularly interested in early-career artists who are committed to the craft of directing. We are particularly keen to hear from artists who identify as 'international' or are from migrant backgrounds.

To apply please email a covering letter (no longer than 1 side of A4 if written or no more than 3 minutes as audio/video) along with your CV/Portfolio explaining why you would be suited to the role to jobs@gatetheatre.co.uk and complete the Equal Opps monitoring form [here](#). Please share audio or video links via SoundCloud, Dropbox, Google Drive, or any other filesharing service, not as an attachment.

In your cover letter, please include:

- Why is this the right role for you?
- Why is now the right moment for it to happen?
- Why are you interested in working with the Gate and with Atri?
- What do you hope to learn from your time on this production?

Deadline for applications: 6pm, 12th May

Applications will be read and shortlisted by the Director and Senior Producer. For successful applicants, there will be up to two 30-minute interviews. All applicants will be notified of the outcome of their application by Monday 2 June 2025.

