



## **Anna | Daughters of Fortune | Exploring Learning Disability and Parenthood**

### **Film-maker Brief:**

Mind The Gap is looking for a film-maker to work on the film element of a live online Forum Theatre workshop, led by a team of three professional learning-disabled performers and a facilitator.

*Anna* is a part of Mind the Gap's [Daughters of Fortune](#) project, a ground-breaking arts and science project that explores learning disability and parenthood. Research, including interviews with learning-disabled parents across the UK has informed the piece - the story of Anna Bolton, a woman with a learning disability who is pregnant.

In three scenes we explore:

- Informing family and partner of a pregnancy
- Visiting the midwife for the first time
- Being assessed by a child social worker

Along the way we find out about the barriers, how Anna is feeling, how boyfriend Tony is coping and what Dad/Mum thinks.

The 2-hour interactive workshop explores, with the audience, how the outcomes for Anna can be improved.

**Forum Theatre:** An interactive workshop format that can be described as 'a rehearsal for real life'. It provides a safe, supportive environment for individuals to explore complex situations that often have no 'right' or 'one size fits all' answers.

**Advocacy and Safeguarding:** Parents, medical experts, geneticists, social workers, council officers and advocates have been involved in the development process for *Anna*. All the scenes presented are based on real life experiences of the many parents Mind the Gap researchers have interviewed.

### **We're looking for a filmmaker to:**

- Work closely with the Director and MTG team to plan the shoot including storyboarding
- Attend some rehearsals in advance of filming to get to know the work
- Shoot the film over four days in Mind the Gap Studios in Bradford
- Coordinate sound recording and lighting design in discussion with MTG
- Edit the film, working in collaboration with the Director and MTG team
- Submit the final film in a format to be agreed and in line with Mind the Gap's brand and accessibility guidelines

### **Purpose of Film:**

Part of an online production and training resource to raise awareness of the experiences of people with learning disabilities becoming parents.

**Audience:**

Health and social care students, trainees, professionals and policy makers, working in the field of learning disability.

**Style:**

Although we're filming a theatre production, we don't want this to feel like a theatre production that has been filmed. We want it to feel like a film: we'll use cinematic conventions and editing to achieve this.

Due to Covid-19 restrictions we are unable to shoot on location and the film will be shot at the Mind the Gap Studios with the style of *Dogville*, by Lars Von Trier as a reference point.

Social distancing measures will be adhered to throughout the shoot, so some creative thinking will be needed around creative cinematography.

**Distribution:**

The film will be part of a production that is delivered via an online platform, for example Zoom or YouTube to live audiences.

**Filmmaker Requirements:**

- Experience of working with actors with learning disabilities
- Ability to coordinate sound recording and lighting design
- At least two years' professional film-making experience
- To comply with Risk Assessment and monitoring requirements for the project
- Valid DBS check
- The appointment will be made to a film-making company or a freelance film-maker, who will provide their own camera equipment.

**Timetable:**

The schedule may require some flexibility depending on Covid-19 restrictions.

December 2020: Planning & Pre-production

January / February: Rehearse, Film & Edit

**Fee: £2,000**

**To apply, please send us:**

- A brief outline of your experience
- Links to relevant examples of your work
- Details of a referee – name, email address, contact telephone number
- The best way to contact you

Deadline for applications: Monday 26<sup>th</sup> October at 5pm

Please email applications to: [arts@mind-the-gap.org.uk](mailto:arts@mind-the-gap.org.uk)

For an informal discussion about the project, please call Deborah on 01274-487390

Mind the Gap is committed to equal opportunities. We are working to achieve diversity and welcome applications from all sections of the community. If you require additional support in making the application, or would like this information in an alternative format, please email [deborah@mind-the-gap.org.uk](mailto:deborah@mind-the-gap.org.uk).