

Kandinsky
Theatre
Company



Open call for trustees



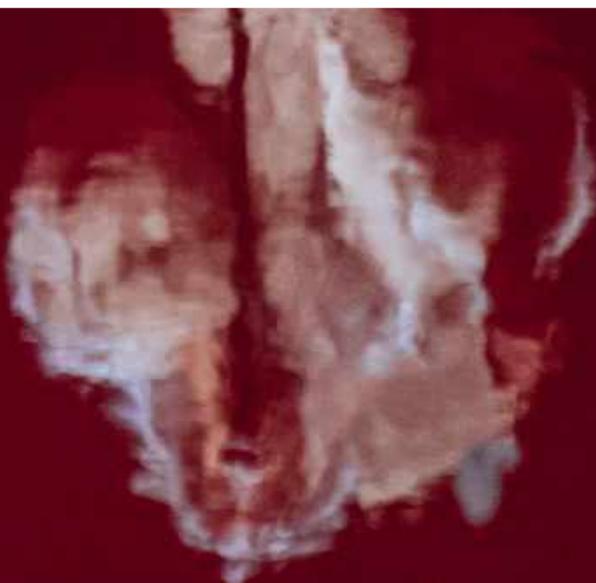
Kandinsky is looking for new Trustees.

Two of our founding trustees will step down at the end of the year. We are undertaking our first major period of board recruitment, not only to replace them, but to expand the Trustees' wider skillset. This is an opportunity to join a largely newly-established Board at an exciting stage of Kandinsky's development, as we attempt to transition from fringe-favourites to a company making ambitious work for British and international stages.

We're interested in meeting new people from across the UK, from a range of professional backgrounds, with and without prior Board experience.

Kandinsky is committed to equal opportunities and welcomes candidates from all backgrounds. We're particularly keen to encourage applications from candidates from Black, Asian, minority ethnic and POC backgrounds, as well as working-class candidates, those with non-traditional industry experience or educational backgrounds and candidates based outside of London.

This information pack includes more information on Kandinsky, the role of our Trustees and their responsibilities, and how to apply.



★★★★★

No-one else makes theatre quite like this
Time Out on Dinomania, Feb 2019

In the last five years, Kandinsky has developed a reputation as one of the most exciting emerging theatre companies in the UK. From our regular home at New Diorama Theatre London, where we're an associate company, we've devised award-winning shows on an eclectic range of subjects, from dogs to doctors to dinosaurs, united by a playful theatrical style that's both inventive and entertaining.

★★★★★

Fresh and striking show from talent on the rise
Evening Standard on Still Ill, 2018

Recently, the company has built on its success with audiences and critics, beginning to create larger scale work with greater reach. In spring 2019, our show *Trap Street*, about the history of social housing in the UK, toured to the Festival of International New Drama at the Schaubühne, Berlin.

not only the highlight of the festival but one of the most ingenious pieces of new theater I have seen recently
New York Times on Trap Street, 2019

Also in 2019, we got the chance to undertake our first main-stage commission, premiering *There Is A Light That Never Goes Out* at the Royal Exchange Theatre, Manchester in July.

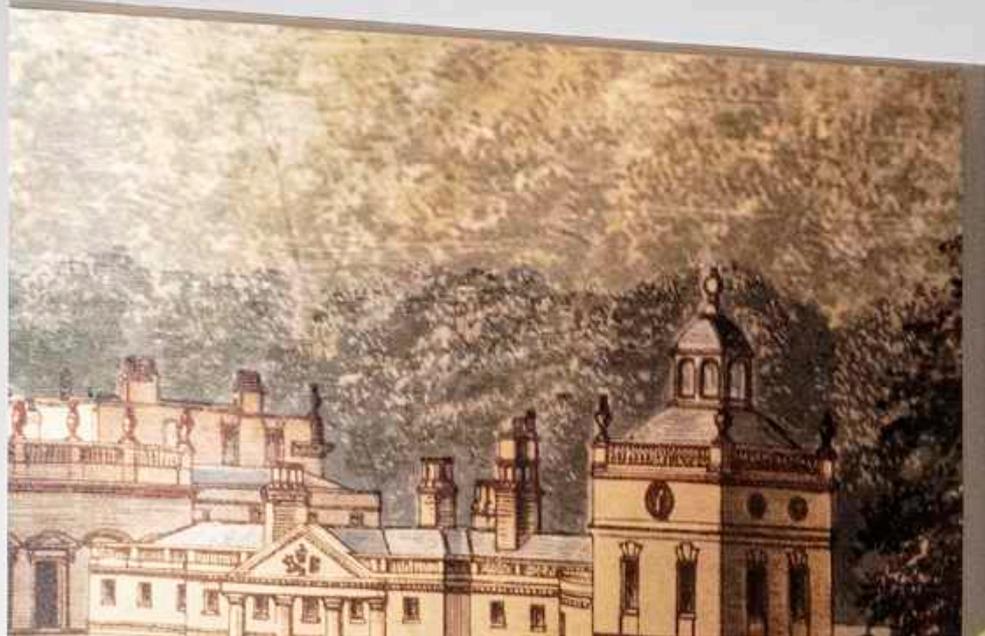
★★★★★

Meticulously researched and vividly realised
The Stage on There Is A Light That Never Goes Out, 2019

Like most theatre companies, our work has been impacted by COVID-19, and in June 2020 we were forced to cancel the off-Broadway transfer of our show *Dinomania* – but we are continuing to develop new work, and are excited that *SHTF*, our first European commission, will open at the Schauspielhaus, Vienna in February 2021.

We want to build on these recent opportunities, working with our Board to grow Kandinsky into a company that regularly makes work for larger stages across Britain and Europe. We want to increase our UK profile, touring work regularly outside of London and developing educational programmes that allow more people to engage with the subject matters of our shows and the techniques we use to create them.

The company is run by writer and director James Yeatman and writer and producer Lauren Mooney.



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Trustee roles and responsibilities

Kandinsky is a registered charity (no. [1134756](#)) and a Company limited by Guarantee (no. [7169361](#)). Board members have legal responsibilities as a Company Director, including making sure we are compliant with company and employment law, health and safety legislation, equal opportunities and laws around working with children and young people. You will read and sign off on our annual accounts and, together with the other Trustees, make sure we don't do anything that might place our funds, assets or reputation at risk.

In practice, a Trustee's role is to support the company's work in whatever way feels appropriate and fits with your skills: helping us to grow, raising the profile of our work, challenging us in areas where we can do better and extending our knowledge base. We hope that being on the Board of a growing company will be exciting and that we can work with you to find a mutually rewarding way of working together, one that reflects your skills, experience and interests.

Expertise

We are particularly seeking Trustees who hold certain key areas of expertise for company growth:

◆ The UK touring ecology. Kandinsky makes critically acclaimed theatre in the UK and Europe and our shows have received interest from a number of programmers – but for various structural and financial reasons, we've struggled to tour our work. We've recently undergone a period of organizational development and we want to work with an experienced Trustee to ensure viability of UK touring in future. Any knowledge of European touring would also be hugely welcome.

◆ Building innovative engagement programmes, especially for non-traditional theatre. Over the last five years, we've developed engagement programmes in UK schools and worked with multiple partner organisations beyond theatre. We make work in a non-traditional way, through a devising process, and we think that this kind of work can tend to be seen as less accessible than traditionally authored plays. We disagree, and we're keen to recruit a Trustee with experience of creating meaningful engagement programmes, who can challenge and extend our thinking in this area.

◆ Fundraising, especially from corporate and individual donors. Kandinsky has a strong track record of fundraising from Trusts & Foundations, events, crowdfunding and Arts Council England, but has had only limited success with corporate and individual fundraising. We're keen to recruit somebody with more experience in this area.

Please note that these areas of expertise are not exhaustive, and we are happy to accept applications from candidates with experience beyond these areas.

We do not expect our Trustees to donate to the company or ask others to do so. However, if any Trustees are willing and able to help us identify people who might become donors, this would form part of their work on the Board.

We are also seeking one Trustee with previous Board experience who would be willing to act as Chair. This would involve working closely with the company producer to oversee the running of the Board, including:

- ◆ Supporting the producer to create meeting agendas, ensuring that meetings are appropriate to the Board's duties and responsibilities, and that appropriate minuting and record-keeping is maintained
- ◆ Providing leadership to the Board: ensuring that Trustees are fully engaged with the company's work, addressing and resolving conflicts of interest, maintaining constructive relationships
- ◆ Acting as an ambassador for the company and its work



Work of a Trustee

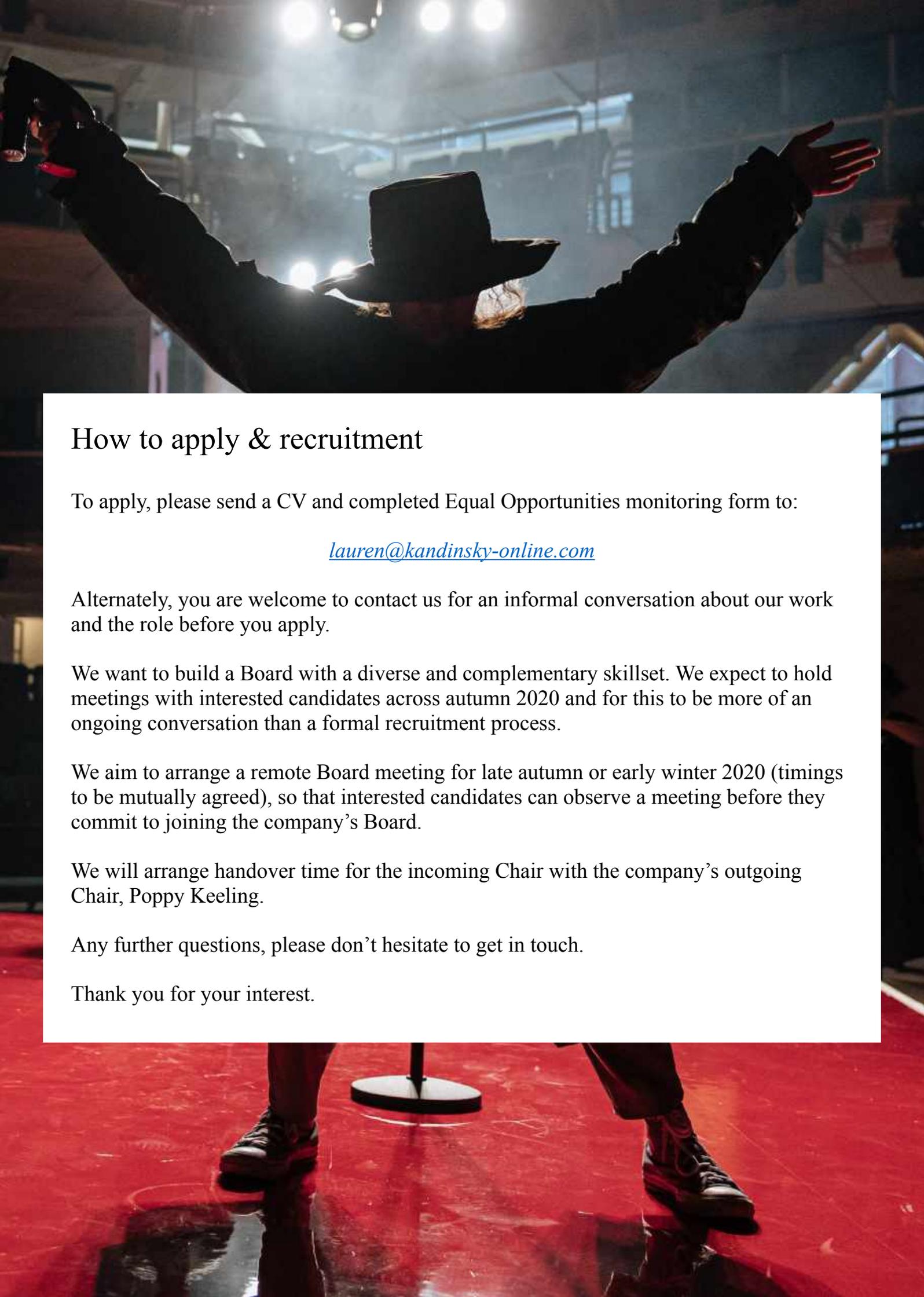
Kandinsky is a small company and, going forwards, the Board will meet twice a year. Meetings last approx. 90 mins to two hours. Given recent developments in work/life balance, we are keen to explore the possibility of having one live and one digital meeting per year. We expect these meetings to take place in roughly February/March and September/October annually – but exact dates are subject to change depending on rehearsal periods for shows.

We will discuss the time commitment as part of the recruitment process, as well as how best to support candidates based outside of London and those with caring responsibilities of any kind.

We circulate an agenda and any papers prior to the meeting. Because of the company's size, papers are minimal; these might include minutes from the previous meeting and any sets of company accounts that need to be seen. We ask Trustees to read any papers in advance of the meeting.

Trustee positions are voluntary. Most Trustees cover their own expenses, but we are committed to building a diverse Board and we are happy to support with expenses where there is need.

Where possible, we arrange complimentary tickets to our work for Trustees.

A person wearing a dark suit and a black hat is captured in a dramatic, celebratory pose with their arms raised high. They are standing on a red carpet, and the background is filled with bright, out-of-focus lights, suggesting a high-profile event or premiere. The overall mood is one of excitement and achievement.

How to apply & recruitment

To apply, please send a CV and completed Equal Opportunities monitoring form to:

[*lauren@kandinsky-online.com*](mailto:lauren@kandinsky-online.com)

Alternately, you are welcome to contact us for an informal conversation about our work and the role before you apply.

We want to build a Board with a diverse and complementary skillset. We expect to hold meetings with interested candidates across autumn 2020 and for this to be more of an ongoing conversation than a formal recruitment process.

We aim to arrange a remote Board meeting for late autumn or early winter 2020 (timings to be mutually agreed), so that interested candidates can observe a meeting before they commit to joining the company's Board.

We will arrange handover time for the incoming Chair with the company's outgoing Chair, Poppy Keeling.

Any further questions, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Thank you for your interest.