



PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET

You are being invited to take part in research on the impact of knowledge exchange and collaboration between academics at the School of Divinity and Cutting Edge Theatre's production of the 2025 Passion Play. Dr Shadaab Rahemtulla, Prof. Helen Bond, Prof. Rachel Muers and Dr Nuam Hatzaw at the University of Edinburgh are leading this research. Before deciding to participate, it is important that you understand the nature of the research, why it is being conducted, and what it will involve. Please take the time to read the following information carefully.

Study Title: Study of Knowledge Exchange and Impact work between School of Divinity academics and Cutting Edge Theatre Passion Play 2025

Purpose of the Study: To assess the impact of the collaboration between academics at the School of Divinity on the production and reception of Cutting Edge's annual Passion Play.

Dr Rahemtulla and Prof. Bond have been involved in a process of collaboration with Suzanne Lofthus (artistic director of Cutting Edge) on the production of the 2025 Passion Play will/ has taken place on the 19th April, 2025. They have given input on the social, historical, and cultural context of the play's setting, specifically regarding masculinity, Jesus' masculinity, and gender norms of the time period.

The purpose of this study today is to find out the impact of their partnership. We want to uncover how participants (actors, director/assistant directors, and audience members) have received and understood the process of collaboration, as well as the impact that academic involvement has had on the play itself and its reception by the audience on the day. While we are interested in a broad array of audience members, we are particularly keen on the views of young men since we are interested in how they understand masculinity.

Why have I been invited to take part?

You are invited to participate in this study because you are/were involved in the play – either as a performer or producer or because you watched the play.

Do I have to take part?

No – it is entirely up to you. If you do decide to take part, please keep this Participant Information Sheet and complete the Participant Consent Form to show that you understand your rights in relation to the research, and that you are happy to participate. If you do decide to take part you are still free to withdraw at any time and without giving a reason, with no detriment to you.

What will happen if I decide to take part?

You will be asked a number of questions regarding religious beliefs, gender, sexuality, moral views. The questionnaire/interview/ will take place in a safe environment at a time that is convenient to you. If you are filling in the questionnaire, you may do that whenever and wherever you wish to. If you are invited to interview, ideally, we would like to audio record your responses (and will require your consent for this), so the location should be in a fairly quiet area. The questionnaire should take around [15 mins] to complete. The interviews should last around 1 hour.

What are the possible benefits of taking part in this research?

By sharing your experiences with us, you will be helping the researchers (Dr Shadaab Rahemtulla, Prof. Helen Bond, Prof. Rachel Muers and Dr Nuam Hatzaw) and the University to better understand what effects their academic knowledge and input has had on the production and reception of the play, specifically when it comes to issues of masculinity and gender norms. This helps us understand the impact that the more nuanced and socially/historically/culturally-contextualised portrayal of Jesus, as co-created by the researchers and Cutting Edge Theatre, has had on public understandings of masculinity in general. This also helps us know the value of academics working with non-academics.

Are there any risks associated with taking part?

There are no significant risks associated with participation.

What if I want to withdraw from the study?

Agreeing to participate in this project does not oblige you to remain in the study nor have any further obligation to this study. If, at any stage, you no longer want to be part of the study, please inform the researcher Dr Nuam Hatzaw (nhatzaw@ed.ac.uk). You should note that your data may be used in the production of formal research outputs (e.g. journal articles, conference papers, theses and reports) prior to your withdrawal and so you are advised to contact the research team at the earliest opportunity should you wish to withdraw from the study. On specific request we will destroy all your identifiable answers, but we will need to use the data collected prior to your withdrawal, and to maintain our records of your consenting participation.

Data Protection and Confidentiality

Your data will be processed in accordance with Data Protection Law. All information collected about you will be kept strictly confidential. Unless they are anonymised in our records, your data will be referred to by a unique participant number rather than by name. If you consent to being audio recorded, all recordings will be destroyed once they have been transcribed. Your data will only be viewed by the researcher/research team. Summaries of the findings will be shared with Cutting Edge Theatre, as it is part of the project's aim to find out the benefits of working together with academics and non-academics. The findings will be valuable to the company for future productions. Raw unprocessed data (i.e. real names, etc.) will NOT be shared with Cutting Edge Theatre. All electronic data will be stored on a password-protected computer file and all paper records will be stored in a locked filing cabinet. Your consent information will be kept separately from your responses in order to minimise risk.

What will happen with the results of this study?

The results of this study may be summarised in published articles, reports and presentations. Quotes or key findings will always be made anonymous in any formal outputs unless we have your prior and explicit written permission to attribute them to you by name. Information may also be kept for future research.

Whom can I contact?

If you have any further questions about the study, please contact the lead researcher, Dr Shadaab Rahemtulla (s.rahemtulla@ed.ac.uk) or Dr Nuam Hatzaw (nhatzaw@ed.ac.uk)

For general information about how we use your data go to:
<https://www.ed.ac.uk/records-management/privacy-notice-research>

Questions, comments and requests about your personal data can also be sent to the University Data Protection Officer at dpo@ed.ac.uk.

If you have any questions about what you've just read, please feel free to ask them now. Thank you for your help! Now please complete the consent form on the next page.