



# Maggie's Spa (working title)

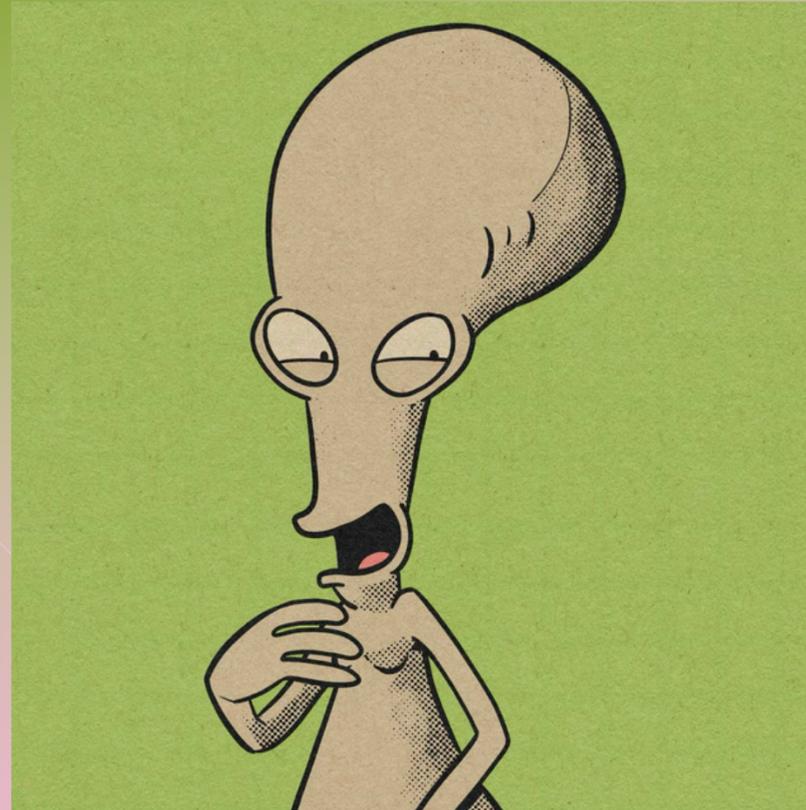
## A Semi-Improvised Play



A new accessible play process:  
from The Lettuce Collective.  
t.lettucecollective@gmail.com

Chloe Kennedy | Jessica Bickel-Barlow

# Maggie's Spa



## **The Play:**

Maggie's Spa is very likely going to be set at the millennium in London through the experience of an accidentally-Government-funded Spa. The story follows a hub for illegal abortions, with class issues, domestic abuse, money, aliens, and blood.

## **The Format:**

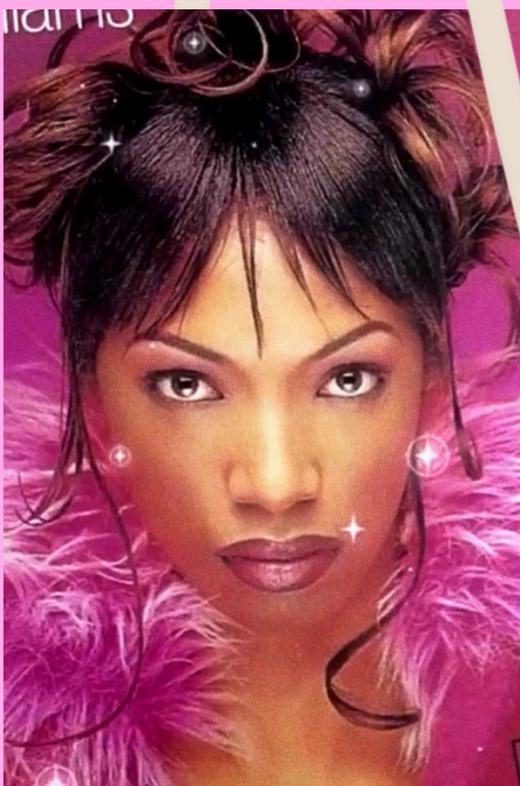
This process draws on the work of long-form improv and Mike Leigh. It follows traditional play structures, but much of the dialogue and action are improvised including the plot, lighting, sound and scene changes.



## Format (Continued.)

Like Mike Leigh's films, the core narrative is the last element to be decided, and is therefore to be confirmed. A previous (comparable) play using this process studied a sexual relationship between a 30 year old male and 17 year old female in a 80s designed pub called the Dodge, in the imaginary town of Kettle near Swindon. *Dodgers* had multiple sub-plots covering Veteran PTSD, Brexit, the toilet, blind dates, strange town characters and drugs.

**\*\*This narrative will follow a similar core-issue/sub-plot process.\*\***



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## Access:

This process is inclusive as it allows actors to change their involvement in the play each night and to self create characters.

It was made to support memory loss on stage, and received a DYCP Grant to expand this process to work with actors with physical disabilities and long-term illness; in addition to Interactive Soup funding to look into the representation of anti-social diagnoses on-stage.

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## Relaxed Audience:

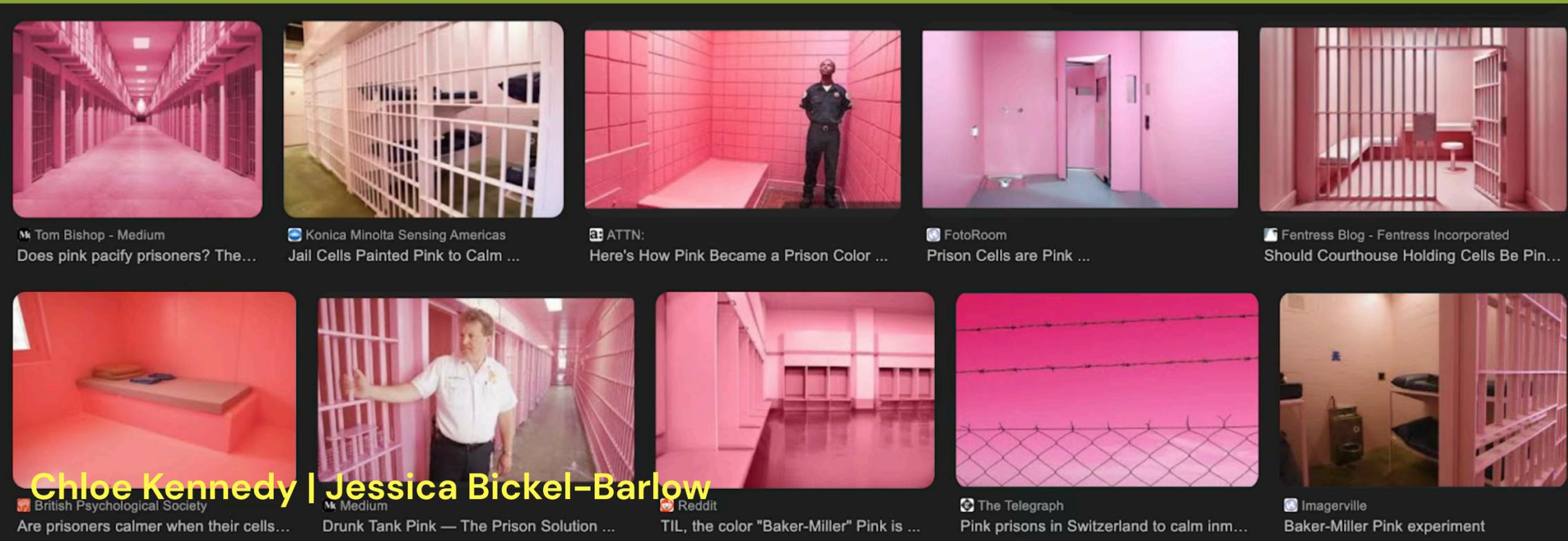
This process adopts a relaxed audience set-up, where the audience are free to come and go, and low lighting on audience is preferred. Audience participation (in the form of customers) can also be expected.

(The atmosphere changes from traditional theatre – maybe closer to a pantomime than a traditional play).

## Staging:

The staging works best in traverse or in-the-round configurations as the audience respond to each other and the actors.

There is also the option for actors to control the lighting and sound on stage.



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# The Lettuce Collective

Named after the Salad Days treatment available at the Spa, and the call to 'let us in', the collective is a group of theatre makers with experience across stage, film and tv; as performers, writers and improvisers. Many of the collective have physical disabilities, long-term illness, and neurodivergence which impact their ability to work/perform. They also represent a range of intersectional identities.



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Members of the Lettuce Collective have worked with companies like The Royal Court, The Orange Tree Theatre, Zoo Company, Camden People's Theatre, Pleasance Theatre, BBC Sounds, RADA, RCSSD, Mountview and East 15; and have toured the UK. They can be seen on Netflix, and in Disney/Hulu.

Our sound designer has worked with artists like Elton John, Roachford, The Clash, Bob Marley, Courtney Pine and New Order.



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Please email [t.lettucecollective@gmail.com](mailto:t.lettucecollective@gmail.com) if you would like to see the work-in-progress showing or to support the process.



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THANK YOU

Somebody might die in  
here



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