



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Theatre Kent holding auditions for ground-breaking play *Bent*

Chatham, ON – April 22, 2010. Theatre Kent is holding auditions this week for the ground-breaking play *Bent* by Martin Sherman.

The show will be presented this July 13, 14 and 15 and director Karen Robinet is looking for a strong ensemble of male actors for the production which deals with the persecution of gay men in pre-World War II Germany.

Bent deals with the story of two men, Max and Horst who find themselves at the internment camp Dachau in 1934, one of whom is openly gay, the other masquerading as a Jew.

Cast requirements are eight men aged 20 and older and actors are advised that the show contains mature content.

Auditions are being held Wednesday, April 28 and Thursday, April 29 at the Thames Art Gallery (Chatham Cultural Centre), 75 William Street North in Chatham from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Bent took London by storm in 1979 when it was performed with Ian McKellen as Max. "It educated the world," said Sherman. "People knew about how the Third Reich treated Jews and, to some extent, gypsies and political prisoners. But very little had come out about their treatment of homosexuals."

It is estimated that as many as half a million gay men died in the concentration camps. More information on the show is available by calling Robinet at 519-350-3851.

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