

# PHOEBE ROWELL JOHN-

## PRESIDENTIAL MANIFESTO

### *About Me*

Hi, I'm Phoebe, and I'm a second year History student at Churchill. I'm running for President of CUADC as since the very start of my first year I've been involved with the club: taking part in the Freshers' Plays, receiving CUADC funding for the first show I successfully pitched, and now directing this year's Lent Term Musical. As a result, I feel very invested in CUADC and really want to be involved in how the club continues to operate and move forward as the society at the forefront of Cambridge theatre.



### *Freshers' Plays*

My own experience of the Freshers' Plays has demonstrated to me that the process can always be improved, and I would like to continue the work this year's committee has done in trying to make the experience better. Making sure the Freshers' Plays actually carry out their purpose in bringing new people into Cambridge Theatre, rather than dissuading them due to the potentially stressful and full-on experience, is essential, as the theatre scene and CUADC relies on new input and new students in order to keep functioning, and also to create new and exciting theatre. Making sure committee members commit to investing time into these shows and factor them into their term schedules, and take initiative on how they can encourage freshers, is really crucial, as well providing advice and a point of contact beyond the plays themselves.

### *Role of Committee*

The visibility of Committee members and access to information in general is also something I'd like to work on as President. Committee has a number of resources to help people learn more about theatre in Cambridge, but these are not publicised widely enough for people to use them effectively; making sure we are always looking for new channels of communication for CUADC and taking initiative with the way the club publicises itself is really important. As well as communication online, making sure committee members are recognisable and present in and around the theatre, potentially at a regular time in a drop-in style, to allow people the opportunity to ask questions to fellow students, and fulfil committee's role as experienced and approachable members of Cambridge theatre.

### *Original Theatre*

With the introduction of a writer's rep to this year's committee, I would want to follow this precedent by finding ways of allowing theatre that is devised or original to be better supported by CUADC and create a bigger platform for it on the theatre scene. One of the ways of approaching this would be to rethink timescales; often deadlines for pitching and applications are sudden, and quick turnarounds during term, especially somewhere as busy as Cambridge, can limit what people are able to achieve.

Finding a way for CUADC to encourage people to work on long-term theatrical projects, through facilitating student playwriting, and continuing to build on resources available such as workshops and the club's library: student theatre is the best time for people to be experiment creatively and CUADC should actively encourage this.