

**CAST WANTED
(Main, Supporting and Background Artists)**

AUDITION SCRIPTS

Click on bookmarks to go to specific character on pdf

CASTING AND AUDITION GUIDELINES

All Actors shall be required to read the following guidelines prior to auditioning. **“Balkans” (working title) is a film that contains some strong language and crude scenes.**

Please note that at present the role is unpaid. Benefits include a credit, general expenses covered, food/drink, a copy of the film and a percentage of net profits. The film will be sent to festivals, industry contacts and sales agents worldwide. Travel and any other expenses are not covered for auditions.

Professionalism: The Director/Producer will aim to work to the highest of professional standards

- All information completed by Actors is strictly confidential and no audio or video will be released in the public domain – the information and audio/video footage shall remain the property of Balkans Productions*
- During rehearsals please switch your phone to silent, respect the audition cast and property and make sure your belongings are safe. Balkans Productions is not liable for any theft.
- The Director/Producer shall do his utmost to respect and be courteous to all Actors. Please note that the Director/Producer may be under pressure however the Director/Producer is open to brief discussions concerning the film, castings and auditions

Warnings:

- The film's subject matter is controversial and does touch upon physical and psychological abuse. The film will contain some strong language and crude scenes
- For female parts, some acting scene reconstructions in the auditions may involve orchestrating kissing with other Actors and fake torture scenes

Structure:

- This is a SCHEDULED OPEN AUDITION where 10-20 people will fit into 1 hour slots, there may be a waiting time of 10 minutes to 60 minutes. Please introduce yourselves to other Actors.
- Actors will be needed for the performance of scripted scene reconstructions, as available at
- <http://www.whatwomenwant-tv.com/balkansthemovie.html>
- **Throughout the Audition you may be asked to perform improvised scene reconstructions.** The Director shall inform you of scene reconstructions at the time. If not, please ask for clarification at the time

Outcome: Owing to the number of applicants and lack of time required to respond to everyone individually, only those shortlisted candidates will be recontacted.

Complaints: Any complaints, email the Director/Producer, Richard Lipman, at balkansproductions@yahoo.com

A web link of this form has been added to the email invites to auditions, casting adverts as of March 2009. A copy of this form is available at <http://www.whatwomenwant-tv.com/balkansthemovie.html>

Should any Actor object to any of these points then they have the free will to say so preferably before or during the Audition

THANK YOU FOR PREPARING FOR THE AUDITION

* “Balkans Productions” is registered under Richard Lipman as a Sole Trader

Main Cast:

JOE

Unstoppable, determined, curious, witty, vulnerable and a good liar, Joe is in his mid twenties and was educated at Cambridge. His desire to reach the top of his profession and his fascination with sex and the criminal underworld drives him to uncover the workings of the Balkan Mafia. Joe's heritage enables him to infiltrate the Balkan Mafia with a fair amount of ease as his mother is from South East Europe and his father is from Cornwall, England, his grandfather is from Bari in Puglia and his grandmother is from Russia. Joe is one of the remaining few journalists committed to the ethos of investigative journalism – to uncover the truth using all methods in spite of the risks.

JOE speaks 146 times (18%) for a total of 1234 words (17%).JOE interacts most with ALEKSANDER.

INT. BORDELLO - NIGHT

JOE is walking in a room with BIG MAMA, the manager of the Bordello chatting. JOE offers BIG MAMA a flask of whiskey. JOHANA walks into the bordello room where JOE is sitting.

JOHANA
Hey, you looking for some action?

JOE
Yeah.

JOHANA leads JOE to the room without holding hands.

JOHANA
So what you want?

JOE
Just a massage.

JOHANA
Just a massage. Ok..

JOE puts money on a table. JOE lays down on a bed. JOHANA sits on JOE. JOHANA gives JOE a slow soothing massage.

JOHANA
What's your name?

JOE
Joe, like Joe Pesci. Y'know the film star. He's big in America.

JOHANA
I like.

JOE smiles. JOHANA gets closer to JOE and murmurs a tune. JOE turns his head towards JOHANA.

JOE

You've got a great voice. Wow.

JOHANA

I come to this country to be singer.

JOE

I have a friend. He's a music producer. I get you connected.

JOHANA

Come meet me and my friend tomorrow at 1.

I/E. CHURCH/NEWSPAPER ROOM – DAY

EDITOR, PENNY, is in the office. JOE is sitting in a Church. JOE makes a call. PENNY answers.

EDITOR

Anything?

JOE

I'm onto a new story with
the Mafia thing. Absolute page
one stuff!

EDITOR

...in other words, you got nothing.

JOE

Could develop.

EDITOR

Let me see what you get, but don't
jump..

JOE

It's gonna be bigger than Watergate!

EDITOR

I'm listening. You got 60 seconds.

Improvise.

EXT. PARK – NIGHT

JOE is sitting on a park bench besides TIM, the DEPUTY EDITOR.

DEPUTY EDITOR

What's up?

JOE

Guys get into arguments over
nothing and before you know it,

one of them is dead. They're
shooting each other all the time.

DEPUTY EDITOR
Got the evidence. You know we need it.

JOE
I need more time.

DEPUTY EDITOR
Don't give me that child play.

Improvise. TIM hands JOE something.

JOHANA

Opportunistic, beautiful, cheeky, sensitive but strong, a natural born risk taker and a lover of music Johana, who is in her early twenties, is from a village in South East Europe called Dila. She decided to become a prostitute with some help from her brother's connections in order to come to London and become a singer. Little did she realise that her journey in London would involve the most horrific and traumatic experiences. Johana sings and plays the guitar. She has a Balkan accent.

JOHANA speaks 93 times (11%) for a total of 536 words (7%). JOHANA interacts most with JOE.

Must impersonate an accent from South East Europe. If you can play the guitar and have a guitar please bring it.

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JOHANA
I like.

JOE smiles. JOHANA gets closer to JOE and murmurs a tune. JOE turns his head towards JOHANA.

JOE
You've got a great voice. Wow.

JOHANA
I come to this country to be singer.

JOE
I have a friend. He's a music producer. I get you connected.

JOHANA
Come meet me and my friend tomorrow at 1.

Improvise. Sing a song.

ALEKSANDER

Mad, bad, dangerous to know, Aleksander, who is in his late thirties, is originally from South East Europe and left in order to make money. Aleksander embodies all the traits of a highly dangerous mastermind criminal who gets his kicks out of exploiting people and making money. He is power hungry but knows when to control himself. Aleksander failed to become a sports athlete and so decided to pursue the path of crime.

Common heritage and family background are critical in being let into the loose knit circle of the Balkan Mafia. The wearing of a leather jacket (which displays the status of being wealthy) and traditional rules (rules that dictate human behaviour and rules connected with family and conflict in the Balkans), form the basis of his values. Aleksander is the head of the prostitution unit in London and is part of a loose network of unidentified criminals working in UK with strong links to the Balkans and criminal trade routes in Europe. The New Mafia promote individual initiative and rely less on hierarchical dictates. One of Aleksander's habits include saying ok after nearly every sentence or phrase. Aleksander is in his late thirties, early forties.

ALEKSANDER speaks 150 times (18%) for a total of 1225 words (17%). ALEKSANDER interacts most with JOE.

Must impersonate an accent from South East Europe.

EXT. FORREST – DAWN

ALEKSANDER is dragging a woman by the hair.

ALEKSANDER drops Zora. BALKAN MOB 1 turns to ALEKSANDER angrily.

BALKAN MOB 1

Hey Alek, don't be so rough on her. It's bad for business.

ALEKSANDER

I'm talking. What you interrupt me like that!

ALEKSANDER kicks BALKAN MOB 1 in the private parts.

INT. NIGHTCLUB – NIGHT

ALEKSANDER is talking to JOE in a nightclub.

ALEKSANDER

Shooting people is normal thing.
No big deal.

ALEKSANDER

But we have a problem with Zora. She gotta a big mouth.
And then there's Gino. This is a touchy thing.
Fats had killed a made man, elite Mafioso. Gino
was a part of the Gambino crew and untouchable.

The rest of the Balkan Criminal Crew arrive and sit.

ALEKSANDER

(impatiently)

Zora. C'mon, get me a Heinekin.

We see ZORA deliver a drink to JOE and slowly back toward the bar.

ALEKSANDER

Zora, what did I say? Did I say
I was dying over here? Come on.
Move it. Don't walk, dance.
(to his fellow players)
Did you ever see in the cowboy
movies where they make them dance?
Did you see The Oklahoma Kid, the
only cowboy movie Cagney ever made?
Come on, dance!

We see ALEKSANDER taking out his gun.

ZORA

Alek, don't fuck around. This is Sammy's joint.

ALEKSANDER

Yahooo.

JOE

Aleksander, don't fuck around. Put the gun away. Aleksander!

ALEKSANDER

No, no. It's okay.

JOE

Alek, come on. Put the gun away.

ALEKSANDER

No. It's okay. Just watch this. Watch it.

ALEKSANDER shoots ZORA in the foot.

Supporting Cast:

BIG MAMA

Good humoured, sensible and approachable Big Mama is a former prostitute and is English. She is married to a Jamaican and goes on holiday in Jamaica for 2 months a year where she negotiates the trafficking of women and drugs. Big Mama speaks with a cockney accent and is in her fifties.

INT. BORDELLO – NIGHT

BIG MAMA is playing cards on her phone and talking with JOE

BIG MAMA

One night Uncle Frank sent us champagne. There was nothing like it. I didn't think that there was anything strange in any of this -- you know, a twenty-one-year-old kid with such connections.

He was an exciting guy. He was really nice. He introduced me to everybody. Everybody wanted to be nice to him. And he knew how to handle it. Then he changed.

Improvise.

FATS

Playful, cool, obedient, impulsive and musically talented, Fats is from the Balkans and was brought up in the US. His father is from Louisiana and his mother is from Kosovo . He is seen playing the piano at underworld bars from time to time and plays at Sammy Cigar's nightclub. He is driven by wealth and women although he has little luck with the ladies. He is Aleksander's driver and is involved in various criminal operations connected with trafficking and theft. He is Caucasian and is in his thirties.

EXT. CAR – NIGHT

FATS and ALEKSASNDER are in the car. FATS is driving (must have license).

FATS

Hey, Alek, what did you do to the girls?

ALEKSANDER

I put them in the closet.

FATS

How about a piece of action for me?

ALEKSANDER

Did you find the bag?

FATS

Which one? What bag?

SMART NICK

Educated, intelligent, devious, sly, Smart Nick is the son of Uncle Frank, who is from South East Europe, and a student in Law at Oxford. Smart Nick is Uncle Frank's son and a possible successor to him but first he must learn the business. A fan of American culture, Smart Nick has ambitions to go and study at Stanford, California, USA. He has developed an upper class Oxford accent and is in his early twenties.

INT. NIGHTCLUB – DAY

SMART NICK is talking with ALEKSANDER. SMART NICK points to GOVANNI dancing a few metres away.

SMART NICK

It's Govanni, number 1 porn
star...eh..

ALEKSANDER

Bastard, Govanni stole my girl.
Who's the other guy?

SMART NICK

Next to him dancing with sexy girl

is Jim Whip, number 2 top porno star in UK. His father, Mac the Finger, owns all the porno shops, publishing and sexy fashion.

ALEKSANDER

We gotta a deal with the hand.

SAMMY CIGAR

Tough, small, stocky and well built, dynamic is the boss of the Italian Mafia in London. He has very good connections including police connections. He likes family values, is a Catholic and married and owns a nightclub in a forest outside London where stars, criminals and entertainment professionals frequent. He is also a fan of jazz, rock and dance music. Sammy sometimes wears a blue hat and nearly always smokes a cigar. He is in his late forties. Has a trace of an Italian accent.

INT. SAMMY'S NIGHTCLUB - NIGHT

SAMMY CIGAR is talking with GINO.

SAMMY CIGAR

You are like me, we refuse to be fools, to be puppets dancing on a string pulled by other men. I hoped the time for guns and killing and massacres was over. That was my misfortune. That was your misfortune. I was hunted on the streets of London when I was twelve years old because of who my father was. I had no choice.

GINO

A man has to choose what he will be. I believe that.

SAMMY CIGAR

What else do you believe in?

GINO doesn't answer.

SAMMY CIGAR

Believe in a family.

SAMMY CIGAR sees JOHANA entering the room and moves to greet her. SAMMY CIGAR greets JOHANA and kisses her hand and looks at her in the eye.

SAMMY CIGAR

You look like an Artist.

ITALIAN MAFIA CAPOS – 3 Capi

The three Italian Capi (Captains) represent deep Sicilian traditional values, love food and have dangerous connections in the criminal world. They control operations in UK and Europe and have links to politicians, police and criminal factions globally. Power and control and the accumulation of wealth is of prime concern to the capos. They speak with Italian accents.

INT. DINNING ROOM - NIGHT

SAMMY CIGAR and CAPTAIN 1, 2, 3, 4 are sitting around a table eating pasta, meatballs and salad. CAPTAIN 3 is cooking.

CAPTAIN 1
That shit's a minefield.

CAPTAIN 2
There gonna be all out war if we do this.

SAMMY CIGAR
Look, I want that girl.

CAPTAIN 3
We got more men, more resources.

CAPTAIN 4 serves the food on the table. Improvise.

NEWSPAPER TEAM

Editor , Penny, mid forties, and Deputy crime Editor Tim, who is in his fifties, work for a national newspaper group. Penny come from traditional middle and upper class British traditions, studied at university and worked for local and regional press before being headhunted by a national newspaper. Tim has worked in the newspaper industry since he was 14 and never went to university. The national newspaper they now work for is owned by a Lord and several private investors who are considering selling the paper as sales have been declining in the last few years. The newspaper is not making a profit, advertising revenues are down (including online) and the paper may go bust soon. Penny and Tim are worried about losing their jobs and are desperate to revive the standing of their ailing paper. Hence, a story that will grip the nation is called for and Joe's story may be the answer.

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EDITOR, PENNY, is in the office. JOE is sitting in a Church. JOE makes a call. PENNY answers.

EDITOR
Anything?

JOE
I'm onto a new story with the Mafia thing. Absolute page one stuff!

EDITOR

...in other words, you got nothing.

JOE

Could develop.

EDITOR

Let me see what you get, but don't
jump..

JOE

It's gonna be bigger than Watergate!

EDITOR

I'm listening. You got 60 seconds.

Improvise.

EXT. PARK – NIGHT

JOE is sitting on a park bench besides TIM, the DEPUTY EDITOR.

DEPUTY EDITOR

What's up?

JOE

Guys get into arguments over
nothing and before you know it,
one of them is dead. They're
shooting each other all the time.

DEPUTY EDITOR

Got the evidence. You know we need it.

JOE

I need more time.

DEPUTY EDITOR

Don't give me that child play.

Improvise. TIM hands JOE something.

POLICE – 1 Inspector and 1 Detective

Serious, sharp and corruptible Inspector Day, mid fifties, heads the case for the police – he is in his fifties and takes bribes from certain factions of Mafia. Detective Inkling, mid forties, who is unmarried and in his thirties, is the main investigating the murder of a record industry A&R executive – he is sharp, cynical and generally honest.

INT. CRIME SCENE – DAY

INSPECTOR DAY and DETECTIVE INKLING are moving around a corpse.

DETECTIVE INKLING

There, a tattoo on his neck. It is an eagle – a symbol of strength and high mobility.

INSPECTOR DAY

Well noticed Inkling. Anything else?

DETECTIVE INKLING

One of his nails is painted green. On the other nail, his nail is painted red.

INSPECTOR DAY

Meaning?

DETECTIVE INKLING

Blood money.

INSPECTOR DAY

Follow the money Inkling. Check his belongings and keep me in the loop.

INSPECTOR DAY receives a phone call.

INSPECTOR DAY

Yeah...I'll see you at the One Eyed Jack.

POLICE SURVEILLANCE TEAM – 2 CCTV Operators

The rest of the police surveillance operative team work in miserable conditions. They are in the job because they fit in and cannot find other more lucrative positions. They are however experts in detail.

INT. SURVEILLANCE ROOM – NIGHT

CCTV OPERATOR 1 and 2 are in a room watching the surveillance monitors.

CCTV OPERATOR 1

You should hear what she's saying.

CCTV OPERATOR 2

Pass me over the headphones.

CCTV OPERATOR 1

Record it.

CCTV OPERATOR 2

Yeah...wow....Oh my god!

Laughs.

FORMER SECURITY CHIEF AND NEW SECURITY CHIEF

The former Security Chief (late 50's) has principles, he is from the old school. The new Security Chief (late 40's) embodies the latest techniques to win the fight against organised crime. Both are well educated.

INT. SUREVEILLANCE ROOM – NIGHT

The Security Chief addresses a unit of surveillance officers.

FORMER CHIEF OF SECURITY

After 34 years in the bureau and effective immediately
I am retiring. Dr Drummond is now our new Chief. I hope you shall heed
your responsibilities and give Dr Drummond
your undenying support.

NEW CHIEF OF SECURITY

Thank you John.
Today I announce a new operation.
We shall strike right in the heart of the mob
and they'll never know what hit them.

LEO

Smooth, good with people, tenacious and charming Leo excels in the music business. For some the music business is harsh but for Leo it is a way of life. Leo was born into music, although his family were not in the industry he managed to make the right connections, is in his early forties and is American. His break came when he graduated from Harvard in Art History and dated the daughter of the Chairman of Warner Music. He has managed huge acts, is a millionaire, loves young women (18+) and sometimes dabbles in cocaine.

INT. RECORDING STUDIO – NIGHT

LEO and BRUCE are in the room behind the recording desk watching music performers.

LEO
That one has potential.

BRUCE
Yeah.

LEO
You must listen to Johana.

BRUCE
Right.

LEO
Here she comes.

Improvise a talk about music.

MUSIC ENGINEER

A female music engineer got her break when she assisted Daniel Lanois (Neville Brothers, Bob Dylan) in recording studios in Southern USA. Subsequently she was hired to produce an album that sold over \$5 million worldwide. She is casual, informal and wears hip clothes. Must be familiar and talk the lingo e.g. music engineer tech speak is necessary to know...e.g. Contact a music engineer and find out or look on the internet for examples.

INT. MUSIC STUDIO - NIGHT

A singer is singing and the MUSIC ENGINEER is on moving switches whilst talking to LEO, a big music manager.

MUSIC ENGINEER
A little more mid tone, 7 HZ. ... you know, the capacity
that music has to change the feeling of a room...
that's real spiritual.

OTHER PROSTITUTES – 10 Prostitutes

Illyria, Lavina, Natasha and others have all left their respected to find a rich man in the West, left bad experiences or wanted to seek a better life. Unfortunately they walked into a trap and are enslaved and mainly work as prostitutes in bordello's or as call girls. They are frequently abused, tortured and auctioned. Their cell by dates are usually 10 years before becoming part of the trafficking operation or killed or in rare cases do they escape. They are all between 18-25. Others include 3 prostitutes in porn scene and 4 prostitutes as Auction Women. The prostitutes have natural Eastern European accents.

I shall ask you to improvise on the day.

HITMEN – 2 Italian Hitmen, 1 Balkan Hitmen, 1 White and 1 Black Hitman

The hitmen are tough, dangerous freelancers who sometimes dabble in drink, women and drugs, received poor education but know the streets and criminals well enough to earn a decent living. They kill, steal and are known as one off contractors.

I shall ask you to improvise on the day.

BALKAN/INTERNATIONAL CRIME BOSSES – 3 Main Bosses

Highly dangerous, controlling and powerful. They include Don Salvatore (nickname Torre) from Calabria , Italian Mafia Boss in UK, Balkan Boss, Uncle Frank, from the Balkans near Montenegro, Mac the Finger is English Mob Boss from London; he keeps his emotions to himself and is a very quiet man. They have accents from the regions they are from.

Use accents from where the character is from.

EXT. COUNTRY HOUSE – DAY

DON SALVATORE, MAC THE FINGER and UNCLE FRANK embrace each other and then sit around a round table drinking coffee and eating salmon and olives.

DON SALVATORE

Mac, we know each other for years, but this is the first time you come to me for help. I don't remember the last time you invited me to your house for coffee...even though our wives are friends.

MAC THE FINGER

My father was good friends with your father. We can still do business. I'll give you anything you want, but do what I ask! I want protection!

DON SALVATORE

You never think to protect yourself with real friends? You think it's enough to be an Englishman. All right, the Police protects you, there are Courts of Law, so you don't need a friend like me. But now you come to me and say Don Salvatore, you must give me protection. And you don't ask in respect or friendship.

UNCLE FRANK looks at MAC THE FINGER.

UNCLE FRANK

Mac, believe in family. Can you believe in your country? Those Politicians of the State who decide what we shall do with our lives? Who declare wars they wish us to fight in to protect what they own. Do you put your fate in the hands of men whose only talent is that they tricked a bloc of people to vote for them?

MAC THE FINGER

Governments only protect men who have their own individual power. Nowadays individual power is gone! Together we can be strong and protect each other. We need to share. There's good money to be made.

DON SALVATORE and UNCLE FRANK nod heads. DON SALVATORE looks past MAC THE FINGER. All get up and embrace each other warmly but none look at MAC THE FINGER directly in the eyes.

OTHER BALKAN/INTERNATIONAL CRIMINALS – 4 Under Bosses

Rough, adaptable, highly dangerous and generally loyal to their blood and family. They regularly send money to their relatives in the Balkans. They include Gino and Govanni, Italian Mafia Men who are heavily involved in the porn industry. Also there is Spider (late 30's).

Improvise. Walk, escort Big Bosses. Get out of a car, open it for Bosses. Guard.

VLADIMIR

Of Balkan/Russian origin Vladimir takes orders and protects the trafficking operations of Aleksander. He is well built, knows martial arts and rarely speaks. He is armed and extremely dangerous. Speaks with a Russian accent.

INT. BORDELLO – NIGHT

VLADIMIR (Russian accent) is talking with ALEKSANDER.

VLADIMIR

Sent a couple of guys over to his place. They took him out on the patio of his apartment, threw his ass over the balcony. Nigger fell four stories. They had this garden at the bottom, enclosed in glass, like one of them greenhouses -- nigger fell through that. Since then, he's developed a speech problem.

TALL THIN MAN

Mysterious and tall wearing a black suit. Presents at Sammy's Cigar's exclusive nightclub.

INT. SAMMY'S NIGHTCLUB – NIGHT

TALL THIN MAN walks to the stage and raises his hands in the air.

TALL THIN MAN
Welcome.

JOHANA walks to the stage and mimes a song.

SMALL MAN

The Small Man is wearing a red suit.

INT. FOREST – NIGHT

The SMALL MAN is dancing slow, clicking his thumbs.

VOICES

Other voices on CCTV represent prostitutes and customers at the bordello.

Improvise a conversation at a bordello, imitate a 901 voicemail message from start to end.

CHINESE MAN

A Chinese businessman.

INT. BORDELLO – DAY

CHINESE MAN chats to a customer.

CHINESE MAN
Ou new fatory doin' well.
New business welcome.

CUSTOMER
The government there
closed down our factory.

CHINESE MAN
Wrong factory.

Background Artists (Extras):

EXTRAS

Generally customers of the bordello including party goers at the mansion. All considered but must enjoy themselves have fun and like 50's rock n roll, blues, Mexican Spaghetti Western music. The party goers include people in fetish gear, people in suits, strippers, rock stars, celebrities and people in masks. Also included are criminals, prostitutes, adult porn actresses and CCTV operators. And a Tall Thin Man dressed in a black suit and tie. Looking for male customers at Bordello.

Improvise.