

Casting Supporting Statement Form

EE British Academy Film Awards

The following supporting statement form should be completed by the Casting Director in the first instance (or Producer/Director, and signed by the Casting Director) and submitted for consideration by the casting chapter in round one, and the casting jury in round two.

Supplying this statement is optional but welcomed, and will be used by the chapter and jury to help understand the casting process; the questions are optional but we ask you fill it out in as much detail as possible. If you have any questions, contact awards@bafta.org.

Film: Boiling Point

Casting Director/s: Carolyn McLeod

Describe how the casting serves the characters and the film (Up to 500 characters)

The casting is genuinely reflective of London, in both the composition of the kitchen staff and the diners. It also effectively holds a mirror to the reliance on international and diverse staffing in the hospitality industry, which is what we set out to achieve. To make it wholly representative of the actual environment in most busy professional kitchens and to convey the energy and emotions found there.

Describe your approach to new talent, diversity and representation (up to 500 characters)

Our aim was to engage a fully diverse variety of performers, who didn't all need to be seasoned professionals. Some of the diners and kitchen staff were young actors, and for some, like Katie Bellwood & Precious Wura Alabi, it was their first professional feature. The cast represents a multitude of nationalities and attitudes.

Were there any challenges specific to the production which you overcame? (up to 500 characters)

An intriguing aspect of the project was that there was no script. So I had to come up with the means to get the actors on tape in the first instance, in a way would allow me to gauge a range of emotions, storytelling ability & naturalism. That element was vital to the film and because of the nature of 'one-shot', finding talented performers who could be totally at home in that environment and be wholly plausible & naturalistic was essential. The way I asked them to originally tape went a long way towards helping the selection of who initially was or wasn't right for the project.

Did you cast any exciting new discoveries, and/or experienced actors in surprising or career-defining roles? (up to 500 characters)

We married existing talent: Jason Flemyng, Vinette Robinson, Stephen Graham, with much newer names, like Taz Skylar & Rosa Escoda and we brought back a few people like Lauryn Ajufu, from the original short, but in different roles to keep things dynamic.

Any additional comments (up to 500 characters)

Having the opportunity to work with a director who was open to meeting large quantities of actors and who had a genuine passion to secure a wholly diverse cast, was very refreshing and is a huge part of why the film is so cohesive. Everyone worked so brilliantly together and I'm immensely proud of everyone we cast.

Name: Carolyn McLeod

Role: CASTING DIRECTOR

Date: 22nd October 2021