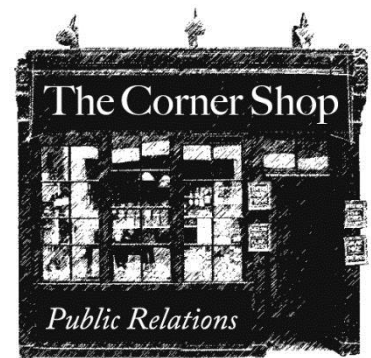


The Corner Shop PR Current Projects 2017



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Anne Garefino, Scott Rudin, Important Musicals and Sonia Friedman Productions
present

The Book of Mormon

Prince of Wales Theatre

Box Office: 0844 4825110

www.bookofmormonlondon.com

Book, Music and Lyrics by Trey Parker, Robert Lopez and Matt Stone

For more information and enquiries please contact Lewis@thecornershoppr.com

From South Park creators Trey Parker and Matt Stone and Avenue Q co-creator Robert Lopez, *The Book of Mormon*, winner of nine Tony Awards including Best Musical and the Grammy for Best Musical Theatre album, follows a pair of Mormon boys sent on a mission to a place that's a long way from Salt Lake City.

Book, Music and Lyrics are by **Trey Parker, Robert Lopez and Matt Stone**. Directed by **Casey Nicholaw** and **Trey Parker**, *The Book of Mormon* has choreography by Casey Nicholaw, set design by Scott Pask, costume design by Ann Roth, lighting design by Brian MacDevitt, sound design by Brian Ronan, orchestrations by Larry Hochman and Stephen Oremus and music supervision and vocal arrangements by Stephen Oremus. Casting will be announced shortly.

The cast of *The Book of Mormon* is led by KJ Hippensteel as Elder Price and Cody Jamison Strand in the role of Elder Cunningham. They are joined by Alexandra Ncube as Nabulungi, Steven Webb as Elder McKinley, with Richard Lloyd-King, Dean Maynard and Michael Moulton.

The full cast includes Kelly Agbowu, Chanice Alexander-Burnett, Philip Catchpole, Nicholas Collier, Christopher Copeland, Brendan Cull, Joseph Davenport, Joshua De Costa, Nicole Dennis, Jonathan Dudley, Myles Hart, Alex Lodge, Joshua Lovell, Rhianna-Louise McCaulsky, Nicholas McLean, David McMullan, Sackie Osakonor, David O'Reilly, Stephen Rolley, Scott Sutcliffe, Ngozi Ugoh, Anna Van Ruiten, Rodney Vubya, Tommy Wade-Smith and Harry Wright.

Disney's The Lion King

London's Lyceum Theatre

Box Office number: 0844 871 3000

www.thelionking.co.uk

For more information and enquiries please contact maisie@thecornershoppr.com

Disney's award-winning musical THE LION KING is now in its 18th triumphant year at London's Lyceum Theatre. Since the UK premiere in London on Tuesday 19th October 1999, THE LION KING has entertained over 13 million theatregoers and remains the West End's best-selling stage production. It also recently became the sixth longest-running West End musical of all time. Tickets are currently on sale until October 2 2016 for individuals and 27 January 2017 for Groups.

Julie Taymor's internationally-celebrated stage adaptation of Disney's beloved animated film premiered on Broadway in 1997 and has now been seen by more than 80 million people across six continents. Nine productions are running concurrently around the globe. In addition to the record-breaking productions in London and New York, THE LION KING can currently be seen in Hamburg, Madrid, Tokyo, Perth, Australia; Mexico City; and on tour across North America and Japan.

Julie Taymor, one of the world's most innovative directors, brought a vast array of disciplines to THE LION KING, including extensive experience staging epic theatre and opera productions, exploring classic myths through ritualised puppetry, mask, and movement. THE LION KING was the first musical she directed in the commercial theatre, and Taymor made Broadway history by becoming the first woman to win the Tony Award® for 'Best Director of a Musical'.

The show's full creative team, all of whom won Tony Awards® for their work on THE LION KING, reunited in 1999 to recreate the show for British audiences. **Julie Taymor** and **Michael Curry** created hundreds of masks and puppets. Scenic design is by leading British designer **Richard Hudson** and lighting is by **Donald Holder**. Costume design is by Julie Taymor, and choreography by **Garth Fagan**.

The book was adapted by **Roger Allers**, who co-directed the animated feature, and **Irene Mecchi**, who co-wrote the screenplay of 'The Lion King'.

The original score from the animated film was expanded for the stage and now features 15 musical numbers.

As well as writing completely new songs, South African composer **Lebo M** created an evocative blend of African rhythms and chorales, with additional material by Julie Taymor and Mark Mancina. **Elton John** and **Tim Rice** have added three new numbers to the five that they wrote for the award-winning score of the animated film. The resulting sound of 'The Lion King' is a fusion of Western popular music and the distinctive sounds and rhythms of Africa, including the Academy Award®-winning *Can You Feel The Love Tonight* and the haunting *Shadowland*.

THE LION KING is produced by Disney Theatrical Productions.

The Royal Shakespeare Company's Production of Roald Dahl's

Matilda The Musical

Cambridge Theatre

Box Office: Cambridge Theatre 0844 412 4652 / RSC Ticket Hotline 01789 403493

To book online visit: www.matildathemusical.com

Booking until December 2017

For more information and enquiries please contact hannahc@thecornershoppr.com

Now in its sixth year in London's West End, *Matilda The Musical* is the longest running production at the Cambridge Theatre where it continues to play to packed houses.

With book by **Dennis Kelly**, original songs by **Tim Minchin** and direction by **Matthew Warchus**, *Matilda The Musical* is the story of an extraordinary little girl who, armed with a vivid imagination and a sharp mind, dares to take a stand and change her own destiny.

Inspired by the incomparable Roald Dahl's beloved book, *Matilda The Musical* was commissioned by the Royal Shakespeare Company and premiered at the RSC's The Courtyard Theatre in Stratford-upon-Avon in November 2010, before transferring to London's West End in October 2011, where it opened to rave reviews.

Winner of 85 international awards, including 16 for Best Musical, *Matilda The Musical* has been seen by more than 6.5 million people worldwide. Having swept the board at the 2012 Olivier Awards, with a record-breaking seven awards, and winning four Tony Awards and a Tony Honor for Excellence in the Theater for the four girls sharing the title role on Broadway, *Matilda The Musical* has now played in 50 cities worldwide and continues to delight audiences in London, Australia and on tour around North America. The New York production of *Matilda The Musical* opened in April 2013 at Broadway's Shubert Theatre and was celebrated on 10 "Top Ten" lists for 2013, including TIME Magazine's #1 Show of the Year.

After winning a Sydney Theatre Award for Best Musical in 2015, the Australian production played a sold-out season at Melbourne's Princess Theatre. In July 2016, the production broke further records by winning all 13 Helpmann Awards for which it was nominated. The tour continues in Perth and Adelaide and will premiere in New Zealand at The Civic in Auckland in August 2017 for a strictly limited season.

Matilda The Musical is written by **Dennis Kelly**, with music and lyrics by **Tim Minchin**, and direction by **Matthew Warchus**. The production is designed by **Rob Howell**, with choreography by **Peter Darling**, orchestrations, additional music and musical supervision by **Christopher Nightingale**, lighting by **Hugh Vanstone**, sound by **Simon Baker** and the special effects and illusions are by **Paul Kieve**.

Matilda The Musical is produced by the Royal Shakespeare Company with André Ptaszynski and Denise Wood as Executive Producers. The production was developed with the support of Jeanie O'Hare and the RSC Literary Department.

Disney Theatrical Productions presents

Aladdin

Booking until 30 September 2017 for individual and 8 February 2018 for group bookings

www.aladdinthemusical.co.uk

For more information and enquiries please contact hannahc@thecornershoppr.com

Disney's hit new West End musical *Aladdin* opened to critical acclaim at the **Prince Edward Theatre** on 15 June 2016, having begun preview performances from 27 May 2016. Tickets are now on sale for performances up to and including 30 September 2017 for individuals and 8 February 2018 for group bookings. For further details please visit www.aladdinthemusical.co.uk

Dean John-Wilson plays the role of Aladdin alongside **Jade Ewen** as Jasmine in the new musical based on the classic Academy Award®-winning animated film. Broadway cast member **Trevor Dion Nicholas** makes his London stage debut as Genie and is joined by

Don Gallagher as Jafar, **Peter Howe** as Iago, **Irvine Iqbal** as the Sultan, **Nathan Amzi** as Babkak, **Stephen Rahman-Hughes** as Kassim and **Rachid Sabitri** as Omar.

Aladdin features the timeless songs from the 1992 animated film as well as new music written by Tony®, Olivier© and eight-time Academy Award winner **Alan Menken** (*Beauty and the Beast*, *Newsies*, *Little Shop Of Horrors*). With lyrics from Olivier Award and two-time Oscar® winner **Howard Ashman** (*Beauty and the Beast*, *The Little Mermaid*), three-time Tony and Olivier Award, three-time Oscar winner **Tim Rice** (*Evita*, *Aida*), and four-time Tony Award nominee **Chad Beguelin** (*The Wedding Singer*), and a book by Beguelin, *Aladdin* is directed and choreographed by Tony and Olivier Award winner **Casey Nicholaw** (*The Book of Mormon*).

Now in its fourth record-breaking year on Broadway at the New Amsterdam Theatre, *Aladdin's* global presence has grown to six productions on four continents, and has been seen by more than 4 million people to date. The show opened at **Tokyo's Dentsu Shiki Theatre Umi** in May 2015, had its European premiere in December 2015 at the **Stage Theatre Neue Flora, Hamburg**, began performances in August 2016 in **Australia (Her Majesty's Theatre, Melbourne** until November 2017) and launched its **North American tour** last month in **Chicago**.

Previous Disney stage productions in London have included *Shakespeare in Love* and the Olivier-winning productions of *Beauty and the Beast*, *Mary Poppins* and *The Lion King*, which is now playing its 18th year in the West End.

Aladdin is designed by Olivier and seven-time Tony-winning scenic designer **Bob Crowley**, five-time Tony-winning lighting designer **Natasha Katz**, Olivier and two-time Tony-winning costume designer **Gregg Barnes** and sound designer **Ken Travis**. Casting is by **Jill Green CDG**.

The production team also includes illusion designer **Jim Steinmeyer**, hair designer **Josh Marquette** and makeup designer **Milagros Medina-Cerdeira**. The music team is headed by music supervisor and music director **Michael Kosarin**, who also created the vocal and incidental music arrangements, joined by orchestrator **Danny Troob** and dance music arranger **Glen Kelly**.

An Autism-Friendly Performance of *Aladdin* will take place on **Tuesday 29 August 2017** at the **Prince Edward Theatre**. Tickets are on sale at <http://www.aladdinthemusical.co.uk/autismfriendly/>. Disney Theatrical Productions will work closely with The National Autistic Society, the UK's leading charity for autistic people and their families, to deliver the performance.

Sonia Friedman Productions presents the UK stage premiere of

Dreamgirls

Savoy Theatre

Box Office: 0844 871 7687

Dreamgirlswestend.com

For more information and enquiries please contact lewis@thecornershoppr.com

Thirty-five years after the original Broadway production, the UK and West End premiere of *Dreamgirls* opened at the Savoy Theatre to widespread critical acclaim in December 2016.

Sonia Friedman Productions is delighted to announce the production will extend booking through to 21 October 2017 at London's Savoy Theatre.

American actress and singer **Amber Riley** will star as Effie White. Ms Riley will be joined by **Asmeret Ghebremichael** as Lorrell Robinson and **Liisi LaFontaine** as Deena Jones, making up the soulful singing trio 'The Dreams'. **Nicholas Bailey** will play Marty, **Adam J. Bernard** will play Jimmy Early, **Tyrone Huntley** will play C.C. White and **Joe Aaron Reid** will play Curtis Taylor Jr, with **Marisha Wallace** and **Karen Mav** alternating the role of Effie White at performances when Amber Riley is not scheduled to perform.

The cast of *Dreamgirls* will also include **Jocasta Almgill**, **Callum Aylott**, **Hugo Batista**, **Samara Casteallo**, **Chloe Chambers**, **Carly Mercedes Dyer**, **Joelle Dyson**, **Kimmy Edwards**, **Candace Furbert**, **Nathan Graham**, **Ashley Luke Lloyd**, **Gabriel Mokake**, **Abiola Ogunbiyi**, **Sean Parkins**, **Kirk Patterson**, **Ryan Reid**, **Rohan Richards**, **Noel Samuels**, **Durone Stokes** and **Tosh Wanogho-Maud**.

Amber Riley is best known for her role as 'Mercedes Jones' in the Golden Globe Award-winning musical comedy, *Glee*. Additional television appearances include playing 'Addaperle, the Good Witch of the North' in the NBC live performance of the musical, *The Wiz* and competing in *Dancing with the Stars*, which she won in 2013. Riley's numerous theatre credits include *Alice in Wonderland*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Into the Woods* and *Mystery on the Docks* with the Los Angeles Opera. In November 2012, she made her New York stage debut to rave reviews in New York City Center's *Duke Ellington's Cotton Club Parade*.

Full information on performance schedules can be found on the official website Dreamgirlswestend.com

Dreamgirls will be Directed and Choreographed by Olivier and Tony Award®-winning **Casey Nicholaw** (*The Book of Mormon*, Disney's *Aladdin* and *Something Rotten!*), with Set Design by Tim Hatley, Costume Design by Gregg Barnes, Lighting Design by Hugh Vanstone, Sound Design by Richard Brooker and Hair Design by Josh Marquette. The Musical Supervisor will be Nick Finlow, the Orchestrator will be Harold Wheeler, with Additional Material by Willie Reale.

Dreamgirls transports you to a revolutionary time in American music history. *Dreamgirls* charts the tumultuous journey of a young female singing trio from Chicago, Illinois called 'The Dreams', as they learn the hard lesson that show business is as tough as it is fabulous, and features the classic songs 'And I Am Telling You I'm Not Going', 'I Am Changing', 'Listen' and 'One Night Only'.

With Book and Lyrics by **Tom Eyen** and Music by **Henry Krieger**, the original Broadway production of *Dreamgirls*, Directed and Choreographed by **Michael Bennett** opened in 1981 and subsequently won six Tony Awards®. The original cast recording won two Grammy awards for Best Musical Album and Best Vocal Performance for Jennifer Holliday's 'And I Am Telling You I'm Not Going.' In 2006 it was adapted into an Oscar winning motion picture starring Beyoncé Knowles, Jennifer Hudson, Eddie Murphy and Jamie Foxx. Amber Riley and Liisi LaFontaine are appearing with the support of UK Equity, incorporating the Variety Artistes' Federation, pursuant to an exchange program between American Equity and UK Equity.

An American in Paris

Dominion Theatre

Box Office: 0845 200 7982

AnAmericanInParisTheMusical.co.uk

For more information and enquiries please contact lewis@thecornershoppr.com

An American in Paris bursts into life on the West End stage in **Christopher Wheeldon's** multi award-winning new Broadway musical which has been ecstatically received by audiences and critics since opening at the beautifully restored Dominion Theatre on 21 March 2017. The smash hit production has now extended booking, with tickets on sale until **Saturday 27 January 2018**.

This stunning reinvention of the Oscar® winning film (that starred Gene Kelly and Leslie Caron) features the sublime music and lyrics of **George Gershwin** and **Ira Gershwin** and a new book by **Craig Lucas**. Directly following celebrated engagements in Paris and New York, this critically acclaimed and multi award-winning new musical lights up London, currently booking until 30 September.

Joining award-winning Broadway stars **Robert Fairchild** (as *Jerry Mulligan*) and **Leanne Cope** (as *Lise Dassin*) are **Haydn Oakley** as *Henri Baurel*, **Zoë Rainey** as *Milo Davenport*, **David Seadon-Young** as *Adam Hochberg* and **Jane Asher** as *Madame Baurel*. **Ashley Day** will be the alternate *Jerry Mulligan* (and will assume the role from Monday 19 June 2017).

The company also features **Julian Forsyth** and **Ashley Andrews**, **Sophie Apollonia**, **Zoe Arshamian**, **Sarah Bakker**, **James Barton**, **Alicia Beck**, **Chrissy Brooke**, **James Butcher**, **Jonathan Caguioa**, **Jennifer Davison**, **Katie Deacon**, **Rebecca Fennelly**, **Sebastian Goffin**, **Alyn Hawke**, **Nicky Henshall**, **Genevieve Heron**, **Amy Hollins**, **Frankie Jenna**, **Justin-Lee Jones**, **Robin Kent**, **Kristen McGarrity**, **Julia J. Nagle**, **Daniela Norman**, **Aaron Smyth**, **Todd Talbot**, **Max Westwell**, **Jack Wilcox**, **Carrie Willis**, **Stuart Winter** and **Liam Wrate**.

Jerry Mulligan is an American GI striving to make it as a painter in a city suddenly bursting with hope and possibility. Following a chance encounter with a beautiful young dancer named Lise, the streets of Paris become the backdrop to a sensuous, modern romance of art, friendship and love in the aftermath of war...

An American in Paris features many of **George** and **Ira Gershwin's** most iconic songs including *I Got Rhythm*, *'S Wonderful*, and *They Can't Take That Away From Me*, together with **George Gershwin's** sweeping compositions including *Concerto in F* and *An American in Paris*.

Fresh from originating their roles on Broadway, **Robert Fairchild** (a New York City Ballet Principal dancer) will play Jerry Mulligan and British Royal Ballet dancer **Leanne Cope** will play Lise Dassin. These acclaimed, award-winning stars, who will be making their West End debuts, will lead a company of over 50 actors, dancers and musicians.

Christopher Wheeldon's stunning reinvention of the MGM film, which starred Gene Kelly and Leslie Caron, premiered in 2014 at the Théâtre du Châtelet in Paris to ecstatic reviews before transferring to The Palace Theatre on Broadway, where it now in its second hit year, becoming the most awarded musical of the 2015/16 season, including four Tony® Awards. A major North American tour begins later this year.

With music and lyrics by **George Gershwin** and **Ira Gershwin** and a book by **Craig Lucas**, *An American in Paris* is directed and choreographed by **Christopher Wheeldon**, with set and costumes designs by **Bob Crowley**; lighting by **Natasha Katz**; sound by **Jon Weston** and projection designs by **59 Productions**. The musical score is adapted, arranged and supervised by **Rob Fisher** with orchestrations by **Christopher Austin**; dance arrangements by **Sam Davis**; musical supervision by **Todd Ellison**; additional orchestrations by **Don Sebesky** and **Bill Elliott** and musical direction by **Nigel Lilley**.

An American in Paris is produced in London by **Stuart Oken**, **Van Kaplan**, **Roy Furman**, **Michael McCabe** and **Joshua Andrews**.

JAMIE HENDRY PRODUCTIONS presents

The Wind in the Willows

London Palladium, 16 June - 9 September 2017

Box Office: 0844 874 0665

www.windinthewillowsthemusical.com

For more information and enquiries please contact francesca@thecornershoppr.com

Following a highly-acclaimed pre-West End engagement, producer **Jamie Hendry** has announced the major new musical *THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS* will open in the West End at the world-famous **London Palladium**. Previewing from 16 June 2017, the production will open on 29 June 2017.

Actor, comedian and presenter **Rufus Hound** will reprise his Manchester Theatre Award-winning performance as the amazing Mr Toad. He will be joined by West End stars **Simon Lipkin** as Rat and **Craig Mather** as Mole, *EastEnders* actor **Neil McDermott** as Chief Weasel, with *Coronation Street* and *Boy Meets Girl* star **Denise Welch** as Mrs Otter and West End legend **Gary Wilmot** as Badger.

The confirmed company also includes: **Chris Aukett**, **Joel Baylis**, **Jenna Boyd**, **Abigail Brodie**, **Abigail Climer**, **Jorell Coiffic-Kamall**, **Nicole Deon**, **Emilie du Leslay**, **Joshua Gannon**, **James Gant**, **Evan James**, **Michael Larcombe**, **Bethany Linsdell**, **Ryan Pidgen**, **Adam Vaughan**, **Georgie Westall** and **Natalie Woods**.

Based on **Kenneth Grahame's** treasured novel which has captivated generations of readers for over a century, *THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS* has been adapted for the stage with a book by Academy Award-winning screenwriter and *Downton Abbey* creator **Julian Fellowes** and Olivier Award-winning composer and lyricist duo **George Stiles** and **Anthony Drewe**.

This riotous comedy follows the impulsive Mr Toad whose insatiable need for speed lands him in serious trouble. With his beloved home under threat from the notorious Chief Weasel and his gang of sinister Wild Wooders, Toad must attempt a daring escape leading to a series of misadventures and a heroic battle to recapture Toad Hall.

Featuring eye-poppingly beautiful design, exuberant choreography and a gloriously British score, The Wind in the Willows brings an explosion of anarchy, humour and heart to the world-famous London Palladium.

Produced by **Jamie Hendry**, **MJE Productions** and **Josh Gilinski**, in association with Theatre Royal Plymouth, **THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS** is directed by **Rachel Kavanaugh** with choreography by **Aletta Collins**, design by **Peter McKintosh**, lighting design by **Howard Harrison**, sound design by **Gareth Owen**, wig & makeup design by **Linda McKnight**, orchestrations by **Chris Jahnke** and **David Shrubsole** and musical supervision by **Simon Lee**.

**Sonia Friedman Productions, Neal Street Productions
& Royal Court Theatre Productions present**

The Ferryman

By Jez Butterworth

Directed by Sam Mendes

For further information please contact laura@thecornershoppr.com

Gielgud Theatre
20 June - 07 October 2017

After the short run at the Royal Court Theatre sold out in just one day, the producers are delighted to announce that **Jez Butterworth's** epic, new play ***The Ferryman*** will transfer to the West End. Multi award-winning actor, director and writer **Paddy Considine** is joined by **Laura Donnelly** and **Genevieve O'Reilly** in the production directed by **Sam Mendes**.

The cast also includes **Brid Brennan**, **Turlough Convery**, **Fra Fee**, **Tom Glynn-Carney**, **Stuart Graham**, **Gerard Horan**, **Carla Langley**, **Des McAleer**, **Conor MacNeill**, **Rob Malone**, **Dearbhla Molloy**, **Eugene O'Hare** and **Niall Wright**. The full company comprises 38 performers: 18 main adults, 7 covers, 12 children on rota and 1 baby.

Rural Derry, 1981. The Carney farmhouse is a hive of activity with preparations for the annual harvest. A day of hard work on the land and a traditional night of feasting and celebrations lie ahead. But this year they will be interrupted by a visitor.

The Ferryman will run at the Gielgud Theatre for 16 weeks from 20 June - 7 October with an opening night on 29 June.

Developed by Sonia Friedman Productions, the premiere of *The Ferryman* is co-produced with Neal Street Productions and Royal Court Theatre Productions. The West End production will follow the run at the Jerwood Theatre Downstairs which closes on 20 May.

Jez Butterworth, whose plays include *Jerusalem*, *Mojo* and *The River*, previously collaborated with Sam Mendes on the scripts for *Spectre* and *Skyfall* from the Bond franchise. *The Ferryman* is the sixth of Butterworth's plays to be premiered at the Royal Court Theatre and marks his fourth collaboration with Sonia Friedman Productions.

Mark Goucher, Mark Rubinstein and Jonathan Church Productions present

The Miser

For more information and enquiries please contact maisie@thecornershoppr.com for The Miser

Griff Rhys Jones stars alongside Lee Mack and Mathew Horne in a revival of Molière's classic play *The Miser* which has been newly adapted by Sean Foley and Phil Porter.

The full West End cast, directed by Sean Foley, includes: Griff Rhys Jones, Lee Mack, Mathew Horne, Saikat Ahamed, Ryan Gage, Simon Holmes, Andi Osho, Michael Webber, Ellie White and Katy Wix.

Producer Mark Goucher has previously collaborated with Sean Foley on the hugely successful production of *Jeeves and Wooster in Perfect Nonsense* which played in the West End and on tour and is currently under option for a Broadway season.

The Miser will be produced with long term producing partner Mark Rubinstein Ltd.

Hull UK City of Culture 2017

For theatre and performance please contact: HannahC@thecornershoppr.com / Sara@thecornershoppr.com

Or music and film please contact: Susie@thecornershoppr.com / Clare@thecornershoppr.com

Divided into four seasons, this national event hosted in Hull, draws on the distinctive spirit of the city and the artists, writers, directors, musicians, revolutionaries and thinkers that have made such a significant contribution to the development of art and ideas.

The first season, **Made in Hull**, ran from January to March. Each of Hull UK City of Culture's four seasons has a particular theme connected to the city and its place in the world: **Made in Hull** (January - March); **Roots & Routes** (April - June); **Freedom** (July - September); and **Tell the World** (October - December).

As host to a major national event, Hull is welcoming the world. It is also working with local artists and supporting key events and festivals that already take place in Hull. There is an extensive programme of community engagement, including specially commissioned cultural events in every neighbourhood across the city and up to 4,000 volunteers will take to the streets to welcome neighbours and visitors.

As part of a legacy programme, over 60,000 children and young people across the city will have the opportunity to be involved in Hull UK City of Culture. This includes working with artists in schools and as part of community residencies.

HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE

- Hull UK City of Culture and **Opera North** present ***The Height of the Reeds: A Sound Journey for the Humber Bridge***, featuring music by Norwegian trumpeter **Arve Henriksen**, guitarist **Eivind Aarset** and electronic wizard **Jan Bang** giving way to the vast sound of the **Orchestra and Chorus of Opera North** and threaded through with the deep music of the Humber Bridge itself, captured by Hull based sound artist **Jez Riley French** (1 - 30 April).
- **John Grant's North Atlantic Flux: Sounds from Smoky Bay**, a four day celebration of Nordic music and creativity, underpinning Hull's international links will take place **28 April - 1 May**. Headline acts announced so far include **GusGus**, **Lindstrøm** and **Wrangler**. More details about performers and shows and what to expect at this major music event will be announced in due course.
- **Northern Broadsides** celebrates its twenty-fifth anniversary by going back to its roots, restaging its earliest production ***Richard III***, originally performed in Hull's **Marina Boatshed**. Directed by **Barrie Rutter** and staged in collaboration with **Hull Truck Theatre**, it presents the story of **Shakespeare's** twisted villain who, with ruthless cunning and silver-tongued charm, stops at nothing to remove friends and family from his path to power and infamy. Both loathed and lauded, *Richard III* is revisited by Northern Broadsides, a company of charismatic northern actors performing in their natural voices. **Mat Fraser** (*American Horror Story: Freak Show, Loudermilk*) will play the iconic title role (4 - 27 May).
- **BBC Radio 1's Big Weekend** (27 - 28 May) is set to be one of the musical highlights of Hull UK City of Culture 2017 when it comes to Burton Constable in East Yorkshire. **Kings of Leon**, **Little Mix** and **Stormzy** will be performing.
- ***Where Are We Now?*** is programmed by Scottish art collective **Neu! Reekie!** and will gather together radical artists for a three-day festival on the **2-4 June**. As the UK reaches a cross-roads and the diverse forces of prejudice stir across Europe and North America, the festival will ask the radical artists from all four corners of the UK where they stand. The artist line-up includes Mercury Prize winners **Young Fathers**; singer and campaigner **Charlotte Church**; rappers **Akala** and **Chester P**; artistic maverick **Bill Drummond**; award winning dub poet **Linton Kwesi Johnson**; radical magazine collective **gal-dem**; Japan residing pop oddball **Momus** and many more.
- Critically-acclaimed Hull theatre company **Middle Child** present a new piece of gig theatre, ***All We Ever Wanted Was Everything*** (6 - 17 June), mixing original live music from **James Frewer** with **Luke Barnes'** bold new writing and direction from Middle Child artistic director **Paul Smith**. A three-act anthem, set across three decades, from 1997's Cool Britannia to 2007's Broken Britain and today's Brexit Britain, is a story about the world we inherited and the one we're leaving behind.
- Inspired by women's professional boxing pioneer, world champion and Hull's original **Mighty Atom**, **Barbara Buttrick**, ***Mighty Atoms*** is a new play by award-winning writer **Amanda Whittington** (*Ladies Day, Be My Baby, Amateur Girl*). *Mighty Atoms* will hold its World Premiere **Hull Truck Theatre**, directed by artistic director **Mark Babych** (8 June - 1 July).
- The ***Big Malarkey Festival*** (26 June - 2 July) is Hull's first ever children's literature festival and will be held in East Park. The week-long festival will feature writers, poets and puppeteers as well as animation workshops and a Poetry Slam.

Prior to this, on 7 June, the 10th **Waterstones Children's Laureate** will be announced in Hull.

- **LGBT 50** - Marking 50 years since the decriminalisation of homosexuality in the UK, LGBT50 will incorporate the hugely popular Hull Pride for the first ever UK Pride. LGBT 50 will honour the struggles of the past, celebrate the freedoms of today and shine a light on the continuing fight for equality for all LGBT people, wherever they are in the world. The event from the **21 - 23 July** will include a collaboration with legendary post-queer performance and events collective, Duckie.

THROUGHOUT THE YEAR

- **Look up** - 20 artists creating amazing new work in public realm including Michael Pinsky, Nayan Kulkarni, Claire Barber, Bob and Roberta Smith, Sarah Barber, Claire Morgan and Tania Kovats (1 January - 31 December). Designed to challenge people's perceptions of the city and offer different ways to experience the city. Look up aims to intrigue and inspire throughout 2017 and is created in partnership with a range of organisations, including The Deep, GF Smith and RIBA.
- Leading exponents of immersive and site specific performance, including **Slung Low** and **Blast Theory**, changing the way people experience the city with work that takes place outside conventional cultural venues.
- An epic adventure about the end of our world, set in the future, told in many parts. **Flood** by **James Phillips** is the story of what happens to Hull when the waters come. **Slung Low** makes adventures for audiences outside conventional theatre spaces, each with a powerful, moving story at its heart. Their political, mythical and explosive storytelling has wowed audiences nationally, transporting them to new worlds and making them see familiar places afresh. **Flood** is the company's most ambitious and experimental project to date, using live performance, special effects, digital manifestations and other platforms to tell a story across an entire year.
- **2097: We Made Ourselves Over** is a multi-platform, city-wide installation for which residents and visitors to Hull will be invited to imagine the city 80 years into the future. **Hull UK City of Culture 2017** has partnered with **Aarhus European Capital of Culture 2017** to commission **Blast Theory**, the acclaimed company known for its ground-breaking interactive work which blurs the boundaries between real and fictional. **2097: We Made Ourselves Over** will run throughout 2017 to create a science fiction-inspired vision of Hull in the year 2097.
- **Turner Prize** will be presented at the Ferens in September, becoming the fifth location outside of London to host Europe's most prestigious contemporary art prize since it was established in 1984.
- PRS Foundation's **New Music Biennial 2017**, with Composer Residencies from **Sam Lee, Eliza Carthy, Errollyn Wallen, Brian Irvine** and **Jason Singh**. These five composers and local music groups will come together for the **New Music Biennial Festival Weekend, 30 June - 2 July**. **New Music Biennial Minute of Listening** lets primary-aged children experience 60 seconds of creative listening each day of the school year, featuring minute-long tracks by the New Music Biennial composers and other sounds recorded in Hull, running until 2018.

- A host of cultural events and activities in every corner of city, so that **wherever you live in the city you have the opportunity to take part in Hull 2017.**

Sonia Friedman Productions presents

Edward Albee's Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?

Directed by James Macdonald

For further information please contact ben@thecornershoppr.com or laura@thecornershoppr.com

Harold Pinter Theatre
22 February - 27 May 2017

Imogen Poots and Luke Treadaway join **Imelda Staunton and Conleth Hill** to complete the cast of multi Tony and Pulitzer prize-winning playwright **Edward Albee's *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?***, directed by **James Macdonald**.

Following the sad news of Albee's passing last September and in anticipation of this revival, Michael Billington wrote in The Guardian "*With America currently engaged in its own form of post-truth politics, now seems the perfect time to revive Albee's enduring masterpiece about the danger of living in a world of illusions.*"

In the early hours of the morning on the campus of an American college, Martha, much to her husband George's displeasure, has invited the new professor Nick and his wife Honey to their home for some after-party drinks. As the alcohol flows and dawn approaches, the young couple are drawn into George and Martha's toxic games until the evening reaches its climax in a moment of devastating truth-telling.

The critically acclaimed 5 star hit production of *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* will be broadcast live to cinemas across the UK and beyond as part of National Theatre Live on 18 May.

Matthew Byam Shaw, Nia Janis and Nick Salmon for Playful Productions,
Tom Kirdahy and Hunter Arnold present

Edward Albee's The Goat, or Who Is Sylvia?

Directed by Ian Rickson

Theatre Royal Haymarket, until 24 June

Box Office: 020 7930 8800

www.TheGoatPlay.com

For further information please contact hannahc@thecornershoppr.com

Ian Rickson directs Damian Lewis and Sophie Okonedo in a new production of Edward Albee's *The Goat, or Who Is Sylvia?* at the Theatre Royal Haymarket for a strictly limited 12 week run. Joining Lewis and Okonedo, who play husband and wife Martin and Stevie, will be Jason Hughes as Martin's oldest friend Ross and newcomer Archie Madekwe as their son Billy.

A darkly comic and disturbing view on the collapse of familial relationships, Edward Albee's *The Goat, or Who is Sylvia?* has all of Albee's characteristically witty tones as well as being a deeply tragic portrayal of a married couple and their teenage son in crisis. In the play, a husband and successful New York architect with everything to lose must confess to his wife and son that he is having an affair and face the dizzying, explosive consequences. Widely regarded as his late masterpiece, Edward Albee's *The Goat, or Who Is Sylvia?* is brought back to the London stage following Albee's recent death.

The Olivier and Tony Award®-winning creative team includes **Rae Smith** (set and costume design), **Neil Austin** (lighting design) and **Greg Clarke** (sound design), with original music by **PJ Harvey**.

Damian Lewis was last seen on the London stage in a production of David Mamet's *American Buffalo*, he now returns to play Albee's central character Martin. Golden Globe and Emmy Award-winning Lewis is best known for his roles on screen in *Homeland* and *Wolf Hall* and most recently *Billions*. He has also regularly returned to the stage performing at the National Theatre and the Almeida as well as in the West End.

Ian Rickson is a prolific and multi award-winning director whose recent work includes *Evening At The Talk House* and *The Red Lion* at the National Theatre, *Jerusalem*, *Mojo*, *Old Times* and *Betrayal* in the West End and *Hamlet* at The Young Vic.

Sophie Okonedo was last on the London stage in Jeremy Herrin's *Haunted Child* at the Royal Court in 2011. Previous work at the Royal Court includes Katie Mitchell's *Nightsongs*, *I Just Dropped Off to See the Man*, *Been So Long* and *Women and Sisters*. At the National Theatre Okonedo has appeared in *Troilus and Cressida* and *Money*, and has had roles in numerous productions for the Royal Shakespeare Company including *Tamburlaine The Great*, *The Changeling*, *A Jovial Crew* and *The Odyssey*.

Jason Hughes is perhaps best known for his television work, which includes playing lawyer Warren Jones in the BBC TV series *This Life* and as Detective Sergeant Ben Jones in *Midsomer Murders* from 2005 until 2013. A respected stage actor, previous work includes *Our Country's Good* and *Look Back in Anger* opposite Michael Sheen at the National Theatre, *Violence and Son* and *4.48 Psychosis* for the Royal Court and US tour, *Way Upstream* at Chichester Festival Theatre, *Caligula* at the Donmar Warehouse and *Design for Living* at Theatre Royal Bath.

Archie Madewkwe makes his professional stage debut as Billy. Prior to this he trained at LAMDA. Previous work includes *Fresh Meat* and *Casualty*, as well as the films *Legacy* and *Second Coming*. Archie also appeared in National Youth Theatre's 2013 production of *Pope Joan* at St James's Church, Piccadilly.

Stepping Out

Vaudeville Theatre, 1 March - 17 June 2017

Box office: 0330 333 4814

www.stepsingoutplay.com

For more information and enquiries please contact lewis@thecornershoppr.com

Amanda Holden, Tracy-Ann Oberman, Tamzin Outhwaite, Nicola Stephenson and Natalie Casey will be *Stepping Out* in the heart-warming comedy when it opens in London this Spring. Directed by Maria Friedman, this brand new staging of Richard Harris's award-winning play which toured UK venues last year will open at West End's Vaudeville Theatre with preview performances from 1 March 2017 and opening night for press on 14 March 2017.

Further cast in the West End production of *Stepping Out* include Judith Barker, Jessica-Alice McCluskey, Sandra Marvin and Dominic Rowan with Janet Behan, Suzy Bloom, Emma Hook, Marcia Mantack, Katie Verner and Nick Warnford.

Stepping Out charts the lives of seven women and one man attempting to tap their troubles away at a weekly dancing class. Initially all thumbs and left feet, the group is just getting to grips with the basics when they are asked to take part in a charity gala. Over the course of several months we meet the group, and all of them have a story to tell. There's perfectionist Vera, mouthy Maxine and uptight Andy, bubbly Sylvia and shy Dorothy, eager Lynne and cheerful Rose, and, of course, Geoffrey. At the piano is the dour Mrs Fraser and spurring them all on, the ever-patient Mavis.

This uplifting comedy originally premiered in the West End in 1984 starring Barbara Ferris and Marcia Warren, winning the prestigious Evening Standard Award for Best Comedy and enjoying extended runs both in the West End and on Broadway. *Stepping Out* has also been made into a musical, which became a film in 1991, starring Julie Walters, Liza Minnelli and Shelley Winters.

Presented by Theatre Royal Bath Productions and the James Grant Group, *Stepping Out* is directed by Maria Friedman, designed by Robert Jones and choreographed by Tim Jackson with lighting design by Peter Mumford, sound design by Gregory Clarke and orchestrations by Christopher Walker.

Lady Day at Emerson's Bar & Grill

Wyndham's Theatre, 17 June - 9 September, 2017

Box Office: 0844 482 5120

LadyDayWestEnd.com

For more information and enquiries please contact lewis@thecornershoppr.com

After the joyous news of Audra McDonald's unexpected pregnancy last year, producers of the postponed London run of *Lady Day at Emerson's Bar & Grill* are delighted to announce that this summer, McDonald, the Tony, Grammy, and Emmy Award-winning singer and actress, will be making her long awaited West End debut portraying jazz legend **Billie Holiday** in a performance that won her a record-setting sixth Tony Award.

This critically acclaimed production, which broke box office records at the Circle in the Square in New York, will run for a limited engagement at Wyndham's Theatre from Saturday 17 June to Saturday 9 September, with opening night for press on Tuesday 27 June 2017.

Written by Lanie Robertson and directed by Lonny Price, *Lady Day at Emerson's Bar & Grill* recounts Holiday's life story through the songs that made her famous, including "God Bless the Child," "What a Little Moonlight Can Do," "Strange Fruit" and "Taint Nobody's Biz-ness."

Lady Day at Emerson's Bar & Grill won two Tony Awards in 2014 including 'Best Performance by a Leading Actress in a Play' for Audra McDonald, making her Broadway's most decorated performer, winner of six Tony Awards and the first and only person to receive awards in all four acting categories.

1959, in a small, intimate bar in Philadelphia, Holiday puts on a show that unbeknownst to the audience, will leave them witnesses to one of the last performances of her lifetime. Through her poignant voice and moving songs, one of the greatest jazz singers of all-time shares her loves and her losses.

Billie 'Lady Day' Holiday had what is widely considered one of the greatest jazz voices of all-time. Born Eleanora Fagan in April 1915, she rose to popularity in the 1930's and 1940's with her pioneering vocal style strongly inspired by jazz instrumentalists. After a turbulent personal life and struggle with addiction, she died at the untimely age of 44. In 2000, Holiday was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.

Prior to making her West End debut in *Lady Day at Emerson's Bar & Grill* this summer, Audra McDonald will travel to London to perform four concerts at the Leicester Square Theatre hosted by Seth Rudetsky and featuring special guest Will Swenson from 12 to 15 April.

Jonathan Church, Oliver Mackwood and Oxford Playhouse Present

Sand in the Sandwiches

For more information and enquiries please contact laurence@thecornershoppr.com

Theatre Royal Haymarket
Tuesday 30 May - Saturday 3 June

Followed by UK Tour

Fresh from a sell-out 2016 UK Tour, **Edward Fox** is to return to the West End in the celebrated one-man play exploring the life and work of **John Betjeman**, *Sand in the Sandwiches*, for a strictly limited London run. A journey through memory and verse, the play collates the work of the twentieth century's most treasured poet. Written by **Hugh Whitemore** and directed by **Gareth Armstrong**, it will visit Northampton before its London premiere at Theatre Royal Haymarket between May 30th and June 3rd 2017, followed by an extended UK tour visiting Cambridge, Malvern, Woking, Brighton and Bath.

Edward Fox said "*It is lovely to be returning to one of the great theatres of the world and to the role of John Betjeman, even now at the age of 80. All of us involved are working to magnify the voice of one of the greatest minds in England. Betjeman once said that 'poetry is life', and I agree. You can't live without it.*"

John Betjeman was the nation's favourite poet. *Sand in the Sandwiches* celebrates a man famous not only for light verse and laughter, but for his passions, his sense of purpose and his unforgettable poetry. Through boyhood, his adolescence, to life as Britain's Poet Laureate, *Sand in the Sandwiches* presents a hugely entertaining insight into the world of this much-loved irreverent writer. Triple BAFTA winner **Edward Fox** (OBE) stars in this new one-man play, bringing Betjeman's poetry and vivacious personality to life.

Edward Fox's distinguished career counts iconic British films including the Oscar winning *Ghandi*, *The Day of the Jackal*, *A Bridge Too Far*, *Oh! What a Lovely War*, *The Dresser*, *The Go-Between*, *A Doll's House*, *Pride and Prejudice*, *Robin Hood*, *Nicholas Nickleby*, *Force 10 from Navarone* and James Bond's *Never Say Never Again*. His stage credits include: *The Audience*, *Four Quartets*, *Hamlet*, *An Evening with Anthony Trollope*, *Letter of Resignation* and many more. His film credits have won him three BAFTA Awards and in 2003 he was made an Officer of the Order of the British Empire for his contribution to stage and cinema.

Hugh Whitemore, a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature, is an award-winning writer whose work spans stage and screen. Theatre credits include: *As you Desire Me*, *Stevie*, *Pack of Lies* (which won Judi Dench the Olivier Award for Best Female Actor), *The Best of Friends*, *Breaking the Code*, *God Only Knows*, *Disposing of the Body*, *The Last Cigarette* playing at acclaimed theatre across the UK and internationally. His films credits include: *Jane Eyre* (1996), *84 Charing Cross Road*, *Stevie*, *The Return of the Soldier*, *Bluebird*, *Man at the Top*, and *All Neat in Black Stockings*. With over 70 television credits, Whitemore has written for broadcasters in both the UK and USA, winning two Writers Guild of Great Britain Awards and two Emmy Awards.

Director **Gareth Armstrong** specialises in solo performance and has helped to create a dozen such theatre pieces, including Hugh Whitemore's *My Darling Clemmie* starring Rohan McCulloch as Winston Churchill's wife, and his own dramatisation of Oscar Wilde's *De Profundis*, called *Wilde Without the Boy*. As an Associate Artist at Salisbury Playhouse under the Directorship of Jonathan Church, he premiered his own one-man show, *Shylock*. The play toured for over a decade to more than forty countries and has been translated

and performed in Spanish, Italian, Romanian, Hungarian and Mandarin Chinese. Armstrong also co-founded The Made in Wales Theatre Company to premiere new plays and was Artistic Director of Cardiff's Sherman Theatre.

Sand in the Sandwiches will play at Theatre Royal Haymarket between Tuesday May 30th and Saturday June 3rd. This week is available at the theatre due to a pre-contractual, prior engagement, which means that Damian Lewis is unavailable to perform in Edward Albee's *The Goat, or Who Is Sylvia?* The producers took the decision to suspend the run of *The Goat, or Who Is Sylvia?* for that week. *The Goat, or Who Is Sylvia?* will recommence performances on 5 June.

Sand in the Sandwiches by **Hugh Whitmore** is directed by **Gareth Armstrong** with designs by BAFTA award-winning **Fotini Dimou**, lighting by double Olivier award-winning **Howard Harrison** and sound by Olivier award & Ivor Novello award nominated composer **Simon Slater**. *Sand in the Sandwiches* is produced by **Jonathan Church**, **Oliver Mackwood Productions** and **Oxford Playhouse**.

TRH Productions, Scott Landis and Tulchin Bartner Productions present the Royal Shakespeare Company Production of

Queen Anne

Theatre Royal Haymarket, 30 June - 30 September 2017

Tickets on general sale from 13 February at www.RSCQueenAnne.com

For more information and enquiries please contact ben@thecornershoppr.com

Romola Garai will star as Sarah, Duchess of Marlborough alongside **Emma Cunniffe** as the eponymous monarch in the Royal Shakespeare Company's production of *Queen Anne*. After originally opening at the Swan Theatre in Stratford-upon-Avon in November 2015, *Queen Anne* will transfer to Theatre Royal Haymarket for a thirteen week limited run from 30 June until 30 September, with a press night on 10 July.

Written by **Helen Edmundson** (*The Heresy of Love*, RSC) and directed by **Natalie Abrahami** (*Happy Days*, Young Vic), this gripping new play explores the life of one of England's little-known sovereigns and her intimate friendship with her childhood confidante Sarah, Duchess of Marlborough.

1702. William III is on the throne and England is on the verge of war.

Princess Anne is soon to become Queen, and her advisors vie for influence over the future monarch. Sarah, Duchess of Marlborough, a close friend with whom Anne has an intensely personal relationship, begins to exert increasing pressure as she pursues her own designs on power.

Contending with deceit and blackmail, Anne must decide where her allegiances lie, and whether to sacrifice her closest relationships for the sake of the country.

Completing the cast will be Daisy Ashford as Lady Clarendon, Sheena Bhattessa as Lady Somerset, Gabrielle Brooks as Jezebel and Lady Russell, Dave Fishley as King William III and

Groom, Jonny Glynn as Jonathan Swift, Chu Omambala as John Churchill and Sid Sagar as Samuel Masham and Inns of Court Singer.

They join the previously announced Jonathan Christie (Arthur Maynwaring), Michael Fenton Stevens (Dr John Radcliffe), James Garnon (Robert Harley), Richard Hope (Sidney Godolphin), Hywel Morgan (Prince George), Beth Park (Abigail Hill) and Carl Prekopp (Daniel Defoe).

Five Guys Named Moe

The Marble Arch Theatre, 28 August - 25 November 2017

Tickets on general sale now at fiveguysmusical.com

For more information and enquiries please contact maisie@thecornershoppr.com

Underbelly Productions have confirmed that a brand new production of **Clarke Peters'** Olivier Award-winning and Tony-Award nominated musical, **Five Guys Named Moe**, will open in September 2017 in a brand new pop-up theatre for London in Marble Arch.

First seen at the Theatre Royal Stratford East in 1990, it transferred to the West End and played for four years, subsequently playing on Broadway from 1992. **Clarke Peters'** (*The Wire*, *Treme*, *Person of Interest*, *Porgy and Bess*, *The Ice Man Cometh*) career defining musical features the irresistible hits of trailblazing 'King of the Jukebox' **Louis Jordan**, including *Early In The Morning*, *Is You Is or Is You Ain't My Baby*, *Choo Choo Ch'Boogie* and *Saturday Night Fish Fry*. The soundtrack of soul, blues, gospel and early r 'n' b is performed on stage by a live band.

The **Marble Arch Theatre** is being designed specifically for the production and will transport the audience back to the engrossing jazz bars of 1940s New Orleans. A unique, circular auditorium will ensure that the action take place all around the theatre and pre and post-performance drinks never felt so good in the theatre's authentic 1940s foyer cocktail bar. The band is playing, the bourbon is flowing... come and join the party!

The production, which is to be directed by Peters himself and features the hits of jazz legend **Louis Jordan**, will have an initial booking period from 28 August to 25 November 2017, with an Opening Night on 14 September. Tickets go on sale today at 2pm.

Five Guys Named Moe will be directed by **Clarke Peters** with musical staging and choreography by **Andrew Wright** (*Half a Sixpence*, *Singin' in the Rain*, *Guys and Dolls*), inspired by Charles Augins' original choreography, set and costume design by **takis** (*Side Show*, *In The Heights*, *Hairspray*, *The Good Person of Sichuan*), lighting design by **Philip Gladwell** (*The James Plays*, *Cymbeline*, *Trainspotting*, *After Miss Julie*, *Hairspray*) and sound design by **Ben Harrison** (*Cabaret*, *Dreamboats and Petticoats*, *Dancing in the Streets*, *The King & I*, *Starlight Express*, *Blood Brothers*, *Soul Sister*).

Matilda The Musical UK & Ireland Tour

From March 2018 - August 2019

For further information please contact Hannah Clapham and Laurence Ainscough
HannahC@thecornershoppr.com | Laurence@thecornershoppr.com

Winner of 85 international awards, including 16 for Best Musical, the RSC's touring production of *Matilda The Musical* will open at Leicester Curve, playing from 5 - 24 March 2018, followed by Dublin Bord Gais Energy Theatre (4 April - 28 April), Sunderland Empire (8 May - 2 June), Milton Keynes Theatre (5 June - 30 June), Birmingham Hippodrome (3 July - 8 September), Manchester Palace (18 September - 24 November) and Cardiff Wales Millennium Centre (4 December - 12 January 2019).

Tickets for Leicester, Dublin, Sunderland, Milton Keynes, Manchester and Cardiff will go on sale to the public on 26 April following a priority booking period between 19 and 25 April. Tickets for Birmingham go on sale on 9 May, after a priority booking from 25 April to 8 May. Further dates and venues are to be announced in due course. The West End production continues at the Cambridge Theatre, currently booking until 17 December 2017.

The production will be accompanied in each location by a new education programme to engage young people, inspired by *Matilda The Musical*. From a travelling library of stories led by Mrs Phelps, to whole school takeovers of *Matilda*, the RSC aims to reach over 15,000 children, in collaboration with touring theatre partners. Further details to be announced.

Now in its sixth year in London's West End, *Matilda The Musical* is the longest running production at the Cambridge Theatre where it continues to play to packed houses.

With book by Dennis Kelly, original songs by Tim Minchin and direction by Matthew Warchus, *Matilda The Musical* is the story of an extraordinary little girl who, armed with a vivid imagination and a sharp mind, dares to take a stand and change her own destiny.

Inspired by the incomparable Roald Dahl's beloved book, *Matilda The Musical* was commissioned by the Royal Shakespeare Company and premiered at the RSC's The Courtyard Theatre in Stratford-upon-Avon in November 2010, before transferring to London's West End in October 2011, where it opened to rave reviews.

The New York production of *Matilda The Musical* opened in April 2013 at Broadway's Shubert Theatre and was celebrated on 10 "Top Ten" lists for 2013, including TIME Magazine's #1 Show of the Year.

Matilda The Musical has been seen by more than 6.5 million people worldwide. Having swept the board at the 2012 Olivier Awards, with a record-breaking seven awards, and winning four Tony Awards and a Tony Honor for Excellence in the Theater for the four girls sharing the title role on Broadway, *Matilda The Musical* has now played in 50 cities worldwide and continues to delight audiences in London, Australia and on tour around North America.

After winning a Sydney Theatre Award for Best Musical in 2015, the Australian production played a sold-out season at Melbourne's Princess Theatre. In July 2016, the production broke further records by winning all 13 Helpmann Awards for which it was nominated. The tour continues in Perth and Adelaide and will premiere in New Zealand at The Civic in Auckland in August 2017 for a strictly limited season.

Matilda The Musical is produced by the Royal Shakespeare Company with André Ptaszynski and Denise Wood as Executive Producers. The production was developed with the support of Jeanie O'Hare and the RSC Literary Department.

Matilda The Musical is written by **Dennis Kelly**, with music and lyrics by **Tim Minchin**, and direction by **Matthew Warchus**. The production is designed by **Rob Howell**, with choreography by **Peter Darling**, orchestrations, additional music and musical supervision by **Christopher Nightingale**, lighting by **Hugh Vanstone**, sound by **Simon Baker** and the special effects and illusions are by **Paul Kieve**.

Presented by Theatre Royal Bath Productions and the James Grant Group

Kay Mellor's Fat Friends The Musical

Tue 7 November - Sat 2 December 2017, Leeds Grand Theatre,

www.leedsgrandtheatre.com

For further information please contact philippa@thecornershoppr.com

Joshua Andrews and Adam Spiegel are delighted to announce the premiere of an original British musical *Fat Friends*. The much loved TV drama has been adapted for the stage by prolific writer **Kay Mellor** and with original music by **Nicholas Lloyd Webber**, *Fat Friends* will open at **Leeds Grand Theatre** on 7 November 2017.

Following this four week run in Mellor's home city, *Fat Friends* is set to embark on an extensive UK tour in 2018, with full tour dates and venues to be announced in due course. Designed by **Bretta Gerecke** with musical supervision, orchestrations and arrangements from **Simon Lee**, *Fat Friends The Musical*, sees the nation's favourite group of dieters reunited as this new show bursts on to the stage. The award-winning **Jodie Prenger** will lead a star company in the beloved role of **Kelly Stevenson** with further casting to be announced.

A Frantic Assembly and State Theatre Company South Australia production

Originally produced in collaboration with Warwick Arts Centre in association with Chichester Festival Theatre and the Lyric Hammersmith

Things I Know To Be True

UK Tour followed by London's Lyric Hammersmith, 11 January - 3 February

www.franticassembly.co.uk

For further information please contact **Hannah Clapham** and **Laurence Ainscough**
HannahC@thecornershoppr.com | Laurence@thecornershoppr.com

Following a hugely successful 2016 Australian and UK tour, **Frantic Assembly** and **State Theatre Company South Australia's** critically acclaimed *Things I Know To Be True* returns to delight audiences in the UK from 27 September 2017. **Andrew Bovell's** new play will tour to Oxford Playhouse, The Lowry in Salford, Leicester Curve, Mercury Theatre in Colchester, York Theatre Royal, Chester Storyhouse, Southampton's Nuffield, Poole Lighthouse and London's Lyric Hammersmith.

As beautifully touching as it is funny and bold, *Things I Know To Be True* tells the story of a family and marriage through the eyes of four grown siblings struggling to define themselves beyond their parents' love and expectations.

Parents Bob and Fran have worked their fingers to the bone and with their four children grown and ready to fly the nest it might be time to relax and enjoy the roses. But the changing seasons bring home some shattering truths.

Featuring Frantic Assembly's celebrated physicality, and co-directed by Frantic Assembly's Tony and Olivier Award nominated Artistic Director **Scott Graham** and State Theatre Company's Artistic Director **Geordie Brookman**, *Things I Know To Be True* is a complex and intense study of the mechanics of a family that is both poetic and brutally frank. Andrew Bovell is regarded as one of Australia's greatest storytellers, for critically acclaimed plays including *When The Rain Stops Falling*, *Speaking In Tongues* and an adaptation of Kate Grenville's *The Secret River*, as well as screen work including *Lantana* and *A Most Wanted Man*.

Casting for *Things I Know To Be True* will be announced in due course.

Manchester International Festival

29th June - 16th July 2017, Various Locations in Manchester

www.mif.co.uk

For further information please contact maisie@thecornershoppr.com or philippa@thecornershoppr.com

Manchester International Festival announced John McGrath's inaugural programme for the 2017 event (Thursday 29 June - Sunday 16 July). The programme includes everything from classical music to digital technology with some of the world's most extraordinary artists presenting their work across the city's iconic venues and pop-up spaces. This year the festival presents world premieres, unique concerts and one-off events including a number of opportunities to see work for free.

[What is the City but the People?](#)

Piccadilly Gardens, 29 JUNE

Created by the People of Manchester from an idea by **Jeremy Deller** in association with Islington Mill. A unique selection of individuals from across Manchester will walk a specially designed **runway** stretching more than 100 meters through **Piccadilly Gardens**. Audiences, both in the streets and online, will watch as local residents parade the runway for this **free event**. Ranging from high-fashion statements to far more personal moments, *What Is the City but the People?* will capture Manchester through its outfits, attitudes and individuality. Directed by **Richard Gregory** the opening event of MIF17 will be accompanied by live music from **Graham Massey**.

[Party Skills for the End of the World](#)

Secret Location, 27 JUNE - 16 JULY

Award-winning theatrical innovators **Nigel Barrett** and **Louise Mari** have been invited to make their Manchester International Festival debut with the world premiere of their subversive experiential **Party Skills for the End of the World**. In a secret location, the audience will learn the essential skills needed to survive and thrive in a world where has gone: skills ranging from how to make the perfect martini, to how to pick the best music to get everyone dancing to entertain a terrified crowd to cleaning and stitching a wound.

[Fatherland](#)

Royal Exchange Theatre, 1-15 JULY

Created by Frantic Assembly's **Scott Graham**, Underworld's **Karl Hyde** and playwright **Simon Stephens**, this emotive collage of words, music and movement will transform the Royal Exchange Theatre. Inspired by conversations with fathers and sons from across England, *Fatherland* explores identity, nationality and masculinity. In a vivid and deeply personal portrait of 21st-century England at the crossroads of past, present and future.

[The Welcoming Party](#)

Museum of Science and Industry, Water Street, 4 - 15 JULY (except Monday and Tuesday); 8-9 JULY and 15-16 JULY

Award-winning **Theatre-Rites**, one of Europe's most imaginative theatre companies will create a brand new immersive production, *The Welcoming Party*, for the 2017 Festival. Moving through the historic 1830 Warehouse of the **Museum of Science and Industry**, audiences will be invited to explore how we can offer a welcome to people who are on a journey to find a place to call home. A blend of puppetry, performance, dance and live music for both children and family audiences, *The Welcoming Party* has been directed by **Sue Buckmaster**, with music composed by **Frank Moon**.

[Returning to Reims](#)

HOME, 5 - 14 JULY

Adapted from Didier Eribon's bestselling memoir by **Thomas Ostermeier**, the Artistic Director of Berlin's revered Schaubühne and one of world theatre's most thrilling directors, *Returning to Reims* is an urgent reflection on the new world order. **Nina Hoss** stars in Ostermeier's world premiere, with music by **Nils Ostendorf**, stage & costume design by **Nina Wetzel**, video by **Sebastien Dupouey** and Dramaturgy by **Florian Borchmeyer**.

[Cotton Panic](#)

Upper Campfield Market Hall, 8 JULY, 10-15 JULY

Cotton Panic! tells the story of the catastrophe that befell the North and its people, all thanks to events that took place thousands of miles away. Created by **Jane Horrocks**, **Nick Vivian** and **Wrangler**, featuring **Stephen Mallinder** of the great Cabaret Voltaire, the show uses a compelling collage of live music, drama, words and film to evoke an era lost to history.

[10000 Gestures](#)

Mayfield Depot, 13-15 JULY

Boris Charmatz will be opening his newest work at MIF17. For this highly ambitious piece, In the pre-premiere of his latest work, Charmatz will fill the atmospheric space of **Mayfield Depot**, a disused train station in the heart of Manchester, with an explosion of movement, choreographing a cacophony of gestures whilst allowing no repetition. A 25-strong ensemble of dancers will perform, in succession, *10000 Gestures* - none repeated every one unique. In his truly unimitable style, **Boris Charmatz** will rethink and reinvent the language of dance through this thrilling production.

National Theatre Wales

Kully Thiarai is the current Artistic Director. For more information and enquiries please contact Philippa@thecornershoppr.com

The Corner Shop PR has worked with National Theatre Wales on all six of its seasons to date, and on high-profile productions including *The Passion*, directed by and starring **Michael Sheen**, the multi-award-winning *The Radicalisation of Bradley Manning* and the immersive gig *Praxis Makes Perfect*, created by **Gruff Rhys** and **Boom Bip** of **Neon Neon** and **Roald Dahl 100** celebration, *City of the Unexpected*.

Print Room at the Coronet

For more information and enquiries please contact philippa@thecornershoppr.com

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Print Room at the Coronet announces its most ambitious season yet for 2017

- 'IN THE DEPTHS OF DEAD LOVE' BY HOWARD BARKER
WORLD PREMIERE DIRECTED BY GERRARD MCARTHUR
- 'MALIPHANTWORKS' BY RUSSELL MALIPHANT
CURATED COLLECTION OF MALIPHANT'S DANCE WORKS
- 'OUT OF BLIXEN' BY RIOTOUS COMPANY
WORLD PREMIERE DIRECTED BY KATHRYN HUNTER
- 'BABETTE'S FEAST' BY KAREN BLIXEN, ADAPTED BY GLYN MAXWELL
WORLD PREMIERE DIRECTED BY BILL BUCKHURST
- 'REMNANTS' BY ERRATICA OPERA
WORLD PREMIERE DIRECTED BY PATRICK EAKIN YOUNG
- 'HEARING VOICES' BY JOCELYN POOK
COLLABORATION WITH SINGER MELANIE PAPPENHEIM AND DIRECTOR AND
DRAMATURG EMMA BERNARD
- 'MR POTSUNEN'S PECULIAR SLICE OF LIFE' BY KENTARO KOBAYASHI
EXCLUSIVE LIMITED RUN FROM AWARD WINNING PERFORMANCE ARTIST

Artistic Director Anda Winters today announces Print Room at the Coronet's next season of work in its new, permanent home. The Spring/Summer 2017 programme, in Notting Hill's reinvigorated Victorian play and opera house, features four world premieres. Seminal British playwright Howard Barker will open the season. Three of the works are being created especially for the space, including Russell Maliphant's site-inspired return to his early choreography and two specially commissioned works: Erratica's Remnants and poet Glyn Maxwell's new adaptation of Babette's Feast. The renowned Kathryn Hunter is devising and starring in a second Blixen project, Out of Blixen. World renowned film and theatre composer Jocelyn Pook completes the programme with her mixed-media work Hearing Voices. This season reinforces the theatre's commitment to producing and presenting a varied and bold repertoire of work.

BalletBoyz

For more information and enquiries please contact maisie@thecornershoppr.com

BalletBoyz are presenting *14 Days*, a quartet of world premieres at Sadler's Wells from 10-14 October 2017. Showcased in one evening choreographers Javier de Frutos, Craig Revel Horwood, Iván Pérez and Christopher Wheeldon have teamed up with composers Scott Walker, Charlotte Harding, Joby Talbot and Keaton Henson to create their pieces for the company of **10** male dancers, in 14 days.

Fallen forms the second half of the evening, choreographed by Sadler's Wells Associate Artist Russell Maliphant and set to a powerful score by French film composer Armand Amar. *Fallen* won the award for Best Modern Choreography at the 2013 National Dance Awards and features lighting from Sadler's Wells Associate Artist Michael Hulls.

<https://instagram.com/balletboyz>

@BalletBoyz

www.balletboyz.com

National Youth Theatre

For more information and enquiries please contact francesca@thecornershoppr.com

Paul Roseby, Artistic Director and Chief Executive of the National Youth Theatre of Great Britain (NYT) has announced NYT's 2017 season which will include their first ever 'East End season' at the Yard Theatre this summer after the sell out success of their season of new writing at the Finborough Theatre last year.

The East End Season will feature Olivier Award-winning Jessica Swale's *Blue Stockings*, the premiere of *The Host*, a new play commission by NYT in response to 23 June 2016 and the European refugee crisis by Nessah Muthy and the return of Mohsin Hamid's *The Reluctant Fundamentalist*.

In October they will take a 50-strong cast to Wilton's Music Hall to bring back Peter Terson's iconic play about football hooliganism, *Zigger Zagger*, 50 years after it was first commissioned by them.

For autumn, following the success of four previous West End REP Seasons, the company will return to the Ambassadors Theatre for a fifth year in September with a brand new female-led adaptation of *Jekyll and Hyde* exploring women's roles and rights in Victorian society, by Evan Placey who wrote their 2015 hit *Consensual*. The second REP show, which marks an exciting new collaboration, will see NYT present Frantic Assembly's award-winning modern-day *Othello* under the direction of Frantic's Associate Director Simon Pittman. NYT's social inclusion course will also run at the Arcola Theatre with a new play by Sophie Ellerby.

It is also announced that Barbara Broccoli will succeed Lord Waheed Alli as President of the National Youth Theatre. Broccoli is a one of the entertainment industry's most successful female producers, perhaps best known for her work on the *James Bond* film franchise, including *Skyfall* and *Spectre*. Stage producer credits include *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*, *Chariots of Fire*, *Once* and *The Kid Stays in the Picture*.

Paul Roseby said: "In 2017 we celebrate our growing diverse cohort by marking 50 years of new writing. I'm also a champion of the need for theatre to have greater parity with sport in education so it's timely that we bring the passion for the beautiful game and passion for theatre together once more in re-staging *Zigger Zagger*. With seven further productions and work at over 100 sites nationwide, including a record 44 audition centres, NYT remains a vital and relevant contributor to our cultural landscape. We will continue to strive to do more to make sure that talented young people can access our opportunities regardless of where they're from or their background."

LISTINGS

PLAYING UP

Three

Arcola Theatre, E8 3DL
20 - 22 July

EAST END SEASON AT THE YARD

The Yard Theatre, E9 5EN
8 - 26 August

The Reluctant Fundamentalist

Press Performance: 9 August
8 - 12 August
Evening performances: 7.30pm 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 August
Matinee performances: 3pm 12 August

Blue Stockings

Press Performance: 16 August
15 - 19 August
Evening performances: 7.30pm 15, 16, 17, 18, 19 August
Matinee performances 3pm 19 August

The Host

Press Performance: 23 August
22 - 26 August
Evening performances 22, 23, 24, 25, 26 August
Matinee performances 3pm 26 August

ZIGGER ZAGGER

Wilton's Music Hall, E1 8JB
Press performance: 7 September
6-9 September
Evening performances 7.30pm 6,7,8,9 September
Matinee performances 2.30pm 7,8,9 September

REP SEASON

Ambassadors Theatre, WC2H 9ND
26 September - 8 December
Press Performances: Tuesday 10 and Wednesday 11 October

Jekyll and Hyde

In a new version by Evan Placey
Based on the novella by Robert Louis Stevenson
Directed by Roy Alexander Weise

National Youth Theatre present Frantic Assembly's Othello

Written by William Shakespeare
Directed by Simon Pittman

Norfolk & Norwich Festival 2017

For more information and enquiries please contact maisie@thecornershoppr.com

Norfolk & Norwich Festival is the largest arts festival in the East of England and one of the four largest in the UK. The programme for the 2017 (12-28 May) spans performance, theatre, music, visual arts, literature and events for children, and includes world

premieres, unique concerts and one-off events, including a number of free outdoor events across the festival. For the full festival programme, please visit www.nnfestival.org.uk.

Festival highlights include: an extraordinary choral sleepover from **The Voice Project** in *The Arms of Sleep* which will give 40 audience members per night a bed and invite them to spend the night at the beautiful Assembly House, Norwich for a brand new, specially written 10 hour choral piece; a new partnership with **BBC Radio 3 New Generation Artists**, allowing festival-goers to hear some of the most exciting new classical talent from around the world; **Luke Jerram's** latest large-scale public artwork, a giant inflatable moon featuring detailed NASA imagery of the lunar surface, complete with deckchairs underneath allowing audiences to bathe in the moonlight; the return of multi-award-winning performance poet **Luke Wright** with the premiere of his second verse play *Frankie Vah*, set against a backdrop of indie venues and 80s politics, after the sell-out success of *What I Learned from Johnny Bevan*; **Thrill Laboratory's** brand new **VR playground**, which will see sets of swings around the city, allowing audiences to don virtual reality headsets jump on a swing and enter a range of experiences from riding on the back of a mechanical jellyfish to sitting atop a giant robot; *Stormy: The Life of Lena Horne* a world premiere production written by and starring **Camilla Beeput** under the creative direction of **Clarke Peters**, that celebrates the dancer, singer and activist in her centenary year; **fiddler and singer Maarja Nuut**; a rare public performance from the Basement Jaxx singers and LaDonna Harley Peters, **LaSharVu**; *Spring. Summer. Autumn. Winter*, an epic quartet about the human life cycle comprising of live performance and film from internationally renowned theatre company **Quarantine**; Adnams Spiegel tent headliners **Casus Circus** bring incredible acrobalance in *Driftwood*; *Rear View*, a world premiere on the streets of Norwich from **IOU** who will take audiences on their custom made double decker bus in a quickly moving adventure led by poets **Cecilia Knapp** and **Jemima Foxtrot**; **Akram Khan Company** take audiences from Britain to Bangladesh in the cross-cultural dance production *Chotto Desh*; a City of Literature programme featuring **Will Self**, **Eimear McBride** and **Caroline Criado-Perez** amongst others; and a major new exhibition by internationally celebrated Turner Prize-winning British Landscape artist **Richard Long**.

Full information on all Norfolk & Norwich Festival events at www.nnfestival.org.uk.

Bush Theatre

For more information and enquiries please contact laura@thecornershoppr.com

In March 2017, following a landmark year taking plays into the communities of West London, the Bush Theatre returned home following a £4.3m revitalisation of the venue. The year-long redevelopment has been driven by the aim of realising Artistic Director Madani Younis' vision for a theatre that reflects the diversity and vibrancy of London today.

Artistic Director Madani Younis said, *“With the global political context shifting, and the emergence of pervasive right wing politics, it’s more important than ever that artists and theatres agitate as well as entertain. With the expansion of our building, we are proud to be able to embrace new voices who will breathe life into this remarkable building. It’s their stories of joy, love, anger and (most of all) hope that will inspire a new generation of audiences. This year has rocked our very foundations: we might be less assured but we*

are more honest and I can't wait to begin to fight back when we reopen the Bush in 2017.”

From April to November 2017, the Bush Theatre will present three new commissions, three world premieres, two European premieres and one production that will tour nationally.

Guards at the Taj (7 April - 20 May) by Pulitzer Prize finalist **Rajiv Joseph**, receives its European premiere directed by **Jamie Lloyd**, who makes his Bush directorial debut. This will be followed by the European premiere of *Hir* (15 June - 22 July) by **Taylor Mac**, an artist and writer whose performance launched this year's LIFT Festival and whose recent *24-Decade History of Popular Music* put him at the forefront of alternative responses to American culture. The production stars **Arthur Darvill** (*Broadchurch, Doctor Who, Once*), **Griffyn Gilligan** (*Teddy Ferrara*), **Ashley McGuire** (*Shopping and F***ing, The Suicide*) and **Andy Williams** (*The 39 Steps, War Horse*) and will be directed by **Nadia Fall**, who returns to the Bush following the acclaimed *Disgraced*. Then in the autumn, the Bush Theatre commission *Of Kith and Kin* (18 October - 25 November) by **Chris Thompson**, last at the Bush with *Albion*, will be presented in co-production with Sheffield Theatres and directed by Sheffield Theatres' new Artistic Director **Robert Hastie**.

Alongside this, the Bush is announcing the first season of work in its new space, the Studio. The first season features three world premieres. Up in Arms duo, writer **Barney Norris** and director **Alice Hamilton** collaborate with Norris' new play *While We're Here* (26 April - 27 May). **Nassim Soleimanpour** returns to the Bush with new play *Nassim* (24 - 29 July) following his globally acclaimed *White Rabbit Red Rabbit*. Directed by Bush Associate Director **Omar Elerian**, *Nassim* will feature the playwright himself. **Sophie Wu** (*Kick Ass, Fresh Meat*) will be the first graduate of the Bush's Emerging Writers' Group, which launched in 2015, to have a full commission produced at the Bush, with the premiere of *Ramona Tells Jim* (20 September - 21 October).

Theatre Royal Bath Productions

For more information and enquiries please contact francesca@thecornershoppr.com

Theatre Royal Bath Productions Spring 2017 season concludes with *The Mentor* as part of The German Season. The Ustinov Studio's Artistic Director **Laurence Boswell** directs Academy Award-winner **F. Murray Abraham** in **Daniel Kehlmann's** *The Mentor*, translated by **Christopher Hampton**, marking the first time a Kehlmann play has been performed outside of Germany. It runs at the Ustinov Studio until 6 May.

Artistic Director **Jonathan Church's** inaugural Summer Season of five plays at Theatre Royal Bath will open with David Hare's *Racing Demons* from 21 June, followed by *Sand in the Sandwiches* by Hugh Whitemore, the UK Premiere of Alfred Hitchcock's *North by Northwest*, *Looking at Lucian* by Alan Franks and Alan Bennett's *The Lady in the Van*.

Jonathan Church succeeds Peter Hall as Artistic Director, who established the Theatre Royal Bath Summer Season in 2003 with his company's annual residencies. Church was previously Artistic Director of Chichester Festival Theatre, overseeing over 100 productions including *Taken at Midnight*, *ENRON*, *Macbeth* with Sir Patrick Stewart, *Sweeney Todd* and *Gypsy*. Following his departure from Chichester Festival Theatre,

Jonathan Church set up his own independent production company, which he will continue to lead alongside his new position at Theatre Royal Bath.

Jonathan Church says: *'Having regularly seen the work at Theatre Royal Bath under Peter Hall's directorship, I'm extremely proud to be the new Director of Bath's summer seasons and hope to continue Peter's tradition of bringing great artists to Bath and to balance the familiar with the new. A summer season for me always needs an element of festival and celebration about it and I hope that with this programme of work we are celebrating a number of iconic storytellers - David Hare, Alan Bennett, Hugh Whitemore and Alfred Hitchcock, alongside a group of extraordinary actors.'*

Jonathan Church will direct Olivier Award-winner **David Haig** as Lionel Espy in **David Hare's** multi-award winning play ***Racing Demons*** (21 June - 8 July), which tackles the role of the clergy and the church's role in modern Britain. Further casting will be announced in due course.

Following an acclaimed sell-out run at Chichester Festival Theatre, triple BAFTA winner **Edward Fox** will return to Bath in the celebrated one-man play ***Sand in the Sandwiches*** exploring the life and work of poet **John Betjeman** (11-15 July). Written by **Hugh Whitemore** and directed by **Gareth Armstrong**, ***Sand in the Sandwiches*** celebrates a man famous not only for light verse and laughter, but for his passions, his sense of purpose and his unforgettable poetry.

Following its world premiere in Melbourne, **Alfred Hitchcock's** supreme comedy of suspense ***North by Northwest*** will receive its UK premiere at Theatre Royal Bath in a new stage adaptation of Hitchcock's film by **Carolyn Burns**, directed by **Simon Phillips** (21 July - 12 August).

Theatre Royal Bath's Ustinov Studio will stage the World Premiere of mesmerising fly-on-the-wall drama ***Looking at Lucian*** by **Alan Franks**, directed by **Tom Attenborough** (3 August - 2 September). Olivier Award winner **Henry Goodman** will star as Lucian Freud, widely regarded to be the greatest living portrait painter of our time, as he works in his Kensington Studio, painting a portrait across the course of ten months.

Jonathan Church will direct the closing production of the 2017 Summer Season, Alan Bennett's classic play ***The Lady in the Van***. Casting will be announced in due course.

Originally a memoir, a radio series, and recently, a film ***The Lady in the Van*** is the touching, uplifting and wonderfully funny story of Miss Mary Shepherd, a homeless woman, who temporarily moved her clapped out Bedford van into Alan Bennett's front garden at Gloucester Crescent, Camden. She remained parked there for the next 15 years.

Theatre Royal Bath, Sawclose, Bath, BA1 1ET

Box Office: 01225 448844

Website: www.theatreroyal.org.uk

Facebook: [TheatreRoyalBath](https://www.facebook.com/TheatreRoyalBath)

Twitter: [@TheatreRBath](https://twitter.com/TheatreRBath)

Spring Season

Ustinov Studio

The Mentor

By Daniel Kehlmann

Translated by Christopher Hampton

Directed by Laurence Boswell

Dates: Thursday 6 April - Saturday 6 May 2017

Press Night: Thursday 13 April, 7pm

Summer Season

Main House

Racing Demons

By David Hare

Directed by Jonathan Church

Dates: Wednesday 21 June - Saturday 8 July

Press Night: Wednesday 28 June, 7pm

Sand in the Sandwiches

By Hugh Whitemore

Directed by Gareth Armstrong

Dates: Tuesday 11 July - Saturday 15 July

North by Northwest

Adapted for the stage from Alfred Hitchcock's film by Carolyn Burns

Directed by Simon Phillips

Dates: Friday 21 July - Saturday 12 August

The Lady in the Van

By Alan Bennett

Directed by Jonathan Church

Dates: Wednesday 16 August - Saturday 2 September

Press Nights: Wednesday 23 August, 7pm

Ustinov Studio

Looking at Lucian

By Alan Franks

Directed by Tom Attenborough

Press Night: Thursday 10 August, 7pm

Punchdrunk

For more information and enquiries please contact laura@thecornershoppr.com

Home to Punchdrunk International's brand new production of ***SLEEP NO MORE***, the "McKinnon Hotel" has now opened its doors to Chinese audiences, ushering them into a visceral, tactile and darkly cinematic telling of Shakespeare's classic tragedy, *Macbeth*.

The production has broken box office records in Shanghai, selling over 10,000 tickets in its first four days of sales. It is now sold out until April 2017 and the booking period has been extended to 31 May 2017 due to popular demand. Spanning five floors of a vast, specially constructed building in the Jing'An district of the city, this is the first immersive work of this scale to be performed in China.

Punchdrunk have presented their ground-breaking immersive theatre work around the

globe for over 15 years. To create this new production, set in Shanghai, they have collaborated with Chinese co-producers SMG Live and Chinese artists. The original creative teams have been working in China with their local counterparts for several months creating a unique production that shows the world of 1930s Shanghai in sumptuous cinematic detail.

The creative team for Punchdrunk's *SLEEP NO MORE* is **Felix Barrett** (Co-Direction, Co-Design and Lighting), **Maxine Doyle** (Co-Direction and Choreography), **Livi Vaughan** and **Beatrice Minns** (Co-Design), **Stephen Dobbie** (Sound Design), **David Israel Reynoso** (Costume Design) and **Colin Nightingale** (Creative Producer).

SLEEP NO MORE is performed by an international company, including many long-term Punchdrunk collaborators alongside a host of some of the most exciting and innovative performers China has to offer.

Listings

Venue: The McKinnon Hotel, 1013 West Beijing Road, Shanghai

Dates: booking until 30 April

Pricing: Wed - Thu evening show, RMB 550
 Fri - Sat evening show, RMB 650
 Sat - Sun matinee show, RMB 550

Buckland Theatre Company

For more information and enquiries please contact sara@thecornershoppr.com

Buckland Theatre Company in Association with Park Theatre presents

The Ugly One

By Marius Von Mayenburg

Directed by Roy Alexander Weise

Translated by Maja Zade

Previews: 1 - 7 June 2017

1 - 24 June 2017

Press Night: 9 June 2017

Written by Marius von Mayenburg, *The Ugly One*, is a razor-sharp comedy about beauty, identity and doing what it takes to get to the top. Directed by 2016 James Menzies-Kitchin award winner **Roy Alexander Weise**, it tells the story of Lette, a talented engineer who is extremely ugly. He decides to make a change to his face but this leads him to discover that he might now possibly be too beautiful.

The Ugly One will star **Charlie Dorfman** as Lette, **Arian Nik** as Karlmann and **Indra Ové** as Fanny. For this ten year anniversary production, **T’Nia Miller** has been cast as Scheffler, a role which is traditionally played by a man.

It will run at PARK90, Park Theatre from 1 June until 24 June, with previews running from the 1 - 7 June 2017.

Cardboard Citizens: Home Truths

For more information and enquiries please contact maisie@thecornershoppr.com

The award-winning theatre company **Cardboard Citizens** is presenting an ambitious season of new work at The Bunker in London. Celebrating 25 years of making work with and for homeless people, the company continues its exploration of the state of housing in nine new plays commissioned from some of the UK's most exciting playwrights. This timely and playful season looks back at the history of UK housing, from the Victorian housing crisis through Heathcote Williams' true story of squatting in the 1970s to the ravages of Racism in the 1950s and white flight in the 21st century. The nine plays are split into three Cycles, each Cycle can be seen as a stand-alone production, or alternatively audiences can book discounted multi-Cycle tickets or take part in a theatrical sit in and watch all nine plays in one go. The season runs 17 April to 13 May with press performances on 20, 21 and 22 April.

Playwrights who have written new work for the season include: **Sonali Bhattacharyya**, **Lin Coghlan**, **EV Crowe**, **Anders Lustgarten**, **Stef Smith**, **Nessah Muthy**, **Chris O'Connell**, **David Watson** and **Heathcote Williams** with **Sarah Woods**. The productions will be individually directed by Cardboard Citizen's Founder and Artistic Director **Adrian Jackson** and rising star **Caitlin McLeod**.

Adrian Jackson said: "My hope is that Home Truths will offer, through the kaleidoscope of history, a glimpse of what is happening now. This season of short plays will, by reference to notable historical events and periods, give our audience a fresh perspective on what is happening now, in the phenomenon commonly known as 'the housing crisis'. And perhaps give us some glimpse of how we might find our way out of this mess."

The announcement marks the continuation of an exciting period of time for the company, who staged a one-off enactment of Ken Loach's **Cathy Come Home** at the Barbican last summer, supported by Loach himself. A brand new critically acclaimed Forum Theatre touring production **Cathy**, based around similar themes, followed which is currently touring to theatres, prisons, hostels and food banks across the UK and has been seen by more than 3,500 people.

Adrian Jackson is the Founder, Director and Chief Executive of Cardboard Citizens. Adrian founded Cardboard Citizens in 1991 and since then he has directed over 30 productions for the company, devising and writing many of them including *Pericles* and *Timon* (with RSC) *The Beggar's Opera* (with ENO), *The Lower Depths* (with London Bubble), *Mincemeat* (winner of Evening Standard award). He directed his own play, *A Few Men Fridays* at Riverside Studios in 2012, and Kate Tempest's *Glasshouse* in 2013. In 2013 he wrote and directed an intervention in Elmgreen/Dragset's installation *Tomorrow* at the V & A. He recently directed Cardboard Citizens' touring production *Cathy*. Adrian also teaches the Theatre of the Oppressed methodology all over the world.

Design is by James Turner, lighting is by Elliot Griggs, sound and composition by Lewis Gibson and Tom Parkinson, and costume is by Holly Henshaw. Casting is still to be announced.

As with all Cardboard Citizens productions, a proportion of tickets for Home Truths will be made available to homeless audiences at £1.

Depart

For more information and enquiries please contact philippa@thecornershoppr.com

A spell-binding performance from internationally acclaimed circus artists, **Circa**, in a unique and atmospheric location.

Led by **Yaron Lifschitz** with a creative team including the electronic musician **Lapalux**, this ethereal collaboration brings together acrobats, aerialists, choral singers and video artists for a heart-stopping performance.

Described as a meditation, **Depart** is a playground for the soulful, an art gallery without walls, a circus in search of transcendence filled with moments of joyous beauty.

Depart is co-commissioned by LIFT, the National Centre of Circus Arts, Spitalfields Music, Hull UK City of Culture 2017, LeftCoast and Brighton Festival. Supported by Arts Council England.

<http://www.departcircus.com/>

Royal and Derngate

For more information and enquiries please contact maisie@thecornershoppr.com

Made in Northampton 2017

The 2017 season from Artistic Director James Dacre includes eleven brand new productions, seven world premieres, three major revivals and a site-specific collaboration with Northampton Town Football Club. **Royal & Derngate's** welcomes some of the country's finest writers, composers, actors and creatives to Northampton as well as taking work **Made in Northampton** to over 40 theatres nationwide, championing the brightest emerging artists and companies alongside the most celebrated.

During the summer, a world premiere brings to the season a new kind of collaboration, between the theatre, **Fermynwoods Contemporary Art** and **Northampton Town Football Club**. Devised by **Seven Sisters Group**, *The Twelfth Player* will use interactive technology to portray the experience of Cobblers fans across seventy years of the club's extraordinary history, of which 2015/16 was arguably their most precarious and euphoric season. The Cobblers fought off relegation and narrowly escaped financial disaster, but through the dedication of staff, players and their fans - the team's twelfth player - they made a remarkable recovery, welcoming a takeover, bouncing back into League 1 and winning the Club's first League title for 29 years. The collaboration will see audiences go on a tour around Sixfields Stadium which will blend site-specific performance and handheld video technology, moving the audience seamlessly between characters inspired by real fans and placing them at the heart of the sporting action. **#12thplayer**

In September, the venue welcomes back **Simon Godwin** (*Regeneration*) to direct the regional premiere of **Sam Holcroft's** hilarious comedy *Rules for Living* which follows what happens when an extended family gathers in the kitchen for a traditional Christmas and each of them rigidly follows their own 'rules for living'. This darkly funny play is produced by Royal & Derngate in collaboration English Touring Theatre and Rose Theatre Kingston, reuniting the producing team who recently won the 2016 UK Theatre Award for Best Touring Production for *The Herbal Bed*. #RulesForLiving17

Another major touring revival sees **Lucy Bailey** direct *Love from a Stranger* by **Agatha Christie** and **Frank Vosper** in a vivid new interpretation of Britain's greatest crime writer's work. This bold reimagination of an edge-of-your-seat thriller follows Bailey's acclaimed work on last year's *Gaslight* at Royal & Derngate and will tour the UK in 2018.

Following collaborations in recent years with Kneehigh, Peeoplykus, Spymonkey, Told by an Idiot and Frantic Assembly, in 2017 Royal & Derngate will champion the work of two emerging devising companies - **The Wardrobe Ensemble** and **simple8** - with both ensembles making their mainstage debuts.

In October **The Wardrobe Ensemble** will premiere *Education, Education, Education*, charting the rise of New Labour through the lens of a secondary school staff room in 1997 and exploring the key policies and personalities that have shaped our recent political history. The company won critical acclaim and The Stage Award for their 2015 production of *1972: The Future Of Sex*. They will be directed by Royal & Derngate's RTYDS director **Jesse Jones**. #Education17

simple8 is an award-winning ensemble company acclaimed for their ability to create richly imagined worlds out of nothing but a bare stage. They will premiere their vibrant new adaptation of E.M. Forster's *A Passage to India* as the 70th anniversary of Indian Independence is remembered. Reimagining the novel for contemporary Britain, the production poses a question that is even more urgent today than when it was first asked: how can we love one another in a world divided by culture and belief?

Furthering their commitment to making work for young audiences in their Underground Studio, Royal & Derngate collaborates with **Little Angel Theatre** on the world premiere of **Julia Donaldson** and **Lydia Monks' The Singing Mermaid**, adapted by director **Samantha Lane** and composer **Barb Jungr** for under 7s and their families.

In addition, Royal & Derngate's **Young Company** will also produce the world premiere of *The Blue Road* by **Laura Lomas**, continuing the venue's commitment to inviting groundbreaking playwrights to work with young people.

Royal & Derngate are still to announce their world premiere production in the Royal for Christmas 2017.

HiddenCity

For more information and enquiries please contact philippa@thecornershoppr.com

HiddenCity was created by two brothers who wanted to organise an alternative city experience for friends. HiddenCity now has trails operating in London, Manchester and Brighton.

*

Mind of the Maker

@HiddenCityLon / #MindoftheMaker

Images available [here](#) (username: mindofthemaker | password: wayland)

Due to popular demand, HiddenCity has today announced that its latest trail, *Mind of the Maker*, will extend its booking period for an additional two months. A real-world adventure along London's waterways, this clue-solving game will release tickets for bookings until 31 January, on Thursday 24th November.

Teams of up to four will uncover secret locations and discover a hidden side of the city as they go in search of the makers of London, from ingenious architects to ice cream artisans. *Mind of the Maker* opened on 29 September 2016 and has received critical and public acclaim.

A three-hour cryptic challenge starting in King's Cross, teams can choose to explore at a leisurely pace or unleash their competitive side in a bid for top ranking on the HiddenCity leaderboard.

For more information, please visit www.inthehiddencity.com/maker

Dusty - A New Musical

For more information and enquiries please contact lewis@thecornershoppr.com

DUSTY, the first authorised new musical charting the life of **Dusty Springfield** is set to premiere in the UK in 2018. Details of dates, venue and casting are still to be announced.

Originating from the notes and memoirs of the late singer's close friend and manager Vicki Wickham, **DUSTY** is written by **Jonathan Harvey** who tells the story behind this iconic artist having interviewed key people from her life including Pat Rhodes, Dusty's lifelong personal assistant, and friend and record company executive Tris Penna.

DUSTY will be directed by Olivier Award winning **Maria Friedman**.

Dusty Springfield is one Britain's most successful and enduringly popular singers, with hits spanning four decades. Born in London, she became known across the world for her soulful voice and iconic look. Her solo career began way back in 1963, and included the global hits "I Only Want to Be with You", "You Don't Have to Say You Love Me" and 'What Have I Done to Deserve This?' with the Pet Shop Boys. Her 1969 masterpiece "Dusty In Memphis" is considered one of the greatest albums of all time and Dusty has been inducted into both the US Rock and Roll and UK Music Halls of Fame.

Jonathan Harvey wrote his first play in 1987, and has since written over 15 more, including *Babies*, *Boom Bang-A-Bang* and *Beautiful Thing*, which was later made into an acclaimed film. He has been the recipient of the Evening Standard, George Devine and John Whiting Awards, and his work has been both Bafta- and Olivier-nominated. Jonathan's extensive television writing includes *Coronation Street*, on which he has worked since 2004, *Beautiful People* and *Gimme, Gimme, Gimme*. He has also written for shows as diverse as *Rev*, *Shameless*, *At Home With The Braithwaites*, *The Catherine Tate*

Show and *Tracey Ullman's Show*. He has also published five novels and been hailed as 'the new theatrical voice of his generation'.

Best known as a three-time Olivier Award winning star of the musical stage, director **Maria Friedman** made an astonishing directorial debut in 2012 with a hugely acclaimed production of *Merrily We Roll Along* which won Best Musical at the Evening Standard Awards 2013, the Oliver Awards 2014 (for which Maria was also nominated for Best Director of a Musical), and the Critic's Circle Award 2013. She went on to direct *High Society* at The Old Vic in 2015 and is currently directing *Stepping Out* which will play the West End's Vaudeville Theatre from March 2017.

DUSTY is produced by **Eleanor Lloyd Productions** whose recent projects include *Nell Gwynn* with Gemma Arterton, Olivier Award for Best Comedy (Apollo), 1984 (Playhouse, 2014, 2015 & 2016), *My Night with Reg*, Olivier Nomination for Best Revival (Apollo), and *Handbagged*, Olivier Nomination for Best Comedy, (Vaudeville and UK tour).

Paines Plough

www.painesplough.com

For more information and enquiries please contact sara@thecornershoppr.com

Paines Plough is the UK's national theatre of new plays. The company commissions and produces the best playwrights and tours their plays far and wide. Whether you're in Liverpool or Lyme Regis, Scarborough or Southampton, a Paines Plough show is coming to a theatre near you soon.

Paines Plough was formed in 1974 over a pint of Paines bitter in the Plough pub. Since then they've produced more than 130 new productions by world renowned playwrights like Stephen Jeffreys, Abi Morgan, Sarah Kane, Mark Ravenhill, Dennis Kelly and Mike Bartlett.

For the 2017 programme, Roundabout will again tour the UK with three world premieres by Brad Birch, Elinor Cook and Sarah McDonald-Hughes in partnership with Theatr Clwyd and the Orange Tree. The world premieres at Roundabout include Brad Birch's *Black Mountain*, Elinor Cook's *Out of Love* and Sarah McDonald-Hughes's *How To Be A Kid* and will open at Theatr Clywd and then tour the UK in Autumn 2017 before opening at the Orange Tree in Spring 2018.

Paines Plough are also renewing their partnership with The Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama and Gate Theatre to present the world premiere of Alison Carr's *Hush*, directed by Hannah Banister. Nathan Bryon, the first Paines Plough playwright fellowship winner, will present his debut play *Mixed Brain*, in partnership with tiata fahodzi.

The global smash hit, *Every Brilliant Thing* embarks upon its third international tour with James Rowland performing in Australia and New Zealand whilst Jonny Donahoe will continue the role in North America. The European tour will begin on 2 May at Quarry Theatre in Bedford before visiting over twenty-five venues across England including London, Scotland, Wales, Ireland and France.

Sabrina Mahfouz's euphoric UK Garage musical *With A Little Bit of Luck* returns for one very special night in the Roundhouse main space and Luke Norris' Fringe First winner *Growth* takes off on a UK Tour. *Come to Where I'm From* continues to celebrate locality

with playwrights performing plays about their home towns in Middlesbrough, Glasgow and Gloucester and will also tour to Hull, as part of Hull Truck's Grow Festival for Hull UK City of Culture 2017.

For full listing information, please see [here](#).

Forced Entertainment

For more information and enquiries please contact maisie@thecornershoppr.com

The boundary-breaking, Sheffield-based company Forced Entertainment has been making work since 1984 and is a key part of the contemporary European and UK theatre landscape, having shaped its development significantly over the last three decades. Their work is widely studied across UK and European university syllabuses as pioneering, trailblazing theatre. They are present their ground-breaking provocative performances across the UK, mainland Europe, North America, Japan, Australia and further afield, the group has sustained a unique collaborative practise for more than thirty years.

In 2016 they became the first ever UK based recipients of one of theatre's most prestigious awards. **The International Ibsen Award**, honouring extraordinary contribution to art and culture, is only given every two years by the Norwegian government on Henrik Ibsen's birthday.

In June 2017 Forced Entertainment return to their London home, Battersea Arts Centre, to reinvent **Dirty Work**, a performance first created nearly two decades ago. The UK premiere of *Dirty Work (The Late Shift)* draws the audience into imaginary performances dreamt up by two figures on a stage. With an imaginary cast of thousands, no event is too large and no image unstageable for this extraordinary performance.

In August 2017 they will present **Real Magic** as part of Edinburgh International Festival. Taking popular culture as its starting point, *Real Magic* presents an unstable trap that speaks to the complex political place we find ourselves in, creating something that is poetic, challenging, funny and provocative. Caught in a world of second chances and second guesses, variations and changes, distortions and transformations, *Real Magic* takes you on a hallucinatory journey, in a compelling performance about struggle, optimism and the desire for change.

For more information and touring work outside of the UK, please see [here](#).

Hairspray Tour

UK Tour 2017-2018

www.hairsprayuktour.com/ [@HairsprayUKTour](https://twitter.com/HairsprayUKTour)

For further information please contact philippa@thecornershoppr.com

Producer Mark Goucher has confirmed that following the phenomenal success of the recent UK tour, the smash hit production of **Hairspray** will embark on a further major tour opening on 16 August 2017 at Wales Millennium Centre, Cardiff. The big, bold and beautiful production of this much loved musical comedy will visit more than 30 venues

across the length and breadth of the UK and Ireland until early summer 2018. Star casting will be announced in due course.

Featuring the iconic music and lyrics by Academy Award, Tony and Emmy winning duo Marc Shaiman and Scott Wittman, the production will tour to Cardiff, Dartford, Dublin, Blackpool, Sunderland, Glasgow, Birmingham, Leicester, Buxton, Belfast, Aylesbury, Carlisle, Bradford, Guildford, Plymouth, Southampton, Sheffield, Aberdeen, Nottingham, Bristol, Edinburgh, Inverness, Manchester, Milton Keynes, Liverpool, Hull, Llandudno, Canterbury and Southend.

Hairspray is directed by Paul Kerryson, with choreography by Drew McOnie.

For full listing information, please see [here](#).

Reasons to be Cheerful

UK Tour 2017-18

For further information please contact philippa@thecornershoppr.com

The pioneering disabled-led theatre company Graeae has confirmed tour dates and venues for the return of their acclaimed musical **Reasons to be Cheerful**, which will hit the road this autumn. Following a hugely successful tour in 2012 which was seen by almost 12,000 people and a series of concert performances last year, this joyful and defiant production will visit seven regions around the country, kicking off at the Belgrade, Coventry on **4 September** and rounding off the tour with a two week run at Theatre Royal, Stratford East in London.

This coming of age tale rejoices in the infectious and enduring music of Ian Dury and the Blockheads. Featuring stone-cold classic songs including Hit Me With Your Rhythm Stick; Plaistow Patricia; Sex and Drugs and Rock and Roll; Sweet Gene Vincent; What A Waste and the titular Reasons to be Cheerful (Part 3), this show is loud, bold and jubilant.

The parallels with the show's 1979 setting are clear. Today, as nationwide cuts continue to impact on the lives of d/Deaf and disabled people, Graeae Theatre Company puts them centre stage. As a prominent disabled activist, Ian Dury was a patron and staunch supporter of Graeae. The extraordinary wit and wisdom of Ian Dury and the Blockheads music and lyrics are brought to life by an inclusive cast of 15 actors and musicians.

Using Graeae's signature theatrical language, all performances of Reasons to be Cheerful seamlessly include British Sign Language, audio description and creative captioning.

For full listing information, please see [here](#).

Shrek The Musical

UK Tour 2017-18

For further information please contact francesca@thecornershoppr.com

Producers of **SHREK THE MUSICAL**® are delighted to announce that, following the unprecedented success of the first ever UK and Ireland Tour, the larger-than-life production will be returning to a swamp near you. Opening at the Edinburgh Playhouse for

the Christmas 2017/18 season from 12 December 2017 to 7 January 2018, the production will then tour to Manchester, Sunderland, Birmingham, Aberdeen, Northampton, Sheffield, Cardiff, Stoke, Blackpool, Woking, Liverpool, Canterbury, Milton Keynes, Bristol, Llandudno and Leeds, with further venues to be announced.

Nigel Harman will return as director, having made his directorial debut on **SHREK THE MUSICAL**'s first UK and Ireland Tour. Best known for his television and stage work, Nigel Harman originated the role of Lord Farquaad in the West End production, winning the Olivier Award for Best Performance in a Supporting Role in a Musical. Television credits include heart-throb Dennis Rickman in *EastEnders*, villainous valet Mr Green in *Downton Abbey* and Bradley in Sky's *Mount Pleasant*, which aired its sixth series in Autumn 2016. Notable stage appearances include Jamie Lloyd's production of *Three Days of Rain* alongside James McAvoy, *Privates on Parade* at the Donmar Warehouse and *A Chorus of Disapproval*, directed by Trevor Nunn.

Nigel Harman says: '*I had so much fun directing the original UK & Ireland Tour that I jumped at the chance to work on it again. Shrek the Musical has created pivotal moments in my career - firstly winning an Olivier and then my directorial debut. It's certainly become one of the classic family musicals of all time and I'm really proud to be a part of it*'.

SHREK THE MUSICAL[®] is based on the story and characters from William Steig's book *Shrek!* and the Oscar[®]-winning DreamWorks Animations feature film. Originally directed in the West End by **Jason Moore** and **Rob Ashford**, the production has book and lyrics by **David Lindsay-Abaire**, music by **Jeanine Tesori** with multi award-winning set and costume design by **Tim Hatley**.

Join our unlikely hero Shrek and his loyal steed Donkey as they embark on a quest to rescue the beautiful (if slightly temperamental) Princess Fiona from a fire-breathing, love-sick dragon. Add the diminutive Lord Farquaad, a gang of fairytale misfits and a biscuit with attitude, and you've got the biggest, brightest musical comedy around! Featuring all new songs as well as cult Shrek anthem *I'm a Believer*, **SHREK THE MUSICAL** brings over 100 much-loved fairytale characters, plus a 14 foot dragon, to life in an all-singing, all-dancing extravaganza.

SHREK THE MUSICAL[®] was seen by nearly 800,000 people on its first highly acclaimed UK and Ireland tour in 2014, visiting 25 major venues over 20 months. The production was first staged in the UK at London's Theatre Royal Drury Lane in 2011. Since opening on Broadway in 2008 **SHREK THE MUSICAL**[®] has toured to nearly 150 cities in the USA and Canada, with productions having also played in Spain, Poland, France, Malaysia, China, Brazil, Italy, Denmark, The Netherlands, Estonia, Israel and Turkey.

The UK and Ireland tour of the original DreamWorks Production will be presented by Neal Street Productions, Playful Productions, Ron Kastner, Saracen Films, Tulchin/Bartner Productions, Gavin Kalin, Glass Half Full Productions/Just For Laughs Theatricals, Lee Menzies and Mark Cartwright.

Casting information will be announced in due course.

LISTINGS INFORMATION

Tuesday 12 December 2017 - Sunday 7 January 2018
EDINBURGH PLAYHOUSE
www.atgtickets.com/edinburgh
0844 871 3014

Tuesday 16 January - Sunday 28 January 2018
PALACE THEATRE, MANCHESTER
www.atgtickets.com/manchester
0844 871 3019

Wednesday 31 January - Sunday 11 February 2018
SUNDERLAND EMPIRE THEATRE
www.atgtickets.com/sunderland
0844 871 3022

Wednesday 14 February - Sunday 25 February 2018
NEW ALEXANDRA THEATRE, BIRMINGHAM
www.atgtickets.com/birmingham
0844 871 3011

Wednesday 28 February - Sunday 11 March 2018
HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE, ABERDEEN
www.boxofficeaberdeen.com
01224 641 122

Wednesday 14 March - Sunday 25 March, 2018
ROYAL & DERNGATE, NORTHAMPTON
www.royalandderngate.co.uk
01604 624 811

Wednesday 28 March - Sunday 8 April 2018 **On Sale from May**
SHEFFIELD LYCEUM THEATRE
www.sheffieldtheatres.co.uk
0114 249 6000

Tuesday 10 April - Sunday 22 April 2018
WALES MILLENNIUM CENTRE, CARDIFF
www.wmc.org.uk
029 2063 6464

Wednesday 2 May - Sunday 13 May 2018
REGENT THEATRE, STOKE
www.atgtickets.com/stoke
0844 871 7649

Tuesday 15 May - Sunday 27 May 2018
BLACKPOOL WINTER GARDENS THEATRE
www.wintergardensblackpool.co.uk
01253 625 252

Wednesday 30 May - Sunday 10 June 2018
NEW VICTORIA THEATRE, WOKING
www.atgtickets.com/woking
0844 871 7645

Tuesday 12 June - Sunday 24 June 2018
LIVERPOOL EMPIRE
www.atgtickets.com/liverpool
0844 871 3017

Wednesday 11 July - Sunday 22 July 2018
MARLOWE THEATRE, CANTERBURY
www.marlowetheatre.com
01227 787787

Wednesday 25 July - Sunday 5 August 2018
MILTON KEYNES THEATRE
www.atgtickets.com/miltonkeynes
0844 871 7652

Wednesday 8 August - Sunday 19 August 2018
THE BRISTOL HIPPODROME
www.atgtickets.com/bristol
0844 871 3012

Tuesday 21 August - Sunday 2 September 2018
VENUE CYMRU, LLANDUDNO
www.venuecymru.co.uk
01492 872000

Tuesday 18 December 2018 - Sunday 6 January 2019
LEEDS GRAND THEATRE
www.leedsgrandtheatre.com
0844 848 2700

FURTHER TOUR DATES TO BE ANNOUNCED IN DUE COURSE

Les Petits Theatre Company presents

The First Hippo On The Moon

Royal Hippodrome Theatre, Eastbourne
13 December 2016 - 7 January 2017

Followed by UK Tour

www.lespetitstheatre.com

For further information please contact sara@thecornershoppr.com

Les Enfants Terrible's sister company **Les Petits Theatre Company** have announced that the stage adaptation of David Walliams' *The First Hippo on the Moon* will begin a major UK Tour in December 2016. Visiting 30 venues across the UK, the production will receive its world premiere at the Royal Hippodrome Theatre, Eastbourne from 13 December 2016 until 7 January 2017. Suitable for children aged three and up, casting for *The First Hippo on the Moon* will be announced in due course.

David Walliams said: "*I am delighted that The First Hippo on the Moon will be making its world premiere this December at the historic Eastbourne Hippodrome before travelling up and down the UK. I've been a long-time admirer of Les Petits Theatre Company and the innovative approach they take to theatre-making so I'm excited to see how they bring my hippo space explorers to life on stage.*"

Les Petits Theatre Company said: "*Les Petits Theatre Company are excited to be bringing David Walliams' space race adventure to life for young audiences with our*

trademark mixture of larger than life puppets, fun, live music and adventure. We are delighted to be premiering the first stage adaptation of David Walliams' picture books for young readers, and to be working with an author who we have long admired for his boundless imagination and great sense of fun."

The UK tour of *The First Hippo on the Moon* will visit Colchester, Guildford, Hayes, Dartford, Chesterfield, York, North Finchley, Worthing, Aberystwyth, Stourbridge, Bracknell, Norwich, Stafford, Middlesbrough, Leeds, Gravesend, Southend, Oxford, Newbury, Lowestoft, Hertford, St Albans, Woking, Winchester, Warwick, Ilkley, Swansea, Brighton, Greenwich and Billingham.

Based on David Walliams' original children's book with illustrations by Tony Ross, *The First Hippo on the Moon* is an explosively funny space adventure which sees the enormously rich Hercules Waldorf-Franklin III and ingenious Shelia compete to be the first hippo to make it to the moon.

David Walliams has taken the literary world by storm and his brilliantly funny stories are adored by children the world over. He has achieved unprecedented critical acclaim and quickly developed a reputation as a natural successor to Roald Dahl. His books have been translated into over 45 languages and sold over 9.5 million copies in the UK alone. One of his most successful titles *Gangsta Granny* was adapted for the stage in November 2015 by Birmingham Stage Company and continues on tour until January 2017.

The First Hippo on the Moon has been adapted for the stage by acclaimed theatre company Les Petits following their hugely successful production of *Captain Flinn and the Pirate Dinosaurs*. The creative team at Les Petits have also worked on *Dr. Seuss' The Lorax* at The Old Vic and the National Theatre's productions of *Elephant*, *Warhorse* and *Raymond Briggs' The Bear*. Les Petits was set up as the sister company to Les Enfants Terribles whose work includes *The Trench*, *The Vaudevillains* and Olivier nominated *Alice's Adventures Underground*.

Les Enfants Terribles present

The Terrible Infants

Wilton's Music Hall

27 September - 28 October

www.lesenfantsterribles.co.uk/ WWW.WILTONS.ORG.UK

For further information please contact sara@thecornershoppr.com

Les Enfants Terribles have announced that the anniversary production of their multi-award winning show *The Terrible Infants* will be staged at **Wilton's Music Hall**. Featuring new creative material and reflecting Les Enfants Terribles' bold, innovative and irreverent style *The Terrible Infants* will run from 27 September until 28 October with a press night on Tuesday 3 October.

The production is a collection of twisted short stories by Oliver Lansley and Sam Wyer, which recall both Roald Dahl and Tim Burton, performed with inventive puppetry and atmospheric live music. Featuring recorded narration from **Dame Judi Dench**, *The Terrible Infants* originally debuted in 2007 before multiple appearances at the Edinburgh

Festival Fringe and nationwide tours. The production received numerous awards when it debuted a decade ago including Best Entertainment and Outstanding Theatre in the Fringe Report in 2008, as well as Outstanding Artistic Merit from Argus Angel Award.

Les Enfants Terribles and Greenwich Theatre present

The LET Award

Les Enfants Terribles and Greenwich Theatre announced **Rendered Retina Theatre Company** as the winners of **The LET Award** and **BoonDog Theatre** and **Lucy Roslyn** as the winners of the **Greenwich Partnership Award**.

All ten nominees took part in a showcase at Greenwich Theatre on the 6 February and two winners were selected to receive a performance slot at the Pleasance as part of Edinburgh Festival Fringe, a cash injection of £1000 and industry mentoring from Les Enfants Terribles and their partner Greenwich Theatre.

Les Enfants Terribles have also announced a new opportunity for fringe companies called **The Stepladder Award** in collaboration with house and in association with Wilton's Music Hall. The Stepladder Award is designed to support fringe theatre companies making original work as they look to establish themselves within the UK theatre industry. The emphasis of the award is on supporting a company to mount a professional tour of their winning Edinburgh Festival Fringe show and build their company profile and structure.

Submissions for the award will open on 8 March 2017. The judging panel, made up of Les Enfants Terribles, Wilton's Music Hall and house, will then see shortlisted shows during the first week of the Edinburgh Festival Fringe and announce the winner at the end of that week. The winner will receive a programmed slot for their work at Wilton's Music Hall in Autumn 2017 and will be supported by house in booking an Autumn 2018 tour of their production. The winner will also receive mentoring from Les Enfants Terribles as they prepare funding applications and plan their tour and in addition a programme of industry mentoring.

Paul Barritt of 1927 in association with Village Underground present

Cat and Mouse

Village Underground

www.villageunderground.co.uk

For more information and enquiries please contact sara@thecornershoppr.com

Paul Barritt of 1927 in association with **Village Underground** present the world premiere of *Cat and Mouse*, an animation adventure featuring original big screen cartoons, live music and theatre. The collaboration marks Village Underground's debut foray into producing live theatre and performances are on the 8 and 9 June.

Inspired by George Harriman's hugely influential *Krazy Kat* cartoon strip (1913-1944), *Cat and Mouse* is a feature-length, surreal and satirical animation created by **Paul Barritt**. The composer for the production is **Laurence Owen** with **Siemy Di** on drums and percussion

and **Sam Sallon** on keys - together they are The Officer Pup Band. **Lesley Ewen** provides dramatic narration and **Octavia Austin** has designed the costumes.

Cat and Mouse is inspired by George Harriman's influential Krazy Kat cartoon strip (1913-1944) and it tells the extremes of human idiocy from art to war, from technology to industry, from civilisation to love all rendered through the shenanigans of a rodent, a feline and the dogs of law.

There will be two performances of *Cat and Mouse* per evening beginning at 7.30pm and 9.15pm. *Cat and Mouse* is supported by Arts Council England.

Hackney Empire - Cinderella

18 November - 31 December 2017

www.hackneyempire.co.uk

For more information and enquiries please contact francesca@thecornershoppr.com

Hackney Empire has announced *Cinderella* as its 2017 Christmas pantomime which will run at the venue from 18 November - 31 December 2017 with tickets now on sale.

The 2016 production of *Sleeping Beauty* was seen by a record number of first time attendees and attracted audiences from across the globe from countries including Hong Kong, USA, Brazil, Japan and Hawaii but 20% of the audience was from Hackney, an increase of 1% on last year. Other London Boroughs with an increase in audience presence include Islington, Waltham Forest, Tower Hamlets, Brent and Westminster. There were a record number of new attenders to the venue, 64% of the audience were first time attenders and generated 57% of the final box office income.

Executive Creative Producer **Susie McKenna** will write and direct the legendary Hackney Empire pantomime, *Cinderella* in 2017 and the anniversary production in 2018.

In line with the 20th anniversary, McKenna is writing a book to be published by Oberon Books about pantomime and the story of 20 years of her annual show at Hackney Empire.

From starting as principle boy in Nottingham Playhouse pantomimes, Susie McKenna has written and directed critically acclaimed pantomimes since 1998. Her most recent directing credits include *The Silver Sword*, a musical adaptation of Ian Serrailier's novel, written by Susie and Steve Edis. Other credits include *Blues in the Night*, *A Midsummer Night's Madness* (Hackney Empire, New York and Edinburgh Festival) and *Once on this Island* (Hackney Empire, Birmingham Rep, Nottingham Playhouse). She was nominated for the League of Professional Theatre Women's Guild/Coigney International Theatre Award for developing international links. She has also worked as an actor for over 30 years and credits include *Chicago*, *Cats*, *Ragtime* and *The Witches of Eastwick* in the West End, TV shows

such as *Mr Bean* and *Casualty* and films such as *Cats*, *Jack and Sarah* and *Muppets Most Wanted*.

Latitude Festival 2017

13 -16 July 2017

Henham Park, Suffolk

www.latitudefestival.com

For more information and enquiries please contact sara@thecornershoppr.com

The UK's finest multi-arts festival, **Latitude Festival**, has announced the line-up for their twelfth edition, which takes place at Henham Park, Suffolk from **Thursday 13th-Sunday 16th July 2017**.

The music and film arena's headline acts include **Will Young**, **Imelda May**, **Benjamin Zephaniah** and **The Revolutionary Minds**, whilst the dance line-up will see the return of the UK's leading dance house, **Sadler's Wells** to the Waterfront Stage for their tenth year.

The diverse dance programme includes **Matthew Bourne's New Adventures** and stunning dance company **BalletBoyz** with their new show *Life*. **Opera North** will transform Latitude's woodlands into a magical immersive soundscape as part of their Greek mythology experience *Underworld* and award-winning comedian, **Vikki Stone** will present the premiere of her orchestral work, *The Concerto for Comedian and Orchestra*.

Audiences will have the opportunity to take part in several workshops, including a brand new yoga experience, **Disco Yoga**, which encourages Latitude to 'Glitter Up' and stretch to a disco soundtrack. Several DJs, including **Hot Dub Time Machine** and **Buttoned Down Disco**, will be hosting late-night party performances so Latitude can dance until dawn.

The 2017 comedy headliners are **Dara Ó Briain**, **Katherine Ryan**, **Simon Amstell**, **Chris Ramsey**, **Reginald D Hunter**, **Joel Dommett**, **Sean Walsh** and they will be joined by a host of up-and-coming talent and rising star such as **Joseph Morpurgo** and **Lolly Adefope**.

With a spectacular choice of major shows, ground-breaking pieces and the first glance at works in progress, this year's timely theme of *Come The Revolution* will be reflected through theatre, spoken-word, cabaret and gig-theatre. The theatre line-up includes performances by **Black Honey Company**, **The Negro Problem**, **Cirk La Putyka**, **The Old Vic** in association with **Fane Productions**, **Royal Court Theatre**, **Traverse Theatre**, **Paines Plough** and many more.

For listing information, please see [here](#).

For more information about any of our productions, please contact:

Hannah Barnett Leveson: hannahbl@thecornershoppr.com

Laurence Ainscough: laurence@thecornershoppr.com

Su-Ann Chow-Seegoolam: su-ann@thecornershoppr.com

Sarah Brook: sarah@thecornershoppr.com

Abbie Jessup: Abigail@thecornershoppr.com

Images are available on request.