

DUN DEE REP

Cast announced for the Scottish premiere of **THE CHILDREN**, the award-winning contemporary theatre classic

Tuesday 01 March - Saturday 19 March

<https://dundeerep.co.uk/whats-on/the-children>

Written by Lucy Kirkwood
Directed by Andrew Panton

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*Barrie Hunter and Emily Winter rehearsing **The Children**, credit Sean Millar*

“Retired people are like nuclear power stations. We like to live by the sea.”

Dundee Rep is delighted to be presenting the Scottish Premiere of Lucy Kirkwood’s award-winning play, **THE CHILDREN**. This is the first play of the Rep’s spring season and will be performed by **Dundee Rep Ensemble members Barrie Hunter, Irene Macdougall and Emily Winter**.

The Children tells the story of Hazel and Robin, two retired nuclear scientists in an isolated cottage by the sea, with the world around them crumbling. Life within their home is relatively normal, aside from Geiger counters kept to hand in response to a recent disaster at the local

power station. Together they are going to live forever on yogurt and yoga until Rose, an old friend arrives with a frightening request...

An intimate, three-hander drama, *The Children* is **as dark as it is funny, leaving audiences with some of the most profound questions we all have to ask ourselves;** and given a new meaning in our world bruised by the **global pandemic and climate emergency:** but it's not only an environmental crisis, it's also an existential one.

Hailed as **one of the top 3 in The Guardian's recent summary "Best Theatre shows of the 21st Century"**, *The Children* premiered at London's Royal Court Theatre in 2016 then transferred to Broadway where it was nominated for **Best Play at both the Tony Awards and the Outer Critics Circle** and now receives its Scottish Premiere at Dundee Rep. Lucy Kirkwood's previous plays also include *Chimerica* - winner of the Olivier Award for Best Play, the Evening Standard Award, the Critics' Circle Best New Play Award.

Dundee Rep's Artistic Director and Director of *The Children* Andrew Panton said: "I've wanted to produce THE CHILDREN as part of our Ensemble season for some time, and I'm delighted we're bringing the Scottish premiere to the Rep stage this spring. The play deals with themes that are particularly resonant in the current climate and have only been made more pertinent by the global pandemic. How do we ensure that we leave a world we would want for our children and their children, and what are our personal responsibilities to ensure that? The play manages to deal with these questions with depth, humour and a good number of plot twists along the way to keep the audience engrossed in the fate of these three beautifully crafted characters."

/ENDS

Images: <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/r7u2bt5oysnop2r/AAAABpjin9TqyUSBXe5AEFl-Va?dl=0>

Creative Team

Director **Andrew Panton**

Set & Costume Designer **Karen Tennent**

Lighting Designer **Simon Wilkinson**

Sound Designer **Tom Penny**

Cast

Irene Macdougall – Hazel

Barrie Hunter – Robin

Emily Winter – Rose

ABOUT DUNDEE REP THEATRE AND SCOTTISH DANCE THEATRE

The story of Dundee Rep and Scottish Dance Theatre is one of its people: its artists, creatives, staff, participants and audiences.

Dundee Rep and Scottish Dance Theatre sits at the cultural heart of Dundee as a centre of creative excellence. The Organisation looks outwards, creating and delivering work for local, national and international audiences, with learning at the heart. "The Rep" recently celebrated its 80th anniversary and is home to the Dundee Rep Ensemble, the only permanent full-time company of its kind in Scotland. Scottish Dance Theatre is one of the few full-time companies in the UK and is made up of nine inquisitive and versatile dancers who have come from all over the world to work and create in our home at Dundee Rep. Together these twin ensembles

have created a number of award-winning productions, made in Dundee that tour nationally and internationally; establishing a reputation as one of the UK's leaders in theatre and dance production, carrying the Dundee brand far and wide.

Dundee Rep Ensemble has created a number of award-winning and award-nominated productions, including the world premiere of 'Let the Right One In', 'The Cheviot, The Stag and The Black, Black Oil', the Scottish premiere of Pulitzer Prize-winning 'August: Osage County', and the 80th Anniversary season world premiere of Peter Arnott's 'Tay Bridge'.

Working at the forefront of the art form, Scottish Dance Theatre collaborates with internationally acclaimed choreographers and artists, supports the development of emerging and home-grown talent and promotes a plurality of voices. With more than 30 years of history, the company has developed a distinctive identity that brings together artistic integrity and social commitment, reaching a wide range of audiences and communities locally, nationally and across the world. Scottish Dance Theatre has received multiple awards, including the Critics' Circle National Dance Award for Outstanding Company Repertoire, and has built a strong international profile, becoming Scotland's flagship contemporary dance company.

At the heart of the Dundee Rep and Scottish Dance Theatre vision is the belief that artistic and creative experience of the highest quality should be open and available to all. The Organisation has an extensive engagement programme working with people of all ages both within the building and in formal and informal learning contexts across Scotland and internationally.

Over the course of eight decades, Dundee Rep and Scottish Dance Theatre has been at the heart of performance in Scotland, and grown into a world-class organisation, with two artistic forces based in Dundee, travelling to and reaching the rest of the world.

For more information, please contact The Corner Shop PR Scotland:

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