



**PRESS RELEASE**  
**Friday 8 December 2017**

**JESSICA DRAPER, DANIEL KOK AND NICHOLAI LA BARRIE  
AWARDED EXECUTIVE FELLOWSHIPS WITH LONDON THEATRE  
CONSORTIUM IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE MOBO  
ORGANISATION.**



From left to right: Daniel Kok, Jessica Draper and Nicholai La Barrie. Photo Bronwen Sharp.

The London Theatre Consortium (LTC), in partnership with the MOBO organisation, have appointed a second cohort of three Executive LTC MOBO Fellowships to address the lack of diversity at executive level in UK theatre buildings. The Fellowships begin in January 2018 for a 6-9 month attachment.

The recipients are Jessica Draper, Head of Learning & Engagement, Synergy Theatre Project, Daniel Kok, Arts Producer at Cambridge Junction and Nicholai La Barrie, Director of Young People at Lyric Hammersmith. The fellows will work alongside LTC over a period of





six months, getting access to and demystifying the Executive leadership of these 14 theatres.

The aim of the LTC MOBO Fellowships is to create the capacity for diversity in the leadership pool by supporting mid-career leaders and offering them mentoring, shadowing, access and skill sessions to help provide pathways to break through into Executive leadership.

**Commenting on the initiative Lucy Davies, Executive Producer at the Royal Court Theatre and Chair of LTC states;**

*“All of the LTC theatres are profoundly committed to using our collective power to create opportunity and make change happen. Our first cohort of Fellows in 2016 was a game-changing experiment, and we were all committed to doing it again. This Fellowship process enables us to meet some incredible talent coming through in British theatre. We want Jessica, Daniel and Nicholai to make change with us, as much as we can make change for them.”*

**Kanya King, MBE Founder adds;**

*“As a teenager I started my career working at Tricycle Theatre but didn’t continue as I felt there were limited opportunities and roles to get ahead in theatre for someone from my background. This is why we are proud to partner with LTC to be able to support this fellowship programme to create the change we want to see in Modern Britain.”*

**-ENDS-**

**For more information please contact Anoushka Warden on 0207 565 5063 / [AnoushkaWarden@royalcourttheatre.com](mailto:AnoushkaWarden@royalcourttheatre.com)**

**For images click [here](#)**

**Notes to Editors:**

**London Theatre Consortium (LTC)** is a consortium of London’s major not-for-profit theatres; Almeida Theatre, Battersea Arts Centre, Bush Theatre, Gate Theatre, Donmar Warehouse, Greenwich Theatre, Hampstead Theatre, Lyric Hammersmith, Royal Court Theatre, Soho Theatre, Theatre Royal Stratford East, Tricycle Theatre, Unicorn Theatre and Young Vic.

**MOBO Organisation**

MOBO Organisation, was established in 1996 by Kanya King MBE to motivate, elevate and celebrate the outstanding achievements of artists in under-served musical genres, from soul, RnB and reggae to hip hop, Jazz and gospel and has been a major influencer in elevating afrobeat and grime to the mainstream. Over the years, MOBO Organisation has developed from the highly anticipated annual MOBO





Awards into a pioneering movement encouraging cultural and social responsibility and change. Now an iconic, year-round, agenda-setting global brand, MOBO, successfully champions diversity and inclusion in music and broader cultural arenas. It strives to support emerging and independent talent and has provided an early platform for some of the nation's most-loved artists, from Amy Winehouse, Lady Leshurr, Craig David, Emeli Sande, Naughty boy, Sam Smith, Wiley and Stormzy. MOBO pursues its purpose to create more opportunities and access for diverse talent across the creative industries in film, TV, fashion, art, sport and media. With an ongoing successful talent development programme, a number of Executive Fellowships in the creative workplace and a host of annual training and educational opportunities for young people, MOBO influences the lives of hundreds of thousands of people every year. Since 2016 MOBO have also been proud partners of **NHS Blood and Transplant**, resulting in not only an award winning campaign but also a 60 strong choir who harness the power of music in order to encourage people to save lives through blood donation. The same year also saw the establishment of MOBO charitable foundation **MOBO Trust** set up to support young people realise their potential in a wide range of disciplines within the creative sector. **The MOBO Help Musicians Fund** is the first scheme to be announced by the MOBO Trust, offering grants to support high potential artists at the very start of their careers in music <http://beta.mobo.com/help-musicians-fund>.  
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