

PRESS RELEASE

WEDNESDAY 30 OCTOBER 2019

THE ROYAL COURT THEATRE ANNOUNCES CAST FOR *A KIND OF PEOPLE* WRITTEN BY GURPREET KAUR BHATTI AND DIRECTED BY MICHAEL BUFFONG RUNNING IN THE JERWOOD THEATRE DOWNSTAIRS THURSDAY 5 DECEMBER 2019 – SATURDAY 18 JANUARY 2020



New artwork photo credit: Helen Murray; design credit: Lucy May

Richie Campbell, Thomas Coombes, Claire-Louise Cordwell, Asif Khan, Petra Letang, Amy Morgan and Manjinder Virk have been cast in the world premiere of *A Kind of People* by Gurpreet Kaur Bhatti, directed by Michael Buffong. With design by Anna Fleischle, lighting design by Aideen Malone, sound design by Emma Laxton and fight direction by Kevin McCurdy. *A Kind of People* will be performed in the Royal Court Jerwood Theatre Downstairs from Thursday 5 December 2019 to Saturday 18 January 2020, with press night on Wednesday 11 December 2019, 7pm.



"In this country, you go as far as they let you."

Friday night on the fringes of the city and someone's having a party. It seems like a laugh, but not everyone's having fun.

Gary and Nicky have been together since school. Gary's going for a promotion so he can get his family out of their council flat and give Nicky everything she deserves.

Anjum and Mo are used to aiming for the best. And doing whatever it takes to get it.

Gary's sister Karen is more interested in having a life than fighting for any cause.

Mark is just...always there.

And Victoria, Victoria wants to dance with somebody...

Gurpreet Kaur Bhatti's new play, set amidst a contemporary British community, asks how it's possible to get on when the odds are stacked against you.

"It's a good place. Keep watching and one day it'll be ours."

ENDS-

For more information or images please contact Anoushka Warden on 0207 565 5063 / AnoushkaWarden@royalcourttheatre.com

Notes to Editors:

Press Performance:

7pm Wednesday 11 December 2019	<i>A Kind of People</i> by Gurpreet Kaur Bhatti	Jerwood Theatre Downstairs
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For images including a Gif of the new publicity artwork [click here](#).





Biographies:

Gurpreet Kaur Bhatti (Writer)

For the Royal Court: **Khandan**.

Other theatre includes: **Elephant, Behzti/Dishonour** (Birmingham Rep); **Dishoom!** (Rifco/UK Tour); **Fourteen** (Watford Palace); **Behud/Beyond Belief** (Soho/Belgrade, Coventry); **Behsharam/Shameless** (Soho/Birmingham Rep); **Londoner** (Rich Mix).

Television includes: **Dead Meat**.

Film includes: **Everywhere & Nowhere**.

Radio includes: **Heart of Darkness, Enemy of the People, Mera Des**.

Awards include: **Susan Smith Blackburn Prize** (Behzti).

Michael Buffong (Director)

Theatre includes: **Educating Rita** (Chichester Festival); **Moon on a Rainbow Shawl** (National); **Gods Property** (Talawa/Soho); **One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest** (Curve, Leicester); **Serpents Tooth** (& Talawa), **Crawling in the Dark** (Almeida); **Guys & Dolls, King Lear, All My Sons** (& Talawa), **Private Lives, A Raisin in the Sun, All the Ordinary Angels, Six Degrees of Separation, On My Birthday** (Royal Exchange, Manchester); **To Kill a Mockingbird** (Leeds Playhouse/Birmingham Rep/UK tour); **Little Sweet Thing** (Eclipse/Hampstead/UK tour); **Raising the Roof** (West End); **Long Time No See** (Talawa/Stratford Circus); **Souls** (Theatre Centre); **The Prayer** (Talawa/Young Vic); **Stories from Mean Street** (New End, Hampstead); **Airport 2000** (Leicester Haymarket/Riverside Studios); **Scrape Off the Black** (Theatre Royal, Stratford East).

Television includes: **Holby City, Eastenders, Hollyoaks, Doctors, Casualty, Lunch Monkeys, Placebo, Taking the Flak, Comedy Shuffle**.

Film includes: **Simple!** [short], **Blazed**.

Michael is Artistic Director of Talawa Theatre Company.

Richie Campbell (Gary)

For the Royal Court: **Truth & Reconciliation, 93.2FM**.



Other theatre includes: **They Drink It In the Congo (Almeida); To Kill a Mockingbird (Regent's Park Open Air); Lower Ninth (Donmar); The Ones That Flutter (Theatre503); Monster Under the Bed (Polka); Dirty Butterfly (Young Vic); How to Steal a Diamond (Vox Motus/Tron); 3 Days In July (Soho); Little Sweet Thing (New Wolsey, Ipswich/Playhouse, Nottingham/Birmingham Rep); Cutter (Half Moon/Lyric, Hammersmith); Slam dunk (nitroBEAT); AIDA (Royal Opera House); This Island's Mine (Millfield).**

Television includes: **Small Axe, Liar, Top Boy, Vanity Fair, Death in Paradise, NW, The Frankenstein Chronicles, Eve, Lewis, Walter, Breathless, Waterloo Road, Mid-Morning Matters, Random, Victim, Game Over, The Silence, Minder, Holby City, Coming Up, The Bill, The Rulers, Dealers & Losers, Just the Two of Us, Babyfather, Have a Go Heroes.**

Film includes: **Blue Story, The Mummy, Tango One, The Last Photograph, Anti Social, Montana, Get Lucky, Fast Girls, Sket, Anuvahood, The Firm, Wilderness, The Plague.**

Thomas Coombes (Mark)

Theatre includes: **Blue/Orange (Birmingham Rep); Plastic (Polaroid); King Lear (Royal Exchange, Manchester); The Father (Jagged Fence/West End); Barbarians (Tooting Arts Club/West End); Single Spies (Rose, Kingston); The Merchant of Venice (Globe); Finding Alice (Lyric, Hammersmith); The Life & Adventures of Santa Claus, The Winslow Boy (Palace, Manchester); The Show of the Night (Perennial/Latitude Festival); Mad Kings & Englishmen, A Midsummer Night's Dream (Red Handed); Platform 2A (Miniaturists); Shooting Clouds (Union); Jekyll & Hyde (New Wimbledon).**

Television includes: **Save Me, Small Axe, A Confession, The White House Farm Murders, London Kills, Hatton Garden, Endeavour, Knightfall, Prime Suspect 1973, Silent Witness, Cuffs, Jekyll & Hyde, The Scandalous Lady W, Wallander, Count Arthur Strong, Atlantis, Suspects, The Honourable Woman, Him & Her, Life of Crime, Doctors, The Genius of Turner, EastEnders.**

Film includes: **Summerland, Arcadia, PLAN-Z, Tomoko, Scar Tissue, Screwed, Peter, Morris: A Life with Bells On.**

Awards include: **Off West End Theatre Award for Best Male Performance (Barbarians).**

Claire-Louise Cordwell (Nicky)

For the Royal Court: **Stoning Mary.**

Other theatre includes: **Tale of Two Cities (Regent's Park Open Air); Imogen, The Frontline (Globe); Treasure Island, The Swan, There is a War, Burn/Chatroom/Citizenship (National); The Saints (Nuffield); Carthage (Finborough); Dangerous Lady (Theatre Royal, Stratford East); Beautiful Thing (Royal Exchange, Manchester); Ecstasy (Hampstead/West End); Oleanna (Theatre Royal, York); Orphans (Paines Plough); Othello (Frantic Assembly); Torn (Arcola); Dirty Butterfly (Young Vic); Days of Significance (RSC/Kiln); Compact Failure (Clean Break).**

Television includes: **Bodyguard, Beowulf, Line of Duty, The Honourable Woman, Holby City, Call the Midwife, Casualty, Doctors, The Bill, Law & Order, Day of the Triffids, Eastenders, Trial & Retribution, Jane Hall's Big Bad Bus Ride, Bad Girls.**

Film includes: **Snow in Paradise, Stuart: A Life Backwards, The Curry Club.**

Radio includes: **The Gift, Home Front.**

Asif Khan (Mo)

As performer, theatre includes: **When the Crows Visit, Handbagged (& UK tour), Multitudes (Kiln); Tartuffe (RSC); Love Bombs & Apples (Arcola/UK & US tour); The Hypocrite (& RSC), Queen of the Nile (Hull Truck); A Passage to India (Park/Simple8); Snookered (Tamasha/Bush); Twelfth Night (National); Mixed Up North (Out of Joint).**

As writer, theatre includes: **Combustion (Tara Arts/Arcola); Imaam Imraan (NYT).**

As performer, television includes: **Diana & I.**

Awards include: **Laurence Olivier Bursary Award.**





Petra Letang (Karen)

For the Royal Court: **Truth & Reconciliation, Escobar Estate, Fallout, Breath Boom, Rough Road to Survival.**

Other theatre includes: **Soul (Royal & Derngate, Northampton); Pandora's Box (Arcola); Every Coin (Synergy); Come & Gone, Generations of the Dead (Young Vic); My Wonderful Day (59E59); Baby Girl/The Miracle, The President of an Empty Room (National); Funny Black Women on the Edge (Hackney Empire); The Weave, Badnuff (Soho); How Love is Spelt (Bush); Beautiful Thing (Playhouse, Nottingham); Mules (Clean Break); Local Boy (Hampstead).**

Amy Morgan (Victoria)

Theatre includes: **Noises Off (Lyric, Hammersmith); Exit the King, The Beaux' Stratagem (National); Travesties, Red Velvet, Hay Fever (West End); Touch (Soho); The Broken Heart (Globe); Once a Catholic (Kiln/Royal Court, Liverpool); An Ideal Husband (Chichester Festival); Trelawny of the Wells, Inadmissible Evidence (Donmar); A Christmas Carol (Royal Festival Hall); The Country Wife (Royal Exchange, Manchester); The Taming of the Shrew, Blackthorn, To Kill a Mockingbird, Flora's War (Theatr Clwyd); The Spies in Room 502 (Latitude Festival); Last Train Home (Old Vic: 24 Hour Plays); Deepcut (Sherman).**

Television includes: **The Cure, Breeders, Lee & Dean, True Horror, The Green Hollow, Drifters, Mr Selfridge, The Great War, Live at the Electric, Love Matters, Father Brown, Holby City, Baker Boys, Crash, The Royal.**

Film includes: **Careful How You Go, Pan, A Way of Life.**

Manjinder Virk (Anjum)

For the Royal Court: **Bodies, Free Outgoing, Workers Writes.**

Other theatre includes: **Dance Nation (Almeida); Redcrosse (RSC/Coventry Cathedral); Unsuitable Girls (& Pilot), Autobiography of a Face (Lyric, Hammersmith); Bill Shakespeare's Italian Job (Gilded Balloon); Come Out Eli (Recorded Delivery); Wintersun (Haymarket, Leicester); The Millennium Mysteries (& Teatro Biuro), A Midsummer Night's Dream (Belgrade, Coventry); Sleeping Beauty (London Bubble).**

Television includes: **Moving On, Breeders, Sick of It, Trust Me, Bad Move, Midsomer Murders, Ordinary Lies, Brilliantman!, Call the Midwife, The Thick of It, Hunted, Monroe, Skins, Runaway, At Night Pilot, Britz, Bradford Riots, Ghost Squad, Child of Mine, The Bill, Swiss Toni, Doctors, Green Wing, Trial By Jury.**

Film includes: **Out of Darkness [short], With Love from Calais [short], Kaleidoscope, The Sense of an Ending, History's Future, The Arbor, The Blue Tower, Ready When You Are, Mr. McGill.**

Radio includes: **The Dark Tower, Memsahib Emma, From Fact to Fiction, The Man Who Wore Sanitary Pads, Baby Powder & Perfume, Gone, How Now TV, London Calling, Rudolpho's Zest, London Europe, Tonight I Write, Ramayana.**

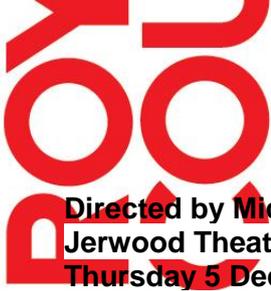
Manjinder was chosen to be a part of the BAFTA Elevate Scheme for Actors 2019/2020.

Listings Information:

A Kind of People

Written by Gurpreet Kaur Bhatti





Directed by Michael Buffong

Jerwood Theatre Downstairs, Royal Court Theatre, Sloane Square, SW1W 8AS

Thursday 5 December 2019 – Saturday 18 January 2020

Monday – Saturday 7.30pm

Thursday & Saturday matinees 2.30pm (from Saturday 14 December)

Captioned Performances Wednesdays 8 & 15 January 2020

Audio Described Matinee Saturday 18 January 2020, Touch Tour 1pm

Relaxed Environment Performance Saturday 11 January 2020, 2:30pm

Press Performance Wednesday 11 December 2019, 7pm

The Big Idea: In Conversation with Gurpreet Kaur Bhatti Tuesday 7 January 2020 post-show

Standard Tickets £12-£49 (Mondays all seats £12 available from 9am online on the day of performance)

First Look Tickets**

Concessions* £5 off Band A – C seats for previews and matinees

Under 26s***

Access £15 (plus a companion at the same rate)

*ID required. All discounts subject to availability.

