



## PRESS RELEASE

Thursday 12 November 2020

### **NEW MULTIMEDIA PLAY, INVISIBLE SUMMER, FROM PLAYWRIGHT EVE LEIGH AND DIRECTOR RACHEL BAGSHAW AVAILABLE VIA THE ROYAL COURT THEATRE NEWSLETTER LATER THIS MONTH**

*Invisible Summer* is a multimedia play for your inbox from Eve Leigh, Rachel Bagshaw and the artists who created *Midnight Movie* which premiered at the Royal Court Theatre in November 2019.

Part late night scary story, part call to arms, it's about how to get through the pandemic.

*Are you reading this late at night?*

*You are flying out over the fields. You leave them behind. The land is indistinct, furred and dark. The channels of water, the ditches and rivers have the subtle glimmer of snakes.*

Commenting on the project Playwright Eve Leigh says;

*"The year since *Midnight Movie* came out has proved beyond a doubt that theatre needs to reach beyond its existing boundaries and engage new audiences who may be unable to venture into theatre spaces, and we are proud to be working once again with the Royal Court to do just that."*

Director Rachel Bagshaw added;

*"Almost exactly a year after we made *Midnight Movie* together, it is thrilling to be reunited with Eve and the creative team to make theatre in a new form, for a new age. In a time when disabled people have become less visible due to the pandemic, it is ever more important for our work to be available to audiences and for our stories to be heard. "*

*Invisible Summer* is designed so that each audience member, depending on their mode of communication, receives a different theatrical experience. It creatively combines written text, Spoken English, BSL, captioning, and audio description. It has been designed with audiences with visual impairments, and D/deaf audiences who use BSL, and D/deaf audiences who read captions, in mind.

Sign up for free to the Royal Court Theatre newsletter before Sunday 29 November 2020, and *Invisible Summer* will be delivered to your inbox on Monday 30 November 2020, piece by piece, night by night. Some of the fun kind of fear, for the long dark nights to come.

*You meet your bones in all different types of ways.*

*This is one of them.*

*Invisible Summer* is supported using public funding by the National Lottery through Arts Council England.

Sign Up here <https://royalcourttheatre.com/invisible-summer/>

**ENDS-**

**For more information or images please contact Anoushka Warden on [AnoushkaWarden@royalcourttheatre.com](mailto:AnoushkaWarden@royalcourttheatre.com)**

**Notes to Editors:**

**The Team**

Written by Eve Leigh

Directed by Rachel Bagshaw

Design by Cécile Trémolières

Video Design by Sarah Readman

Performances by Nwando Ebizie , Nadia Nadarajah & Tom Penn

Music by Nwando Ebizie & Tom Penn

Movement direction by Jennifer Jackson

Company Management by Catt Padgham

Produced by Rosie Scudder

BSL Translation by Brian Duffy

Access Consultation by Michael Achtman

**Biographies:**

**Eve Leigh** (Writer)

For the Royal Court: **Midnight Movie, Spooky Action at a Distance (& RWCMD).**

Other theatre includes: **The Trick (Bush/HighTide/UK tour); Movimento/Variations (36 маймуни/Bulgarian National Theatre Festival); The Curtain (Taking Part, Young Vic); Your Future (HAU/Sophiensaele/Ballhaus Ost/Camden People's); Stone Face, Silent Planet (Finborough).**

**Rachel Bagshaw** (Director)

For the Royal Court: **Midnight Movie.**

Other theatre includes: **Aesop's Fables (Unicorn); Augmented (Sophie Woolley/Pulse Festival); The Shape of the Pain [co-writer] (China Plate); Icons (WOW Festival, Hull); Resonance at the Still Point of Change (Unlimited Festival, Southbank); The Rhinestone Rollers, Just Me, Bell (Graeae); Not Not Not Not Not Enough Oxygen (Cockpit).**

Awards include: **Fringe First Award (The Shape of the Pain).**

**Rachel is Associate Director at the Unicorn Theatre and was Resident Assistant Director at the Young Vic 2010-11. She has directed extensively for drama schools and participatory projects, including *A Midsummer Night's Dream* for RADA and *Hamlet* for the Young Vic.**

**Nwando Ebizie** (Cast)

For the Royal Court, as sound designer: **Midnight Movie.**

As composer, live events include: **The Birth of Venus - Juice Vocal Ensemble, Hildegard: Visions [ & performer] (Kings Place).**

As performer, live events include: **Lady Vendredi: Neon Dream (Bounce Festival/Latitude Festival/Oram Awards/Albany/UK tour); Lady Vendredi: All the Right Notes (Camden People's); The Passion of Lady Vendredi (Soho/Rich Mix); Kondi Band Salone Albume (European tour).**

As curator, live events include: **Distorted Constellations (Waltham Forest Borough of Culture/Brighton Festival/Push Festival); Crystal Opening (Site Gallery, Sheffield); Your Reality is Broken Festival (Guest Projects).**

Awards include: **Oram Award Special Commendation; Steve Reid Innovation Award; Cultural Olympiad Award; British Council Emerging Artist Award.**

**Nwando is a musician, producer, dancer, DJ and performance artist. She has composed music for numerous artists and live events as well as performing DJ sets across the UK. As Lady Vendredi, she performed tracks including 'What Time is It?' and 'Battle Cry' for feature film *Been So Long*. She was previously Musician-in-Residence for the British Council in Brazil and was made a South West Creative Technology Network Fellow in Immersion.**

#### **Nadia Nadarajah (Cast)**

For the Royal Court: **Midnight Movie.**

Other theatre includes: **As You Like It, Hamlet, A Midsummer Night's Dream, Love's Labour's Lost (Globe); Going Through (Bush); A Christmas Carol, Deafhood (Bristol Old Vic); Our Town, The House of Bernarda Alba (Royal Exchange, Manchester); Untouchable (RADA Festival); Can I Start Again Please, Windibops (UK tour); Notre Dame (National); Grounded (& Park), Tanika's Journey, Invisible (Deafinitely); Tyrannosaurus Drip (Stratford Circus); Girls & Dolls (Southwark); I Believe in Unicorns (Brighton Festival); We're Going on a Bear Hunt (Little Angel).**

Television includes: **Dot's Legacy, The Hub, Snapshot: Dicing with Sex, Wicked.**

Film includes: **Night Deviant, Sonnet 30, All Day.**

#### **Tom Penn (Cast)**

For the Royal Court: **Midnight Movie.**

Other theatre includes: **Orpheus (Little Bulb); Snow White & Rose Red, The Ugly Sisters (RashDash); Fairy Portal Camp (Slung Low/RSC); Undersong (Verity Standen); How To Win Against History (Ovalhouse); A Super Happy Story About Feeling Super Sad (UK tour); Neverland, Songs For The End of The World, The Archivists, Kick (BAC); Weighting (Extraordinary Bodies); Dolce Napoli (Charles Castronovo/King's Head); Love's Labour's Lost (Deafinitely/Globe); Thumbelina, A Merry Little Christmas, Romeo & Juliet, Vertigo, The Lamplighter's Lament (Cambridge Junction); Some Things Are Lost (Forest Fringe/Gate).**

Television includes: **Cbeebies' The Nutcracker, Songs of Praise, Little Red Things.**