

(BST) FRIDAY 9 APRIL 2021

Press Release

DONMAR WAREHOUSE ANNOUNCES WEST END REVIVAL OF *CONSTELLATIONS* WITH MULTIPLE CASTS, EXPERIMENTAL DIGITAL PROJECT *ADULT CHILDREN*, *BLINDNESS* UK TOUR, AND STREAMING OF LOCAL PRODUCTION *ASSEMBLY* WHILST VENUE UNDERGOES REFURBISHMENT

- Donmar Warehouse Artistic Director **Michael Longhurst** will revive his acclaimed Royal Court, West End and Broadway production of **Nick Payne's *CONSTELLATIONS*** which will run at the West End's **Vaudeville Theatre** from **18 June – 12 September 2021**.
- In an innovative producing model, devised in response to the pandemic, four brand new casts will take turns to journey through the multiverse exploring the infinite possibilities of a relationship; each refracting the play afresh. The couples are **Sheila Atim** and **Ivanno Jeremiah** (18 June – 1 August) **Peter Capaldi** and **Zoë Wanamaker** (23 June - 24 July), **Omari Douglas** and **Russell Tovey** (30 July - 11 September), and **Anna Maxwell Martin** and **Chris O'Dowd** (6 August - 12 September). The production will run in accordance with the latest UK government social distancing guidelines.
- ***CONSTELLATIONS***, co-produced with Wessex Grove and Eleanor Lloyd Productions, will take place at the Vaudeville while the Donmar Warehouse building remains closed until September 2021.
- The Donmar is currently undertaking a series of essential building works at its Earlham street home to replace key infrastructure within the venue, including the lift, plant, ventilation and air-flow which are either obsolete or require major modernisation. In addition, the works will significantly improve the accessibility of the Donmar through the installation of a street level ramp, automated front doors and more open and inclusive front of house spaces.
- While its physical space is closed for essential building works, Donmar Associate **Sacha Wares'** new company **Trial & Error**, together with writer **Ella Hickson** and **ScanLAB Projects**, are creating a performance titled ***ADULT CHILDREN*** in a digital replica of the Donmar auditorium. To stage this poignant, short play, the theatre environment, locations and over fifty performers and audience members are all being separately captured using 3D scanning techniques. ***ADULT CHILDREN*** will be available from May.
- The Donmar also today announces a UK tour of ***BLINDNESS*** in 2021. Following its sell-out run as one of the first UK venues to reopen in summer 2020, **Simon Stephens'** acclaimed sound installation ***BLINDNESS***, based on the novel by **José Saramago**, directed by **Walter Meierjohann** with the voice of **Juliet Stevenson**, has transferred to New York (where it is currently playing at the Daryl Roth Theatre), The Netherlands, Mexico (voiced in Spanish by Marina De Tavira), New Zealand and Hong Kong. Next, UK audiences will be able to experience ***BLINDNESS*** presented at the Oxford Playhouse, Lawrence Batley Theatre, Theatr Clwyd, Yvonne Arnaud, Festival Theatre Edinburgh, Eden Court and Poole Lighthouse between **28 May – 17 July 2021**.
- Following a successful live broadcast, the Donmar Local Company's inaugural production ***ASSEMBLY***, written by **Nina Segal** and directed by **Joseph Hancock**, is now available to view on the Donmar Warehouse's YouTube channel for another 3 weeks until **25 April 2021**. This

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innovative production brought together live performance, animation and sound, and was streamed live from multiple locations across the UK, with over 6500 views to-date.

- As part of the Donmar's commitment to accessible ticket prices, over **500** free tickets for **CONSTELLATIONS** will be available for audiences aged under 26 as part of the Donmar's **YOUNG+FREE** scheme, generously supported by **IHS Markit**. In addition, **5000** tickets priced at **£20** will be available across the run.
- The Donmar remains committed to access across all of its work: **BLINDNESS** UK tour will be accompanied with audio described and captioned (in venue and at home) options following the success of the Donmar run, **ADULT CHILDREN** will have captioning and Audio Introduction by Vocaleyes, and each **CONSTELLATIONS** cast will have an audio described and captioned performance.
- Within the Constellations production team, the Donmar will be supporting six creative assistant roles, who will collaborate with and be mentored by the creative team throughout the process, as part of the Donmar's commitment to supporting artists from backgrounds currently underrepresented at the Donmar and within the wider theatre industry.

Speaking about artistic projects for summer 2021, Artistic Director Michael Longhurst said:

"We are delighted to have been able to utilise this period of closure for vital building work. In the meantime, I am proud that international transfers, national touring, digital innovation through new collaborations, a community production and a West End revival with a twist, mean we will continue to engage audiences and artists during this time. Reviving Constellations with four brilliant casts in rep – varying the age, ethnicity, sexuality and nationality of the lovers - feels like a thrilling way to help reanimate the West End, offering audiences multiple new interpretations of this life-affirming play about choice. I am so grateful to this astonishing company of actors who have united to celebrate the possibilities of the multiverse and the joy of live performance. We are also putting the finishing touches to our reopening season, which we will be sharing soon, and can't wait to welcome audiences back to our improved theatre on Earlham Street in September."

Speaking about the Donmar's refurbishment project, Executive Director Henny Finch said:

"In March last year we made the necessary decision to halt a long-planned refurbishment of our Covent Garden home in the face of the Covid-19 closure, in order to focus on stabilising the organisation and supporting staff and freelancers. We spent time refining the scope of the original project to address the most critical issues, and now, thanks to our generous supporters including the Wolfson Foundation, Garfield Weston Foundation, Foyle Foundation, The McLain Foundation, IHS Markit and Backstage Trust, we are delighted to announce this smaller but no less impactful capital programme which is due to be completed in the summer of 2021. This work will leave the Donmar more welcoming, more accessible, with state of the art ventilation, more spacious bars and more environmentally sustainable. Our RESTART fundraising appeal will be launched to support both the building works and the Donmar's programme of activities taking place ahead of reopening, and will include the opportunity to name seats in the refurbished auditorium."

STRICTLY EMBARGOED FOR BROADCAST, ON SOCIAL MEDIA, ONLINE AND IN PRINT UNTIL 10AM

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DONMAR WAREHOUSE SUMMER 2021

Donmar Warehouse, Wessex Grove and Eleanor Lloyd Productions
Eilene Davidson, Gavin Kalin Productions, Grand Cru Consulting Ltd, Rupert Gavin/Mallory Factor
In association with Nica Burns for Nimax present
The Royal Court Theatre Production of

CONSTELLATIONS

by **Nick Payne**

Vaudeville Theatre, from **18 June – 12 September 2021**

Press Performances:

Thursday 1 July 2021 at 3pm (Sheila Atim and Ivanno Jeremiah) and 7pm (Peter Capaldi and Zoë Wanamaker)

Thursday 12 August 2021 at 3pm (Omari Douglas and Russell Tovey) and 7pm (Anna Maxwell Martin and Chris O'Dowd)

Directed by **Michael Longhurst**

Designed by **Tom Scutt**

Lighting Design by **Lee Curran**

Sound Design by **David McSeveney**

Music by **Simon Slater**

Movement direction by **Lucy Cullingford**

Casting by **Anna Cooper CDG for the Donmar Warehouse**

BSL Consultancy by **Daryl Jackson**

Associate Director **Debbie Hannan**

Resident Assistant directors **Sara Aniqah Malik and Robert Awosusi**

Resident Assistant designer **Laura Ann Price**

Assistant designer **Sarah Asmail**

Cast:

Sheila Atim and Ivanno Jeremiah (18 June - 1 August)

Peter Capaldi and Zoë Wanamaker (23 June - 24 July)

Omari Douglas and Russell Tovey (30 July - 11 September)

Anna Maxwell Martin and Chris O'Dowd (6 August - 12 September)

Donmar Members Priority Booking:

Steel and Copper members from **10am** on **Tuesday 13 April 2021**

Friends from **9am** (online) and **10am** (telephone) on **Wednesday 14 April 2021**

Public Booking:

From **9am** (online) and **10am** (telephone) on **Friday 16 April 2021**

Vaudeville Theatre Box Office 0330 333 4814

www.nimaxtheatres.com

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Four new casts. One relationship. Infinite Possibilities*'One drink. And if you never want to see me again you never have to see me again.'*

A quantum physicist and a beekeeper meet at a barbeque. They hit it off, or perhaps they don't. They go home together, or maybe they go their separate ways. In the multiverse, with every possible future ahead of them, a love of honey could make all the difference.

This summer **Nick Payne's** beautiful and heartbreaking romance ***Constellations*** is revived in the West End with a twist: four different casts take turns to journey through the multiverse exploring the infinite possibilities of a relationship; each refracting the play afresh. Starring **Sheila Atim** and **Ivanno Jeremiah** (18 June - 1 August), **Peter Capaldi** and **Zoë Wanamaker** (23 June - 24 July), **Omari Douglas** and **Russell Tovey** (30 July - 11 September), and **Anna Maxwell Martin** and **Chris O'Dowd** (6 August - 12 September).

Donmar Warehouse Artistic Director Michael Longhurst returns to direct his West End and Broadway hit.

Winner of the Evening Standard Award for Best Play and WhatsOnStage Award for Best Design.

Nick Payne (Writer)

Nick is a playwright and screenwriter.

Michael Longhurst (Director)

Michael became Artistic Director of the Donmar in 2019, launching his tenure with a revival of David Greig's timely early play *Europe*. Shuttered by the pandemic, his celebrated Chichester Festival Theatre revival of *Caroline, or Change* by Tony Kushner and Jeanine Tesori will run on Broadway at Studio54 when theatres reopen, with Sharon D. Clarke reprising her Olivier Award-winning performance. Previously, Michael's Royal Court production of Nick Payne's *Constellations* transferred to the West End (starring Sally Hawkins and Rafe Spall), Broadway (starring Jake Gyllenhaal and Ruth Wilson) and toured the UK (starring Lou Brealey and Joe Armstrong) garnering Olivier and Tony nominations for its actors; winning the Evening Standard Award for Best Play, The WhatsOnStage Award for Best Design and the Manchester Theatre Award for Best Visiting Production. Michael also directed Gyllenhaal in his American stage debut at the Roundabout Theatre in Nick Payne's *If There Is I Haven't Found It Yet*.

Other theatre includes: *Midnight Your Time*, *Teenage Dick*, *Belleville* (Donmar), *Amadeus* (with orchestral accompaniment from the Southbank Sinfonia, National Theatre Olivier & NTatHome), *The Son* (Kiln and West End), *Gloria* (Hampstead Theatre), *Bad Jews* (West End, Theatre Royal Bath & UK tour), *They Drink It In The Congo* and *Carmen Disruption* (Almeida Theatre), *'Tis Pity She's A Whore* and *The Winter's Tale* (Sam Wanamaker Playhouse, Shakespeare's Globe), *Linda*, *The Art of Dying*, *Remembrance Day* (Royal Court), *A Number* (Nuffield & Young Vic), *Cannibals* (Royal Exchange, Manchester), *The History Boys* (Sheffield Crucible), *Dealer's Choice* (Royal & Derngate), *The World Of Extreme Happiness* (NT Shed), *Stovepipe* (site-specific promenade with the National Theatre, HighTide & Bush Theatre, Sunday Times' Top Ten Theatre Events of the Decade), *Midnight Your Time* (HighTide), *On The Beach* (Bush Theatre), *On The Record* and *Gaudeamus* (Arcola), *dirty butterfly* (Young Vic, winner of the Jerwood Directors Award), *Guardians* (Pleasance & Theatre503, Fringe First Award). Michael trained in directing at Mountview after reading Philosophy at Nottingham University.

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Sheila Atim

Sheila Atim MBE has garnered a host of accolades and awards that belie the fact she's a relative newcomer to the industry.

This year sees Sheila take on the role of 'Mabel' in Barry Jenkins' *The Underground Railroad* on Amazon Prime, star alongside Halle Berry in Berry's directorial debut, *Bruised*, and as a guest lead in Netflix's new British crime drama series *The Irregulars*. Sheila plays series regular 'Limehouse Nell' in Hulu's *Harlots*. Other TV credits include *The Pale Horse*, *The Feed* and *Bounty Hunters*.

In 2018, Sheila won the Olivier Award for Best Supporting Actress in a Musical, for her performance as 'Marianne Laine' in *Girl From The North Country* at the Old Vic Theatre. She received rave reviews as 'Emilia', acting alongside Mark Rylance and Andre Holland in *Othello* at Shakespeare's Globe Theatre, London and has performed with the Royal Shakespeare Company, at the Donmar Warehouse and the National Theatre.

As well as her Olivier Award, Sheila has won the Critics' Circle Award, The Clarence Derwent Award and was nominated at the Evening Standard Awards. Sheila's debut play, *Anguis*, premiered at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival in 2019. That same year, Sheila composed the music for *Time is Love*, Che Walker's production at the Finborough Theatre.

Ivanno Jeremiah

Ivanno Jeremiah is a British-Ugandan actor and writer who has appeared in a range of theatre, films and television.

His theatre credits include *The Suit*, Peter Brook's Théâtre des Bouffes du Nord Tour; *The Convert* (Young Vic), *Truth and Reconciliation* (Royal Court), *A Soldier's Tale* (City of London Sinfonia), *Measure for Measure* (Young Vic), *The Nether* (Royal Court), *Julius Caesar* (RSC). His television credits include *A Discovery of Witches*, *Cold Feet*, *Counterpart*, *Humans*, *Doctor Who*, *Black Mirror: Shut Up and Dance*, *The Jury*, *Injustice*, *Enterprice* and *The Hollow Crown*. He has also appeared in films including *The Flood*, *The Veteran*, *No More Wings* and *Bees Make Honey*.

Peter Capaldi

Peter Capaldi played the Twelfth doctor in *Doctor Who*, and ferocious spin doctor Malcolm Tucker in four series of *The Thick of It* (for which he won a BAFTA) and film spin off *In the Loop*. He played Mr Micawber in Armando Iannucci's *David Copperfield* last year and will be seen later this year in James Gunn's *The Suicide Squad* and Terence Davies' biography of Siegfried Sassoon, *Benediction*. As a director and writer he won an Oscar and BAFTA for his short film *Franz Kafka's It's a Wonderful Life*, and directed the first two series of BAFTA award winning comedy *Getting On*. He also wrote and directed Bafta nominated *The Cricklewood Greats*.

Zoë Wanamaker

Zoë Wanamaker CBE is an American-born British actress who has worked extensively on stage and screen. A nine-time Olivier Award nominee, she won for *Once in a Lifetime* and *Electra*. She has also received four Tony Award nominations for her work on Broadway; for *Piaf*, *Loot*, *Electra*, and *Awake and Sing!*.

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Wanamaker's film appearances include *Wilde*, *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone*, and *My Week with Marilyn*. She was twice nominated for the BAFTA TV Award for Best Actress, for *Prime Suspect* and *Love Hurts*, and starred as Susan Harper in the long-running sitcom *My Family*. She has also appeared in the ITV dramas Agatha Christie's *Poirot*, *Mr Selfridge*, and *Girlfriends*.

Omari Douglas

Rising star Omari Douglas was most recently seen in multi-BAFTA-winning writer, Russell T Davies' 5-part series for Channel 4/HBO Max, *It's A Sin*. The series has already had 18.9 million views on All 4, making it the streaming service's biggest ever instant box set, third biggest series to date and most binged new series ever.

Omari trained at the Arts Educational Schools in London, graduating in 2015. His theatre credits include *Rush* (King's Head Theatre), *Peter Pan* and *Jesus Christ Superstar* (Regent's Park Open Air Theatre), Clarke Peters' *Five Guys Named Moe* (Marble Arch Theatre), Kneehigh's *Tristan & Yseult* (Shakespeare's Globe), *The Life* (Southwark Playhouse), *Annie Get Your Gun* (Sheffield Crucible) and *High Society* at The Old Vic. Omari returned to The Old Vic to perform in Emma Rice's adaptation of *Wise Children*, the inaugural production for her new company of the same name. The production then toured several cities around the UK. Omari was due to reprise his role in *Rush* at London's Trafalgar Studios in June. However, due to Covid-19, the West End run has been postponed. Instead, an exclusive first reading of the script was streamed online.

Russell Tovey

Award winning actor Russell Tovey can recently be seen as a leading role in ITV/Hulu drama series *The Sister*. He was nominated for a 2020 Critics' Choice Award for best supporting actor for his role in Russell T. Davies' critically acclaimed BBC/HBO Drama series *Years and Years*. He can also be seen in *The Good Liar* for Warner Bros, ITV/PBS drama series *Flesh and Blood* and he has recently completed filming on Sony's Screen Gems romantic drama *Text For You*. Russell also co-hosts art podcast, *Talk Art*, interviewing leading artists, curators, gallerists and celebrities. *Talk Art* will be releasing a book this May.

Other film and television credits include: *Pride*, *The Pass*, *The Lady in the Van*, *The History Boys*, *Looking*, *Legends of Tomorrow*, *The Flash*, *Being Human*, *Him and Her*, *The Job Lot*, *Sherlock*, *Quantico* and *Doctor Who*. Noteworthy stage credits include *Pinter at the Pinter: The Lover/The Collection* (Harold Pinter Theatre), *Angels In America*, *His Dark Materials*, *His Girl Friday*, *Henry V*, *Howard Katz* (National Theatre), *A View From The Bridge* (Lyceum Theatre, Broadway), *The History Boys* (National Theatre/Broadhurst Theatre, Broadway), *The Pass*, *A Miracle*, *Plasticine* (Royal Court) and *A Respectable Wedding* (Young Vic).

Anna Maxwell Martin

Anna's prolific career has earned her two BAFTAS (Best Actress, 2006 for *Bleak House* and Best Actress 2009 for *Poppy Shakespeare*) and a further 3 nominations. Anna's extensive work in theatre includes roles such as; Lyra Belacqua in the original 2003 National Theatre production of *His Dark Materials* (dir. Nicholas Hytner), Sally Bowles in Rufus Norris' production of *Cabaret* (The Lyric), Isabella in *Measure for Measure* (dir. Michael Attenborough) at (The Almeida), Lady Macbeth in Carrie Cracknell's production of *Macbeth* (Young Vic), Irina in Katie Mitchell's *Three Sisters* (National Theatre) and most recently the role of Kitty in *Consent* directed by Roger Michell (National Theatre). Anna's last performance at the Donmar Warehouse was as Alexandra in *The Little Foxes* directed by Marianne Elliot. Some of her best-known TV credits include *North and South*, *The Bletchley Circle*, *Death Comes to Pemberley*, *Midwinter of the Spirit*, the BAFTA award winning *White Girl*,

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Mother's Day and series 1, 2 and 3 of *Motherland*. Most recently Anna can be seen in series 5 of *Line of Duty* as DCS Patricia Carmichael and as Beelzebub in Neil Gaiman's *Good Omens*. Anna's work last year includes feature film *The Personal History of David Copperfield*, *Code 404*, *The Duke* and Netflix series *The Irregulars*.

Chris O'Dowd

Chris O'Dowd is a Tony Award nominated and Emmy winning Irish actor who has built an international reputation as a versatile film, television and theatre actor. For theatre, in 2014 he played Lennie in John Steinbeck's *Of Mice and Men* opposite James Franco on Broadway, and was nominated for a Tony. On screen, Chris has starred in the series *Get Shorty*, Nick Hornby's *State of the Union*, which won him an Emmy for Best Actor, *Bridesmaids*, for which he won the Irish Film & TV Award for 'Best Supporting Actor – Film'. His other film credits include Judd Apatow's *This is 40*, *Friends With Kids*, *Dinner For Schmucks*, *Gulliver's Travels*, *Fox*, *The Boat That Rocked*, *Frequently Asked Questions About Time Travel*, *Calvary*, *St. Vincent*, Marvel Production's *Thor: The Dark World*, *Cuban Fury* and *Festival*.

On television, Chris is well known for his roles in the cult comedy series *The IT Crowd*, Lena Dunham's *Girls*, Christopher Guest's *Family Tree*, *Crimson Petal* and *The White* and the Emmy Award winning semiautobiographical comedy *Moone Boy* which Chris wrote, directed, and starred in. His next film *The Starling* sees him reunited with Ted Melfi and Melissa McCarthy and will be released later this year by Netflix. He is currently filming *Slumberland* for Netflix.

The Royal Court Theatre

The Royal Court Theatre is the writers' theatre. It is a leading force in world theatre for cultivating and supporting writers - undiscovered, emerging and established. Since 1956, we have commissioned and produced hundreds of writers, from John Osborne to Jasmine Lee-Jones. Royal Court plays from every decade are now performed on stage and taught in classrooms and universities across the globe.

Through the writers, the Royal Court is at the forefront of creating restless, alert, provocative theatre about now. We open our doors to the unheard voices and free thinkers that, through their writing, change our way of seeing. Through all our work we strive to inspire audiences and influence future writers with radical thinking and provocative discussion.

Donmar Local Company

ASSEMBLY

The Donmar Warehouse is delighted to announce that its first Local production **ASSEMBLY**, reimagined as an innovative digital performance broadcast live on the Donmar Warehouse YouTube channel is now available to watch online until 25 April.

Mixing live performance, animation and sound, **ASSEMBLY** looks at the impact of humans on nature and what we might build together for a better future. It's about trying, failing, and trying again. In times of emergency, it is about hope.

Created by writer **Nina Segal**, director **Joseph Hancock** and the **Donmar Local Company**, **ASSEMBLY** is a unique live digital performance created in collaboration with video designer and director of photography **Andrzej Goulding**, set and costume designer **Frankie Bradshaw**, composer and sound designer **Max Pappenheim** and lighting designer **Sam House**. This is the first production from the

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Donmar Local Company - members of the community who live and work in the Donmar's home boroughs of Camden and Westminster.

Watch *ASSEMBLY* at youtube.com/donmarwarehouse

Donmar Warehouse, in association with English Touring Theatre, ScanLAB Projects and Trial and Error Studio presents

ADULT CHILDREN

While our physical space is closed for essential works, Donmar Associate Sacha Wares' new company Trial & Error, together with writer Ella Hickson and ScanLAB Projects, are creating a performance in a digital replica of the Donmar auditorium.

Charting the emotional journey of a year, *ADULT CHILDREN* records the complex fragility of relationships in a time of social distance, exploring the shifting needs between families and friends, young people and old, performers and audiences and between ourselves and the strangers we were asked to protect.

To stage this poignant, short play, the theatre environment, locations and over fifty performers and audience members are all being separately captured using 3D scanning techniques.

ADULT CHILDREN will be available from May.

ADULT CHILDREN is a co-creation between Ella Hickson, Sacha Wares and ScanLAB Projects, with spatialised sound by Gareth Fry, original music by Adrian Lee, movement by Leon Baugh, costumes by Kinnetia Isidore and lighting consultancy by Prema Mehta.

Developed for the Donmar by Trial & Error, Ella Hickson and ScanLAB Projects from [Layer], an original podcast commission by ETT & Storyglass for their upcoming series "That Podcast".

Ella Hickson (Co-Creator and Writer)

Ella Hickson is an award-winning playwright whose work has been performed throughout the UK and abroad. Her recent play *Anna*, a sonic collaboration with Ben and Max Ringham, opened at the National Theatre in spring, 2019. Other theatre includes: *Swive* (Shakespeare's Globe), *The Writer* and *Oil* (Almeida), and *Wendy and Peter Pan* (Royal Shakespeare Company). She is a member of the Royal Society of Literature, a MacDowell Fellow and recipient of The Catherine Johnson Award. She is developing new work with The Old Vic, Tim Minchin and The National Theatre, and television projects with Kudos Productions and Warp Films.

Sacha Wares (Co-Creator and Director)

Sacha Wares is founder of Trial & Error, a new creative studio committed to evolving the dramatic form in response to changing times. She is an associate artist at the Donmar theatre, innovation associate at ETT and associate director at the NT's Immersive Story Telling Studio. Previous theatre directing work includes *Sucker Punch*, *My Child* and *Random* (Royal Court Theatre); *Game* and *Boy* (Almeida); *Generations* and *Wild Swans* (Young Vic). She was a recipient of a Creative XR grant from Digital Catapult in 2020. Sacha is currently leading Future Forms at the Donmar Warehouse: a course for 16 playwrights from across the UK, exploring the future implications of new technologies for society and storytelling.

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Matthew Shaw (Co-Creator)

Matthew Shaw is co-founder of ScanLAB Projects, a pioneering creative practice. We digitise the world, transforming temporary moments and spaces into compelling permanent experiences, images and film. We use our craft as a way to bear witness to the world - collaborating with broadcasters, writers and scientists on evocative and meaningful stories. We've documented former concentration camps, studied melting Arctic Ice, told the dreams of driverless vehicles and even discovered new Mayan temples in the Guatemalan rainforest.

English Touring Theatre

English Touring Theatre are a UK based international touring company which creates productions of outstanding quality, imagination and ambition; work which interrogates and celebrates contemporary England and reflects the diversity of our nation. ETT make theatre that is imaginative, responsive and alive: sparking dialogue and fostering connectivity.

Cast:**Prisca Bakare (B)**

Adult Children is Prisca's first production with the Donmar Warehouse. Prisca is an English actress of Malagasy heritage and trained at The Oxford School of Drama. Prisca has worked across theatre, radio and television. Television credits include *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *Death in Paradise*.

Tobi Bakare (Husband)

Adult Children is Tobi's first production with the Donmar Warehouse. Tobi trained at The Identity School of Acting in London. Theatre credits include *Ain't No Law Against Fish 'N Chips*, *Reflection*, *Gone Too Far* (Royal Court); *Utopia*, *Iya-Ile*, *Mangina Monologues* (Soho Theatre); *Greenland* (National Theatre); *Crawling in the Dark* (Almeida Theatre); *The Typist* (Sky Arts Playhouse Live); *High Life* (Hampstead Theatre); *Pure Gold* (Talawa); *1800 Acres* (Riverside Studios); *Torn* (Arcola); *Macbeth* (Out of Joint). Film credits include *Kingsman: The Secret Service*, *Kingsman: The Golden Circle* and *The Somnambulists*. Tobi played the lead character of JP in *Death in Paradise* for seven years. Other television credits include *The Tunnel*, *One Child*, *The Smoke*, *The Shadow Line*, *Silent Witness*, *Phone Shop*, *Holby City*, *Meet the Bandalis*, *Casualty*, *The Omid Djalili Show* and *Verbatim Riots*.

Isaac Bakare (Sam)**Ezekiel Bakare (Baby)****Nabil Elouahabi (Neighbour)**

Adult Children is Nabil's first production with the Donmar Warehouse. Nabil's theatre credits include *Noura* (Playwrights Horizons, NY); *Oslo* (National Theatre/West End); *Another World*, *Sparkleshark* (NT); *Fireworks* (Royal Court); *I Call My Brothers*, *The Nightmares of Carlos Fuentes* (Arcola); *Love Your Soldiers* (Sheffield Theatre); *The Great Game*, *Crossing Jerusalem* (Tricycle); *East is East* (Oldham Coliseum). Film credits include *Infinite*, *The Way of the Wind*, *Sand Castle*, *Hyena Road*, *Reign of the General*, *Zero Dark Thirty*, *Towerblock*, *Junkhearts*, *Blitz*, *Journey to Mecca*, *The Boat People*, *Charlie Wilson's War*, *Plato's Breaking Point*, *Code 46*, *In This World*, *Asylum*, *Ali G Indahouse*, *Deserter* and *The Sum of all Fears*. Television credits include *Time*, *Breeders*, *Our Girl*, *His Dark Materials*, *Deep State*, *The Missing*, *The Night Of*, *Live Another Day*, *Top Boy*, *Mad Dogs*, *Strike Back*, *Law & Order*, *Generation Kill*, *The Path to 9/11*, *EastEnders*, *Keen Eddie*, *Attachments 2*, *Only Fools and Horses*, *As If* and *London's Burning*.

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Beruce Khan (Bloke)

Adult Children is Beruce's first production with the Donmar Warehouse. Beruce's theatre credits include *Ravens* (Hampstead Theatre), *Shadowlands* (Chichester), *A Christmas Carol*, *Twelfth Night* (RSC), *As You Like It*, *Henry V* (Regent's Park Open Air), *Combustion* (Tara Arts/Arcola), *Hamlet* (Shakespeare's Globe International Tour), *Romeo & Juliet*, *Henry V* (Shakespeare's Globe), *The Madness of George III* (Theatre Royal, Bath/West End), *The History Boys* (Chichester/WYP/Theatre Royal, Bath), *The Black Album* (National Theatre). Film credits include the short *To Asal With Love*. Television credits include *Britannia*, *Hometown Horror*, *Shakespeare Uncovered*.

Jodie McNee (A)

Adult Children is Jodie's first production with the Donmar Warehouse. Jodie's theatre credits include *Unprecedented: Fear Fatigue*, *Faustus: That Damned Woman* (Headlong); *Venice Preserved* (RSC); *Anatomy of a Suicide* (Royal Court); *The Night Watch*, *Hamlet* (Royal Exchange, Manchester); *Twelfth Night* (Liverpool Everyman); *The Oak Tree, Our Country's Good, Three Winters* (National Theatre); *Game* (Almeida Theatre); *Measure for Measure, Written on the Heart* (RSC). Film credits include *Judy*, *Official Secrets*, *Film Stars Don't Die in Liverpool* and *The Physician*. Television credits include *Britannia* series 1 – 3,; *Anthony, Agatha and the Death of X*, *Vera*, *Little Boy Blue*, *Ripper Street*, *Criminal Justice 2*, *Poirot* and *The Liverpool Nativity*.

Annie Tyson (Mum)

Adult Children is Annie's first production with the Donmar Warehouse. Annie read Drama and Theatre Arts at the University of Birmingham before training at the Drama Centre. Annie works at RADA as an acting tutor and director, and is a patron of the MonoBox and mentor and tutor for Open Door. Recent theatre credits include *An Honourable Man* (White Bear), *Hell Yes I'm Tough Enough* (Park), *The Last Yankee* (Octagon, Bolton/Library).

Supernumeraries: Kate Anstey, Lindon Alexander, Jan Van Der Black, Omer Bor, Lieve Carchon, Bunny Cook, Sean Croft, Tyson Douglas, Ozer Ercan, Sammy Glover, Renasha Khan, Catty Marrin, Michael Skellern
Virtual audience: Tanya Aanderaa, Leon Baugh, Marc Benga, Hannah Bristow, Toni Brooks, Tom Brooks, Lieve Carchon, Alice Cescatti, Jesse Cescatti-McFarlane, Maxwell Cescatti-McFarlane, Jennie Cook, Anna Edwards-McConway, Rupert Fawcett, Jennifer Gleave, Ella Hickson, Ramin Gray, Grey Grierson, Amy Hathaway, Rhys Holland, Jessica Hennessey, Lisa Hickey, Barney Iley, Kinnetia Isidore, Christina Kopka, Alice Louise, Imogen Mackenzie, Shannon Martin, Gerry McRanor, Alex Merry, Graham Michael, Sacha Milavic Davies, Freddie Odong, Megan Ong, Jacques Pillet, Simon Pink, Julia Phelan, Ruairi Phelan, Nancy Phelan, Jonathan Purkiss, Reece Richardson, Mark Shaer, Matthew Shaw, Benjamin Smith, Rebecca Tarry, Mary Tillett, Kirsty Terry, Rachel Thomas, Dougie Wood

ScanLAB Projects ADULT CHILDREN Team: Matthew Shaw, William Trossell, Tom Brooks, Jacques Pillet, Manuela Mesrie, Grey Grierson, James White, Nicky Ovidiu Baiculescu

Donmar Warehouse presents

BLINDNESS**UK Tour from May - July 2021**With the voice of **Juliet Stevenson**Based on the novel by **José Saramago**Adapted by **Simon Stephens**

(BST) FRIDAY 9 APRIL 2021

Directed by **Walter Meierjohann**
 Sound Designers **Ben and Max Ringham**
 Designer **Lizzie Clachan**
 Lighting Designer **Jessica Hung Han Yun**
 Production Consultant **Professor Hannah Thompson**
 Assistant Director **Sara Aniqah Malik**

From 28 May Oxford Playhouse
 w/c 7 June Lawrence Batley Theatre
 w/c 14 June Theatr Clwyd
 w/c 21 June Yvonne Arnaud
 w/c 28 June Festival Theatre Edinburgh
 w/c 5 July Eden Court
 w/c 12 July Poole Lighthouse

Captioned and audio described digital versions of *BLINDNESS* will be available from individual venues. Booking details to be announced by each venue.

As the lights change at a major crossroads in a city in the heart of Europe a car grinds to a halt. Its driver can drive no more. Suddenly, without warning or cause, he has gone blind. Within hours it is clear that this is a blindness like no other. This blindness is infectious. Within days an epidemic of blindness has spread through the city. The government tries to quarantine the contagion by herding the newly blind people into an empty asylum. But their attempts are futile. The city is in panic.

Acclaimed stage and screen actor Juliet Stevenson voices the Storyteller/Doctor's wife. Visitors to UK venues will listen on headphones to this gripping story of an unimaginable global pandemic – and its profoundly hopeful conclusion - featuring an immersive sound design using binaural technology by Ben and Max Ringham. Theatres are reimagined by designer Lizzie Clachan, with atmospheric lighting designed by Jessica Hung Han Yun.

Simon Stephens (Writer)

Simon is an Olivier and Tony award-winning playwright. Theatre credits include *The Threepenny Opera* (National Theatre), *Fatherland* (Manchester International Festival 2017/Lyric & LIFT Festival 2018), *Heisenberg* (West End), *Obsession* (Barbican/Toneelgroep Amsterdam), *The Seagull*, *Hérons*, *Morning*, *Three Kingdoms*, *A Thousand Stars that Explode in the Sky* and *Punk Rock* – winner 2009 Manchester Evening News Award for Best Production (Lyric Hammersmith), *The Cherry Orchard*, *I Am The Wind* (Young Vic), *Carmen Disruption* (Deutsches Schauspielhaus/Almeida Theatre), *Nuclear War*, *Birdland*, *Wastwater* – winner 2011 Theater Heute's Award, *Motortown* - winner 2007 Theater Heute's Award, *Country Music*, *Hérons*, *Bluebird* (Royal Court), *The Curious Incident Of The Dog In The Night-Time* - Winner Olivier and Tony Awards for Best New Play (National Theatre/Apollo/Gielgud/Barrymore Theatre, Broadway), *A Doll's House* (Young Vic/Duke Of York's), *Pornography* - winner 2008 Theater Heute's Award (Deutsches Schauspielhaus/Edinburgh Festival/Birmingham Rep/Tricycle Theatre), *Sea Wall* (Bush), *Harper Regan*, *Port* - winner 2001 Pearson Award for Best Play (Royal Exchange/National Theatre) and *On The Shore Of The Wide World* - winner 2005 Olivier Award for Best New Play (Royal Exchange, Manchester). Film and television credits include: *Dive*, *Pornography* and *Cargese*. Radio credits include: *Five Letters Home to Elizabeth* and *Digging*. Simon is a professor at the Manchester Writing School at Manchester Metropolitan University and Artistic Associate at the Lyric Hammersmith.

Walter Meierjohann (Director)

(BST) FRIDAY 9 APRIL 2021

Walter was Artistic Director of HOME from 2013-2018 and International Associate Director at the Young Vic in London. At the Young Vic, his productions included the European premiere of *In the Red and Brown Water* by Tarell McCraney, and *Kafka's Monkey*, which toured to Sydney, Melbourne, Athens, Paris, Tokyo, Istanbul, Taipei and New York. The production, which starred Kathryn Hunter, also showed in HOME's 2015 opening season, with Hunter reprising her lead role. Walter has worked extensively in Germany and the UK at theatres including: the Barbican, Liverpool Playhouse, Nottingham Playhouse, The Curve, Leicester, Residenztheater, Munich, Staatsschauspiel, Dresden, Schauspiel, Graz, and Arena, Berlin, for Peter Stein's Faust Ensemble and Impulse Theatre Festival. Prior to joining the Young Vic, Walter was Artistic Director of Neubau at the State Theatre of Dresden. In opera, he has assisted the late Klaus-Michael Grueber in his productions of *Aida* (Nederlands Opera, Amsterdam) and *Don Giovanni* (Ruhrfestspiele).

Juliet Stevenson (Storyteller/Doctor's Wife)

Juliet is one of Britain's leading actors. She has worked extensively for the Royal Shakespeare Company, the National Theatre and the Royal Court, winning an Olivier award for her performance as Paulina in *Death and the Maiden* in 1991. Most recent theatre credits include starring roles in Robert Icke's *The Doctor*, for which she won the Critics' Circle Award for Best Actress and is currently nominated for the Olivier Award for Best Actress, *Mary Stuart* and *Hamlet* (all three transferred from the Almeida to the West End), *Wings* at the Young Vic, and Beckett's *Happy Days*, also at the Young Vic. Her films include *Truly, Madly, Deeply*, *Bend it Like Beckham*, *When Did You Last See Your Father?*, *Being Julia*, *Pierpoint*, *Mona Lisa Smile*, *Diana* and *Departure* and *Let Me Go*. Recent television work includes the Sky drama series *Riviera* and *Out of her Mind*, a comedy series with Sara Pascoe which will air from September, as well as the Williams brothers' thriller *One of Us* for BBC1 and Sky Living's supernatural thriller *The Enfield Haunting*. She also played series regulars on two series of *Atlantis* and *The Village*. Other television work includes *Place of Execution*, *The Accused*, *The Hour*, and *White Heat*. She was awarded the CBE in 1999. In addition to her Olivier award win and current nomination, Juliet has been nominated a further five times. She won the Evening Standard Film Award for *Truly, Madly, Deeply* and is five times BAFTA nominated for her film and television work.

ENDS

For further information on the Donmar Warehouse, *Constellations* in the West End, *Adult Children* or *Blindness* UK Tour please contact Jo Allan PR:

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NOTES TO EDITORS

ABOUT THE DONMAR WAREHOUSE

The Donmar Warehouse is a 251-seat, not-for-profit theatre in Covent Garden, led by Artistic Director Michael Longhurst and Executive Director Henny Finch. We have won more than 100 awards in our 28-year history.

We bring together a wide variety of people at our intimate warehouse space and elsewhere to create, witness and participate in thrilling, world-class theatre.

**STRICTLY EMBARGOED FOR BROADCAST, ON SOCIAL MEDIA, ONLINE AND IN PRINT UNTIL 10AM
(BST) FRIDAY 9 APRIL 2021**

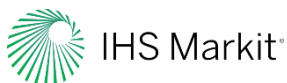
Through our work on and offstage, we aim to create a more cohesive, functional and creative society by broadening horizons, inspiring empathy and offering outstanding entertainment.

We develop new artists and future audiences through our renowned training programmes and our Discover activity with schools and communities.

We believe that representation matters; diversity of identity, of perspective, of lived experience enriches our work and our lives.

Welcome to important stories, thrillingly told, widely shared.

www.donmarwarehouse.com | Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and YouTube: @DonmarWarehouse



The Donmar Warehouse remains incredibly grateful for the generosity of the following Trust & Foundations and supporters for their contributions towards the refurbishment works; Backstage Trust, Foyle Foundation, Garfield Weston Foundation, IHS Markit, The McLain Foundation, Shaftesbury and Wolfson Foundation.

