



PRESS RELEASE Tuesday 3 May 2022

ROYAL COURT THEATRE ANNOUNCES CAST FOR *TWO PALESTINIANS GO DOGGING* BY SAMI IBRAHIM, DIRECTED BY OMAR ELERIAN, SATURDAY 7 MAY 2022 – WEDNESDAY 1 JUNE 2022

- Download rehearsal pictures [here](#).
- Watch an interview with writer Sami Ibrahim and director Omar Elerian [here](#).



Photographer Ali Wright. Top left to right: Luca Kamleh Chapman, Sofia Danu, Joe Haddad, Philipp Mogilnitskiy
Bottom left to right: Hala Omran, Mai Weisz and Miltos Yerolemou

Luca Kamleh Chapman, Sofia Danu, Joe Haddad, Philipp Mogilnitskiy, Hala Omran, Mai Weisz and Miltos Yerolemou have been cast in the world premiere of *two Palestinians go dogging*, written by Sami Ibrahim and directed by Omar Elerian. It is a co-production with Theatre Uncut, winning their political playwriting award in 2019. It will run at the Royal Court Jerwood Theatre Upstairs from Saturday 7 May 2022 – Wednesday 1 June 2022, with press night on Wednesday 11 May 2022, 7pm.

two Palestinians go dogging was originally scheduled to run at the Royal Court Theatre in 2020, but was postponed due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

The creative team is Rajha Shakiry (Set Designer), Ruth Hall (Associate Designer), Jackie Shemesh (Lighting Designer), Elena Peña (Sound Designer), Zakk Hein (Video Designer), Alessandra Davison (Assistant Director), Lucía Sánchez Roldán (Associate Lighting Designer), Bret Yount (Fight Director), Evelin Thomas (Stage Manager – Props), Rike Berg (Stage Manager – On the Book) and Lottie Denby (Stage Management Work Placement).

“Your hobbies are limited to Arab Idol and cooking lentils and having sex in fields late at night.”

The year is 2043, and Reem and her husband Sayeed are here to share a ‘Serious Play about Palestine’.

Things are tense. People are on the edge. The Fifth Intifada is right around the corner.





But on a contested piece of land near their village of Beit al-Qadir, this couple is about to go dogging.

Don't worry, you're allowed to laugh.

"If a story about Palestine doesn't feature a tormented examination of the Arab-Israeli conflict, is it even a story about Palestine?"

two Palestinians go dogging won the Theatre Uncut Political Playwriting Award and uses the lens of humour to explore how the everyday becomes political and the political becomes everyday in a conflict zone.

two Palestinians go dogging is a co-production with Theatre Uncut.

There will be a post-show talk with Sami Ibrahim on Tuesday 24 May 2022.

ENDS-

For more information or images please contact Anoushka Warden on AnoushkaWarden@royalcourttheatre.com

Notes to Editors:

Press Performance:

7pm Wednesday 11 May 2022	<i>two Palestinians go dogging</i> by Sami Ibrahim	Jerwood Theatre Upstairs
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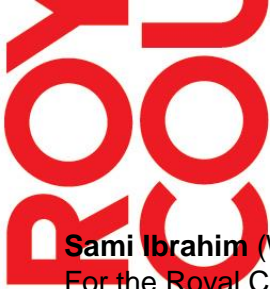


Rehearsal image by Ali Wright. From left to right Miltos Yerolemou, Joe Haddad, Sofia Danu, Philipp Mogilnitskiy, Luca Kamleh Chapman and Mai Weisz

For all images click [here](#).

Biographies:





Sami Ibrahim (Writer)

For the Royal Court: **Living Newspaper**.

Other theatre includes: **Metamorphoses (Globe)**; **Wonder Winterland (Oxford School of Drama/Soho)**; **Wind Bit Bitter, Bit Bit Bit Her (VAULT Festival)**; **the Palestinian in the basement is on fire (Pint Sized/Bunker)**; **Iron Dome Fog Dome (First Drafts, Yard)**; **Force of Trump (Theatre N16/The Space/Brockley Jack)**; **Carnivore (Write Now 7 Festival, Brockley Jack)**.

Awards include: **Theatre Uncut Political Playwriting Award**.

Sami has been a writer-in-residence at Shakespeare's Globe and was previously one of the Genesis Almeida New Playwrights. He has been on attachment at the National Theatre Studio and Theatr Clwyd, and a member of the Tamasha Writers Group and Oxford Playhouse Playmaker programme.

Omar Elerian (Director)

As director, theatre includes: **The Chairs (Almeida)**; **Autoreverse (BAC)**; **Going Through, Misty, NASSIM, One Cold Dark Night, Islands (Bush)**.

As co-director, theatre includes: **The Mill: City of Dreams (Site specific)**; **You're Not Like The Other Girls Chrissy (China Plate)**.

As associate director, theatre includes: **Leave Taking, The Royale, Perseverance Drive, Chalet Lines (Bush)**.

Omar was the resident Associate Director at the Bush Theatre 2012-2018.

Cast:

Luca Kamleh Chapman (Jawad)

***two Palestinians go dogging* is Luca's professional debut.**

Sofia Danu (Salwa)

Theatre includes: **A Land Without Jasmine (BAC/Sarha Collective)**; **Kan Ya Makan (Riyadh)**; **Ellipsis (Rose Company)**; **Salome (Space)**; **Today is My 100th Birthday (Edinburgh Festival Fringe)**; **Battle Cry (Apiary Studios)**; **Now Here & In Between (Al-Balad, Jordan)**.

Television includes: **Moon Knight, Silent Witness, The Citadel Folks, Shawq**.

Film includes: **The Way of the Wind, Held For Ransom, Fay's Palette, Moderately Satisfied (Short)**.

Radio includes: **Yarmouk, Decolonising History**.

Joe Haddad (Tariq)

Theatre includes: **The Jumper Factory (Young Vic/HOME, Manchester)**; **For the Living (Talos Festival/Bread & Roses)**; **Nazanin's Story (Edinburgh Festival Fringe/Barbican/Tour)**.

Television includes: **Danny Boy**.

Radio includes: **Yarmouk**.

Film includes: **London Tomorrow [short]**.

Philipp Mogilnitskiy (Adam)

Theatre includes: **Iran Conference (Weda, Warsaw)**; **The Trials of John Demjanjuk: A Holocaust Cabaret (Confrontation/NET Festivals)**; **The Face of Jizo (Ethud)**; **Brothers & Sisters, An Enemy of the People, Gaudeamus, Life & Fate, Our Class, Blue Light (Maly Drama, St. Petersburg)**; **The Pillowman, Time to be Ashes (On Theatre, St. Petersburg)**.





Television includes: **House under Two Eagles, Into The Night (Israel), Król, S'parta, Ziuk: The Young Pilsudski, De 12 Van Schouwendam, Maly Zgon, Nielegalni, Podkidysh, Ulyotnyy Ekipazh, Full Moon, Ne Vmeste, Takaya Rabota.**

Film includes: **MINSK, Zatopek, What the French Keep Still About.**

Hala Omran (Reem)

Theatre includes: **I Medea, In The Eruptive Mode, UR (SABAB, Kuwait/International tours); 72 Virgins, UR 2, X Adra, Oh You, Whom I Love, The Juste, Romeo & Juliet, Andromache (International tours); The Poem, Land of the Arab Language 1, 2 & 3 (Odéon Théâtre de l'Europe); A Streetcar Named Desire (Syrian National Theatre); The Seagull (Damascus).**

Dance includes: **As Told By My Mother, Night, May He Rise & Smell The Fragrance (Zukak, Beirut/International tours).**

Opera includes: **Kalila & Dimna (Aix-en-Provence Festival).**

Film includes: **Romeo & Juliet, Dreamy Vision, Under the Ceiling, The Gate to the Sun, The Box of Life.**

Awards include: **Journées Théâtrales de Carthage Best Actress Award (I Medea); Cairo International Festival for Experimental Theatre Best Actress Award (I Medea).**

Mai Weisz (Sara)

Theatre includes: **On Cloud Nine (White Bear).**

Television includes: **This is Going to Hurt.**

Audio includes: **I'm Not Into Politics (Things I Am Not podcast/LegalAliens).**

Film includes: **Il n'y a pas d'ombre dans le desert.**

Miltos Yerolemou (Sayeed)

Theatre includes: **Young Marx (Bridge); King Lear, You Can't Take It With You, Animal Crackers (Royal Exchange, Manchester); Cyrano de Bergerac, Great Expectations, A Midsummer Night's Dream (& International tour), A Christmas Carol (Bristol Old Vic); The Lion, the Witch & the Wardrobe (Kensington Palace Gardens); One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest (Curve, Leicester); Adelaide Road, Twelfth Night, Othello, Beauty & the Beast, A Winter's Tale (RSC); Hansel & Gretel, Travels with My Aunt (Royal & Derngate, Northampton); The Comedy of Errors (Globe); Tintin (West End); Guys & Dolls (Donmar); Sleeping Beauty (Young Vic); The Misanthrope (Chichester Festival); Romeo & Juliet (Belgrade, Coventry).**

Opera includes: **A Midsummer Night's Dream (Aix Festival, France/Beijing).**

Television includes: **Dangerous Liaisons, Slow Horses, Becoming Elizabeth, The Crown, Game of Thrones, Wolf Hall, Critical, My Family, Black Books, Absolutely Fabulous.**

Film includes: **The Hitman's Wife's Bodyguard, Murder on the Orient Express, DJ, Star Wars - Episode VII: The Force Awakens, The Danish Girl, Star Wars: The Force Awakens, The Inbetweeners Movie.**

Listings Information:

Royal Court Theatre & Theatre Uncut

two Palestinians go dogging

Written by Sami Ibrahim

Directed by Omar Elerian

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

from Saturday 7 May 2022 – Wednesday 1 June 2022

Monday – Saturday 7.45pm

Thursday & Saturday matinees 3pm from Saturday 14 May 2022





Captioned Performances Friday 27 May 2022, 7.45pm
Relaxed Environment Performance Saturday 28 May 2022, 3pm.
Press Performance Wednesday 11 May 2022, 7pm
Post-show talk with Sami Ibrahim, Tuesday 24 May 2022
Standard Tickets £12 - £25
Concessions*
First Look Tickets**
Under 27s***
Access £15 (plus a companion at the same rate)
*ID required. All discounts subject to availability.

Tickets: Ways to Save

First Look Tickets** – as most of the plays we stage at the Royal Court have never been seen before, the first few performances in front of an audience are the final part of a long creative process that starts with the playwright. Our First Look Performances, which are sold at a reduced price, and are integral part of the process. If you book tickets for a First Look Performance (usually the first three previews of a new play), you'll be asked for your feedback which is then shared with the artistic team during the preview period, potentially influencing the final piece.

Young Court Friends Tickets*** – a free membership scheme for Under 27s. We offer a limited number of £15 tickets for all performances to Young Court Friends, as well as advance access to £12 Mondays in the Jerwood Theatre Downstairs.

Mondays – all tickets £12. Available on the day of the performance from 9am online. A limited number are available in advance, subject to availability, to Friends and Supporters.

THEATRE UNCUT

Theatre Uncut have been provoking debate and galvanising action since 2011 by making high quality new writing accessible for anyone to perform anywhere. The company works with leading and emerging playwrights to raise questions and examine global current events. So far over 6,000 people have performed Theatre Uncut plays in 26 countries across 4 continents. Theatre Uncut has won two Fringe Firsts, a Herald Angel Award and been shortlisted for the Amnesty International Freedom of Expression Award. The company is led by Co-Artistic Directors Emma Callander and Hannah Price. To download the current Theatre Uncut play, *Bubble* by Kieran Hurley, free of charge, please visit www.theatreuncut.com

