



Press release - Wednesday 15 November

## ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY AND THE ROYAL COURT THEATRE ANNOUNCE LONDON TRANSFER OF CHARLIE JOSEPHINE'S *COWBOIS* WITH FULL CAST

NEW PRODUCTION IMAGES [HERE](#)  
ORIGINAL PRODUCTION IMAGES [HERE](#)  
NEW TRAILER [HERE](#)

The **Royal Shakespeare Company** (RSC) and **Royal Court Theatre** today announce the London transfer of **Charlie Josephine's** rollicking queer western ***Cowbois***.

Due to popular demand the play will run at the Royal Court's Jerwood Theatre Downstairs between 11 January 2024 - 10 February 2024 with press night on 17 January 2024. Co-Directed by **Charlie Josephine** (they/he) and **Sean Holmes** (he/him), the full RSC cast return to their roles. Also released today are brand new production images and a new trailer. Tickets will go on sale to the general public at 12 noon on Friday 17 November.

In a sleepy town in the Wild West, the women drift through their days like tumbleweed. Their husbands, swept up in the goldrush, have been missing for almost a year and show no sign of returning. In fact, the town is almost cut off from outsiders entirely, with only one drunken sheriff for protection. That is until handsome bandit Jack Cannon, a trans masc cowboy, swaggers up to the town's saloon, inspiring a gender revolution.

Reprising their roles from the RSC the cast includes: **Bridgette Amofah** (she/her) plays Mary; **Lee Braithwaite** (they/he) plays Lucy/Lou; **Shaun Dingwall** (he/him) plays Frank/Tommy; **Michael Elcock** (he/him) plays George; **Colm Gormley** (he/him) plays John; **Vinnie Heaven** (they/them) plays Jack; **Paul Hunter** (he/him) plays Sheriff Roger Jones; **Lucy McCormick** (she/her) plays Jayne; **Sophie Melville** (she/her) plays Miss Lillian; **Julian Moore-Cook** (he/him) plays James; **Emma Pallant** (she/her) plays Sally-Ann; and **LJ Parkinson** (they/them) plays Charley Parkhurst.

Charlie Josephine and Sean Holmes said: "*We are thrilled to be bringing 'Cowbois' to the Royal Court. We've had the best time making it at the RSC, and are very grateful to the team for the joyful collaboration. Thank you also to the warm audiences in Stratford-upon-Avon, who've received it with open hearts and standing ovations. We're really proud of this beautiful bunch of outlaws and excited to bring them to London.*"

Joining Charlie and Sean on the creative team are: Designer, **Grace Smart** (she/her); Lighting, **Simeon Miller** (he/him); Music, **Jim Fortune** (he/him); Sound and Soundscape, **Mwen**; Movement, **Jennifer Jackson** (she/her); Fights and Intimacy, **Bethan Clark** (she/her); Dramaturg, **Rebecca Latham** (she/her); Casting, **Martin Poile** (he/him); and Children's Casting, **Charlie Metcalf** (she/her).

The transfer of *Cowboys* marks the first of a series of announcements about the upcoming winter programme from the Royal Court, the final part of Vicky Featherstone's decade at the theatre.

RSC Members, Patrons and Subscribers and Friends of the Royal Court can access priority booking from Thursday 16 November from 12 noon via the Royal Court website. Public booking onsale from 12 noon on Friday 17 November.

## **ENDS**

For further information, please contact:

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## **Booking Information.**

### **General ticket prices**

*Cowboys*: £15 - £49

### **Tickets: Ways to Save**

**Concessions** - available for previews and matinees. Limited to Band A – B in the Jerwood Theatre Downstairs. Concessions are available for Over 65s, Students, recipients of Jobseekers Allowance, and members of Equity, BECTU, Stage Directors UK or the Writers' Guild of Great Britain.

**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, are an integral part of the process. If you book tickets for a First Look Performance ( the first previews of *Cowboys* on 11 January ), you'll be asked for your feedback which is then shared with the artistic team during the preview period, potentially influencing the final piece.

**Under 27s Tickets** – The Royal Court offers a limited number of £15 tickets for selected performances in the Jerwood Theatre Downstairs. Available on Band B tickets, subject to availability.

**TikTok £10 Tickets** - The Royal Shakespeare Company offers TikTok £10 Tickets for 16-25 year olds available for all performances.

**Monday Tickets** – Every Monday, every seat in the house for Jerwood Theatre Downstairs productions is available for £15 from 9am online. A limited number are available in advance, subject to availability, to Friends and Supporters. The same price is available every Monday for Jerwood Theatre Upstairs productions.

**Standing Tickets** – A limited number of 10 standing places go on sale one hour before each Jerwood Theatre Downstairs performance. The places are production dependent and may not always be available so please check in advance.

## **Support**

As a registered charity, all donations received via bookings will go to Support the Court, a fund which enables the Royal Court to continue to create ground-breaking new work for audiences. The support allows the theatre to keep running all of its behind-the-scenes projects, delivering writers

programmes here in the UK and across the world, and schemes for, and with, young people. Find out more [here](#).

### **Backstage tours**

Join us on a backstage tour of the Royal Court Theatre, one of the most important theatres of its time. Explore the design of the building before going behind the scenes for a glimpse of how our work goes from page to stage, and everything in between.

Post-tour cream tea packages are available. See website for tour dates. Group & bespoke tour packages available.

### **Biographies:**

**Charlie Josephine** (writer and co-director)

As writer:

***Bitch Boxer*** (Old Vic New Voices Edinburgh Season, British Council Showcase, Holden Street Theatre's Award, Clonmel Theatre Award and Adelaide Fringe Award); **BLUSH** (Underbelly Untapped Edinburgh Season 2016); **Massive (2020)**, **I**, **Joan (Globe)**; ***Birds and Bees*** (Sheffield Crucible); ***Flies*** (Shoreditch Town Hall with Boundless Theatre); ***One Of Them Ones*** (Pentabus).

As actor:

**Romeo and Juliet**, **The Merry Wives of Windsor (RSC)**; **An Oak Tree (Warwick Arts Centre)**; **Buckets (Orange Tree)**; **Secret Theatre (Lyric Hammersmith)**; **Julius Caesar (Donmar)**.

They are an associate artist at the NSDF, and the current writer in residence at Headlong Theatre.

**Sean Holmes** (co-director)

Sean Holmes is the Associate Artistic Director of Shakespeare's Globe. Prior to this, he was the Artistic Director of the Lyric Hammersmith. He was an Associate Director of the Oxford Stage Company from 2001 to 2006 and has also worked at the National Theatre, Tricycle, Royal Court, Donmar Warehouse, Chichester Festival Theatre and the Abbey Theatre, Dublin.

As director:

**The Comedy of Errors and The Winter's Tale**, **The Tempest**, **Hamlet**, **Metamorphosis**, **A Midsummer Night's Dream**, **Henry VI**, **Richard III (Globe)**; **Measure for Measure**, **Richard III**, **Julius Caesar**, **A New Way To Please You**, **Twelfth Night**, **The Roman Actor (RSC)**; **The Seagull**, **Terror**, **Shopping and Fucking**, **Bugsy Malone**, **A Midsummer Night's Dream**, **Hérons**, **Secret Theatre Shows 1, 2, 3, 5 and 7**, **Cinderella**, **Desire Under the Elms**, **Morning**, **Have I None**, **Saved**, **Blasted**, **A Thousand Stars Explode in the Sky**, **Ghost Stories (& Duke of York's/Liverpool Playhouse/Panasonic Theatre/Toronto and Arts Theatre)**, **Three Sisters**, **Comedians (Lyric Hammersmith)**; **Death of a Salesman (Parco Theatre, Toyko)**; **Fortune (Metropolitan Theatre, Toyko)**; **The Plough and the Stars (Abbey Theatre, Dublin & Tour)**.

**Cast:**

**Bridgette Amofah** (she/her)

Theatre includes: **Faustus: That Damned Woman (Chester Storyhouse)**; **A Monster Calls (UK & US Tour)**; **A Christmas Carol (Old Vic)**; **Tommy on Top (Above The Stag)**.

Short film credits include: **Nosepicker**, **Home**.

**Lee Braithwaite** (they/he)

This is Lee's professional acting debut.

**Shaun Dingwall** (he/him)

For the Royal Court: **Incomplete and Random Acts of Kindness.**

Theatre includes: **Death of a Comedian (Soho); The Man Who Had All The Luck, Beautiful Thing (Donmar); Henry IV Parts 1 & 2 (Bristol Old Vic).**

Television includes: **Top Boy, Constellation, Grantchester, Noughts and Crosses, Responsible Child, Doctor Who, Above Suspicion, Charles II: The Power and the Passion, Maigret, Poirot, The Suspicions of Mr Whicher.**

Film includes: **Goodbye Christopher Robin, Inland.**

**Michael Elcock** (he/him)

Theatre includes: **The Comedy of Errors (Globe); Hex and The Visit (National); The Meaning Of Zong (Bristol Old Vic); Arthur/Merlin (Iris Theatre); 846 Live (Royal Stratford East); In A Word (Young Vic); A Midsummer Night's Dream (Regents Park Open Air Theatre).**

Television includes: **Queens of Mystery.**

Film includes: **Kitchen Sink.**

**Colm Gormley** (he/him)

For the RSC: **The Winter's Tale, King Lear, All's Well That End's Well, and I'll Be The Devil.**

For the Royal Court: **Truth & Reconciliation.**

Theatre includes: **Othello, Warhorse (National); The Winter's Tale, The Merchant of Venice, Twelfth Night, The Tempest, A Midsummer Night's Dream, As You Like It, The Taming of the Shrew, We, The People (Globe); Mother Courage And Her Children (Headlong); The Ladies Cage (Manchester Royal Exchange); The Country Girls (Chichester); A Handful Of Stars (West End/Theatre 503); Twelfth Night (Sheffield Crucible/ETT); Dancing At Lughnasa (Royal And Derngate); Fighting Irish, The Boy With The Bomb In His Crisps (Belgrade Theatre, Coventry); Melmoth The Wanderer (Lyric Theatre Belfast/Tron); Still, The Blackbird Sings (Playhouse Derry/Project Theatre Dublin); Arsenic And Old Lace (Salisbury Playhouse); Death Of Long Pig (Finborough); Philadelphia Here I Come/Aristocrats (Ourobourus); Twelfth Night (York Theatre Royal); The Water Harvest (Theatre 503); Merry Christmas Betty Ford (Lyric Belfast); The Early Bird - By Leo Butler (Ransom/National Tour); The Resistible Rise Of Arturo Ui, The Seagull, Twelfth Night, The White Devil, Three Sisters (Mercury Colchester); Elizabeth (Kabosh); The Blind Bird (Gate); Kvetch (Artcore).**

Television includes: **McDonald and Dodds, Victoria, Titanic, Ultimate Force, Officially Special, River City, The Message, Locked Up Abroad, The Toys that Built America.**

Film includes: **Country of Hotels, Downhill, Jimmy's Hall, Bloody Sunday.**

**Paul Hunter** (he/him)

For the RSC: **Les Enfants Du Paradis**.

For the Royal Court: **Playing the Victim (& Traverse)**.

Other theatre includes: **Robin Hood: The Legend. Re-written.** (Regent's Park Open Air); **La Cage aux Folles (Park)**; **Wise Children (Old Vic/UK Tour)**; **Life of Galileo, The Water Engine (& Theatre503) (Young Vic)**; **The Little Match Girl, The Mystery Plays, Much Ado About Nothing, Troilus and Cressida, A Midsummer Night's Dream, Under the Black Flag (Globe)**; **My Perfect Mind (& Young Vic/Barcelona/New York), Mister Deka D (& Lyric Hammersmith/Tour) (Told By An Idiot)**; **Gaslight (Northampton)**; **Tartuffe (Birmingham Rep)**; **The Fantasticks, Popeye (West End)**; **Napoleon Disrobed, The Fahrenheit Twins, Don't Laugh – It's My Life, You Haven't Embraced Me Yet, I'm So Big, On The Verge of Exploding (Told By An Idiot International/UK Tour)**; **Nocturnal (Gate)**; **Rapunzel (& New York Tour), The Red Shoes (& BAC) (Kneehigh/UK Tour)**; **Beauty and the Beast (Belgrade Theatre Coventry)**; **Oliver Twist, Aladdin, Pinocchio (Lyric Hammersmith)**; **The Play What I Wrote (West End)**; **The Firework Maker's Daughter (Sheffield Crucible)**; **I Can't Wake Up, Happy Birthday, Richard III (English Shakespeare Company)**; **Twelfth Night, Animal Farm (Northern Stage)**; **The Servant of Two Masters (Sheffield Crucible)**; **Baldy Hopkins (The Right Size)**; **The Wasp Factory (Glasgow Citizens Theatre)**.

Film includes: **My Mother's Wedding, Princess and Peppernose, Cyrano, The Birth of Valerie Venus, Denial, This Beautiful Fantastic, Pan, Marvellous, Cinderella, Maleficent, Snow White and the Huntsman, Pirates of the Caribbean, One Day, Trinity, The Only Boy For Me, Mitchell and Kenyon, Hardware, Music at the Close, Absurd, Vertical Hold, Hanging Around.**

Television includes: **The Continental, Masters of the Air, The Great, Bridgerton, Quiz, Midsomer Murders, Still Open All Hours, Wizards vs. Aliens, After You've Gone, Absolute Power, Tunnel of Love, Black Books, Everything I Know About Men**

**Paul is co-founder and Artistic Director of Told By An Idiot.**

**Vinnie Heaven** (they/them)

As actor, theatre includes: **A Midsummer Night's Dream (Globe)**; **The Misfortune of the English (Orange Tree)**.

As actor, television includes: **The Nevers**.

As writer, theatre includes: **FAUN (Cardboard Citizens, Alphabetti Theatre & Theatre503)**; **She's A Good Boy (National Tour)**.

**Lucy McCormick** (she/her)

**Lucy is an actor and performance maker. She makes cross-genre work inspired by theatre, comedy, cabaret, dance and performance art. Her self-created shows include Triple Threat, Post Popular, Life: LIVE! and Lucy.**

Theatre includes: **Titus Andronicus (Globe)**; **Wuthering Heights (National)**.

Television includes: **This Time With Alan Partridge**.

**Sophie Melville** (she/her)

Theatre includes: **Sorter (Swansea Grand)**; **Iphigenia in Splott (Lyric Hammersmith/National/59E59 New York/Sherman Theatre)**; **The Merchant of Venice (Globe)**; **Mum**

**(Soho); Under Milk Wood (Theatre Clwyd).**

Television includes: **The Way, The Pact and Call The Midwife.**

**Julian Moore-Cook** (he/him)

Theatre includes: **The False Servant, While the Sun Shines, The Rolling Stone (Orange Tree); Translations (National); The Lieutenant of Inishmore (Michael Grandage Company); Dublin Carol (Sherman); Mother Courage and Her Children (Southwark); Three Sisters (Lyric Belfast); The Beggars Opera (Regent's Park Open Air); Our American Cousin (Finborough); Twelfth Night (Iris); ObamAmerica (Theatre503).**

Television includes: **The Peripheral, Derry Girls, Endeavour, Peaky Blinders, Holby City, Kate & Koji, Benidorm, Shakespeare and Hathaway, 24, Live Another Day, Casualty, Doctors.**

Film includes: **Mission Impossible: Rogue Nation and Ballywalter.**

**LJ Parkinson** (they/them)

**LJ Parkinson is an actor, performer and Drag King, LoUis CYfer.**

Theatre includes: **Death Drop and Death Drop: Back in the Habit (West End); Rotterdam (National Tour); Joan (Milk Productions).**

**Emma Pallant** (she/her)

For the RSC: **A Christmas Carol, The Dog in the Manger, Tamar's Revenge, The House of Desires, Pedro, The Great Pretender, Henry IV Parts I and II, As You Like It, Laughter in the Dark.**

Other theatre includes: **Faustus: That Damned Woman (Storyhouse); Celebrated Virgins (Theatr Clwyd); I Ravens: Spassky vs Fischer (Hampstead); Intra Muros (Park); Enemy of the People, LAVA (Nottingham Playhouse); William Wordsworth (ETT/Theatre by the Lake); Much Ado About Nothing, As You Like It, A Midsummer Night's Dream, Romeo and Juliet, A Comedy of Errors, Macbeth (Globe); Wind in the Willows (Rose Theatre, Kingston); It Just Stopped, Alison's House (Orange Tree); Bell, Book and Candle, Bleak House, Great Expectations, Romeo and Juliet (New Vic); The Cherry Orchard, His Dark Materials, Katherine Desouza (Birmingham Rep), On Golden Pond, The Herbal Bed (Salisbury Playhouse); The House of Bernarda Alba (Belgrade Theatre); Cymbeline (Regent's Park Open Air); Top Girls (Watford Palace); Precious Bane (Pentabus).**

Television includes: **Queenie, Father Brown, Holby City, Casualty, Doctors.**

## **Listings Information**

### **Cowboys**

**Written and Co-Directed by Charlie Josephine**

**Co-Directed by Sean Holmes**

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

**Thursday 11 January - Saturday 10 February**

**Press Performance** Wednesday 17 January  
**Audio Described performance** Saturday 27 January, 2.30pm  
**Touch Tour** Saturday 27 January, 12.30pm  
**Captioned Performance** Tuesday 30th January, 7.30pm  
**Chilled Performance** Saturday 3rd February 2.30pm  
**First Look Tickets** Thursday 11 January only  
**Tik Tok £10 Tickets for 16-25 year olds available for all performances**  
**Concessions\***  
**Under 27s\*\*\***  
**Access** £17.50 (plus a companion at the same rate)

\*ID required. All discounts subject to availability.

## **NOTES TO EDITORS**

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TikTok £10 Tickets sponsored by TikTok

### **Royal Shakespeare Company (RSC)**

The Royal Shakespeare Company creates exceptional theatre in Stratford-upon-Avon, London and around the world, performing plays by Shakespeare and his contemporaries, as well as commissioning a wide range of original work from contemporary writers. Our purpose is to ensure that Shakespeare – and theatre as a whole – is for everyone, and we do that by unlocking the power of his plays and live performance, and with our learning and education work throughout the UK and across the world.

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