

ROYAL
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PRESS RELEASE
MONDAY 8 JULY 2024

FURTHER CASTING ANNOUNCED FOR ECHO AT THE ROYAL COURT

- **Sheila Atim, Monica Dolan, Jessica Gunning, Jeremy O. Harris, Adrian Lester, Nick Mohammed, Mawaan Rizwan, Jodie Whittaker and Benedict Wong** to perform in **Nassim Soleimanpour's *ECHO (Every Cold-Hearted Oxygen)*** at the Royal Court.
- They join the previously announced **Kathryn Hunter, Toby Jones, Fiona Shaw, Meera Syal and Rebecca Lucy Taylor (Self Esteem)**.
- **Omar Elerian** directs this groundbreaking piece where a different artist takes to the stage each night to perform a script they've never seen before.
- The performance schedule has now been released, with a final special guest artist to be revealed.
- ***ECHO (Every Cold-Hearted Oxygen)*** will run at the Royal Court Theatre as part of LIFT 2024 from Saturday 13 - Saturday 27 July 2024.

The Royal Court Theatre and LIFT (London International Festival of Theatre) have today announced a further nine artists who will perform in the world premiere of *ECHO (Every Cold-Hearted Oxygen)* written by critically acclaimed Iranian playwright **Nassim Soleimanpour** (*White Rabbit, Red Rabbit, NASSIM*) and directed by **Omar Elerian** (*NASSIM, Misty, two Palestinians go dogging*). In total 15 different artists will perform Soleimanpour's new piece which pushes the boundaries of his signature unrehearsed cold reads.

The production will run at the Jerwood Theatre Downstairs from Saturday 13 - Saturday 27 July 2024 with opening night on Wednesday 17 July. The performance schedule has now been announced with a final special guest artist to be revealed.

Fiona Shaw (*Killing Eve*) will perform on 13 July; **Benedict Wong** (*3 Body Problem*) on 15 July; **Sheila Atim** (*Constellations*) on 16 July; **Adrian Lester** (*Renegade Nell*) on 17 July; **Jeremy O. Harris** (*Slave Play*) on 18 July; **Rebecca Lucy Taylor aka Self Esteem** (*Cabaret*) on 19 July; **Monica Dolan** (*The Change*) at 1.30pm on 20 July; **Meera Syal** (*Roar*) on 22 July; **Jodie Whittaker** (*Doctor Who*) will perform on 23 July; **Mawaan Rizwan** (*Juice*) on 24 July; **Jessica Gunning** (*Baby Reindeer*) on 25 July; **Nick Mohammed** (*Douglas Is*

Cancelled) on 26 July; **Toby Jones** (*Mr Bates vs. The Post Office*) at 1.30pm on 27 July and **Kathryn Hunter** (*Drive Your Plow Over the Bones of the Dead*) at 6.30pm on 27 July.

Across the two week run a different performer will take to the stage at each show without having a clue of what is going to be asked of them. Unrehearsed and unprepared, the script becomes their guide as they journey through the story of the playwright, connected live from his flat in Berlin. Or is he? Can we really know where or when we are?

Monica Dolan, said: *"I performed in Nassim Saleimanpour's play NASSIM at the Edinburgh Festival in 2017 when I was up there performing my solo show. NASSIM was definitely one of the highlights of the festival for me. The accuracy with which I needed to listen, the communion with the audience, the discovery of the play at that same instant as everyone else in the room. At one point an audience member even helped me out and spoke my next line for me as I was unable to speak and couldn't get it out! I hope this will be another adventure in listening and awareness and discovery, bumping into thoughts and learning in public, buoyed up by the support of all of us in the space. Hearing the story for the first time at the same time as telling it is something rarely experienced by an actor, and takes us all the way back to how Shakespeare's actors must have experienced his plays the first time they played and heard them."*

Jessica Gunning said: *"I am terrifyingly excited (if that's even possible), to be taking part in the Royal Court's ECHO and look forward to working with Nassim and Omar on this unique theatrical experience. I've always thought that theatre has the potential to be a little bit magic and can only imagine projects like this make it feel even more so - stepping into the unknown each night with a completely different person. And what a group of actors to be part of - I feel very honoured and can't wait. "*

Mawaan Rizwan said: *"I love the work Omar & Nassim are doing. As an actor it's a perfect mixture of exciting, innovative and terrifying!"*

Biographies

Sheila Atim

Nominated for the 2023 BAFTA Rising Star Award; winner of two Oliviers in 2022 and 2018, the Chopard Trophy at the Cannes Festival in 2022; and named as a Screen Star of Tomorrow in 2021, one of Variety's '10 Brits to Watch' in 2020; appearing on the Forbes '30 Under 30' list that same year and awarded an MBE for services to drama in 2019.

Film includes: **All Dirt Roads Taste of Salt** (A24); **The Woman King** (TriStar Pictures for Sony); **Doctor Strange & the Multiverse of Madness** (Marvel); *Pinocchio* (Disney); and **Bruised** (Thunder Road Films for Netflix).

Television includes: **Royal Kill List**, **The Royal Bastards: Rise of the Tudors** (72 Films for Sky History); **The Underground Railroad**, **The Feed**, (Amazon Studios); **The Irregulars** (Drama Republic for Netflix); **The Pale Horse** (Mammoth Screen/BBC); **Bounty Hunters S2** (Tiger Aspect for Sky); **Harlots S2** (Monumental Television for Hulu); **I Live With Models** (Comedy Central)

Stage includes: **Constellations** (Vaudeville Theatre); **Time Is Love / Tiempo Es Amor** (Finborough Theatre); **Othello** (Shakespeare's Globe); **Girl From the North Country** (Noël Coward Theatre/The Old Vic); **The Tempest** (Donmar Warehouse)

Monica Dolan

Monica Dolan is a BAFTA and Olivier Award winning actor whose work spans television, film and stage.

Television highlights include her portrayal of 'Jo Hamilton' in **Mr Bates Vs The Post Office**, **Appropriate Adult** (for which she won the BAFTA), **The Thief, His Wife, And The Canoe**, playing the role of 'Anne Darwin', **My Name Is Leon**, Alan Bennett's **Talking Heads**, Stephen Frears' **A Very English Scandal** (BAFTA nomination Best Supporting Actress), **Black Mirror**, **The Witness For The Prosecution**, **The Casual Vacancy** and **W1A**. Monica will star in the new upcoming series of **Sherwood**.

Her feature films include **Cyrano**, **Days of the Bagnold Summer**, **The Dig**, **Official Secrets**, **Eye In The Sky**, **The Arbor**, **Pride**, and Carol Morley's **The Falling** and **Typist Artist Pirate King** (now on Netflix).

Onstage Monica played the lead in **Doubt** at Chichester Festival Theatre, to critical acclaim. Before that she revived her performance in **The Shrine** for the Talking Heads Series at The Bridge. Other theatre work includes Brandon Jacobs-Jenkins' critically acclaimed **Appropriate** at the Donmar, **Plaques And Tangles** for the Royal Court, and Ivo van Hove's production of **All About Eve** (for which she won an Olivier Award). Monica also wrote and starred in the award winning play **The B*Easts** which transferred to London following a hit run at the Edinburgh Festival.

Jessica Gunning

Jessica is currently starring as Martha in the Netflix drama **Baby Reindeer**. The seven-part series is based on the Olivier Award winning show about writer, actor and comedian Richard Gadd's true-life experience of being stalked and has received international acclaim.

Jessica has also recently returned to our screens as Diane in Season 3 of hit BBC comedy **The Outlaws**. She is about to begin shooting an adaptation of Enid Blyton's **The Magic Faraway Tree**, in which she plays Dame Washalot.

On stage, Jessica played the role of Mrs Jewkes opposite Cate Blanchett in the National Theatre production of **When We Have Sufficiently Tortured Each Other**. Other credits for the National Theatre include **Much Ado About Nothing** and **Major Barbara**.

Jessica played Siân James in the Golden Globe and BAFTA nominated feature film **Pride** (Pathé), and was in the BBC series' **White Heat**, **MotherFatherSon** and **What Remains**, as well as guest-starring in the **Doctor Who** episode **Partners in Crime**.

Other screen credits in recent years include **Inside No. 9** (BBC), **Back** (Channel 4), **Prime Suspect 1973** (ITV), Victoria Wood's **That Day We Sang** (BBC), **Law and Order: UK** (ITV), Peter Kosminsky's **The State** (Channel 4), **Trollied** (Sky One) and **Fortitude** (Sky Atlantic).

Jeremy O. Harris

Jeremy O. Harris is the playwright and producer of **Slave Play**, currently on the West End. He's nominated for two 2023 Tony Awards for producing **The Sign in Sidney Brustein's Window** and **Ain't No Mo'**. His play **Daddy** premiered Off-Broadway with Alan Cumming at the New Group and then at London's Almeida Theatre with Claes Bang before premiering at Tokyo's Globe Theatre. In 2023 in collaboration with Gucci and Monteverdi he started the SUBSTRATUM residency where he mentored five young writers for a month. Jeremy co-wrote A24's critically-acclaimed **Zola** alongside director Janicza Bravo. He is currently developing

new series for FX, HBO, and Legendary. He is also currently working with Universal, HBO Films, and Warner Bros. His documentary feature debut **Slave Play. Not A Movie. A Play.** had its US premiere on HBO.

Kathryn Hunter

Kathryn Hunter is an Olivier Award-winning Actress and Director.

Theatre credits include: **King Lear, The Chairs, Happy Days, WHY, Timon of Athens, Prometheus Unbound, The House of Bernarda Alba, Fragments, The Valley of Astonishment, The Emperor, Kafka's Monkey, Cyrano De Bergerac, Hearts-Cards, A Midsummer Night's Dream, A Tender Thing, Antony & Cleopatra, King Lear, One Green Bottle, The Diver, The Bee, Yerma, Celestina, Whistling Psyche, Dona Rosita, Richard III, The Taming of the Shrew, Macbeth, Electra, Far Away, The Rose Tattoo, The Devils, Live Like Pigs, The Recruiting Officer, Our Country's Good, The Hypochondriac, Women of Troy, Romeo & Juliet, Spoonface Steinberg, Mother Courage, The Skriker, The Visit.**

As long-term associate of Théâtre de Complicité, her credits include: **Drive Your Plow Over the Bones of the Dead, The Visit** (Olivier Best Actress Award), **Foe, Out of the House Walked a Man, Anything for a Quiet Life, Help! I'm Alive** and **The Winter's Tale.**

Film includes: **Megalopolis, Poor Things, The Pod Generation, The Front Room, The Tragedy of Macbeth, A Midsummer Night's Dream, Tale of Tales, Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix, The Baby of Macon, Maria's Child, Orlando, All or Nothing.**

Television includes: **Black Doves, Andor, Landscapers, Les Misérables, Black Earth Rising, Flowers, Rome, Silent Witness** and **Grushko.**

Directing credits include: **Napoleon Disrobed, Othello, The Birds, Mr Puntilla and his Man Matti, Wiseguy Scapino, The Glory of Living, The Comedy of Errors, Pericles, My Perfect Mind.**

Toby Jones

Toby Jones most recently played the central role of 'Alan Bates' in **Mr Bates Vs. The Post Office** (ITV). Directed by James Strong, the 4-part drama told the story of one of the greatest miscarriages of justice in British legal history of the Post Master Scandal. He will soon be seen in ITV's upcoming drama, **Ruth**, which follows the story of the infamous Ruth Ellis who was the last woman in the UK to be hanged.

Toby also took on the role of 'Basil' in **Indiana Jones and the Dial of Destiny** (Walt Disney Pictures), opposite Harrison Ford. Further recent onscreen credits include Sam Mendes' **Empire of Light** (BBC Legends/Searchlight Pictures) alongside Olivia Colman, **The Pale Blue Eye** (Netflix), based on Louis Bayard's novel of the same name, **The Long Shadow** (ITV) and **The Wonder** (Element Picture), opposite Florence Pugh. He will next appear on screen in Duke Johnson's **The Actor** based on the 2010 novel Memory by Donald E. Westlake and Doug Liman's **The Instigators** for Apple TV+, opposite Matt Damon. Previous notable Film & TV credits include **Tetris** (AI-Film/Apple TV+) , **The English** (All3 Media), **Danny Boy** (BBC Two), **First Cow** (A24), **Worzel Gummidge** (Leopard Pictures), **Sherlock** (Hartwood Films) and **The Detectorists** (BBC).

Toby similarly has an expanse of onstage credits to his name, perhaps most notably **Uncle Vanya** at the Harold Pinter Theatre for which he received an Olivier nomination for his portrayal of the titular role. Further theatre credits include **The Painter** (Arcola Theatre), **The Birthday Party** (Harold Pinter Theatre) and **Every Good Boy Deserves Favour** (National Theatre). His role as Arthur in Kenneth Brannagh's **The Play What I Wrote** earned Toby an Olivier Award for Best Actor in a Supporting Role.

Adrian Lester

Award-winning actor and director Adrian Lester CBE has been a recognisable face on screen and stage for over three decades. His leading role in the blockbuster movie *Primary Colors*, also starring John Travolta and Emma Thompson, propelled his international career and more movies followed including **The Day After Tomorrow** and **Mary, Queen of Scots**. His TV career has seen him star in many TV dramas including **Hustle**, **Undeclared War**, **Undercover**, **Life**, **Trauma**, **Trigger Point**, **Riviera**, **Renegade Nell** and the forthcoming series of **Sandman**. He is also a revered stage actor with iconic roles including **Othello** and **Henry V** at the National Theatre, Bobby in **Company**, for which he won an Olivier Award for Best Actor, **Red Velvet** and **The Lehman Trilogy** on Broadway, for which he received a Tony Award nomination for Best Actor. His directing credits include *Riviera* (Sky Atlantic), *Hustle* (BBC1) & **The Greatest Wealth** (Old Vic).

Nick Mohammed

Nick Mohammed is an established, double Emmy-nominated actor, comedian and writer. He has just wrapped filming a pivotal role in **Control**, an upcoming Studio Canal feature in which he co-stars opposite James McAvoy.

In early 2024, Nick filmed a lead role **Deep Cover** for Amazon – a feature with Bryce Dallas Howard and Orlando Bloom, produced by Colin Trevorrow. He also became a fan favourite on the latest series of the hit show - **Taskmaster** - for Channel 4.

He can recently be seen starring in the first series of **The Ballad Of Renegade Nell**, in which he plays a regular role, for Disney+. He also created, wrote, executive produced and co-starred, alongside David Schwimmer, in Sky One's hit show **Intelligence**. It has run for two series and a special and airs on Peacock in the US.

Nick's other recent acting roles include a regular role in Apple's hit, Emmy award-winning series - **Ted Lasso** – opposite Jason Sudeikis. Nick has been nominated twice for the Outstanding Supporting Actor In A Comedy Series award at the Emmys for his work on the show.

Nick has received critical acclaim for his live character comedy work and has transferred this success to the small screen. Nick's iconic persona Mr. Swallow is ever popular both on his sell out 2023 national tour, **The Very Best & Worst Of Mr. Swallow**, as well as viewing figures online - as Mr. Swallow's Jurassic Park rendition stand at 8.7 million on Facebook whilst the clip of him memorising cards has been viewed 7.9 million times.

In 2022, Nick (as Mr Swallow) also staged a hysterical reconstruction of Charles Dicken's classic Christmas tale at Soho Theatre. **A Christmas Carol-Ish** received widespread acclaim and included appearances from David Elms, Kieran Hodgson, and Sarah Hadland.

Nick was seen in one of the lead roles in the feature **Maggie Moore(S)** in 2023. The film co-stars Jon Hamm and Tina Fey, with John Slattery directing. He also co-wrote and co-starred in the pilot, **Morning Has Broken**, with Julia Davis for Channel 4.

Other credits include Sky's Christmas hit film **Roald and Beatrix**, Joe Cornish's **The Kid Who Would Be King**, Ridley Scott's **The Martian**, box office smash **Bridget Jones's Baby**, and **The Ab Fab Movie**. He voiced Piglet in Disney's live action feature **Christopher Robin** and played the Butler in Disney's **The Nutcracker And The Four Realms**. He has featured in a host of TV comedies including HBO and Sky's **Sally4ever**, Sky's **Camping**, Channel 4's **Uncle** and **Stath Lets Flats** and the BBC's **This Time With Alan Partridge**.

Mawaan Rizwan

Mawaan is a BAFTA winning actor and writer. This year saw the release of his critically acclaimed BBC series, **Juice**, which he wrote, starred and exec produced. It co-stars Russell Tovey, his mother Shahnaz Rizwan and his brother Nabhaan Rizwan. Mawaan also starred in **Two Weeks to Live** alongside Maisie Williams, a 6 part comedy series for HBO Max. And Mawaan's writing credit on Netflix' **Sex Education** (series 2 and 3) earned him a spot on Forbes' 30 under 30 list.

As a comedian, Mawaan has appeared on **Taskmaster** and **Live at the Apollo** and his live performances of his songs **Mango** and **Are You Checking Me Out or Are You Just a Racist?** both went viral.

Fiona Shaw

Appointed as a Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE) in 2001 for her contribution to the film, theatrical, and televisual arts, Fiona Shaw is one of Britain's most prized actresses. She has worked with several international directors, including Alfonso Cuarón (**Harry Potter**), Jim Sheridan (**My Left Foot**), Bob Raffelson (**Mountains of the Moon**), Brian DePalma (**The Black Dahlia**), and Terrence Malick (**The Tree of Life**). She is known in the US for her television performance as the villainess witch Marnie Stonebrook on HBO's **True Blood**. On stage, she has excelled in a wide range of performances, including Olivier Award-winning performances in **Electra**, **As You Like It**, and **The Good Person of Sichuan** and **Machinal**, which also won her a London Evening Standard Theatre Award. Her outstanding role as the titular character of **Medea** earned her an Evening Standard Award and a nomination for a Tony Award®. Aside from her work on **Killing Eve**, she can also be seen in the films **Lizzie**; and **Colette**, as well as the TV series **Mrs. Wilson**. She can be seen most recently in the 4th series of the HBO series **True Detective** and the feature film **IF** directed by John Krasinski. Later this year she has the Amazon series **Anansi Boys** to come out, along with the Apple feature film **Echo Valley** and the British independent feature film **Hot Milk**.

Meera Syal

Meera Syal CBE is a multi-Emmy Award-winning British actress, comedian and writer. Last year, she was presented with the BAFTA Fellowship at the BAFTA Television Awards 2023, which is the highest accolade bestowed by BAFTA and recognises an outstanding contribution to the industry and the much-coveted Lifetime Achievement Award at the Women in Film & Television Awards 2023.

Born in Wolverhampton, Syal began her multifaceted career in theatre with roles spanning renowned productions, including the Royal Shakespeare Company's **Much Ado About Nothing**, David Hares **Behind The Beautiful Forevers**, (NT) Kenneth Branagh's production of **Romeo and Juliet**, (Garrick Theatre) and Jeremy Herrin's West End transfer of **Noises Off**. She also starred as Shirley in **Shirley Valentine** (Menier Chocolate Factory and Trafalgar Studios West End), receiving the What's On Stage Award for Best Actress.

Her television credits as a writer/performer include the multi award-winning comedy series **Goodness Gracious Me** and **The Kumars at Number 42**, for which she received a BAFTA nomination. Her additional television credits include **The Split**, **Broadchurch**, **Back To Life** and Sky's **Code 404**. She has just been seen starring in new Apple TV show **Roar**, an anthology series based on a short story collection of the same name by Cecelia Ahern. Meera can currently be seen in new Amazon series, **The Devil's Hour** and as a series regular in series 2 of Amazon's **The Wheel of Time**. She is also currently starring as the title role in Acorn's **Mrs Sidhu Investigates**.

On the big screen, her film credits include **Yesterday**, **The Nutcracker** and the **Four Realms**, **Paddington 2**, **Doctor Strange**, **Beautiful Thing**, **Absolutely Anything**, and **Alice Through the**

Looking Glass. More recently, she has just been seen in Disney Channel Original movie **SPIN** and will also soon be seen in indie movie **The Almond and the Seahorse.**

Syal's first novel, **Anita And Me**, won the Betty Trask Award and is the first novel by a British Asian writer to be included on the national school's curriculum. She has written two other critically acclaimed novels, **Life Isn't All Ha Ha Hee Hee** and **The House Of Hidden Mothers.** Meera holds honorary doctorates at the University of Manchester, the University of Birmingham and SOAS, and was also previously a Visiting Professor for Theatre at St Catherine's, Oxford University. She is currently in the process of writing her memoir, which is due for publication by Weidenfeld & Nicolson in June 2025.

Her credits as a screenwriter include the popular films **Bhaji On The Beach**, **Anita And Me** and **My Sister Wife**, for which she won two Asian Film Awards (AFA), for her screenplay and performance. Meera has also been a recipient of the Women In Film And Television Award for Creative Innovation.

Rebecca Lucy Taylor

Theatre credits include: **Sally Bowles in Cabaret** (Kit Kat Club/West End); **As Composer: Prima Facie** (Harold Pinter Theatre & Golden Theatre, NYC,).

Film credits include: **Layla**

Television credits include: **Smothered; I Hate Suzie Too**

Album credits as Self Esteem include: **Compliments Please; Prioritise Pleasure** (The Guardian and Sunday Times Culture's Album of the Year, Mercury Prize nomination, BRIT Award for Best New Artist, Sky Arts Award nomination, NME Awards nomination, BBC Introducing 2022 Artist of the Year Award, Attitude Magazine's 2021 Music Award).

Jodie Whittaker

Making TV history as the first woman to play the iconic title role, Jodie starred as the 'Doctor' in the BBC's legendary hit series **Doctor Who** for the past 3 seasons. She can currently be seen in Jimmy McGovern's series **Time** for the BBC, which recently aired to rave reviews. She recently wrapped shooting the Netflix limited series **Toxic Town**, written by Jack Thorne and directed by Minkie Spiro. Jodie's previous television credits include ITV's critically acclaimed crime drama **Broadchurch**, opposite Olivia Colman and David Tennant, **Black Mirror's** infamous episode **The Entire History Of You**, which is consistently ranked among the Netflix anthology series' best episodes, the Sky One drama **The Smoke** and the lead of the eight-part spy miniseries **The Assets** on ABC. On the feature side, Jodie had her breakout role in the Oscar-nominated film **Venus**, opposite Peter O'Toole. She also produced and starred in **Adult Life Skills**, directed by Rachel Tunnard, receiving a Best Actress nomination at the British Independent Film Awards. Other feature credits include Joe Cornish's **Attack The Block**. An accomplished stage actress as well, Jodie played the title role in **Antigone** for the Royal National Theatre.

Benedict Wong

In a career spanning three decades Salford born and bred, Benedict Wong first gained recognition in Stephen Frears' **Dirty Pretty Things** (nomination best supporting BIFA).

Wong's cinematic journey continued with notable performances in Danny Boyle's **Sunshine**, the Frank Cottrell-Boyce written **Grow Your Own**. Ridley Scott's sci-fi epics, **Prometheus** and **The Martian**. Armando Iannucci's **The Personal History of David Copperfield** and Disney's Oscar-nominated **Raya and the Last Dragon**. Edson Oda's **Nine Days** (Independent Spirit Award nomination for Best Supporting Actor).

His portrayal of Wong in the Marvel Cinematic Universe. **Dr Strange, Avengers Infinity War, Avengers Endgame, Shang-Chi and the Legend of the Ten Rings, Spider-Man: No Way Home, Doctor Strange in the Multiverse of Madness, She-Hulk: Attorney at Law.** Soon to be seen in Bad Genius and Zach Cregger's **Weapons**.

In 2019 Benedict was inducted into the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Science.

Notable television work includes Errol in Sean Lock's **15 Storeys High**, Kublai Khan in Netflix's **Marco Polo** and most recently as Detective Clarence Da Shi in David Benioff, D.B Weiss and Alexander Woo's **3 Body Problem**.

His stage career began at the Lyric Hammersmith **The Letter** directed by Neil Bartlett he then continued at Shakespeare's Globe Theatre under the tutelage of Mark Rylance. Playing Laertes opposite Michael Sheen in **Hamlet** at the Young Vic directed by Ian Rickson. His performance as Ai Wei Wei in **The Arrest of Ai Wei Wei** at the Hampstead Theatre directed by James Macdonald and Zhang Lin in Lucy Kirkwood's 5 time Olivier award-winning **Chimerica** directed by Lyndsey Turner.

Omar Elerian (he/him)

As director for the Royal Court, theatre includes: **two Palestinians go dogging**.

As director, other theatre includes: **As You Like It (RSC); The Chairs (Almeida); The Return of Danton (Münchner Kammerspiele); The Long Shadow of Alois Brunner (Schauspiel Leipzig); Autoreverse (BAC); Going Through, Misty (& West End/The Shed, New York), NASSIM (& Traverse/New York City Center/International Tour), 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.

Nassim Soleimanpour (he/him)

Theatre includes: **White Rabbit Red Rabbit (& Westside Theatre New York City/International Tour), BLANK (& Summerhall/International Tour), NASSIM (& Bush/ Traverse/New York City Center/International Tour) (Nassim Soleimanpour Productions); Blind Hamlet (Actors Touring Company/LIFT); COOK (Copenhagen Grob/ Bush/International Tour); Mr. K and The Flowers (Audible).**

Awards include: **Dublin Fringe Festival Best New Performance (White Rabbit, Red Rabbit), Summerworks Outstanding New Performance Text Award (White Rabbit, Red Rabbit), The Arches Brick Award (White Rabbit, Red Rabbit), Fringe First Award (NASSIM), Off Broadway Alliance Awards (NASSIM).**

ECHO (Every Cold-Hearted Oxygen) is an NSP production, co-produced by LIFT (London) / The Royal Court Theatre (London), Staatstheater Mainz, Riksteatern (Sweden), Why Not Theatre (Toronto), Théâtre National Wallonie-Bruxelles (Brussels) / Le Lieu Unique (Nantes), Les Théâtres de la Ville de Luxembourg, Canberra Theatre Centre / Malthouse Theatre (Melbourne). In association with The Shed (New York City).

ENDS

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Images can be downloaded [here](#).

Notes to Editors

Performance schedule:

13 July, 6.30pm: **Fiona Shaw**
15 July, 7.30pm: **Benedict Wong**
16 July, 7.30pm: **Sheila Atim**
17 July, 7.00pm: **Adrian Lester** (press night)
18 July, 7.30pm: **Jeremy O. Harris**
19 July, 7.30pm: **Rebecca Lucy Taylor aka Self Esteem**
20 July, 1.30pm: **Monica Dolan** (matinee)
20 July, 6.30pm: **TBA**
22 July, 7.30pm: **Meera Syal**
23 July, 7.30pm: **Jodie Whittaker**
24 July, 7.30pm: **Mawaan Rizwan**
25 July, 7.30pm: **Jessica Gunning**
26 July, 7.30pm: **Nick Mohammed**
27 July, 1.30pm: **Toby Jones** (matinee)
27 July, 6.30pm: **Kathryn Hunter** (evening)

An NSP production, co-produced by LIFT (London) / The Royal Court Theatre (London), Staatstheater Mainz, Riksteatern (Sweden), Why Not Theatre (Toronto), Théâtre National Wallonie-Bruxelles (Brussels) / Le Lieu Unique (Nantes), Les Théâtres de la Ville de Luxembourg, Canberra Theatre Centre / Malthouse Theatre (Melbourne). In association with The Shed (New York City).

ECHO (Every Cold-Hearted Oxygen)

Written by Nassim Soleimanpour

Directed by Omar Elerian

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

Saturday 13 July - Saturday 27 July 2024

Press Night: Wednesday 17 July 2024, 7pm

Monday – Friday, 7.30pm and 2.30pm

Saturday, 1.30pm and 6.30pm

Post-show Talk: Thursday 18 July 2024

Captioned Performance: Thursday 18 July and Saturday 27 July 2024

Relaxed Environment Performance: Saturday 27 July 2024

Audio Described pre-show notes available after Press Night

Standard Tickets £15 - £58

First Look Tickets**

Concessions*

Under 30s***

Access £19 (plus a companion at the same rate)

A LIFT Concept Touring Commission. Supported by Royal Central School of Speech and Drama. ECHO is generously supported by the Goethe Institut London and Maria Björnson Memorial Fund.

***ID required. All discounts subject to availability.**

Tickets: Ways to Save

Concessions – Enhanced for 2024 to include more performance days and price bands, Concession tickets are now available for previews, matinees and Friday performances on Band AA – C 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 (Previews) - 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 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.

Under 30s Tickets – We're also extending our scheme for young audiences, with Under 27s ticket prices now available for ages 30 and under, meaning even more people can access even more tickets at the £15 rate. A number of £15 tickets will be available for selected performances in the Jerwood Theatre Downstairs. Available on Band C & D tickets, subject to availability.

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.

10p Standing - We will start to sell standing tickets for 10p from 6pm on the day of each performance. Patrons buying standing tickets must stand in the windows provided on the side of the auditorium on the circle level.

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.

LIFT

LIFT, London's biennial international festival of theatre, has been bringing joyful, daring and unforgettable theatre from around the world to London for over 40 years, using the whole of the city as its stage.

Every two years, LIFT presents a festival full of bold and relevant culture, international perspectives, and thought-provoking performances. Whether it's a much-loved venue, iconic landmark or unsung corner of London, LIFT gathers Londoners around incredible art.

LIFT's mission is to create powerful, invigorating experiences that challenge artistic, political and social conventions; to champion artist advancement at home and abroad; to lead sustainable

internationalism; and to celebrate and connect London to the world. We engage and create communities around ideas and projects, connect leading artists to locals, connect international artists and local artists to London, and together make incredible art happen.

A charity limited by guarantee and based in Toynbee Studios in East London, LIFT has a diversified income mix and is an Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisation with a biennial turnover in the region of £2 million.