

PRESS RELEASE

Monday 22 September 2025

## ROYAL COURT THEATRE ANNOUNCES FULL CAST AND CREATIVE TEAM FOR PORN PLAY



The **Royal Court Theatre** today announces the full cast and creative team for the World Premiere of *Porn Play*, with Olivier Award winner Will Close (*Dear England*) joining previously announced **Ambika Mod** (*One Day, This Is Going to Hurt*). Written by **Sophia Chetin-Leuner** (*This Might Not Be It*) and directed by **Josie Rourke** (former Artistic Director of both the Donmar Warehouse and Bush Theatre), award-winning choreographer **Wayne McGregor** joins the creative team, with the play running in the Jerwood Theatre Upstairs from **Thursday 6 November 2025** to **Saturday 13 December 2025**, with press night on **Thursday 13 November 2025**.

The full cast includes **Will Close**, **Lizzy Connolly**, **Asif Khan**, and **Ambika Mod**.

Ani is a dazzling young academic with a secret addiction to violent pornography. In between receiving awards and delivering lectures on *Paradise Lost*, her career and relationships begin to unravel as she struggles to confront her uncontrollable desires. Funny, unsettling and honest, *Porn Play* marks the Royal Court debut of writer **Sophia Chetin-Leuner**.

The designer is **Yimei Zhao**, the lighting designer is **Mark Henderson**, the movement director is **Wayne McGregor**, and **Helen Skiera** is the sound designer. Casting is by **Jessica Ronane** **CDG** and **Saffeya Shebli**. For the show, the Costume Supervisor is **Ellen Rey de Castro**. The Stage Manager is **Aime Neeme** and the Deputy Stage Manager is **Charlotte Padgham**.

*Porn Play* is a co-production with **SISTER**.

**Sophia Chetin-Leuner** is this year's recipient of The Clare McIntyre Bursary.

### **Cast biographies:**

Will Close (he/him)

Theatre includes: **Dear England (National); Man Mountain, Bad Altitude, 1599, Great British Mysteries? (Soho); Mediocre White Male (Park Theatre); The Maze (Teatro Vivo); 1&Only, Texas Tax Man (Vaults); Golem (Young Vic); Good People (English Theatre of Frankfurt).**

Film includes: **Titan, Falling.**

Television includes: **Silent Witness, Midsomer Murders, Death in Paradise, Dalgliesh, Buffering.**

Awards include: **Olivier Award for Best Actor in a Supporting Role in a Play (Dear England).**

Lizzy Connolly (she/her)

Theatre includes: **Pygmalion (Old Vic); Cabaret (Lido de Paris); Assassins, Present Laughter (Chichester Festival), Sweet Charity (Donmar Warehouse); Oklahoma! (BBC Proms); On The Town (Regent's Park); The Twilight Zone (Almeida); Wild Party (The Other Palace); Vanities, Dirty Rotten Scoundrels (West End); Once in a Lifetime (Young Vic); Indecent Proposal, Xanadu (Southwark Playhouse); Mrs Henderson Presents (Royal Bath/ West End).**

Film includes: **The Festival.**

Television includes: **Dreaming Whilst Black S2, Criminal Record, Documentary, Now!, The Canterville Ghost, Call the Midwife, Plebs, The Windsors.**

Asif Khan (he/him)

For the Royal Court, theatre includes: **A Kind of People.**

Theatre includes: **A Man for All Seasons (West End); Tartuffe (RSC & Birmingham Rep), The Hypocrite (RSC/ Hull Truck); Handbagged, Multitudes, When The Crows Visit (Kiln); Love, Bombs and Apples (Arcola/ UK & USA tour), A Passage to India (Park Theatre); Hamlet, The Cherry Orchard (Theatre Royal Windsor); Great Expectations (Royal Exchange Theatre); Twelfth Night (National).**

Television includes: **Mr Bates vs The Post Office, Diana & I, Doctor Who.**

Radio includes: **The Archers (BBC Radio 4).**

As a playwright, theatre includes: **Combustion (Tara Theatre) & Sisters 360 (Polka Theatre)**

Awards include: **Laurence Olivier Bursary Award, Sir Alec Guinness Memorial Award.**

Ambika Mod (she/her)

Theatre includes: **Every Brilliant Thing, White Rabbit Red Rabbit (Soho Place).**

Television includes: **One Day, This Is Going to Hurt, The Stolen Girl, I Hate Suzie.**

Awards include: **Royal Television Society Award for Best Supporting Actress, Broadcast Press Guild Award for Best Actress (This Is Going to Hurt); Rose d'Or Emerging Talent**

**Award, Newport Beach Film Festival Spotlight Award (One Day); BAFTA Breakthrough;  
Forbes' 30 Under 30 in Europe; Time100 NEXT; Sunday Times Young Power List.  
ENDS**

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[Images here.](#)

**Upcoming press performances:**

Monday 20 October 2025, 7pm	<i>The Unbelievers</i> by Nick Payne	Jerwood Theatre Downstairs
Thursday 13 November 2025, 7pm	<i>Porn Play</i> by Sophia Chetin-Leuner	Jerwood Theatre Upstairs

Porn Play

By Sophia Chetin-Leuner

Directed by Josie Rourke

Movement Director Wayne McGregor

Starring Will Close, Lizzy Connolly, Asif Khan, and Ambika Mod

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

Thursday 6 November - Saturday 13 December 2025

Press night: Thursday 13 November 2025, 7pm

Monday - Friday, 7.45pm and 3pm

Saturday, 6.45pm and 2pm

Post show talk: Tuesday 18 November 2025, 7:45pm

Chilled Performance: Saturday 29 November 2025, 2pm

Captioned Performance: Tuesday 9 December 2025, 7.45pm

Standard Tickets £15 - £30

Concessions\*

Under 30s\*\*\*

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

\*ID required. All discounts subject to availability.

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