



STRATFORD
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STRATFORD EAST
...a people's theatre

April 2013 – March 2014

REVIEW

A YEAR OF QUOTES AND COMMENT

A PEOPLE'S
THEATRE



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REVIEW

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WELCOME
To a year of quotes
and comment

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12-13 MAY 2013
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MONOLOGUE SLAM UK
GUTTED 26 APR - 25 MAY 2013
ANGELIC TALES 11 - 15 JUN 2013
YOUNG PEOPLE'S WORK
LOVE N STUFF 13 SEP - 5 OCT 2013
CROWNING GLORY 17 OCT - 9 NOV
HOME THEATRE 26 OCT - 10 NOV 2013
DICK WHITTINGTON 23 NOV 2013 - 11 JAN 2014
OH WHAT A LOVELY SINGERS 8 JAN 2014
OH WHAT A LOVELY WAR 1 FEB - 15 MAR 2014
SCHOOLS PROGRAMME

36-39 People Making It Happen

Theatre Royal Stratford East, Gerry Raffles Square, London E15 1BN t: 020 8534 7374
Artistic Director: Kerry Michael e: theatreroyalstratfordeast.com www.stratforeast.com
Board: Carol Lake (Chair), Andrew Cowan, Michael Eboda, Hazel Province, Lady Stratford, Jane Storie, Sabine Vinck
Paul O'Leary (Vice Chair), Mark Pritchard, Derek Joseph, Jo McHale, Dawn Reid



Pioneer Theatre Limited. Reg Ofce: Theatre Royal
Stratford East, Gerry Raffles Square, London E15 1BN.
Registration Number: 556251. Charity Number: 233501.
VAT Number: 245 9343 27

FOREWORD

By Kerry Michael: Artistic Director
of Theatre Royal Stratford East

2013 -14 has been an exhilarating year during which we have been working hard to break new ground and deliver work which is more ambitious than ever before.

A highlight for us all has been Home Theatre (UK), a bold international project with partners in Brazil that saw 30 new, one person shows performed in 30 homes across the capital. This was a truly remarkable project with work as diverse as London itself that challenged traditional notions of theatre-going and opened up possibilities to experience and engage with theatre in new ways.

Digital technology was a really important aspect of the Home Theatre (UK), using it to share our work and open up discussion about it. In November we launched www.stratfordeast.tv with a 15-hour broadcast of the shows in people's homes filmed by students from the University of Reading. So far, over 20,000 minutes have been viewed online.

In spring 2014 we staged the Olivier nominated show Oh What A Lovely War coinciding with Joan Littlewood's centenary and marking 100 years since the outbreak of the First World War. We knew that this landmark production would still resonate with today's generation and ambitiously set about inviting every secondary school from across England to respond to the show and its themes, offering them the opportunity to perform curtain-raisers on our stage, the response saw over 200 schools take part online and over 200 pupils on our stage.

KERRY MICHAEL
Artistic Director

In 2013 we were part of the launch of London Borough of Newham's Every Child A Theatre Goer, a ground-breaking initiative to ensure that all pupils get the opportunity to see a theatre production during the academic year. In addition to this over 3,000 young people worked with our team with performances on our stage, and at a wide range of venues including the Olympic Park and a train!

We continued to place emerging artists and new writing centre-stage, building on our unrivalled reputation for talent development. This has included the ever-popular bi-monthly MonologueSlam UK with our partners TriForce Promotions giving actors the chance to take their careers on to the next level. We have also supported the publication of 2 anthologies of monologues for Black actors, which were the first of their kind. This year's Musical Theatre Initiative was opened up with calls for artists and writers from across the UK. We also staged 2 more Angelic Tales new writing festivals with 17 plays from some of today's most outstanding emerging writers.

The Olympics legacy continues with the opening of the new Queen Elizabeth Park on our doorstep and we are immensely excited by the pace of change and all this means for us; we are placing ourselves at the heart of it all. Thank you to so many of you for your continued engagement with us and we look forward to you playing an active role in our future.



FOREWORD

By Carol Lake: Chair of
Theatre Royal Stratford East

During the last year Theatre Royal Stratford East has produced a diverse and high quality programme of work unlike any other venue: the year began with Gutted, a fast-paced and daring new play by Rikki Beadle-Blair and ended with the Olivier nominated Oh What A Lovely War, which was staged as part of the national First World War Centenary.

As the pace of regeneration in East London continues with immense energy, our commitment to putting the voices of our community on our stage is more important than ever before. During our Angelic Tales New Writing Festival last year Crowning Glory was so popular with our audiences that we decided to work with the writer, Somalia Seaton, and develop it for our main stage. Our audiences informed our choice of Love N Stuff too. Building on the huge success of Wah! Wah! Girls in 2012's Cultural Olympiad, we brought back the same award-winning writer, Tanika Gupta, and 2 of the central characters for a hilarious new comedy that sold out in record time.

Theatre Royal Stratford East continues to strive to place people at its core by creating work that reflects the hopes, dreams and concerns of contemporary life in Britain; and by offering an environment that welcomes people from every background. Despite these difficult economic times, we must be bold and willing to take risks to achieve these goals.

We are immensely grateful to Arts Council England and to the London Borough of Newham for their unwavering support. Their recognition and funding is vital to us.

Alongside our artistic and audience commitment, we are also building our fundraising capabilities and seeking to diversify our income streams to enable us to extend our reach and further the impact of our work. Those individuals, businesses, trusts and foundations who currently support us make a real difference and we thank you all.

CAROL LAKE
Chair

Theatre Royal Stratford East is a very remarkable organisation; unique in what it offers its audiences and in its contribution to the theatre sector. Thank you to the executive team, the staff and all those who are a part of this and work so hard to deliver the ambitions vision.

Much has changed in Stratford since 1953 when Joan Littlewood brought her Theatre Workshop to be based at the theatre. While Theatre Royal Stratford East remains committed to its founding principles, its heart and vision is firmly driven by the communities of today and the talents of tomorrow.

We hope you will want to tell Theatre Royal Stratford East's story, introduce us to new contacts and friends, and contribute to us in these exciting and challenging times.



OUR VISION IS UNLIMITED BUT OUR FUNDING IS NOT

We are an award-winning theatre with an international reputation, rooted in our community for over 50 years. We are proud of the positive contribution we make to people's lives and to the vibrant theatre sector, producing new work that speaks to the people of Britain and all their diversity.

WHY WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT

We are a charitable organisation based in Newham that believes in the ability of theatre to achieve radical change. In recognition of the important and ground-breaking work we do, we are one of the Arts Council England's National Portfolio Organisations and we receive support from the London Borough of Newham. We are immensely grateful to them and their support is crucial to our work. In addition to our public funding, we also generate income from ticket sales and other retail.

We still need to raise at least £300,000 each year.

We would like to say a big 'thank you' to the individuals, trusts and companies who have supported us to date and hope you may be inspired to join them.

For more information, please get in touch at development@stratfordeast.com or call 0208 279 11 24

'At a time when East London and particularly Newham is going through vast regeneration, Theatre Royal Stratford East has a key role to play in supporting our communities and engendering pride and cohesion through this period of change. Theatre Royal Stratford East today offers outstanding programmes and creative spirit that is hard to beat anywhere in London.'

SIR ROBIN WALES, MAYOR OF NEWHAM

HOW YOUR SUPPORT CAN HELP US ACHIEVE OUR VISION

KEEP SEATS PRICES LOW

We are committed to being as accessible as possible for our audiences and need your support to make this possible. Situated in an area with widespread social deprivation, it is important for us to be able to offer seats for as low as £2.50 and to maintain a robust concessions policy.

REACH NEW AUDIENCES

We are proud to have an inverse audience profile compared to other London theatres; a high proportion of our audiences are young, ethnically diverse and not wealthy. Based in the borough which has the lowest arts engagement in England, we need your support so we can invest time and resources to develop relationships with our community.

EXTEND THE CONVERSATION

We are committed to democratising the debate in British Theatre. Audiences are at the heart of our work and to achieve this we need to be continuously in dialogue with them. This can happen in many ways including innovating with digital technology, we need you to invest so that we continually evolve how we do this in response to audience needs.

DEVELOP AWARD-WINNING SHOWS

Since Joan Littlewood first set up Theatre Workshop, we have been producing world-class premieres of plays and musicals. Our productions reflect the dreams and aspirations of our community and give them a voice on the international stage. We need your support to continue to take creative risks to develop excellent new work that is entertaining, thought-provoking and challenging.

SUPPORT EMERGING ARTISTS

As an Olivier Award winner with a long tradition of work that has shaped the history of British Theatre, we have much to offer new talent struggling to find a way into the arts. Your support can help us share our widely-recognised skills for training and growing talent for on and off stage with exceptional artists who have historically been ignored.

WORK WITH YOUNG PEOPLE

Our work with young people is central to our mission, we believe that theatre has the power to transform their lives. We work with over 3,000 young people each year from our community, many of whom are from deprived backgrounds. This important work plays a crucial role in their personal, creative and social development. We invite you to join us in investing in the next generation of artists, leaders, critical thinkers and audiences.



WAYS YOU CAN SUPPORT US

BUSINESSES

- Sponsor our work and access unique branding and visibility opportunities.
- Create a **Business Partnership** and experience a wide range of hospitality offers for clients and staff.
- We will work with you to help fulfil your **Corporate Social Responsibility** objectives through outstanding cultural and educational programmes, community engagement and work with young people.

Case Study

Working with East Village

Thanks to support from East Village (a development of new homes in the Olympic Park by Get Living London and Triathlon Homes) in 2013 - 14, we were able to offer Newham residents who had never come to the theatre before a chance to see our productions for just £2.50 a ticket.

'We are delighted to offer Newham residents the opportunity to access top quality theatre at an affordable price.'

Dale Meredith, Executive Director of Triathlon Homes

'Working with Theatre Royal Stratford East was a great chance to support an iconic East London landmark and the fantastic arts scene the capital has to offer.'

Derek Gorman, Chief Executive of Get Living London



Jan and Bill Smith,
Vision Collective
members with Marcus
Ellard, Assistant
Director of 'Oh What
A Lovely War'

INDIVIDUALS

- Join our **Vision Collective** and receive exclusive press night invites, free tickets, backstage access and play your part in our future.
 - Friends' Collective £250
 - Artists' Collective £500
 - Directors' Collective £1,000
- Become a **Pioneer** with a donation of £1,500 or more. Our dedicated Development team will create a bespoke package that suits your needs. You can choose to become a Pioneer of the project you are most passionate about.
- Name a seat as a gift, in memory of a loved one or to publicly show your support to TRSE. You can name a seat for £500 in our renowned and much loved auditorium.
- Leave a legacy by remembering us in your will. You will ensure that future generations will continue to enjoy access to TRSE.
- Donate online via our MyDonate button. It is easy and quick and you can make a donation at any time at this link: stratfordeast.com/donate-online

TRUSTS AND FOUNDATIONS

We are immensely appreciative of the support we receive from Trusts and Foundations. Their contributions are vital in supporting our artistic programme, work with young people and engagement activity with audiences.



Contact us at development@stratfordeast.com
or call 0208 279 1124



April 2013 **MONOLOGUESLAM UK** THE ULTIMATE ACTOR'S SHOWCASE

THEATRE ROYAL
STRATFORD EAST IN
ASSOCIATION WITH
TRIFORCE PROMOTIONS.
Apr 13, Jun 13, Aug 13,
Nov 13, Dec 13, Feb 14.

10 April 2013 MONOLOGUESLAM UK

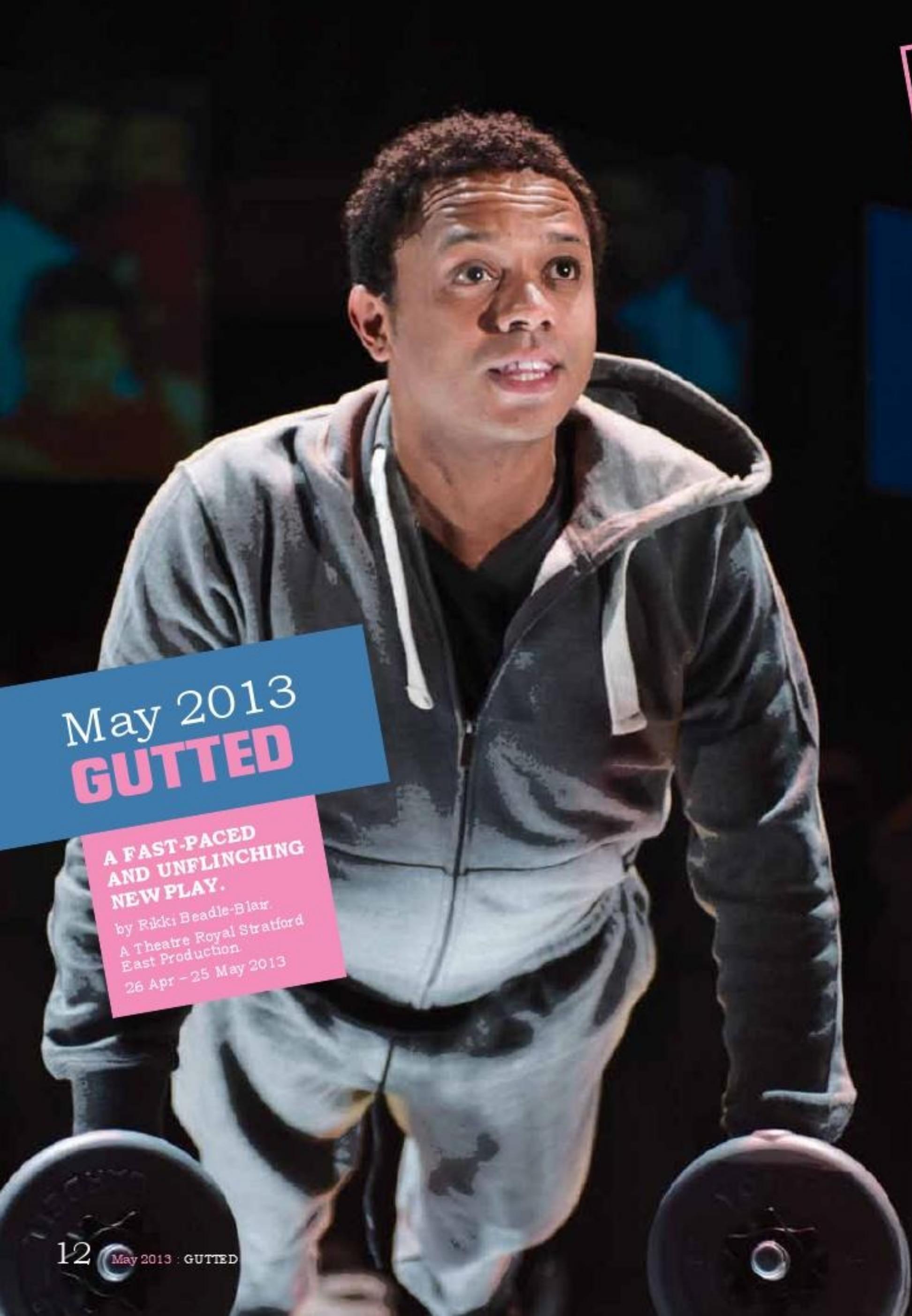


'A six times a year, theatrically entertaining night, focusing on twenty performers who have made the final cut from an initial audition of up to three hundred.. They are judged by seven industry heavy-weight agents, producers and casting directors... The event sells out to a full audience, often including household names...' **HUFFINGTON POST**

'Actors will be given the chance to take their careers to the next level with a stint on a Stratford selected performers have the chance to hone their skills as part of the Monologue Slam UK event taking place at Theatre Royal Stratford East.'

THE WHARF
'A gem of a night's entertainment'
HUFFINGTON POST

I can't wait to be there... especially to see the Junior Monologue Slam section which gives five 11-16 year olds the opportunity to hold the stage for a minute. Twitter is already all-a-tweet with anticipation...'
HUFFINGTON POST



May 2013 **GUTTED**

A FAST-PACED
AND UNFLINCHING
NEW PLAY.

by Rikki Beadle-Blair
A Theatre Royal Stratford
East Production
26 Apr - 25 May 2013



There is an electricity running through this play, pulsing character, make sure you witness it before 'lights-out' on 25th May.'

★★★★★ LIVE THEATRE

Louise Jameson nominated
'Best Female Performance'
OFFIES
(Off West End Theatre Award)

Beadle-Blair's supreme talent is for defying the expectations of both characters and audience.'

★★★★★ TIME OUT

Beadle-Blair directs with extreme assurance and an exemplary cast ensures that this play, arguably the best in the author's canon, will stay in common memory for a long time.'

THE STAGE

Brilliantly shocking, thought provoking and funny at the same time, makes Guttet an unmissable new production.'

★★★★★ SOSOGAY

'stunning performances... delivered with passion and energy and is written with an explosion of feeling.'

BRITISH THEATRE GUIDE

One of the year's theatrical highlights.'

★★★★★ THE PUBLIC REVIEWS

Beadle-Blair's writing is razor sharp and hilarious in equal measures.'

A YOUNGER THEATRE

- ★★★★★ Fringe Review
- ★★★★★ Everything Theatre
- ★★★★★ OneStopArts
- ★★★★★ Remote Goat
- ★★★★★ Afridiziak
- ★★★★★ Whatsonstage

17 POWERFUL NEW
PLAYS BY OUTSTANDING
EMERGING WRITERS.

Theatre Royal Stratford East in
association with Team Angelica

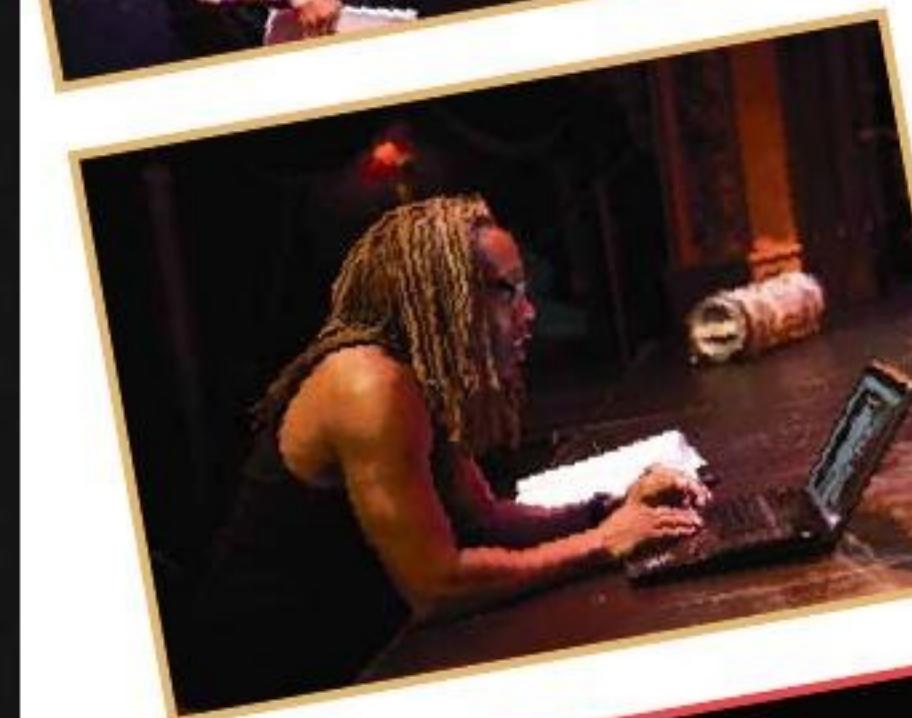
June 2013 **ANGELIC TALES NEW WRITING FESTIVAL**

11-15 Jun 2013

TONIGHT IS YOUR ANSWER
by Sarah Rutherford
SUCKERTASH by
Marcus Yau
THREE by Richard Crowest
CHOSEN by Simon Platman
STITCHED UP by Sarah Cook
DAYTRIPPERS by
Daniel Brierley
DEMOLITION by
Lucy Beacon
BRILLIANT SHARDS: SEAS
by Katie Miller
STUNTED by Joanna King
I'LL TELL YA by Seray Morka
ABSENT FATHER by
Mark Lindow
PUSH by Melody Bridges

3-7 Sep 2013

SUPER SKINNY BITCHES
by Olorunfemi Fagunwa
MAGNETIC by Edd Muruako
Beyond SHAME by Sadaf
Qureshi **RELEASE** by
Fortuna Burke
I HAVE NEVER by
Ben Kettner



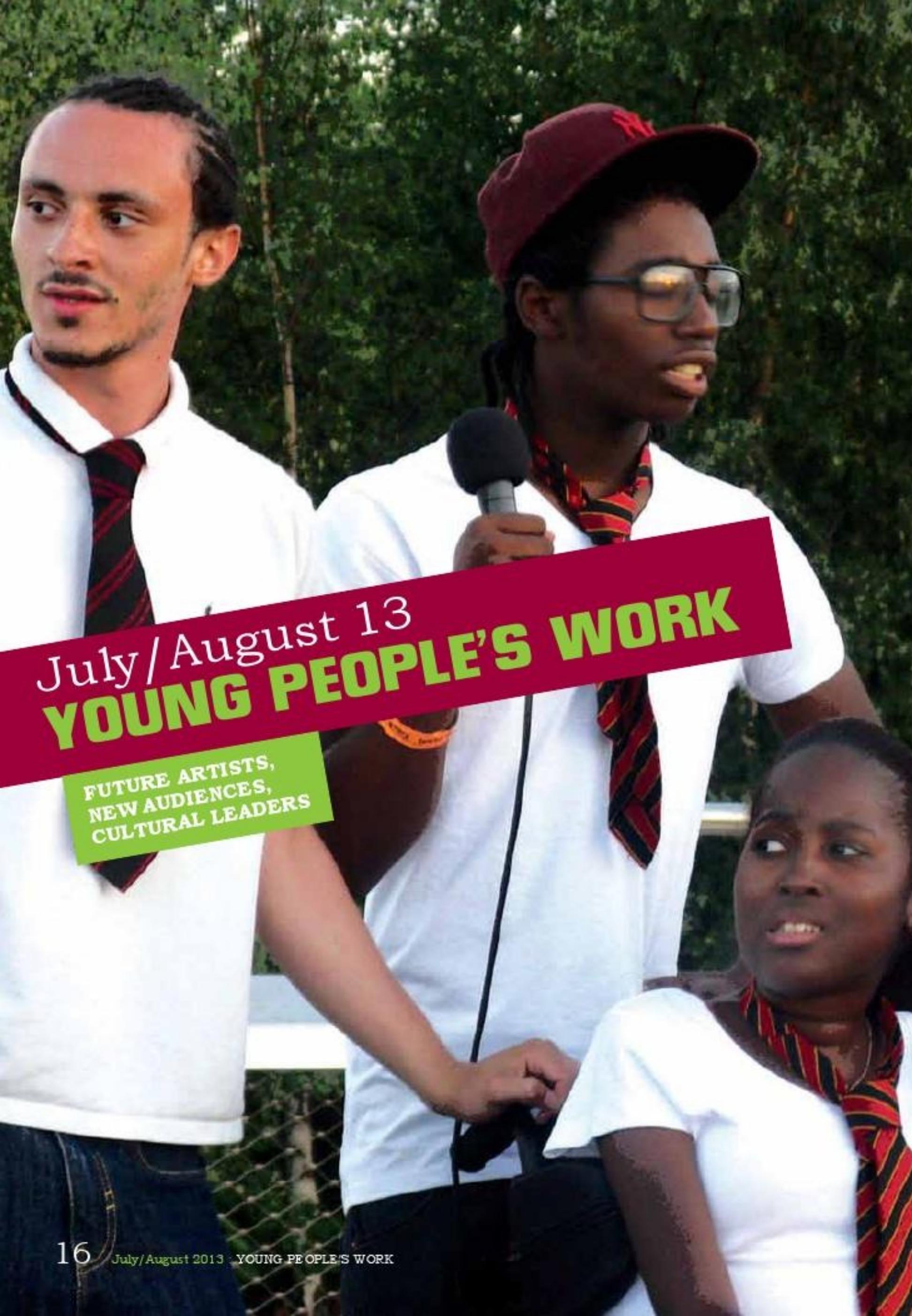
TEAM ANGELICA

‘...the Q&A session with the cast, director and writer of the play was relaxed and informative and I would say this was just as important and rewarding as the main event. These Q&A sessions take place every night for the other shows in the ‘Angelic Tales’ season, so do stay behind after the shows.’

EVERYTHING THEATRE
This year there were submissions from 70 East London writers, all of which were read and given feedback... some will go on to further development...
BRITISH THEATRE GUIDE

‘...a week-long festival of new writing... This is the third ‘Angelic Tales’ Festival and the rest of the week will see 11 more new plays presented that will range from ‘laugh out loud comedies’ to ‘city romance’.

BRITISH THEATRE GUIDE



July/August 13

YOUNG PEOPLE'S WORK

FUTURE ARTISTS,
NEW AUDIENCES,
CULTURAL LEADERS





FUTURE ARTISTS

Youth Theatre
CAMERON

The show we did on the train was awesome.'

Scan to watch
a video about
our Young
People's work.





Poets Platform
It's like being part of a family, we've done shows and slams across London. The spoken word which comes out of this group is truly inspirational.'

MICHAEL

Young Artist LAB
I really enjoyed myself and I'm also so proud of the crew LAB and thank you for giving us an opportunity to perform!

DIAMANTINA

Just wanted to say a massive thank-you for last night's masterclass. I learned so much and some great new techniques for approaching text which I will take away with me. It was great to explore. You managed to create a really safe and comfortable environment which is what I love about the LAB.'

ANNA

I found this experience extremely intense, right from the start. I love the way in which you challenged each and every one of us. Can't wait for next week.'

YASEMIN

They were totally amazing, they had the audience laughing out loud, sighing and finger-snapping in that poetry-audience way – topped with a standing ovation.'

KARLOS COLEMAN, YOUNG PEOPLE'S WORK PROJECT MANAGER

16

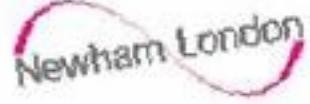
July/August 2013 : YOUNG PEOPLE'S WORK

www.stratfordeast.com A PEOPLE'S THEATRE

July/August 2013 : YOUNG PEOPLE'S WORK

17

Continued...
YOUNG PEOPLE'S WORK



NEW AUDIENCES

Every Child a Theatre Goer
As Mayor of Newham I am committed to investing in Newham's children, young people and schools. I believe that every Newham child should have the opportunity to experience live theatre. As part of the overall 'Every Child' programme I have invested in delivering the 'Every Child a Theatre Goer' initiative to Newham schools.'

SIR ROBIN WALES, MAYOR OF NEWHAM

The ECaTG scheme is hugely important. Giving young people access to live theatre is so vital in widening horizons and inspiring young people through the power of live performance. So many people miss out on the joy and magic of the arts because of lack of access when they are young. Hopefully this scheme will introduce a new generation of artists and audiences.'

SARAH BONNELL
The pupils and staff did go to see the panto... and we all loved it... one of the pupils had never been to the theatre before... please let us come next year... we all got so much out of the visit.'

TUNMARSH PRU

Both performances showed the true nature of the Theatre Royal as being for the community. The students enjoyed the audience participation.'

LISTER COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Many of our students do not routinely attend the theatre and this was a wonderful re-introduction (after the pantomime in year 7) to a professional production.

PLASHET (ON 'OH WHAT A LOVELY WAR')

For many of the Year 7's, Dick Whittington was their first experience of the theatre.'

LISTER COMMUNITY SCHOOL



CULTURAL LEADERS

Youth Committee

I've left the Youth Committee in safe hands. I've had an amazing time working on it and learnt a huge amount during my time as Chair and am very grateful for the opportunity!

KATHERINE

We had 5 new members last night - we have plans afoot!

ANNA

I thought that they (the youth committee) were all without exception a real credit to you and the theatre.'

BIRKBECK LECTURER

Work Experience
I can honestly say I loved every minute of it, I got to experience the job I want to do, in an environment where I never felt out of place. I feel proud!

ALYSSA

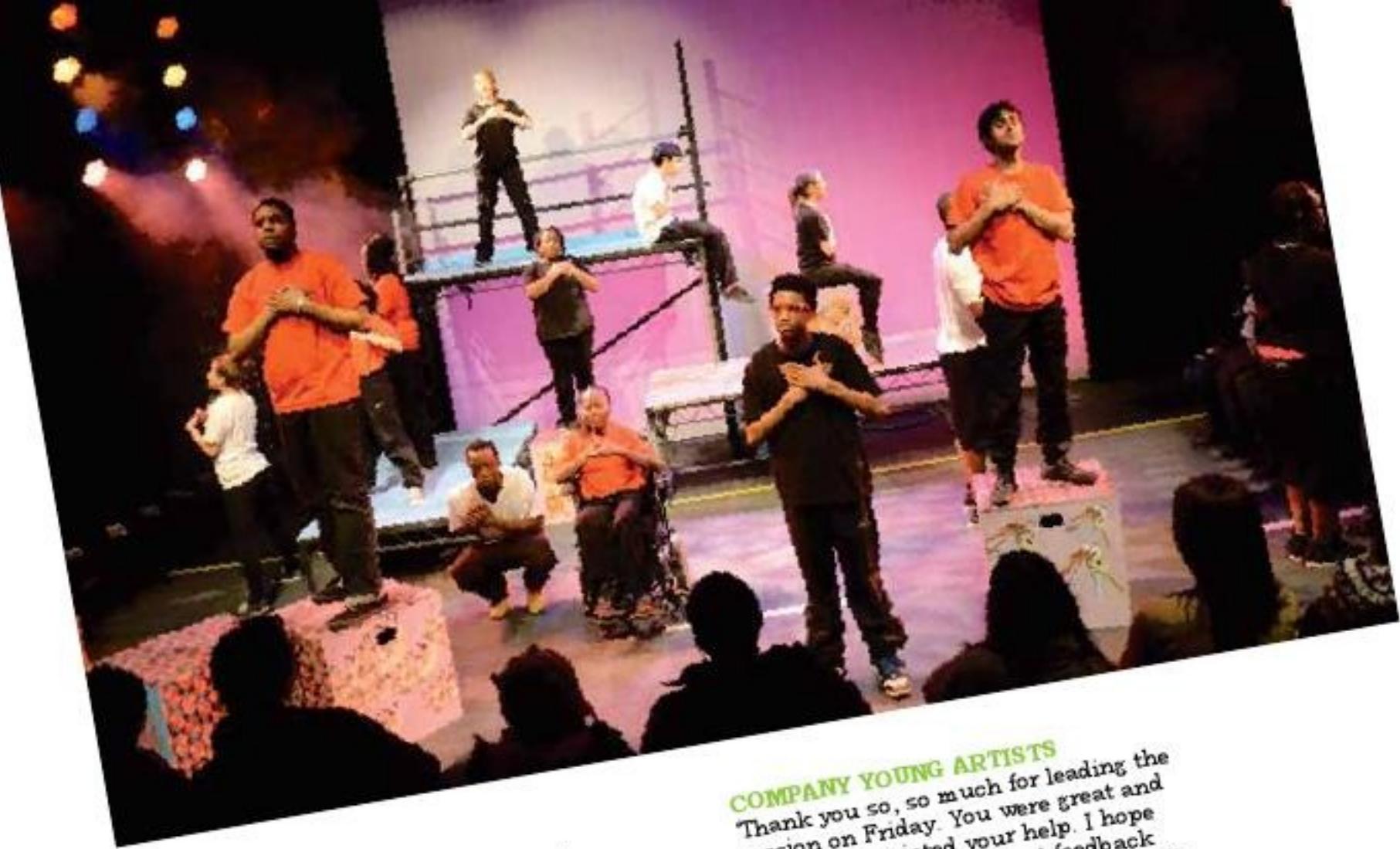
'Over the last couple of days my confidence has grown I am now a much happier and bubbly person. I promise you this is the best work experience EVER.'

HANNAH

Young Assistants
Beautiful. I am so glad to be a part of this theatre. Truly investing in the development of young artists.'

ERICA

Young Volunteers
This is great, you must be very proud of how it all went. Well done everyone, it was a pleasure to be a part of.'



COMPANY YOUNG ARTISTS

Thank you so, so much for leading the session on Friday. You were great and I really appreciated your help. I hope you enjoyed it, the student feedback was really positive. I hope you found it worthwhile and would be up for doing it again sometime in the future, we'd certainly love to have you back'

NINA, NEWHAM EDUCATION BUSINESS PARTNERSHIP

I am delighted how much difference this grant made and that the numbers of young people involved in the project exceeded your expectations. I would like to take this opportunity to wish you continued success in your valuable work with young people.'

JANE EVANS, JACK PETCHY FOUNDATION

He said he really enjoyed the programme, that all the staff were very nice and friendly. He enjoyed working an extra shift on Wednesday. He said he felt more confident in working within a professional environment.'

GUY CHAUDOIR, SCOPE

'It was amazing, I learnt so much in the time we spent together and I am putting in the place the things you suggested.'

SANDRA

And from some of our partners
Thank you for being absolutely brilliant yesterday. Our young crew felt incredibly well looked after and had an absolute ball. For a lot of them it was their firsts (being on stage, using a microphone, performing to an audience that big!). From the tech team, to the office, that Dick Whittington gang you made each one of them feel incredibly special.'

AMIT, JODI AND THE GREAWE THEATRE

Many thanks to you and Marcus for warmly welcoming our students and giving them a real insight into the theatre and the production.'

MOUSETRAP THEATRE PROJECTS



September 2013 **LOVE N STUFF**

A YEAR ON FROM 'WAH! WAH! GIRLS' THE
WRITER AND MEMBERS OF THE ORIGINAL CAST
RETURN WITH A HILARIOUS NEW COMEDY

by Tanika Gupta.
A Theatre Royal Stratford
East Production.
13 Sep - 5 Oct 2013



'a joy to see two wonderful comic actors...
Lovely writing. Beautiful acting.'
★★★ **WHATSONSTAGE.COM**

warm-hearted, touching
and hilarious.'

BRITISH THEATRE GUIDE

laughs and lessons in LOVE N STUFF, a play
which sees the pair perform 20 characters as
Bindi looks to save her marriage to Mansoor.'

EASTEND LIFE

'A hilarious and
touching story of love,
attachment and what
we mean by home.'

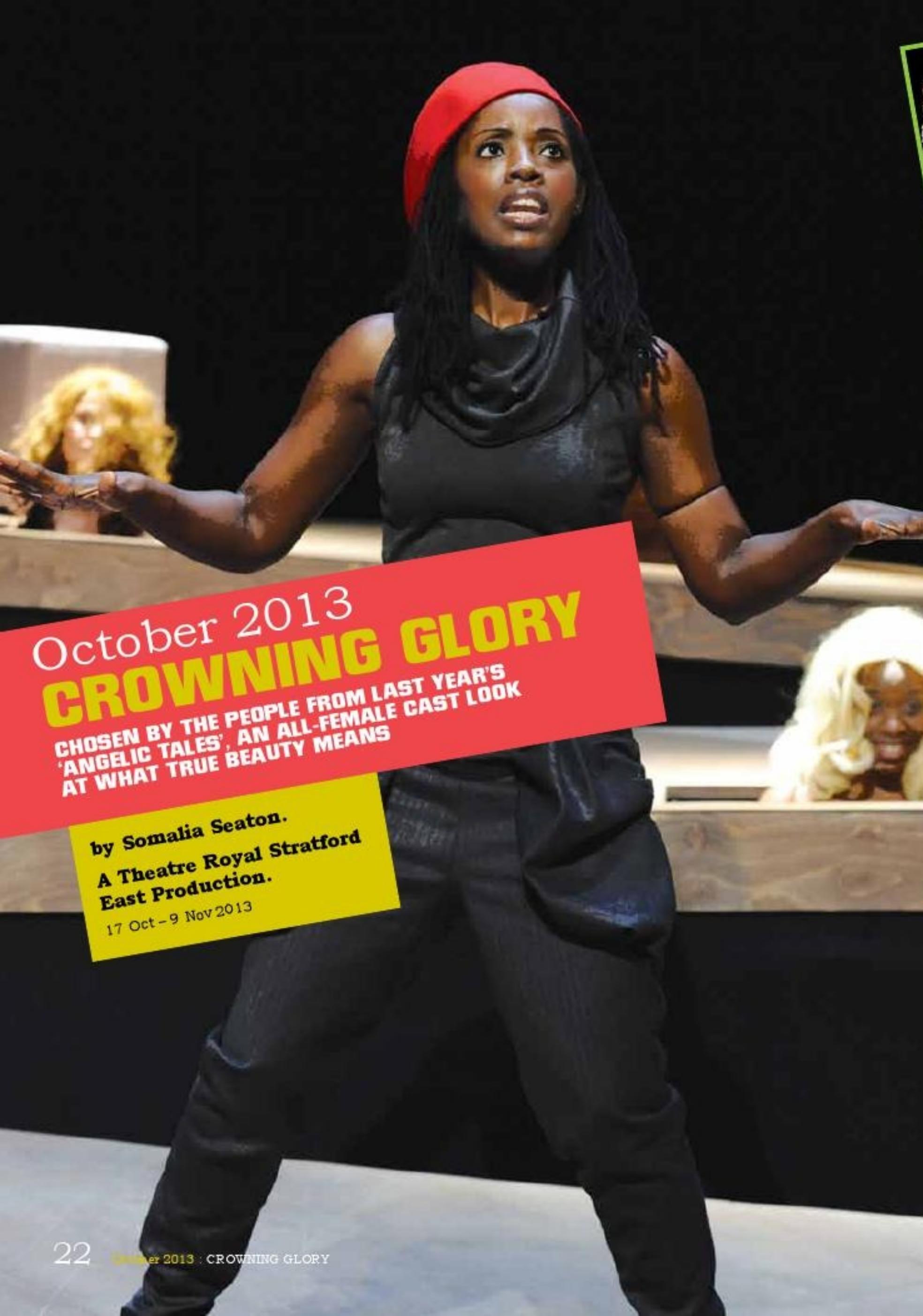
EVENING STANDARD

'Strong chemistry
between the leads and
a witty script lifts the
despondency from this
poignant departure,
lounge two-hander.'

THE WHARF

'a rich and colourful piece of theatre and the interplay
between husband and wife is as honest as it is
amusing. It's up there as one of the best performances
that I've seen all year - highly recommended!'

LONDONEER

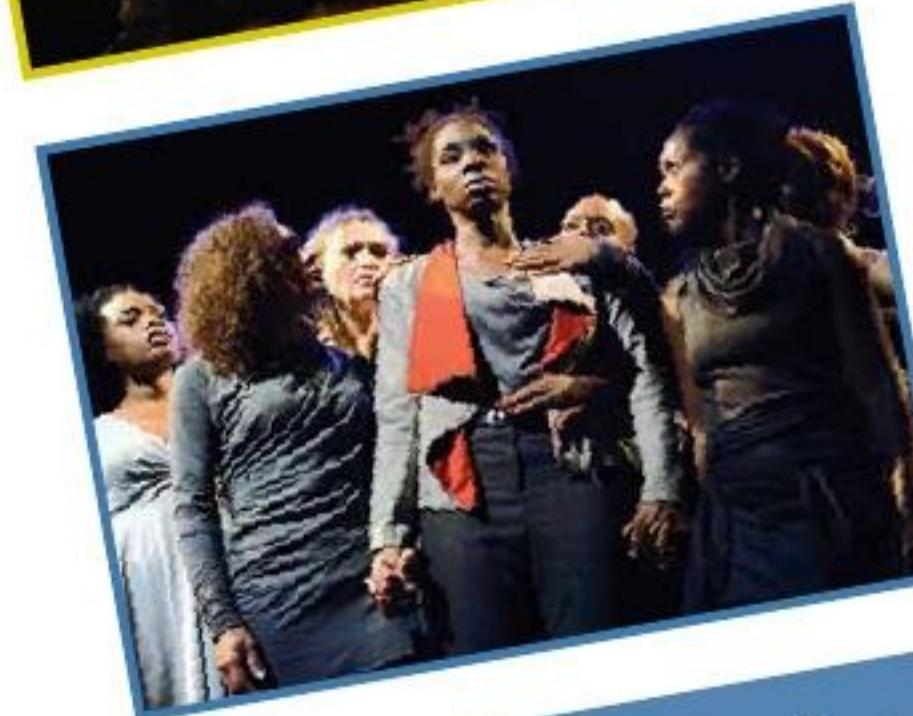
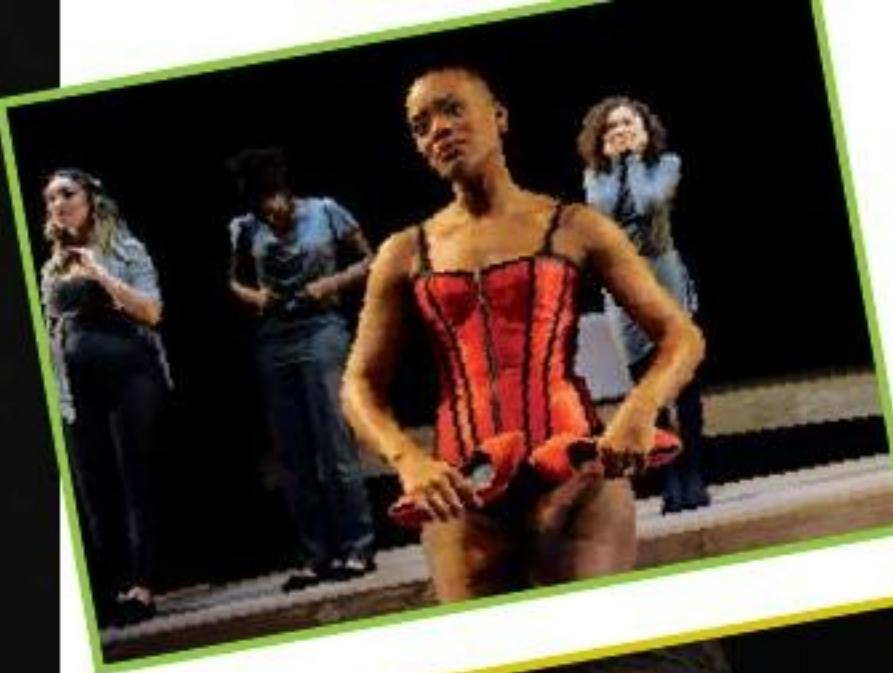


October 2013

CROWNING GLORY

CHOOSEN BY THE PEOPLE FROM LAST YEAR'S
'ANGELIC TALES', AN ALL-FEMALE CAST LOOK
AT WHAT TRUE BEAUTY MEANS

by Somalia Seaton.
A Theatre Royal Stratford
East Production.
17 Oct - 9 Nov 2013



'Anyone who doubts that hair is a political issue should try this new play from Somalia Seaton... simply but strikingly mounted.'

EVENING STANDARD

Seaton's script is strong with bouts of poetry and humour.'

TIME OUT

The diverse ensemble are brilliant... a powerful piece'

THE STAGE

'Angry, provocative, piercing and funny... A heartfelt headrush of a play.'

TIMES

'wonderfully written and so beautifully acted... I urge you to go and see it.'

REAL TALK

'Seven women, seven fine actresses: they handle Somalia Seaton's bouncing rap-influenced verse with fluent skill, work beautifully together as a chorus and all give striking individual performances... See it. You won't be disappointed.'

BRITISH THEATRE GUIDE

January 2014

STRATFORD EAST SINGERS

OUR COMMUNITY CHOIR PERFORM THEIR OWN SHOW

A Theatre Royal Stratford East Production.
8 Jan 2014




'It is not how we sing that is the primary concern, it is WHY we sing.'
BYRON GOLD

STRATFORD EAST SINGERS MEMBER:
'I really enjoy singing with my friends of the choir.'

'All ages and abilities means we can all learn from each other and be creative.'
'Great group of people, Very friendly and supportive... Byron teaches how to improve your voice, pushes group to excel... picks beautiful material.'

'I really enjoy the friends that I have made. I really enjoy joining in with everyone to make something beautiful. I really enjoy leaving the worries of the day behind and being swept up in something different.'
STRATFORD EAST SINGERS MEMBER



'this revival pulses with skill and ardour'
EVENING STANDARD

'the 12-strong cast works with tireless dedication... Johnson's production has heart and soul and rightly restores a classic for a new generation'
GUARDIAN

'this bursting reminder of the true cost of war, expertly played by an ensemble of 12... resonates all over again'
TIMES

This is a remarkable revival of the First World War satire premiered here by Joan Littlewood 51 years ago... By turns beautiful and brutal, poignant and powerful, it offers captivating nostalgic songs, folded into haunting scenes from the frontline and trenches of war.'
THE STAGE

'Oh What a Lovely War's message is strong, powerfully delivered and still relevant, even in this centenary year of the start of the 'war to end all wars'.'
METRO

★★★
Daily Express
Daily Mail
Guardian
Evening Standard
Exeunt
Financial Times
The Independent

Jewish Chronicle
Metro
Scottish Daily Mail
Sunday Express
Times
WhatsOnStage



'It's time for a new generation to see this important piece of work. It changed British theatre and the untold stories of war are still as relevant today as they were then.'
KERRY MICHAEL, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR



March 2014

OH WHAT A LOVELY WAR NATIONAL SCHOOLS PROGRAMME

PUPILS INVITED TO PERFORM CURTAIN-RAISERS ON
THE MAIN STAGE

26 Feb 2014
St Mary's School, Bishops Stortford:
Join the Army, See the World
Cranbourne Business and
Enterprise College: Syria 2013

28 Feb 2014
Chesterton Community College
War is People
Kendrick School: The War Game

2 March 2014
Our home-grown Youth Theatre
and Poets' Platform – a mix of
theatre and poetry, Stratford-style

3 March 2014
9 Newham Secondary Schools –
what war means to them.

5 Mar 2014
The King's School, Chester:
Follow your Leader?
Ipswich High School:
My Dad, a Soldier and Joker.

C FIRST WORLD CENTENARY
LED BY IWM

The co-operative membership
community fund

We attended tonight's
Curtain Raiser to support
our grand-daughter...
Joan Littlewood would
have been proud, both
of the participants and
you for undertaking
this initiative.'

MARTIN AND SUE PRICE

We felt really welcome at the Theatre Royal and
inspired by the surroundings. All the staff were
so friendly and supportive that it instantly put
our young people at ease... The whole project
was extremely well planned and executed, giving
students a unique insight into their set text,
'Oh What a Lovely War' and opportunity to
create and perform on a professional stage.'

JESSICA GILL, ST MARY'S CATHOLIC
SCHOOL, BISHOP STORTFORD

Can I just say a massive thank you to you
and all staff at Theatre Royal for being so
welcoming and fantastic with our students.
They haven't stopped talking about it since.

CLARE HOWDEN, THE KINGS SCHOOL,
CHESTER

The 50th anniversary of 'Oh What a Lovely War' provided us with a
unique opportunity to capture the ideas and energy of young people
from across England. We sent 'Digital Gifts' to schools, provoking
them into making their own theatre about what war means to them
now. We invited 17 groups to perform their work here, putting their
voices centre-stage, in the spirit of Joan Littlewood.'

JAN SHARKEY-DODDS, HEAD OF YOUNG PEOPLE'S WORK

Assisted by a grant from the Lord and Lady Lurgan Trust.
Our Young Volunteers supported by Community First:
Community Development Foundation

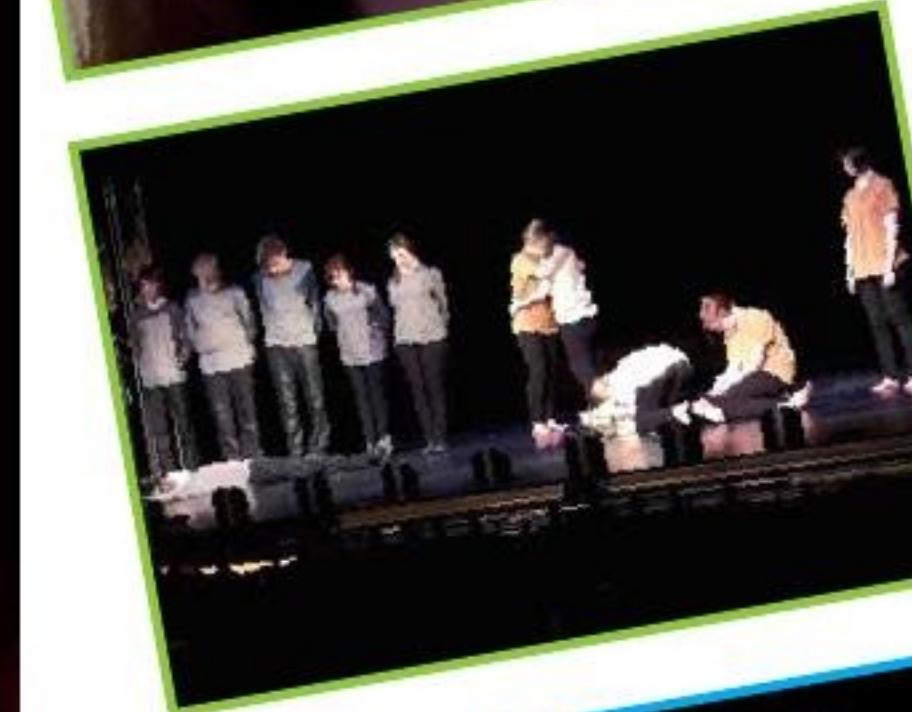
Continued...

OH WHAT A LOVELY WAR NATIONAL SCHOOLS PROGRAMME

PUPILS INVITED TO PERFORM CURTAIN-RAISERS ON
THE MAIN STAGE



Scan to see a
video about
the curtain-
raisers.



Have just read your email and to say that I am delighted and excited is an understatement. We are THRILLED, thank you. I have told some of the students who are in my tutor group and they are so excited they've asked to go to other tutor groups during registration to spread the news.'
AMANDA AFFLECK-CRUISE, CRANBOURNE BUSINESS & ENTERPRISE COLLEGE, READING

'... the workshop session Jan gave was excellent and I really appreciated the way the rehearsals were handled. Jan's comments focussed so well on the positive and it was really refreshing for me, as a teacher, to see her recognising the young people's potential. We teachers are constantly preoccupied with assessing the students and Jan's approach brought back to me the true worth of being involved in drama activities. I am sure the students felt that too. I observed her encouraging and positive attitude with everyone..'
ANGELA STRACH, KENDRICK SCHOOL, READING

Thanks so much, the pack is fantastic.'
PAUL FERGUSON, THAMESVIEW SCHOOL, KENT

Feedback for the Digital Gifts:
Thank you so much for all the fab gifts on 'Oh What a Lovely War!' We are feeling totally inspired!

I loved the gift idea, and the little gems they contained. Beautifully produced and very pertinent.'

The gifts have been useful to me, keeping me on track and inspired.'

'...a great introduction and stimulus for them to work from.'



www.stratfordeast.com A PEOPLE'S THEATRE

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www.bluelimedesign.co.uk



A large print
version is
available on
request