



Supporting information

Friday 4 June 2021

Olivier theatre

Paradise

Ian Rickson (*Translations*) directs **Kae Tempest's** powerful new version of *Philoctetes*, the Greek legend by Sophocles and with an all-female cast including **Lesley Sharp** as Philoctetes. Previously announced for June 2020, *Paradise* is now confirmed to open in August 2021 in the Olivier.

On a desolate island lives Philoctetes: once a wartime hero, now a wounded outcast. When a young soldier appears, his hope of escape comes with suspicion. And as an old enemy also emerges, he is faced with an even greater temptation: revenge.

The cast includes **Claire-Louise Cordwell, Amie Francis, Sutara Gayle, Anastasia Hille, Jennifer Joseph, Sarah Lam, Penny Layden, Kayla Meikle, ESKA, Gloria Obianyo** and **Naomi Wirthner**.

Set and costume design by **Rae Smith**, lighting design by **Mark Henderson**, compositions by **Stephen Warbeck**, movement by **Coral Messam**, sound design by **Christopher Shutt**, and fight direction by **Terry King**.

Supported by the Garfield Weston Foundation through the Weston Culture Fund. The reopening of the Olivier theatre is generously supported by Areté Foundation / Betsy & Ed Cohen.

Production supported by Cockayne - Grants for the Arts and The London Community Foundation.

Paradise will be in the Olivier from 4th August to 11th September 2021.

Press contacts: Katie Marsh on kmarsh@nationaltheatre.org.uk and Louisa Terry on lterry@nationaltheatre.org.uk

The Normal Heart

In the Olivier in September 2021 is **Larry Kramer's** *The Normal Heart*, in a co-production with **Fictionhouse**. Directed by **Dominic Cooke**, Kramer's largely autobiographical play about the AIDS crisis in 1980 New York has not been performed professionally in London since its European premiere in 1986. **Ben Daniels** will perform the role of Ned Weeks, the co-founder of an AIDS advocacy group fighting to change the world around him, with **Robert**

Bowman, Liz Carr, Daniel Krikler, Daniel Monks, Elander Moore, Luke Norris, Henry Nott, Freddie Stabb and Danny Lee Wynter joining the company.

Set design by **Vicki Mortimer**, costume design by **Lisa Duncan**, lighting design by **Paule Constable**, sound design by **Carolyn Downing** and fight direction by **Bret Yount**.

Supported by the Garfield Weston Foundation through the Weston Culture Fund. The reopening of the Olivier theatre is generously supported by Areté Foundation / Betsy & Ed Cohen.

Press contact: Sophie Wilkinson on sowilkinson@nationaltheatre.org.uk

Hex

In the Olivier this December, NT Director **Rufus Norris** directs *Hex*, a new musical that takes us beyond the kiss that woke the Sleeping Beauty.

Based on the 17th century folk-tale, *Hex* is written by **Tanya Ronder** (*Dara, Table*) and composed by **Jim Fortune** (*Pericles, Mr Gum and the Dancing Bear - The Musical!*) with lyrics by **Rufus Norris**, in a darkly thrilling new version told from the Fairy's perspective as she tries everything in her power to make it all good, with disastrous consequences.

Hex also reunites director Rufus Norris with set and costume designer **Katrina Lindsay** (*Small Island, London Road*) following their 2002 critically acclaimed version of *Sleeping Beauty*, from which *Hex* is adapted.

Orchestrations by **Simon Hale**, music supervision by **Marc Tritschler**, music direction by **Tarek Merchant**, lighting design by **Paul Anderson**, choreography by **Jade Hackett** with consultant choreography by **Bill Deamer** and sound design by **Simon Baker**.

Supported by the Garfield Weston Foundation through the Weston Culture Fund. The reopening of the Olivier theatre is generously supported by Areté Foundation / Betsy & Ed Cohen.

The development of new music theatre is supported by the Genesis Foundation through the Genesis Music Theatre Programme.

Press contacts: Katie Marsh on kmarsh@nationaltheatre.org.uk and Louisa Terry on lterry@nationaltheatre.org.uk

The Father and the Assassin

Opening in the Olivier theatre in early 2022, is a new play by **Anupama Chandrasekhar**, *The Father and the Assassin*.

The play tells the story of how Nathuram Godse, sometimes called India's first terrorist, was radicalised through the fight for Indian independence from being a devout follower of Gandhi to becoming his eventual assassin in 1948. By telling a fictional, imagined version of Godse's life growing up throughout India's tumultuous journey towards independence, Anupama Chandrasekhar looks at Indian history through a fresh and contemporary lens, a nation torn between the opposing forces of non-violent protest and violent uprising against colonial oppression, which comes to a fateful end in the encounter between Gandhi and his assassin. Cast to be announced.

Directed by **Indhu Rubasingham**, Artistic Director of the Kiln Theatre. Anupama was the Writer in Residence at the National Theatre throughout 2016 and the play was commissioned by the National Theatre's New Work Department.

Supported by the Garfield Weston Foundation through the Weston Culture Fund. The reopening of the Olivier theatre is generously supported by Areté Foundation / Betsy & Ed Cohen.

Press contact: Sophie Wilkinson on sowilkinson@nationaltheatre.org.uk

Dorfman theatre

Rockets and Blue Lights

On the set of a new film about Victorian artist JMW Turner, young actress Lou is haunted by an unresolved history. Meanwhile, in 1840 Londoners Lucy and Thomas try to come to terms with the meaning of freedom. Moving between London past and present the production is a powerfully personal voyage through time.

Directed by **Miranda Cromwell**, and first staged at the Royal Exchange Theatre in Manchester before being cancelled due to Covid-19, this astonishing and fiercely political new play by **Winsome Pinnock** was named winner of the 2018 Alfred Fagon Award.

Winsome Pinnock began work on the play during the attachment with the National Theatre's New Work Department in 2016.

The cast are **Anthony Aje, Paul Bradley, Karl Collins, Kiza Deen, Rochelle Rose, Matthew Seadon-Young, Kudzai Sitima, Cathy Tyson, Everal A Walsh** and **Luke Wilson**.

Set and costume design by **Laura Hopkins**, lighting design by **Jessica Hung Han Yun**, composition and music direction by **Femi Temowo**, sound design by **Elena Peña**, movement direction by **Annie-Lunnette Deakin-Foster**, fight direction by **Yarit Dor** and staff director **Mumba Dodwell**.

Supported by the Garfield Weston Foundation through the Weston Culture Fund.

Rockets and Blue Lights will be in the Dorfman theatre from 25th August to 9th October 2021.

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Trouble in Mind

Nancy Medina, recipient of the NT's Peter Hall Bursary, directs **Alice Childress'** groundbreaking play *Trouble in Mind* in the Dorfman in December 2021.

Brown vs the Board of Education has just shaken America to its core, the civil rights movement is on the horizon and '*Chaos in Belleville*' has just started rehearsals on Broadway. *Trouble in Mind* follows the story of Willeta Mayer, an African American singer and actress searching to make her mark in history. The play takes a satirical look at the

white-dominated theatre scene of Broadway in the 1950s as the acting company are forced to face the prejudice of the times, on stage and off. **Tanya Moodie** leads the cast as Wiletta Mayer.

With set and costume design by **Rajha Shakiry**.

Childress was the first African-American woman to win an OBIE award for *Trouble in Mind* in 1956, the original off-Broadway production she directed at the Greenwich mews Theatre in 1955.

Supported by the Garfield Weston Foundation through the Weston Culture Fund.

Press contact: Sophie Wilkinson on sowilkinson@nationaltheatre.org.uk

Our Generation

Alecky Blythe returns to the National Theatre, following the acclaimed verbatim musical *London Road*, with ***Our Generation***, a new and extraordinary verbatim play which follows the lives of twelve young people from England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales as they evolve from children to adults.

From interviews gathered over a five-year period, we experience the heartache, the humour and the growing pains of twelve remarkable teenagers, as they navigate their families, their friendships, an exams fiasco and a global pandemic. Directed by **Daniel Evans**, Artistic Director of Chichester Festival Theatre, in his National Theatre directorial debut, *Our Generation* will provide a unique insight into growing up in modern Britain, seen through the eyes of those who are experiencing it right now.

Opening in the Dorfman in February 2021, *Our Generation* is a co-production with Chichester Festival Theatre and will play in the Minerva Theatre in Chichester from April 2021 as part of CFT's 60th anniversary season.

Written by **Alecky Blythe** and directed by **Daniel Evans**, with set design by **Vicki Mortimer**, costume design by **Kinnetia Isidore**, video design by **Akhila Krishnan**, lighting design by **Zoe Spurr**, sound design by **Paul Arditti**, movement direction by **Carrie-Anne Ingrouille**, music composition, production & direction by **DJ Walde**.

Supported by the Garfield Weston Foundation through the Weston Culture Fund.

Production supported by The Polonsky Foundation.

Press contact: Katie Marsh on kmarsh@nationaltheatre.org.uk

Lyttelton theatre

East Is East

In October the Lyttelton theatre will reopen to live performances for the first time since March 2020, with the **Birmingham Repertory Theatre** Production of *East Is East*, by **Ayub Khan Din**, directed by **Iqbal Khan** with design by **Bretta Gerecke**.

Set in 1970s Salford, *East Is East* follows the lives of the Khan children and their battle between the traditional values of their Pakistani father and their own desire to be citizens of modern Britain.

Since its premiere at The Rep in 1996, in a co-production with Tamasha and the Royal Court, *East Is East* has sold out three London runs, been adapted into a BAFTA Award-winning film and become a modern classic of comic-drama.

The production is performed at Birmingham Repertory Theatre in September before transferring to the National Theatre in October.

Supported by the Garfield Weston Foundation through the Weston Culture Fund.

Press contact: Sophie Wilkinson on sowilkinson@nationaltheatre.org.uk

Manor

Manor is a timely new play by **Moira Buffini** (*The Dig*), with **Nancy Carroll** (*The Crown*), directed by **Fiona Buffini** (*Dinner*). Previously announced for April 2020, *Manor* will open in November 2021 in the Lyttelton theatre.

A violent storm sweeps the coast. Diana Stuckley and her daughter are struggling to keep the roof on their run-down manor house, when neighbours and strangers begin to appear on their doorstep, seeking shelter from the floods. One of these unexpected arrivals is Ted Farrier, the charismatic leader of a far-right organisation: he could be Diana's saviour – or pull the fragile household to pieces. Stranded together, this explosive mix of people must survive the weather, and each other.

This darkly comic drama reunites the writer and director behind *Dinner*. The cast includes **Nancy Carroll** and **Michele Austin**.

Set and costume design by **Lez Brotherston**, lighting design by **Jon Clark**, composition and sound design by **Jon Nicholls**, video design by **Nina Dunn**, fight direction by **Kate Waters**.

Supported by the Garfield Weston Foundation through the Weston Culture Fund.

Sound and Video supported by disguise.

Press contact: Katie Marsh on kmarsh@nationaltheatre.org.uk

Wuthering Heights

Emma Rice's adaptation of Emily Brontë's masterpiece *Wuthering Heights*, previously announced to open in the Lyttelton theatre in September 2020, will open in February 2022 following dates in Bristol and York.

A co-production with **Wise Children**, **Bristol Old Vic** and **York Theatre Royal**, the show will go on to tour the UK in spring 2022. **Lucy McCormick** is cast as Cathy, with further casting to be announced.

Set and costume design by **Vicki Mortimer**, lighting design by **Jai Morjaria**, compositions by **Ian Ross**, sound and video by **Simon Baker**, movement and choreography by **Etta Murfitt**.

Supported by the Garfield Weston Foundation through the Weston Culture Fund.

Production supported by The Polonsky Foundation.

Press contact: Louisa Terry on lterry@nationaltheatre.org.uk

The Corn is Green

Emlyn Williams' semi-autobiographical drama *The Corn is Green* gets its first London revival for 35 years with director **Dominic Cooke's** new, large-scale production that will bring the story to a new generation.

In the Lyttelton theatre from April 2022, **Nicola Walker**, alongside **Iwan Davies**, leads the company as Miss Moffat a headstrong English teacher working in an impoverished mining village in late 19th-century Wales.

The cast also includes **Adam Baker**, **Gareth David-Lloyd**, **Megan Grech**, **Jonathan Hawkins**, **Steffan Rizzi**, **Rebecca Todd** and **Rufus Wright**.

Set and costume design by **ULTZ**, lighting design by **Charles Balfour**, music arrangements and direction by **Will Stuart**, sound design by **Christopher Shutt** and choreography by **Bill Deamer**.

Supported by the Garfield Weston Foundation through the Weston Culture Fund.

Press contact: Sophie Wilkinson on sowilkinson@nationaltheatre.org.uk

Digital Media

Death of England: Face to Face

Following on from their acclaimed stage productions *Death of England* and *Death of England: Delroy*, **Clint Dyer**, Deputy Artistic Director of the National Theatre, and **Roy Williams** (*Sucker Punch*) have written a new feature film *Death of England: Face to Face* to be broadcast on Sky Arts this autumn. Also directed by Clint Dyer, *Death of England: Face to Face* will be filmed in the Lyttelton theatre this June, following on from the success of the NT's first original film *Romeo & Juliet*, directed by Simon Godwin and broadcast on Sky and PBS in April.

In this new film, Michael and Delroy, the two characters of the one-man shows *Death of England* and *Death of England: Delroy* respectively, come face to face following the birth of Delroy's child and Michael's niece.

The cast includes **Neil Maskell** (*Peaky Blinders*, *Small Axe*) as Michael, **Giles Terera** (*Hamilton*, *Flack*) as Delroy, **Phil Daniels** (*I Hate Suzie*, *Adult Material*) as Michael's father Alan, **Amy Newton** as Carly and **Maggie Saunders** as Maggie.

Death of England: Face to Face is presented by Sky Arts and No Guarantees, and produced by the National Theatre, in association with Sabel Productions and Cuba Pictures. *Death of*

England opened in the Dorfman in January 2020, with Rafe Spall as Michael, and *Death of England: Delroy* opened in the Olivier in October 2020, with Michael Balogun as Delroy.

Filming of *Death of England: Face to Face* in the Lyttelton theatre is made possible thanks to the generosity of Graham and Joanna Barker.

Press contacts: Katie Marsh on kmarsh@nationaltheatre.org.uk and Louisa Terry on lterry@nationaltheatre.org.uk

National Theatre at Home

On the National Theatre's streaming platform, **National Theatre at Home**, two new titles are launching today: the Bridge Theatre's ***A Midsummer Night's Dream*** and The Old Vic and Headlong's ***All My Sons***.

A Midsummer Night's Dream was captured live at the Bridge Theatre in 2019. Shakespeare's most famous romantic comedy sees **Gwendoline Christie** (*Game of Thrones*), **Oliver Chris** (*One Man, Two Guvvners*), **David Moorst** (*NT Live: Allelujah!*) and **Hammed Animashaun** (*Barber Shop Chronicles*) lead the cast as Titania, Oberon, Puck and Bottom. This production re-unites the team responsible for the 2018 smash hit ***Julius Caesar*** including Tony and Olivier award-winning director **Nicholas Hytner** (*The History Boys*, *One Man, Two Guvvners*).

Also added to the platform today is The Old Vic and Headlong's production of *All My Sons*, **Arthur Miller's** blistering drama. Captured live at The Old Vic in 2019, **Jeremy Herrin** directs Academy Award-winner **Sally Field** and **Bill Pullman** as Joe and Kate Keller. The cast also includes **Jenna Coleman** (*The Serpent*) and **Colin Morgan** (*The Fall*).

It is also announced today that ***Consent*** will now be available with audio-description.

New productions are added each month and there are now 23 productions available on the platform.

Bloomberg Philanthropies is Headline Sponsor of National Theatre at Home.

National Theatre at Home is also supported by the The Linbury Trust.

Press contact: Katie Marsh on kmarsh@nationaltheatre.org.uk

National Theatre Live

Follies

Follies returns to cinemas for the first time since its original National Theatre Live broadcast to cinemas in 2017. After sold-out runs in the Olivier in 2017 and 2019 and winning Olivier Award for Best Musical Revival, it will now be playing in cinemas around the world from this September. **Stephen Sondheim's** legendary musical is directed by **Dominic Cooke** (*Ma Rainey's Black Bottom*, NT) and features a cast of 40 and an orchestra of 21.

Sky Arts is the UK sponsor for National Theatre Live.

ntlive.com

Press contact: Katie Marsh on kmarsh@nationaltheatre.org.uk

Touring and transfers

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time

The internationally acclaimed production of ***The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*** embarks on a third UK and Ireland tour in November 2021. Previously scheduled to tour in 2020, the Olivier and Tony Award®-winning production will now open at London's Troubadour Wembley Park Theatre on 20 November for a seven week run. Celebrating ten years since the play first premiered at the National Theatre, in 2022 *Curious Incident* will visit Cardiff New Theatre, Belfast Grand Opera House, Southampton Mayflower, Nottingham Theatre Royal, Sheffield Lyceum, Edinburgh Festival Theatre, Newcastle Theatre Royal, Manchester Opera House, Liverpool Empire, Birmingham Hippodrome, King's Theatre Glasgow, Leeds Grand Theatre, the Bord Gais Energy Theatre, Dublin, and Norwich Theatre Royal with further venues to be announced. For further information and to book tickets visit curiousonstage.com

Since 2012 *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* has been seen by more than five million people worldwide, including across two previous UK tours, two West End runs, a Broadway transfer, international tours and a specially adapted schools tour which has visited more than 100 schools around the UK and been seen by more than 12,000 young people. *Curious Incident* is adapted by **Simon Stephens** (*Carmen Disruption*, *Sea Wall*) from the novel by **Mark Haddon**, and directed by **Marianne Elliott** (*War Horse*, *Angels in America*, *Company*).

This 10th Anniversary tour of *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* is presented by the National Theatre and Trafalgar Theatre Productions.

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time at Troubadour Wembley Park Theatre is supported by American Express, the National Theatre's Preferred Card Partner.

Press contact: Susie Newbery on snewbery@nationaltheatre.org.uk

The Ocean at the End of the Lane

A UK and Ireland tour of ***The Ocean at the End of the Lane*** based on the best-selling novel by **Neil Gaiman** (*Stardust*, *American Gods*, *Good Omens*, *Coraline*), adapted by **Joel Horwood** and directed by **Katy Rudd** is currently being planned for 2023, with further details to be announced. The production, which received its sold-out world premiere in the Dorfman Theatre in 2019, transfers to the Duke of York's Theatre for a limited run from 23 October 2021 (press night: 4 November).

Neil Gaiman's fantasy novel is brought to life in this modern myth, where the power of imagination and storytelling transports audiences on a spellbinding and spectacular adventure.

For further updates and information, visit www.oceanwestend.com

The Ocean at the End of the Lane is generously supported by Mark Pigott KBE and American Express, the National Theatre's Preferred Card Partner

Press contact: Susie Newbery on snewbery@nationaltheatre.org.uk

Beginning

Beginning, presented by Lee Dean & Theatre Royal Bath Productions in association with Queen's Theatre Hornchurch, by **David Eldridge** and directed by **Polly Findlay** and **Joe Lichenstein**, will be revived at Queen's Theatre Hornchurch in September followed by a UK tour. Casting and further tour dates to be announced.

Press contact: Sarah Soliman at Queens Theatre Hornchurch on Sarahs@queens-theatre.co.uk

Broadway

The Lehman Trilogy, produced by the National Theatre with Neal Street Productions, will return to Broadway in the autumn. **Sam Mendes'** production by **Stefano Massini**, adapted by **Ben Power**, had played four previews at the Nederlander Theatre in March 2020 before Broadway was forced to shut down due to the pandemic. *The Lehman Trilogy* will return to the Nederlander Theatre – where the set has remained in situ for the past fifteen months – for 99 performances only from 25 September 2021, with an opening night scheduled for 14 October.

Adrian Lester joins **Simon Russell Beale** and **Adam Godley** as the Lehman brothers. Following a 14 week run on Broadway, *The Lehman Trilogy* will visit Center Theatre Group's Ahmanson Theatre, Los Angeles (3 March – 10 April 2022) and American Conservatory Theater's Geary Theater, San Francisco (20 April – 22 May 2022), with cast to be announced.

The Lehman Trilogy on Broadway is generously supported by Mark Pigott KBE, Northern Trust and Jeff & Liz Peek. American Express is the Official Partner of *The Lehman Trilogy* on Broadway.

Hadestown, with music, book and lyrics by **Anaïs Mitchell**, developed with and directed by **Rachel Chavkin**, returns to the Walter Kerr Theatre on Broadway from 2 September, with casting to be announced. A 30 date North American tour will follow the reopening, beginning at the Kennedy Center Opera House in Washington DC on 15 October. *Hadestown* will open in Seoul, Korea in August. For more information visit hadestown.com

Press contact: Susie Newbery on snewbery@nationaltheatre.org.uk

New Work department

Generate

While the NT has been closed, the team at the New Work Department has continued to provide vital support for artists, hosting virtual readings and socially distanced workshops for new plays under development.

The department is now returning to full strength, and is even more committed to opening up its doors to artists and makers from across the whole breadth of the UK to support the sector to flourish after the devastation of 2020.

Before the pandemic, a portion of New Work activity each year was dedicated to theatre makers developing ideas for stages across the country. Starting later this year, a new programme **Generate**, will see the New Work Department significantly increase its partnerships with artists, venues and producers across the UK. At least a third of the New Work Department's capacity and resource each year will be committed to developing ideas, with the specific focus on work aimed to be produced outside London.

The New Work Programme is supported by Genesis Foundation, The Harold & Mimi Steinberg Charitable Trust, The Polonsky Foundation, John S Cohen Foundation, Ernest Hecht Charitable Foundation, Noël Coward Foundation and Garrick Charitable Trust. ITV is the National Theatre's Supporter for New Writing.

Learning

The National Theatre's Partner for Learning is Bank of America.

Nationwide learning is supported by The Mohn Westlake Foundation, Buffini Chao Foundation, Clore Duffield Foundation, Tim and Sarah Bunting, Garfield Weston Foundation, The Hearn Foundation, The Ingram Trust, The Constance Travis Charitable Trust, and Archie Sherman Charitable Trust.

Story Seekers

In response to the impact on children's learning following a year of significant disruption and challenges caused by the pandemic, the NT today launches **Story Seekers**, a new nationwide creative literacy project in partnership with the Unicorn Theatre. Story Seekers will set children on a mission to find, tell and share important stories for this time, culminating in the creation of their own filmed storytelling performances to share with their school community and beyond. Available free for state schools, the six-week programme includes filmed theatre performances directed by **Justin Audibert**, Artistic Director of the Unicorn, to guide pupils through the quest, workshops and performances by leading professional storytellers and training and resources to support teachers to lead the project.

Story Seekers is supported by The Mohn Westlake Foundation, Buffini Chao Foundation, The Hearn Foundation, Paul Hamlyn Foundation, The Goldsmiths' Company Charity, Charlotte and Simon Warshaw, Susan Miller and Byron Grote, Mave Turner and David Dutton, The Derrill Allatt Foundation, The Casey Trust as part of the National Theatre's Let's Play programme.

Speak Up

From this summer the National Theatre will begin working with young people most impacted by the pandemic on a new nationwide project, **Speak Up**, as part of the NT's **Theatre Nation Partnerships** programme. Young people will work in collaboration with local artists and teachers to lead creative projects in response to issues that are most important to them. The pilot project, funded by The Mohn Westlake Foundation, will begin with seven schools across Sunderland in partnership with Sunderland Empire and Sunderland Culture, Greater

Manchester in partnership with The Lowry and Wakefield with Theatre Royal Wakefield, with aspirations to expand across all six Theatre Nation Partnership areas reaching tens of thousands of young people over the next three years.

Theatre Nation Partnerships is generously supported by Arts Council England's Strategic Touring Fund, and Garfield Weston Foundation.

National Theatre Collection

Following the huge success and demand for the **National Theatre Collection** which makes the best of British Theatre available to the education sector across the globe in partnership with both *Bloomsbury Publishing*, via their platform *Drama Online*, and renowned EdTech leader *ProQuest*, available on their *Alexander Street* platform, a second Collection will be added, starting with 10 titles in September. A further 10 titles will complete this second Collection in February 2022. Titles available on the platform will include *All My Sons* (Old Vic and Headlong), *Julie, Rockets and Blue Lights* (a co-production with The Royal Exchange Theatre), *Saint Joan* (Donmar Warehouse), *Three Sisters* (a co-production with Fuel) and *The Seagull* (Chichester Festival Theatre). Available for free to state schools across the UK, 71% of state secondary schools have already signed up to the resource.

It is also announced today that, to support schools globally, a new partnership with the **New York City Department of Education** and *Bloomsbury Publishing* will provide access for public schools across New York to the *National Theatre Collection* for free, aiming to reach 30,000 students and teachers across three years, as well as creating educational materials to support teachers and engage students. The project is piloting with 20 schools and will launch fully in Autumn 2021.

The National Theatre Collection is supported by the Stavros Niarchos Foundation (SNF), Fondation Hoffmann, Sidney E. Frank Foundation, The Attwood Education Foundation, The Candide Trust, The Cranshaw Corporation for Mrs. Robert I. MacDonald, Graham and Joanna Barker, The Borrows Charitable Trust, Barbara G. Fleischman, Linda Hackett and members of the NT Collection Syndicate.

The Doncastrian Chalk Circle

In March last year our Public Acts community members in Doncaster were busy in workshops preparing for their opening performances of *The Caucasian Chalk Circle* at Cast over the August Bank Holiday weekend. Despite COVID putting a pause on the production, the work has continued over the last year with creative activities delivered remotely, including the creation of a storytelling podcast and online musical in partnership with The Guardian.

This August Bank Holiday weekend, the Doncaster community will perform a new, immersive show ***The Tale of Wild Heather: A Cabaret*** at Cast with audiences invited to share a celebratory feast on Cast's main stage whilst being engaged in a forgotten Doncastrian myth. Written by **Jasmin Mandi-Ghomi**, directed by Associate Director, Public Acts **James Blakey** and designed by **Hannah Sibai**, the story is co-created by the community company and features performances from local artists.

Having been postponed last year, Cast in Doncaster will host the third Public Acts production in August 2022, ***The Doncastrian Chalk Circle***, a newly adapted version of **Bertolt Brecht's** classic play by **Chris Bush**, directed by Associate Director, Public Acts **James**

Blakey, with music by **Ruth Chan** and design by **Hannah Sibai**. Featuring 80 performers from our community partners **b:friend, Conversation Club, Edlington Community Organisation (ECO), darts and Cast Young Company**, joined by a company of professional actors and musicians and cameo appearances from local performance groups, this new version is an adventurous tale of belonging, full of passion, spectacle and plenty of Yorkshire grit and humour.

Public Acts is supported by Arts Council England's Strategic Touring Fund, Garfield Weston Foundation, Esmée Fairbairn Foundation, The Mosawi Foundation and Wates Foundation.

The development of new music theatre is supported by the Genesis Foundation through the Genesis Music Theatre Programme.

Linbury Prize

Continuing our support for theatre-makers across the UK, this year the Linbury Prize 2021, in partnership with the Linbury Trust, will provide 12 brilliant designers starting out in the industry with 12 bursaries and the opportunity to gain first-hand experience through a design associate placement alongside an established designer on a variety of productions around the country. Chosen by a panel of four judges, applications are [open](#) to theatre design graduates or post-graduates, from graduating classes 2020 and 2021.

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We wish to acknowledge the generous support of the National Theatre Foundation. The Foundation supports a range of activities at the NT and nurtures and develops the craft of theatre through its Endowment Fund. The NT thanks the Foundation and the individuals whose legacies support the future work of the NT through this Fund.